

Scholarship Opportunities

A significant number of scholarship opportunities exist for South Dakota high school graduates who are interested in pursuing their postsecondary career in the state. The South Dakota Board of Regents manages three state scholarship programs (Opportunity, Dakota Corps, and Jump Start), and three endowed scholarships (Bjugstad, Haines, and Fowler/Kaden). Each of the six Regental institutions also has a unique set of scholarship opportunities that are designed to encourage graduates to attend a public institution immediately after high school graduation. Below you will find general information pertaining to each of these opportunities, with more detailed information available on the Board of Regents' website at www.sdbor.edu/students/scholarships.htm or by contacting us directly at: info@sdbor.edu



Through the South Dakota Opportunity Scholarship (Deadline September 1, 2012) students can receive up to \$5,000 over the course of their postsecondary career if they meet each of the following initial eligibility requirements:

- Resident of South Dakota at time of high school graduation.
- ACT composite score of 24 or higher or an equivalent score as determined by the Board of Regents on the SAT.
- Complete required coursework in areas of English, Mathematics, Science, Social Studies and Fine Arts, and other areas depending on graduation date. Students are encouraged to review additional information specific to the coursework requirements at www.sdbor.edu/opportunityscholarship/sdos.htm.
- Complete course requirements listed above with no final grade below a "C" (2.0 on a 4.0 scale) and an un-weighted cumulative high school GPA of 3.0 on a 4.0 scale (grade of "B").



The Dakota Corps Scholarship (Deadline February 1, 2012) for high school and college students in South Dakota provides full tuition and generally-applicable fees to selected qualified applicants in critical need occupations that include:

- Teaching K-12 music, special education, or foreign language in a public, private, or parochial school.
- Working as a Licensed Practical Nurse, Registered Nurse, or in another allied health care field.
- Teaching high school math or science in a public, private, or parochial school.

Jump Start Scholarship

As a result of the student's early graduation, if the student enrolls at any accredited postsecondary institution in South Dakota the student will be eligible for just over \$1,700 for the first year of college (Deadline September 1, 2012). To be eligible for the Jump Start Scholarship program, a student shall:

- Be a resident of South Dakota;
- Complete the requirements of the recommended high school program as established by the Board of Education pursuant to § 13-1-12.1, and be awarded a high school diploma by a public high school in three years or less;
- Have attended a public high school in South Dakota on a full-time basis for at least two semesters prior to graduating; and
- Within one year of graduating from high school, enroll in a participating postsecondary institution located in South Dakota.

Endowed Scholarships (Deadline: February 24, 2012)

Ardell Bjustad Scholarship. This program is designed for freshman Native American students who are pursuing studies in agribusiness, agricultural production, agricultural sciences, or a natural resources degree at any postsecondary institution.

Haines Memorial Scholarship. Awards are made each year to a student majoring in education at BHSU, DSU, NSU, SDSU, or USD. The scholarship is limited to SD public university students who are classified as sophomores, juniors or seniors and are majoring in a program that prepares teachers.

Annis Irene Fowler/Kaden Scholarship. This scholarship program provides funding to two first-time entering freshman at BHSU, DSU, NSU or USD and who will select elementary education as their major field. Special consideration is given to students with demonstrated motivational ability, a disability, or who are self-supporting.

Institutional Scholarship Programs

Each of the six Regental institutions have established specific merit-based scholarship programs that are designed to recruit students to remain in South Dakota by providing additional financial incentive for attending public universities. Each program has a set of criteria which are unique to the institutions, and the funds are awarded to accompany additional merit based funding a student might be awarded through state or discipline specific awards. Some institutions have specific deadlines to be eligible for these programs so students are encouraged to apply by the dates specified below for each institution to be eligible for funding.

Black Hills State University - <http://www.bhsu.edu>

Dakota State University – <http://www.dsu.edu/>

Northern State University (*March 1st*) – <http://www.nsu.edu/>

South Dakota School of Mines & Technology - <http://sdmines.sdsmt.edu/>

South Dakota State University - <http://www.sdstate.edu/>

University of South Dakota (*January 13th*) - <http://www.usd.edu/>

Regental Institution Merit Based Scholarship Programs.



The **Buzz Bonus Scholarship** is awarded upon admission to incoming freshmen who are 1) in the top 1/3 of their graduating class; and 2) have a minimum composite ACT of 21. Scholarship amounts vary depending on the students ACT score with annual awards of \$500 (21-24), \$750 (25-26), and \$1000 (27 or higher) and are renewable for three years if the student maintains a 3.0 cumulative GPA and takes 32 credit hours per academic year.



The **Dakota State University Champion Scholarships** are renewable up to four years if student maintains a cumulative DSU GPA of 3.0 or greater and is continuously enrolled with a minimum of 12 DSU credits per semester (fall/spring). Three scholarship exist including the Presidential Champion (\$2150 per year for those with a 28-26 ACT), Merit Champion (\$1650 per year for those with a 24-27 ACT), and Achievement Champion (\$500 per year for those with a 21-23 ACT). All three scholarships required a high school GPA of 3.0 or greater and no separate scholarship application is necessary.



The **Wolf PACT Scholarship** is awarded to incoming freshmen with a composite ACT score of 21 or higher. To apply for the scholarship a student must be fully accepted for admission by March 1st.



All students who have been accepted for admission (not just applied), by the first business day in February prior to the fall semester they will begin attendance, are considered for scholarships on an academically merit-based system. Most prestigious for new students is the Surbeck - \$7000 each year for four years. Departmental scholarships are determined at the discretion of individual academic departments and may be available to both incoming and continuing students. The scholarship web site is <http://sdmines.sdsmt.edu/finaid/scholarships>.



The **Jackrabbit Guarantee** program is a commitment by SDSU to award a minimum of \$1000 in academic scholarship aid per year for four years to eligible undergraduate students. In order to qualify, students must achieve a composite score of 24 or higher on the ACT (1110 or higher math/verbal score on the SAT), and be a first time freshman student attending the main SDSU campus in Brookings. Students must maintain a 2.8 cumulative GPA their freshman year and a 3.0 cumulative GPA and complete a minimum of 30 credit hours from SDSU in each academic year (fall and spring semesters).



The **Coyote Commitment Scholarship** is a renewable program ranging from \$2000-\$12,000 (\$1000-\$3000/yearly). Freshmen admitted as full-time students in Vermillion for Fall 2012 are automatically considered based on standardized test scores (ACT or SAT) and cumulative unweighted high school GPA. The scholarship is renewable for eight consecutive semesters at either a 2.5 or 3.0 GPA, determined by the individual scholarship, with March 15 as the priority date for full consideration. Class Valedictorians are eligible for \$500 the freshman year. All departmental and premiere academic scholarships are awarded via the USD Online Scholarship application at: <http://admissions.usd.edu/cost-and-aid/scholarships.cfm>. This deadline is January 13.

