**24:40:13:01.  Definitions.** Terms used in this chapter mean:

(1)  "Board," the South Dakota Board of Regents;

(2)  "Credit hour," the unit of measure employed by an institution to track progress toward degree completion. Only units that satisfy graduation requirements under institutional rules may be recognized as credit hours under this chapter;

(3)  "Cumulative grade point average," the grade point average based upon the numeric grades or their letter equivalents for all credits earned by the student. For purposes of continuing eligibility, the cumulative grade point average is the average of grades assigned in courses attempted after admission to the scholarship program, with the exception of courses for which no credit hours would be awarded by the participating institution that enrolled the student as a regular student;

(4)  "Executive director," the executive director of the South Dakota Board of Regents, or the executive director's designee;

(5)  "Full-time attendance," enrollment in a participating institution as a regular student for at least 15 semester credit hours;

(6)  "Grade on a 4.0 scale," the numeric designation of grade equivalencies shown on the following conversion table:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Letter Grade** | **Grade Point** |
| A or A+ | 4.00 |
| A- | 3.66 |
| B+ | 3.33 |
| B | 3.00 |
| B- | 2.66 |
| C+ | 2.33 |
| C | 2.00 |
| C- | 1.67 |
| D+ | 1.33 |
| D | 1.00 |
| D- | 0.67 |
| F | 0.00 |

(7)  "High school," a school as defined in § 24:03:01:01(32) that has been approved or accredited by the secretary of the Department of Education to provide instruction through grade twelve;

(8)  "Institution," any university, college, or technical school that is accredited by a regional accrediting agency, or, in the case of institutions located outside the United States of America, any university, college, or technical school recognized by governmental authorities as adhering to comparable quality standards in matters of curriculum, resources, and business practices;

(9)  "Participating institution," any university, college, or technical school that is accredited by the Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools providing instruction from a campus located in South Dakota and that executes an agreement pursuant to this chapter;

(10)  "Regular student," a person who is enrolled or accepted for enrollment at an institution for the purpose of obtaining a degree, certificate, or other recognized educational credential offered by that institution;

(11)  "Scholarship," any grant-in-aid awarded pursuant to this chapter;

(12)  "Scholarship program," the South Dakota Opportunity Scholarship program established to allow South Dakota's most academically accomplished high school graduates to receive an affordable education at any participating institution;

(13)  "Student," any person who has not received a baccalaureate degree.

**Source:** 30 SDR 211, effective July 7, 2004; 35 SDR 187, effective February 12, 2009.

**General Authority:** SDCL 13-55-36.

**Law Implemented:** SDCL 13-55-30 to 13-55-36, inclusive.