

**SOUTH DAKOTA BOARD OF REGENTS**

**Academic and Student Affairs**

**AGENDA ITEM: 6 – F (1)  
DATE: December 11-12, 2024**

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**SUBJECT**

**Request to Seek Accreditation – SDSU – Council for the Accreditation of Educator Preparation (CAEP)**

**CONTROLLING STATUTE, RULE, OR POLICY**

[BOR Policy 2.3.5](#) – Accreditation  
[AAC Guideline 2.3.5.B](#) – Request to Seek Program Accreditation

**BACKGROUND / DISCUSSION**

AAC Guideline 2.3.5.B specifies that universities must seek and receive Board approval before applying for initial accreditation for academic programs. South Dakota State University requests approval to seek accreditation from the following accrediting agency:

Accrediting Agency: Council for the Accreditation of Educator Preparation (CAEP)

Program: BS in Elementary Education; BS in Special Education

Advantages: CAEP accreditation offers several advantages for educator preparation programs (EPPs) and their stakeholders, including students faculty, and employers, including: enhanced program quality, rigorous standards, data-drive recognition and prestige, national recognition, increased credibility, graduate employability, accountability and transparency, access to resources and support, funding opportunities, licensure and certification, and transferability of credits.

**IMPACT AND RECOMMENDATION**

SDSU anticipates a one-time application fee of \$350 for initial accreditation, and an annual fee of \$2,500 to be covered through department funds. SDSU currently offers CAEP accredited programs, and SDSU will continue to pay the annual fee of \$3,605. The addition of the new program will be part of SDSU’s review, which will also have a site visit in Fall 2026.

Board staff recommends approval.

(Continued)

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**DRAFT MOTION 20241211\_6-F(1):**

I move to approve SDSU’s request to seek accreditation from the Council for the Accreditation of Educator Preparation (CAEP) for their BS degrees in Elementary Education and Special Education.

Request to Seek Accreditation – SDSU (CAEP)

December 11-12, 2024

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**ATTACHMENTS**

Attachment I – SDSU Request to Seek Accreditation Forms: Council for the Accreditation of Educator Preparation (CAEP) – Elementary Education & Special Education



**SOUTH DAKOTA BOARD OF REGENTS  
ACADEMIC AFFAIRS FORMS**

**Request to Seek Accreditation**

Use this form to request permission to seek accreditation of an approved program. Board of Regents (BOR) action is required to seek program accreditation.

<b>UNIVERSITY:</b>	SDSU
<b>PROGRAM:</b>	<b>Elementary Education</b>
<b>CIP CODE:</b>	<b>13.1210</b>
<b>UNIVERSITY DEPARTMENT:</b>	<b>School of Education, Counseling, and Human Development</b>
<b>UNIVERSITY DIVISION:</b>	<b>College of Education &amp; Human Sciences</b>

**University Approval**

*To the Board of Regents and the Executive Director: I certify that I have read this proposal, that I believe it to be accurate, and that it has been evaluated and approved as provided by university policy.*

\_\_\_\_\_  
President of the University

Click here to enter a

9-11-24

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

**1. Level of program seeking accreditation (place an "X" in the appropriate box):**

- Certificate
                         
  Associate
                         
  Bachelor's  
 Doctoral
                         
  Master's

**2. Accrediting Agency:**

Council for the Accreditation of Educator Preparation (CAEP)

**3. What are the advantages of accreditation?**

CAEP (Council for the Accreditation of Educator Preparation) accreditation offers several advantages for educator preparation programs (EPPs) and their stakeholders, including students, faculty, and employers. Here are some key benefits:

- Enhanced Program Quality
- Rigorous Standards
- Data-Driven Recognition and Prestige
- National Recognition
- Increased Credibility
- Graduate Employability

- Accountability and Transparency
- Access to Resources and Support
- Funding Opportunities
- Licensure and Certification
- Transferability of Credits

**4. What are the anticipated costs involved in accreditation, including:**

**A. Costs involved in undergoing self-study and preparing the application for accreditation:** Current staff will prepare the self study. Additional costs to prepare the self study are not planned.

**B. Out-of-pocket costs related to dues or site visits:**

CAEP Annual Fee: \$3,605

**C. Base budget implications including incremental costs and minimum base resources required (dollars and FTE):** NA – Existing SECHD programs are currently accredited by CAEP. Base costs and minimum base resources are already allocated thru existing CAEP accredited programs.

**5. What is the source of the revenue needed?** Additional revenue sources are not anticipated.

**6. What is the estimated date for submission of accreditation application?**

We already have CAEP accreditation as an Educator Provider Program (EPP), so we will be adding this program to our review which will entail a self-study in Spring 2026 and a site visit in Fall 2026.



**SOUTH DAKOTA BOARD OF REGENTS  
ACADEMIC AFFAIRS FORMS**

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<b>UNIVERSITY:</b>	SDSU
<b>PROGRAM:</b>	<b>Special Education</b>
<b>CIP CODE:</b>	<b>13.1001</b>
<b>UNIVERSITY DEPARTMENT:</b>	<b>School of Education, Counseling, and Human Development</b>
<b>UNIVERSITY DIVISION:</b>	<b>College of Education &amp; Human Sciences</b>

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