

**SOUTH DAKOTA BOARD OF REGENTS**

**Budget and Finance**  
**Consent**

**AGENDA ITEM: 5 – D**  
**DATE: October 2-3, 2024**

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**SUBJECT**

**Capital Asset Purchase Greater than \$500,000**

**CONTROLLING STATUTE, RULE, OR POLICY**

[SDCL § 13-49-15](#) – Purchasing and contracting for institutions

[BOR Policy 5.4](#) – Purchasing

**BACKGROUND / DISCUSSION**

The Board has delegated authority to enter into contracts for the purchase of equipment, supplies, and services to the institutions. Purchases of capital assets with a per-unit cost exceeding \$500,000 must be approved by the Board of Regents prior to a purchase order being issued.

**IMPACT AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

**South Dakota School of Mines and Technology (SDSMT)** is requesting to utilize \$1,398,445.00 of grant funds to purchase a Scanning Transmission Electron Microscope (STEM). The STEM is a modern replacement for their current instrument, which is near the end of its useful life and technical support availability. The STEM supports research and training in engineering and science around crystalline materials, including metals, semiconductors, and insulating materials, and is a critical tool for many of these programs.

**ATTACHMENTS**

Attachment I – Capital Asset Purchase Request – SDSMT STEM

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**DRAFT MOTION 20241002\_5-D:**

I move to approve SDSMT’s request to purchase a Scanning Transmission Electron Microscope (STEM) for research and development using \$1,398,445.00 of grant funds.



# SOUTH DAKOTA BOARD OF REGENTS CAPITAL ASSET PURCHASE REQUEST

**Please check approval action needed:**

Board Authorization Required:           X          

Executive Director Approval Required:           X          

**Is this an Externally Funded Research Purchase?**

Yes           X          

No                           

**Institution:** South Dakota School of Mines and Technol      **Department:** Nanoscience & Biomedical Engineering

**Fund Source:** National Science Foundation award #2408272  
(https://www.nsf.gov/awardsearch/showAward?AWD\_ID=2408272&HistoricalAwards=false)  
(SPECIFIC REVENUE SOURCE MUST BE IDENTIFIED)

**Estimated Cost:** \$1,398,445.00

**Item Description:** Scanning Transmission Electron Microscope

**Purpose:**

The scanning transmission electron microscope (STEM) is a modern replacement for our current instrument which is near the end of its useful life and technical support availability. The STEM supports research and training in our engineering and science programs. The microscope is used to measure and visualize atomic level structure of crystalline materials, including metals, semiconductors and insulating materials, and is a critical tool for many of these programs.

**Institutional Authorization:** DocuSigned by: Bill Spindle      **Date:** 8/21/2024

**Date Approved by the Board of Regents:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Executive Director Approval:** Signed by: Nathan Lukes      **Date:** 8/24/2024

**NOTE: Institutions are responsible for processing their requisitions through their procurement department. All supporting information must be attached with this request.**

*Policy 5.4: Capital asset purchases of \$250,000 to \$500,000 require Executive Director approval. Capital asset purchases exceeding \$500,000 requires Board of Regents approval.*