

SOUTH DAKOTA BOARD OF REGENTS

Academic and Student Affairs

AGENDA ITEM: 6 – G
DATE: October 3-5, 2017

SUBJECT

Articulation Agreements with South Dakota Technical Institutes

PERTINENT HISTORY

Since the early 2000s, The Board of Regents has approved over 200 program-to-program articulation agreements between Regental institutions and the state’s technical institutes. These agreements provide transfer opportunities for technical institute graduates holding associate of applied science degrees (AAS) into Regental system bachelor’s degree programs. Recent examples include agreements signed by South Dakota State University (SDSU) and the University of South Dakota (USD) approved at the [August 2017 meeting](#).

CONTROLLING STATUTE, RULE, OR POLICY

[BOR Policy 2:27 – Program to Program Articulation Agreements](#)
[SDBOR 2014-2020 Strategic Plan](#)

BACKGROUND/DISCUSSION

This brief analysis provides an update on new or revised articulation agreements established between Regental institutions and South Dakota’s technical institutes over the last five years. In that time, nearly 100 such program-to-program agreements received Board of Regents’ approval, demonstrating continuing collaboration benefitting students and the state.

IMPACT AND RECOMMENDATION

Articulation agreements with South Dakota technical institutes benefit South Dakota postsecondary students and contribute to the state’s economic and workforce development.

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment I – Special Analysis: Articulation Agreements with South Dakota Technical Institutes

INFORMATIONAL ITEM

This item is for informational purposes only. Any action will be at the Board’s discretion.



*** Special Analysis ***

Articulation Agreements with South Dakota Technical Institutes

For more than a decade the South Dakota Board of Regents has maintained a number of articulation agreements with the state's four technical institutes to ensure ease of transfer for South Dakota Students. Over the past three years Regental institutions have taken a number of innovative approaches to improve pathways from technical institute AAS degrees to a four-year degrees. More recently, revisions made by the Board of Regents to the System General Education requirements in August 2016¹, and the fundamental approach to BOR Policy 2:5 Transfer of Credit in March 2016² has required renewed engagement with Technical Institute leadership. This report provides a brief update on new or updated articulation and transfer agreements approved during the last five years. In that time, nearly 100 such program-to-program agreements received formal approval. In addition, USD launched a BS in Technical Leadership that goes beyond the typical program-to-program model and provides seamless transfer to all technical institute graduates who hold an AAS degree. SDSU has also established an "Opening Doors" initiative with LATI to find additional innovative ways for technical institute graduates to continue their education.

Data Notes

The following summary provides information on new or updated program-to-program articulation agreements between Regental institutions and South Dakota technical institutes over the last five years. This list does not represent all such agreements, just the most recent work in creating new or updating existing agreements. The charts below show the institutions and programs covered by these articulation agreements, including the number of credit hours that may be transferred. Please note that the number of transferable credits can increase from what is listed on the charts depending on whether or not a technical institute student has completed transferable general education coursework.

Analysis

The Board's [Strategic Plan 2014-2020](#) lists improving "transfer articulation agreements with technical institutes" as one of the key action steps to expand educational access under Goal 1: Student Success. There are nearly 100 articulation agreements between three Regental institutions (South Dakota State

¹ During the August 2016 Board of Regents meeting, the Board approved revisions to BOR Policy [2:7 Baccalaureate General Education](#) and [2:26 Associate General Education](#) to eliminate Institutional Graduation Requirements across the system. Changes to BOR [Policy 2:11 Assessment](#) also resulted in the repeal of the CAAP examination which was also a standard requirement included in all articulation agreements with the Technical Institutes in the state.

² Credit hour limits for transfer students were expanded for equivalent credit by the Board in December 2016 with revisions to BOR Policy [2:5 Transfer of Credit](#), allowing for the viability of new programs like the Technical Leadership degree program.

University, University of South Dakota, and Black Hills State University) and the state's four technical institutes listed in this report. The list does not represent all approved articulation agreements in existence, just those that are new or updated in the last five years. All Regental institutions have existing program-to-program articulation agreements with technical institutes with the exception of South Dakota School of Mines & Technology. Each institution reports having additional articulation agreements in the planning or review phase.

Articulation agreements (sometimes called “transfer agreements”) establish a pathway for students who wish to continue their education at Regental institutions after receiving their associate of applied science (AAS) degrees at technical institutes. Articulation agreements simplify the transfer process for students and institutions, establishing the specific credits that will apply toward completing the bachelor's degree. Such agreements depend upon thorough review of curriculum to determine if the AAS coursework satisfies coursework needed for the bachelor's degree. A number of variables determine the amount of transferable credit, including but not limited to course content, course learning outcomes, Higher Learning Commission accreditation requirements for degree levels, program accreditation requirements (e.g., the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business [AACSB]), and institutional and Board transfer policies.

The articulation agreements presented in this report are typically program-to-program agreements, meaning they are applicable to transfer between a specific technical institute program to a specific Regental system program. However, it is worth noting that there are several agreements and programs that provide broad transfer opportunities for AAS graduates. These include opportunities through the University of South Dakota's new BS in Technical Leadership which allows all AAS graduates to earn a bachelor's degree with sixty additional credits. In addition, South Dakota State University and Lake Area Technical Institute recently launched a dual degree program in Agriculture and “Opening Doors” initiative to continue simplifying transfer options. The University of South Dakota and South Dakota State University programs received positive reception in the media, including but not limited to:

- Kelo, 7/6/2017, [New Program Offers Bachelor's Degree Opportunity For Southeast Tech Students](#)
- Kelo, 7/30/2017, [Inside KELOLAND: STI, USD Partnership](#)
- *USA Today/Argus Leader*, 6/30/2017, ['Game-changer' Degree Program Brings Tech Schools, USD Together](#)
- *USA Today/Argus Leader*, 8/4/2017, [SDSU, Lake Area Tech 'Opening Doors' in Latest Higher-Ed Partnership](#)
- *Watertown Public Opinion*, 8/5/2017, [LATI, SDSU Tout 'Open Doors' Partnership](#)

Figure 1
University of South Dakota

BOR School	Major (Bachelor's)	TI	TI Program (AAS)	Credits
USD	Technical Leadership	All	All	60
USD	Health Sciences	LATI	Dental Assisting	49
USD	Health Sciences	LATI	Environmental Technology	49
USD	Health Sciences	LATI	Human Services Technician	49
USD	Health Sciences	LATI	Med/Fire Rescue	49
USD	Health Sciences	LATI	Medical Assisting	49
USD	Health Sciences	LATI	Medical Lab Technician	49
USD	Health Sciences	LATI	Occ. Therapy Assistant	49
USD	Health Sciences	LATI	Physical Therapy Assistant	49
USD	Health Sciences	LATI	Robotics	49
USD	Health Sciences	MTI	Human Services Technician	49
USD	Health Sciences	MTI	Medical Assistant	49
USD	Health Sciences	MTI	Medical Lab Technology	49
USD	Health Sciences	MTI	Medical Office Professional	49
USD	Health Sciences	MTI	Radiation Therapy	49
USD	Health Sciences	MTI	Radiologic Technology	49
USD	Health Sciences	MTI	Speech Language Pathology Asst.	49
USD	Health Sciences	STI	Cardiac Ultrasound Technology	49
USD	Health Sciences	STI	Diagnostic Medical Sonography	49
USD	Health Sciences	STI	Early Childhood Specialist	49
USD	Health Sciences	STI	Electroneurodiagnostic Tech.	49
USD	Health Sciences	STI	Healthcare Leadership	49
USD	Health Sciences	STI	Invasive Cardiovascular Tech.	49
USD	Health Sciences	STI	Law Enforcement Science	49
USD	Health Sciences	STI	Medical Coding	49
USD	Health Sciences	STI	Nuclear Medicine Technology	49
USD	Health Sciences	STI	Surgical Technology	49
USD	Health Sciences	STI	Vascular Ultrasound Technology	49
USD	Health Sciences	WDT	Allied Health	49
USD	Health Sciences	WDT	Criminal Justice	49
USD	Health Sciences	WDT	Environmental Engineering Tech.	49
USD	Health Sciences	WDT	Fire Science	49
USD	Health Sciences	WDT	Health Information Management	49
USD	Health Sciences	WDT	Health Information-Coding	49
USD	Health Sciences	WDT	Law Enforcement Technology	49
USD	Health Sciences	WDT	Medical Assisting	49
USD	Health Sciences	WDT	Paramedic	49
USD	Health Sciences	WDT	Pharmacy Technician	49
USD	Health Sciences	WDT	Surgical Technology	49
USD	Health Sciences	WDT	Medical Lab Technician	49

Figure 2
South Dakota State University

BOR School	Major (Bachelor's)	TI	TI Program (AAS)	Credits
SDSU	Ag. Ed., Comm., & Leadership	LATI	Agriculture: Agribusiness	23
SDSU	Agricultural Science	LATI	Agriculture: <i>multiple specializations</i>	52
SDSU	Agronomy	LATI	Agriculture: <i>multiple specializations</i>	40
SDSU	Animal Science	LATI	Agriculture: Large Animals	42-43
SDSU	Construction Management	LATI	Building Trades Technology	27
SDSU	Dairy Production	LATI	Agriculture: Dairy	36
SDSU	Ecology & Env. Science	LATI	Environmental Technology	36
SDSU	Economics	LATI	Financial Services	27
SDSU	Economics	LATI	Marketing & Management	27
SDSU	Electronics Technology	LATI	Robotics	33
SDSU	Electronics Technology	LATI	Electronics Systems Technology	34
SDSU	Medical Lab Science	LATI	Medical Lab Technician	43
SDSU	Operations Management	LATI	Robotics	26
SDSU	Operations Management	LATI	Precision Machining	26
SDSU	Operations Management	LATI	Electronics Systems Technology	26
SDSU	Agricultural Science	MTI	Agricultural Technology	51
SDSU	Construction Management	MTI	Architectural Design & Building Construction	19
SDSU	Electronics Technology	MTI	Automation Controls	31
SDSU	Electronics Technology	MTI	Satellite Communications	25
SDSU	Electronics Technology	MTI	Telecommunications	25
SDSU	Electronics Technology	MTI	Wind Turbine Technology	19
SDSU	Medical Laboratory Science	MTI	Medical Lab Technician	43
SDSU	Operations Management	MTI	Business Management	13
SDSU	Operations Management	MTI	Welding & Manufacturing Tech	15
SDSU	Construction Management	STI	Civil Engineering Technology	27
SDSU	Construction Management	STI	Construction Management Tech.	26
SDSU	Economics	STI	Business Administration	27
SDSU	Economics	STI	Financial Services	27
SDSU	Electronics Technology	STI	Electronics Technology	25
SDSU	Electronics Technology	STI	Mechatronics Technology	27
SDSU	Horticulture	STI	Horticulture Technology	48
SDSU	Horticulture	STI	Landscape Design	46
SDSU	Horticulture	STI	Sports Turf Management	46
SDSU	Nursing	STI	Nursing	20
SDSU	Operations Management	STI	Electronics Technology	26
SDSU	Operations Management	STI	Machine Tool Technology	23
SDSU	Operations Management	STI	Mechatronics Technology	26
<i>DUAL DEGREE PROGRAM WITH LATI</i>				
SDSU	Agricultural Sciences	LATI	Agriculture	60
<i>SDSU/LATI "OPENING DOORS" PROJECT</i>				
SDSU	Animal Science	LATI	Agriculture Ranch Management	49
SDSU	Animal Science	LATI	Agriculture Swine Option	43
SDSU	Animal Science	LATI	Agriculture: Large Animal	43
SDSU	General Studies	LATI	Photography/Media	56
SDSU	General Studies	LATI	Law Enforcement	59
SDSU	General Studies	LATI	Occupational Therapy	59
SDSU	General Studies	LATI	Physical Therapist Assistant	58
SDSU	Interdisciplinary Studies	LATI	Law Enforcement	59
SDSU	Interdisciplinary Studies	LATI	Occupational Therapy	59
SDSU	Interdisciplinary Studies	LATI	Physical Therapist Assistant	58
SDSU	Interdisciplinary Studies	LATI	Photography/Media	56

Figure 3
Black Hills State University

BOR School	Major (Bachelor's)	TI	TI Program (AAS)	Credits
BHSU	Human Services	WDT	Allied Health	47
BHSU	Human Services	WDT	Business	47
BHSU	Human Services	WDT	Criminal Justice	47
BHSU	Human Services	WDT	Fire Science	47
BHSU	Human Services	WDT	Health Information Management	47
BHSU	Human Services	WDT	Law Enforcement Technology	47
BHSU	Human Services	WDT	Medical Assisting	47
BHSU	Human Services	WDT	Paralegal/Legal Assistant	47
BHSU	Human Services	WDT	Paramedic	47
BHSU	Human Services	WDT	Pharmacy Technician	47
BHSU	Human Services	WDT	Surgical Technology	47