

**SOUTH DAKOTA BOARD OF REGENTS**

**AGENDA ITEM: 3 – G (4)**  
**DATE: March 30-31, 2021**

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**SUBJECT**

**Fall 2021 Semester Preparation**

**CONTROLLING STATUTE, RULE, OR POLICY**

[BOR Policy 1:15, Section C.2 \(2.10\)](#)

**BACKGROUND / DISCUSSION**

The South Dakota Board of Regents system has continuously responded to the changing dynamics caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. With vaccines now available in the higher education setting, the system continues to adjust as it looks toward the Fall 2021 semester.

**IMPACT AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

The Board of Regents’ Council of Presidents met on March 12, 2021, and concurred unanimously to move toward more normal operations in the Fall 2021 semester. The Council discussed various planning efforts that they may engage in over the next several weeks, including:

- Campus/department planning
- Workplace planning (Human Resources engagement)
- Communication planning
- Health maintenance monitoring – COVID planning
- Classroom utilization/space planning
- Meeting and office utilization/space planning
- Residential Life planning
- Emergency planning (department, college, campus, etc.)

The system has learned new best practices as a result of the disruption and campuses anticipate continue to implement them. Some examples of these changes are as follows: Telehealth, Zoom Meetings, Zoom Student Orientation, Technology in the Classroom, Staggered/Phased Schedule for Campus Arrival, etc.

An initial [news release](#) on return to normal operations was provided by the Board of Regents on March 15, 2021. More information will be provided as the Spring 2021 semester comes to a conclusion.

**ATTACHMENTS**

None

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**INFORMATIONAL ITEM**