



# News Release

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## **New Certificate Programs Target Workforce Development**

VERMILLION, S.D. – The South Dakota Board of Regents today approved requests to deliver new certificate programs in geospatial technology, bank security, and information technology.

Certificate programs usually require fewer credit hours to complete than a minor. They are developed by packaging a small set of courses that allow students to develop expertise within a focused area of study, addressing identified market and workforce development needs.

New certificate programs were approved for the following:

- **South Dakota School of Mines & Technology – *Geospatial Technology***
  - This certificate requires 12 credit hours of study. The program is geared to Black Hills area professionals who seek to expand their skill sets or retrain for a career in gathering, storing, processing, and delivering geographic information. In western South Dakota and adjacent states, no certificate programs, and few degree programs, currently exist in this specialized field, making this new certificate program highly desirable.
  
- **Dakota State University – *Bank Security Certificate***
  - This certificate requires 9 credit hours of study. It provides students with hands-on security assessment and mitigation skills related to computer networks, web applications, wireless systems, and other technologies in the financial services sector. There is growing demand for technology professionals with training and expertise in security issues. Courses earned with this certificate serve as a gateway to the master of science degree in information assurance, also offered at Dakota State.
  
- **Dakota State University – *Information Technology Certificate***
  - This certificate requires 9 credit hours of study. Most organizations regularly use computer networks, web applications, wireless systems, and mobile technologies to compete in today's business environment. This certificate equips students with the education needed to understand this dynamic world, and serves as an onramp to further pursue the master of science degree in information systems at DSU.