

24:28:01:01. Meaning of terms. As used in this article:

(1) "Administrator" means an individual who completes an approved program for principals or school superintendents at an accredited institution or completes an alternative certification program and is issued a certificate;

(2) "Alternative certification" means an alternative process of completing teacher or administrator certification requirements while simultaneously employed as a teacher or administrator in a public or department-accredited school;

(3) "Applicant" means an individual applying for an initial or renewed educator certificate;

(4) "Approved foreign transcript evaluation agency" means an agency approved by the Association of International Credential Evaluators or the National Association of Credential Evaluation Services to conduct foreign credential evaluation services;

(5) "Approved program" means courses and experiences requiring completion of a degree with a major or its equivalent, which meets the preparation standards of article 24:53, or an educational preparation program delivered by a regionally-accredited institution of higher education, which meets the preparation standards of another state's educational agency;

(6) "Associate degree" means a minimum of forty-eight (48) college credit hours from a regionally-accredited or state-approved institution;

(7) "Bachelor's degree" means a postsecondary degree awarded to an individual after completion of undergraduate coursework approximating 120 credits;

(8) "Board" means the South Dakota Board of Education Standards;

(9) "Categorical special education endorsement" means an endorsement that allows the certificate holder to perform services for students in one or more specified disability categories, but does not qualify the certificate holder to provide generalized special education services for all students;

(10) "CEO" means a chief executive officer of a school or district;

(11) "Certificate" means a recognition by the Secretary of Education that authorizes the holder to perform educational services;

(12) "Continuing education contact hour" means one hour documented by participation in an educational professional development opportunity;

(13) "Corps member" means a recent college graduate who commits two years to teaching in a low-income rural or urban community through participation in the Teach for America program;

(14) "Credit" means the equivalent of 15 continuing education contact hours;

(15) "Date of issuance" means the date certification requirements are met and the certificate is issued by the department;

(16) "Department" means the South Dakota Department of Education;

(17) "Department-accredited school" means any public or private school, issued accreditation by the department pursuant to article 24:43;

(18) "Designated recommending official" means the official from an accredited institution with approved education programs who is authorized to verify completion of preparation requirement and recommend certification;

(19) "Dual credit course" means university or postsecondary technical institute courses taught in high schools to eligible, enrolled students by university or postsecondary technical institute instructors, and offering the opportunity to receive both high school and postsecondary credit upon completion;

(20) "Education specialist" means an individual who serves as a school counselor, school psychologist, school psychological examiner, curriculum director, special education director, mentor teacher, mentor school counselor, technology integrationist, or technology coordinator, and is issued a certificate;

(21) "Educator" means a person employed by a school or school district in a position requiring a certificate;

(22) "Educator permit" means a type of certificate that restricts the holder to the endorsement indicated on the certificate;

(23) "Endorsement" means the content and subject areas in which the educator is certified;

(24) "Leadership role" means work experience in which an individual's assignment in the organization is designated as a position of authority with responsibility for regulating the relationships between and among people;

(25) "Major in content" means a minimum of 27 semester hours of coursework, with a grade point average of 2.7 or higher, which count toward completion of the degree, not including remedial coursework, from a regionally-accredited institution of higher education, taken in a subject area as identified on an official transcript or verified by the institution of higher education from which the degree was received;

(26) "Mentor" means an educator who provides support and assistance to other educators;

(27) "Military personnel and spouse" means an applicant who holds a valid certificate issued by another state or the District of Columbia and is an active duty member of the armed forces of the United States or the spouse of an active duty member and is the subject of a military transfer to South Dakota;

(28) "National Board for Professional Teaching Standards" means a nationally-recognized certification program for teachers, which recognizes accomplished teaching through assessment of content knowledge, reflection on student work samples, video and analysis of teaching practice, and documentation of the impact of assessment and collaboration on student learning;

(29) "Non-categorical special education endorsement" means an endorsement that allows the certificate holder to provide generalized special education services to all students;

(30) "Pedagogical knowledge" means an understanding of learning, human development, professional ethics, motivational techniques, cultural and individual differences, instructional strategies, classroom management, and assessment strategies that impact the learner;

(31) "Preparation" means the type of educational preparation an educator has completed to meet certification requirements. This includes traditional teacher or administrator preparation programs and alternative pathways to certification;

(32) "Professional development plan" means a plan submitted to the department by an applicant completing administrator alternative certification, describing how the applicant will demonstrate evidence of meeting requirements for alternative administrator certification;

(33) "Provisional status certificate" means a one-year certificate issued to an out-of-state educator in order for the educator to complete the course requirements for South Dakota Indian studies;

(34) "Reciprocal certification" means the process by which the Secretary recognizes an educator certificate issued by another state and issues an equivalent South Dakota certificate;

(35) "Regionally-accredited institution of higher education" means a college or university accredited by the official accrediting agency of the state in which the institution is located, or an accredited postsecondary institution or program recognized by the United States Department of Education Office of Postsecondary Education;

(36) "School year" means July 1 through June 30;

(37) "Secretary" means the Secretary of the South Dakota Department of Education or the secretary's designee;

(38) "Self-contained classroom" means a classroom in which one teacher provides instruction in multiple subjects to the same students for the majority of the student's instructional day;

(39) "Specialized learning experience" means an education-related learning experience that incorporates the applicant's occupational field and teaching area and is not obtained through academic coursework or continuing education;

(40) "State-approved mentoring program" means a state or district mentoring program recognized by the department;

(41) "State-designated content test" means the assessment of content knowledge used to meet certification requirements with passing scores established by the board;

(42) "State-designated coursework" means required coursework within a content area used to meet certification requirements, as specified by the department;

(43) "State-designated pedagogy test" means the assessment of pedagogical knowledge used to meet certification requirements, with passing scores established by the board;

(44) "Teach For America" means a national teacher corps that recruits recent college graduates to commit two years to teach in low-income rural and urban communities;

(45) "Teacher" means an individual who completes an approved teacher education program at an accredited institution or completes an alternative certification program, and is issued a certificate;

(46) "Teacher education program" means an educational preparation program delivered by a regionally-accredited institution of higher education;

(47) "Temporary certificate" means a one-year certificate issued to an applicant with an invalid educator certificate who requires one year to complete the renewal requirements for a valid certificate;

(48) "Transcribed credit" means graduate or undergraduate credit on a semester system, issued by a regionally-accredited institution of higher education and documented on an official transcript;

(49) "Valid certificate" means a certificate that has not become invalid;

(50) "Inactive certificate" means a certificate issued to a certificate holder with a valid certificate, who is not acting as an educator and requests the certificate become inactive for a period of five years;

(51) "Interim certificate" means a one-year certificate issued to an applicant with an inactive certificate who requires one year to complete the requirements for a valid certificate;

(52) "Temporary military certificate" means a certificate issued to a military personnel and spouse;

(53) "Teacher of record" means a teacher who develops the lesson plans and delivers the instruction to students; and

(54) "Long-term substitute" means:

(A) An individual acting as a teacher of record for no more than 45 cumulative school days in a vacant teaching position while a school district pursues a contract for a teacher; or

(B) An individual acting as a teacher of record for more than 45 cumulative school days when a teacher is on a temporary leave of absence, if:

(1) The teacher's leave of absence is granted pursuant to the "Family and Medical Leave Act of 1993," 29 U.S.C. § 2601, et seq. by the school; or

(2) The individual has a valid or inactive teaching certificate.

Source: 43 SDR 175, effective July 3, 2017; 45 SDR 84, effective December 19, 2018; 47 SDR 68, effective December 10, 2020; 48 SDR 60, effective December 7, 2021.

General Authority: SDCL 13-1-12.1, 13-42-3.

Law Implemented: SDCL 13-1-12.1, 13-42-1 through 13-42-4, 13-43-5, 13-43-5.1.