



# News Release

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## **Regents to Discuss Sioux Falls Higher Education Plan**

PIERRE, S.D. – The South Dakota Board of Regents will hold three informational forums next week in Spearfish, Rapid City, and Aberdeen on a proposal to acquire land in Sioux Falls to create a permanent location for the state’s public university system.

“This plan will open up new opportunities for Black Hills State University, South Dakota School of Mines & Technology, and Northern State University to offer programs or courses to people in the Sioux Falls area,” Robert T. Tad Perry, the regents’ executive director, said. Three other public universities—The University of South Dakota, South Dakota State University, and Dakota State University—already offer programming in Sioux Falls.

The informational forums are planned for:

- **Spearfish** – Wednesday, January 18, 7:30 p.m. MST, Meier Hall Room 128 on the BHSU campus
- **Rapid City** – Thursday, January 19, 3 p.m. MST, Surbeck Center Quartz & Garnet Room on the SDSM&T campus
- **Aberdeen** – Saturday, January 21, 12 noon CST, Ramada Inn

Gov. Mike Rounds and the South Dakota Board of Regents have asked the 2006 Legislature to approve acquiring 263 acres in northwest Sioux Falls to create a permanent instructional site, and to appropriate \$8 million for construction of a classroom building at the location. Perry said these plans look to the future of public higher education in Sioux Falls, and are a critical part of the state’s efforts to develop South Dakota’s economy for this century.

At the forums, representatives from the Board of Regents will be on hand to discuss details of the Sioux Falls plan, provide background information and maps on the proposed location, and answer questions.