South Dakota
Critical Teaching Needs Scholarship

**General Information**

Applications must be postmarked or received electronically by April 15 for priority consideration.

Scholarship applicants will be notified of the decisions.

Scholarship is awarded for one year, must reapply to be considered for a second year.

The Critical Teaching Needs Scholarship Program is aimed at encouraging South Dakota high school graduates to:

- Obtain their postsecondary education in South Dakota.
- Remain in the state upon completion of their education.
- Contribute to the state of South Dakota and its citizens by working in a critical teaching need occupation.

The current critical need occupations within a public, private, or parochial school are:

- Teaching K-12 Special Education
- Teaching High School Math or Science
- Teaching High School Career and Technical Education (CTE)
- Teaching Secondary Language Arts
- Teaching Secondary World Language
- Teaching English as a Second Language (ESL) or English Language Learners
- Teaching K-12 Vocal or Instrumental Music

The scholarship amount will be determined by calculating the student’s remaining financial need, and may not exceed the tuition and generally applicable fees for 30 credit hours at a public South Dakota postsecondary institution.

To be considered for the scholarship you must meet all of the following:

- Agree in writing to stay in South Dakota and work in a critical teaching need occupation for five years after graduating from a participating postsecondary institution;
- Agree, through a promissory note, that failure to abide by the employment requirement above will result in the scholarship being converted into an interest-bearing loan;
- Attend a participating South Dakota postsecondary institution as an undergraduate enrolled in the your final two years of postsecondary education and be fully admitted in an elementary or secondary education program at the institution that is preparing you to work in a critical need teaching area; and
- Be a U.S. citizen or lawful permanent resident.
- Have a minimum cumulative 2.8 GPA on a 4.0 scale, and an average of 2.8 GPA for all major coursework.

A student is eligible to receive the scholarship for two academic years (four consecutive fall and spring terms) or until the attainment of a baccalaureate degree in elementary or secondary education in a critical need teaching area, whichever comes first.

To maintain your scholarship eligibility you must:

- Maintain a minimum cumulative 2.8 GPA on a 4.0 scale.
- Be considered a full-time student as defined by the college.
- Make satisfactory academic progress towards a degree.
- Attend a participating South Dakota college.

Note: From the total pool of applicants, a limited number will be selected.

*This scholarship becomes a low-interest loan if you fail to fulfill the program requirements.
Important Steps

- Complete all items in the Applicant Information Section.
- Write your essay and attach to your application. Be certain to include your name on the essay.
- Attach a copy of your current college transcript, high school transcript, and ACT scores.
- Send the completed scholarship application and your essay by April 15 to:

  South Dakota Board of Regents
  Attention: Critical Teaching Needs Scholarship Program
  306 East Capitol Ave, Suite 200
  Pierre, SD 57501

Instructions and Privacy Notice

**Applicant Instructions**

*Use a dark ink ball point pen or typewriter. Do not complete this form in pencil.*

**Item 1:** Enter your last name, then your first name and middle initial.

**Item 2:** Enter your nine-digit Social Security Number, Read the Privacy Notice below before completing this item.

**Item 3:** Enter your permanent home street address, apartment number, city, state, and zip code. If you have a Post Office Box and a street address, list both. A temporary school address is not acceptable.

**Item 4:** Enter the area code and telephone number for the address listed in Item 3. If you do not have a telephone, enter “N/A”.

**Item 5:** Using only number, enter the month, day, and four-digit year of your birth. (For example, for June 24, 1998, you would enter 06/24/1998). Be careful not to enter the current year.

**Item 6:** Enter your preferred e-mail address for receiving correspondence. If you do not have an e-mail address, or do not wish to provide it, enter “N/A”. If you provide your e-mail address, South Dakota Board of Regents may use it to communicate with you.

**Item 7:** Indicate your U.S. citizenship status by checking “Yes”. If you are not a U.S. Citizen/National, check “No”.

**Item 8:** Enter the name of the public, parochial, or private high school you are currently attending. If you were home schooled, enter “Home Schooled”.

**Item 9:** List you cumulative high school grade point average (GPA), class rank, and composite ACT score. You will need to attach a copy of your high school transcript or arrange for the high school that you are from to send an official copy of your high school transcript to the Board of Regents.

**Item 10:** Enter the name of the participating South Dakota college you are currently attending.

**Item 11:** Enter the month and year you anticipate to graduate from your postsecondary institution. (For example, for May 2021, enter 05/2021.)

**Item 12a:** Indicate “Yes” if you were on active duty with an active component of the U.S. Armed Forces.

**Item 12b:** If you indicated “Yes” to **Item 12a**, using only numbers, enter the month, day, and year of your discharge. (For example, for June 20, 2019, enter 06/20/2019.)

**Item 13:** List your cumulative postsecondary grade point average (GPA). You will need to attach a copy of your current transcript.

**Item 14:** Select what your university classification will be at the start of the Fall 2020 semester.

**Item 15:** Please check the appropriate box for each statement which reflects the means as to which you will submit the documents specified.

**Item 16a:** Indicate “Yes” or “No” if this your first time applying for the scholarship.

**Item 16b:** If you checked “No” to **Item 16a** above, indicate if you were selected to receive funding for this scholarship for the 2019-2020 academic year (Fall 2019 and Spring 2020 semesters). By checking “Yes” for **Item 16b**, you are signifying that you are requesting consideration to be awarded the second year of funds for this scholarship.

**Item 17:** Check the critical teaching need occupation for which you are pursuing a program of study in South Dakota.

**Item 18:** List the high school and college activities in which you have been involved. Include organizations, athletics, music, and other extracurricular activities. Also, include years involved, offices held, and special achievements. Please use an additional sheet if needed.

**Item 19:** List community service work in which you have participated. (For example: church-related activities, volunteer work, time used to raise money for charitable causes, or work done to help those in need.) Please use an additional sheet if needed.

**Item 20:** List honors and awards you have received while in high school and college. Include those received through academics, school-related clubs or organizations, athletics, music, other extracurricular activities, and organizations or activities outside of high school. Please use an additional sheet if needed.

**Item 21:** Write a short (no more than one page) essay on the following subject:

  What do you consider to be the most critical issue facing education in South Dakota during the next five years, and how can teachers help to address this issue in their classroom?

  If for any reason you must submit it separately, be certain to include your name on the essay and the scholarship program title.

**Item 22:** Read, sign, and date the Applicant Statement of Understanding and Consent to Release Information.

**Privacy Notice**

The information provided in this application will be shared with and/or released to the Critical Teaching Needs Scholarship Board, South Dakota Board of Regents, as designated administrator, and to any parties as it relates to the selection and maintenance of the scholarship program. We will use your Social Security Number only as an identifier for maintaining and retrieving your scholarship records.
### South Dakota Critical Teaching Needs Scholarship

**Mail To:**

South Dakota Board of Regents  
Attention: Critical Teaching Needs Scholarship Program  
306 East Capitol Ave, Suite 200  
Pierre, SD 57501

**Call:** 605-773-3455, if you have any questions about the program or application completion.

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### Applicant Information

**WARNING:** Any person who knowingly makes a false statement or misrepresentation on this form shall be subject to prosecution to the fullest extent of the law:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Recipient Information</th>
<th>Please print neatly or type. Read the instructions on the second page of this application carefully.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Last Name</td>
<td>First Name</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Social Security Number</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Permanent Street Address (If P.O. Box, see instructions.)</td>
<td>4. Home Area Code/Telephone Number</td>
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<tr>
<td>City</td>
<td>State</td>
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<tr>
<td>Zip Code</td>
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<tr>
<td>5. Date of Birth (Month/Day/Year)</td>
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<tr>
<td>6. E-mail Address</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. U.S. Citizen/National</td>
<td>□ Yes □ No</td>
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<td>8. High School Attended</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>9. Cumulative high school GPA</td>
<td>Class Rank _____ out of _____ Composite ACT Score____</td>
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<tr>
<td>10. Name of College Currently Attending</td>
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<td>11. Anticipated Graduation Date (Month/Year)</td>
<td>12a. Military Service</td>
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<td>12b. If yes, date of discharge (Month/Day/Year)</td>
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<tr>
<td>13. Cumulative Grade Point Average (GPA)</td>
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<td>14. University Classification at the start of the Fall 2020 semester.</td>
<td>□ Junior (60-89 credits) □ Senior (90+ credits)</td>
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<tr>
<td>15. ATTACH A COPY OF YOUR HIGH SCHOOL TRANSCRIPT AND A COPY OF YOUR CURRENT COLLEGE TRANSCRIPT (See applicant authorization in the APPLICANT STATEMENT OF UNDERSTANDING AND CONSENT TO RELEASE INFORMATION section below.)</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Do you wish to attach a copy of your high school transcript electronically?</td>
<td>□ Yes □ No, I will mail it in separately</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Do you wish to attach a copy of your college transcript electronically?</td>
<td>□ Yes □ No, I will mail it in separately</td>
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<td>• Do you have any other additional documents you would like to attach?</td>
<td>□ Yes □ No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16a. Is this your first time applying for this scholarship?</td>
<td>□ Yes □ No</td>
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<td>16b. If you indicated “No” above, were you awarded funds for this scholarship in the 2019-2020 academic year?</td>
<td>□ Yes □ No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17. Check the critical teaching need occupation for which you are pursuing a program of study in South Dakota:</td>
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<tr>
<td>□ Teacher - K-12 Special Education</td>
<td>□ Teacher - High School Math</td>
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<td>□ Teacher - High School Career and Technical Education</td>
<td>□ Teacher - High School Science</td>
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<td>□ Teacher - Secondary Language Arts</td>
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<td>□ Teacher - English as a Second Language (ESL) or English Language Learners (ELL)</td>
<td>□ Teacher - K-12 Vocal or Instrumental Music</td>
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</table>
18. List high school and college activities. Include separate sheet if necessary.

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19. List community service work. Include separate sheet if necessary.

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20. List high school and college honors and awards. Include separate sheet if necessary.

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21. Write a short essay on the following topic and attach it to this application.

What do you consider to be the most critical issue facing education in South Dakota during the next five years, and how can teachers help to address this issue in their classroom?

Do you wish to attach your essay electronically to this application? □ Yes □ No, I will mail it in separately

22. APPLICANT STATEMENT OF UNDERSTANDING AND CONSENT TO RELEASE INFORMATION: If I receive the Critical Teaching Needs Scholarship, I understand that: I must attend a participating South Dakota college, university, or technical school; I must fulfill a critical teaching need occupation employment requirement; my failure to fulfill the employment requirements will convert this scholarship to an interest-bearing loan. I will sign a separate Acceptance and Promissory Note without which my award cannot be finalized and funds will not be disbursed. I authorize the Critical Teaching Needs Scholarship Board and the South Dakota Board of Regents, as designated administrator, access to any of my school records for the purpose of verifying the validity of my application information. I authorize a school official at my high school to release the requested information in the School Certification below.

Applicant Signature ___________________________________________ Date ______________