



# News Release

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## **Regents Approve New Operational Model for University Center-Sioux Falls**

RAPID CITY, S.D. – The South Dakota Board of Regents Thursday approved a new governance and operational model for the public higher education center in Sioux Falls. Regents agreed that the University of South Dakota will serve as lead institution at University Center-Sioux Falls, with the center continuing its longstanding multi-institutional collaboration that will allow students to enroll in academic programs offered by any of the state universities.

“Critical to the success of this structure is the very valuable input we will receive from a new advisory council at University Center-Sioux Falls composed of local business and civic interests,” Regents Executive Director Mike Rush said. “Community input is essential as we produce more graduates for the highly educated workforce that is needed in the greater Sioux Falls area.”

Under the new structure, University Center will emphasize a new added focus on two-year associate degree programs that provide in-demand workforce skills, while leading to bachelor degree completion. Rush stressed that bachelor- and graduate-degree programs will remain available at University Center-Sioux Falls, based on local needs and demand.

The new model was developed by the presidents of USD, South Dakota State University, and Dakota State University, along with Executive Director Rush, and a Board of Regents’ committee. USD, SDSU, and DSU have historically shared operational responsibility for the off-campus center, located at the intersection of 60<sup>th</sup> Street North and Career Drive in northwest Sioux Falls.

Plans call for an internal coordinating group made up of representatives from the three partner universities to develop new programs and assist in making policy recommendations. The Sioux Falls center’s operating budget also will be allocated as a fixed cost among the three collaborating universities.

Additional details about the new associate degree programs at University Center-Sioux Falls will be announced by the USD administration in upcoming weeks.