



News Release

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New Postsecondary Certificate Options Available to Students

VERMILLION, S.D. – New certificate programs at three South Dakota public universities offer more options to students pursuing workforce and career development opportunities. The South Dakota Board of Regents approved the academic offerings at its meeting this week in Vermillion.

Northern State University will offer a graduate STEM certificate targeted at K-12 educators who seek greater expertise in science, technology, engineering, math integration, curriculum design, and project-based learning. All 12 credit hours will transfer toward a master's in educational studies; six hours of the 12 credit-hour certificate are transferable to a master's degree in education.

At **Dakota State University**, a health information clerk certificate prepares student to work with health record documentation in healthcare facilities, standards for privacy and confidentiality, health information software, and technologies used by providers and payers. The 15 credit-hour certificate program aligns with further studies leading to an associate degree in health information technology or a bachelor degree in health information administration.

An undergraduate certificate in ceramics, drawing, painting, printmaking, and sculpture at the **University of South Dakota** offers an additional credential for students who major in art, but may also appeal to students from other degree fields who wish to gain additional expertise. The certificate requires 12 credit hours for completion.

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.