



News Release

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Regents Authorize Limited Multi-Year Contracts

RAID CITY, S.D. – The South Dakota Board of Regents has modified its personnel policies to allow for the granting of multi-year contracts to certain head coaches and athletic directors and to public university presidents.

Thursday's action, which modified one policy and created another, applies only to NCAA Division I head coaches, NCAA Division I athletic directors, and university presidents. In South Dakota, NCAA Division I institutions are South Dakota State University and the University of South Dakota.

Board officials explained that market expectations for NCAA Division I athletics have evolved to the point that multiple-year contracts for head coaches and athletic directors are commonplace. "In order to remain competitive when we recruit, our institutions must be able to offer longer-term contracts for these positions," said Mike Rush, the regents' executive director and CEO. Rush noted it is also routine within the higher education marketplace to offer multi-year contracts to university presidents.

He said changes to Board of Regents' policies were deliberately limited to a very small subset of employees. Board members intend to evaluate the longer-term implications and budgetary impacts before they would consider offering multi-year contracts to any other position type.