

# State of South Dakota

EIGHTY-SIXTH SESSION  
LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY, 2011

400S0684

## HOUSE BILL NO. 1250

Introduced by: The Committee on Appropriations at the request of the Office of the  
Governor

1 FOR AN ACT ENTITLED, An Act to revise certain provisions regarding the South Dakota  
2 opportunity scholarship program.

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA:

4 Section 1. That § 13-55-31 be amended to read as follows:

5 13-55-31. In order to be eligible for a South Dakota opportunity scholarship award, a student  
6 shall:

7 (1) Be a resident of South Dakota at the time of graduation from high school;

8 (2) Have a composite score of 24, or higher, on the test administered by the American  
9 College Testing Program or an equivalent score as determined by the Board of  
10 Regents on the Scholastic Assessment Test. The student shall take the ACT or SAT  
11 test before beginning postsecondary education;

12 (3) ~~Meet the~~ Successfully complete approved high school ~~course requirements for~~  
13 ~~graduation as provided in § 13-55-31.1~~ coursework which shall include:

14 (a) Four units of language arts;

15 (b) Three units of social studies;



- 1           (c) Four units of mathematics;
- 2           (d) Four units of science, including at least three units in laboratory science;
- 3           (e) Two units of world language (two years of the same language); and
- 4           (f) One unit of fine arts;

5       (4) Attend a university, college, or technical school that is accredited by the North  
6           Central Association of Colleges and Schools and that provides instruction from a  
7           campus located in South Dakota; and

8       (5) Enter into the program within five years of graduation from high school or within one  
9           year of the student's release from active duty with an active component of the armed  
10          forces if the release is within five years of the student's graduation from high school.

11       If a student attends full-time a regionally accredited university, college, or technical  
12       school located outside South Dakota and within two years following high school  
13       graduation or within two years following release from active military service returns  
14       to the state to attend full-time a regionally accredited university, college, or technical  
15       school, the student is eligible to receive a partial award.

16       A student is eligible to participate in the South Dakota opportunity scholarship program for  
17       the equivalent of four academic years (eight consecutive spring and fall terms) or until the  
18       attainment of a baccalaureate degree, whichever comes first. However, the executive director  
19       of the Board of Regents may grant exceptions to the continuous enrollment requirements for  
20       good cause shown.

21       A student who would have been eligible for the scholarship, but who applies after  
22       completing one or more semesters of full-time work at an accredited institution, may be  
23       admitted to the program only if the student has complied with the same grade point and credit  
24       hour requirements that would apply to program participants. Admission granted under these

1 circumstances may not be retroactive, and eligibility for participation in the program shall be  
2 reduced by one semester for each semester of work completed prior to admission to the  
3 program.

4 Section 2. That § 13-55-31.1 be repealed.

5 ~~13-55-31.1. To be eligible for an opportunity scholarship, a student who entered the ninth~~  
6 ~~grade prior to the 2010-2011 school year shall complete the following high school course~~  
7 ~~requirements:~~

8 ~~(1) Four or more units of language arts that include a minimum of the following:~~

9 ~~(a) One and one-half units of writing;~~

10 ~~(b) One and one-half units of literature that must include one-half unit of~~  
11 ~~American Literature;~~

12 ~~(c) One-half unit of speech or debate; and~~

13 ~~(d) One-half unit of a language arts elective;~~

14 ~~(2) Three or more units of social studies that include the following:~~

15 ~~(a) One unit of U.S. History;~~

16 ~~(b) One-half unit of U.S. government;~~

17 ~~(c) One-half unit of geography;~~

18 ~~(d) One-half unit of world history; and~~

19 ~~(e) One-half unit of a social studies elective;~~

20 ~~(3) Four units of mathematics that must include the following:~~

21 ~~(a) One unit of algebra I;~~

22 ~~(b) One unit of geometry;~~

23 ~~(c) One unit of algebra II; and~~

24 ~~(d) One unit of advanced math;~~

1 ~~— (4) — Four units of science, including at least three units in laboratory science, that must~~  
2 ~~include the following:~~

3 ~~— (a) — One unit of biology;~~

4 ~~— (b) — One unit of any physical science;~~

5 ~~— (c) — One unit of chemistry or physics; and~~

6 ~~— (d) — One unit of science electives;~~

7 ~~— (5) — Two units of world languages (two years of the same language);~~

8 ~~— (6) — One-half unit of computer studies;~~

9 ~~— (7) — One unit of fine arts;~~

10 ~~— (8) — One-half unit of personal finance or economics; and~~

11 ~~— (9) — One-half unit of physical education or health.~~

12 ~~— A student may earn academic core content credit by completing an approved career and~~  
13 ~~technical education course. Approval to offer credit for a career and technical education course~~  
14 ~~must be obtained through an application process with the Department of Education. The~~  
15 ~~Department of Education shall meet with the Board of Regents to determine final course~~  
16 ~~approval. The application must include:~~

17 ~~— (1) — Course syllabus;~~

18 ~~— (2) — Standards-based curriculum;~~

19 ~~— (3) — Teacher certification; and~~

20 ~~— (4) — Assessment of standards by methods including end-of-course exams, authentic~~  
21 ~~assessment, project-based learning or rubrics.~~

22 ~~— To be eligible for an opportunity scholarship, a student who enters the ninth grade in the~~  
23 ~~2010-2011 school year or thereafter shall complete the following high school course~~  
24 ~~requirements:~~

1 ~~— (1) — Four or more units of language arts that include a minimum of the following:~~

2 ~~— (a) — One and one-half units of writing;~~

3 ~~— (b) — One and one-half units of literature that must include one-half unit of~~  
4 ~~American literature;~~

5 ~~— (c) — One-half unit of speech or debate; and~~

6 ~~— (d) — One-half unit of a language arts elective;~~

7 ~~— (2) — Three units or more of social studies that include the following:~~

8 ~~— (a) — One unit of U.S. history;~~

9 ~~— (b) — One-half unit of U.S. government;~~

10 ~~— (c) — One-half unit of geography;~~

11 ~~— (d) — One-half unit of world history; and~~

12 ~~— (e) — One-half unit of a social studies elective;~~

13 ~~— (3) — Four units of mathematics that must include the following:~~

14 ~~— (a) — One unit of algebra I;~~

15 ~~— (b) — One unit of geometry;~~

16 ~~— (c) — One unit of algebra II; and~~

17 ~~— (d) — One unit of advanced math;~~

18 ~~— (4) — Four units of science, including at least three units in laboratory science, that must~~  
19 ~~include the following:~~

20 ~~— (a) — One unit of biology;~~

21 ~~— (b) — One unit of any physical science;~~

22 ~~— (c) — One unit of chemistry or physics; and~~

23 ~~— (d) — One unit of science electives;~~

24 ~~— (5) — Two units of either of the following or a combination of the two:~~

1 ~~———— (a) ——— Approved career and technical education courses; and~~

2 ~~———— (b) ——— World languages;~~

3 ~~———— Approval for a career and technical education course must be obtained through an~~  
4 ~~application process with the Department of Education. The department shall meet~~  
5 ~~with the Board of Regents to determine final course approval;~~

6 ~~—— (6) ——— One-half unit of personal finance or economics;~~

7 ~~—— (7) ——— One unit of fine arts;~~

8 ~~—— (8) ——— One-half unit of physical education; and~~

9 ~~—— (9) ——— For students entering the ninth grade in the 2013-2014 school year and thereafter,~~  
10 ~~one-half unit of health or health integration.~~

11 ~~—— A student may be granted up to one unit of credit in fine arts for participation in~~  
12 ~~extracurricular activities. A maximum of one-fourth unit of credit may be granted for each~~  
13 ~~extracurricular activity in which a student participates during each school year. In order to grant~~  
14 ~~credit for an extracurricular activity, a school district must document the alignment of the~~  
15 ~~activity with fine arts content standards approved by the South Dakota Board of Education.~~

16 ~~—— Students entering the ninth grade in the 2013-2014 school year and thereafter are required~~  
17 ~~to take one-half unit of health at anytime during grades six through twelve. A school district~~  
18 ~~may choose to integrate health across the curriculum at the middle or high school level in lieu~~  
19 ~~of a stand-alone course.~~

20 ~~—— A student may earn academic core content credit by completing an approved career and~~  
21 ~~technical education course. Approval to offer credit for a career and technical education course~~  
22 ~~must be obtained through an application process with the Department of Education. The~~  
23 ~~Department of Education shall meet with the Board of Regents to determine final course~~  
24 ~~approval. The application must include:~~

- 1 ~~—(1)— Course syllabus;~~
- 2 ~~—(2)— Standards-based curriculum;~~
- 3 ~~—(3)— Teacher certification; and~~
- 4 ~~—(4)— Assessment of standards by methods including end-of-course exams, authentic~~
- 5 ~~assessment, project-based learning or rubrics.~~

6 Section 3. That § 13-55-31.2 be repealed.

7 ~~—13-55-31.2. Any student who does not meet the high school course requirements as provided~~  
8 ~~in subdivision 13-55-31(3) is eligible for the opportunity scholarship program if:~~

- 9 ~~—(1)— The student takes the test administered by the American College Testing Program~~
- 10 ~~and earns a composite score of twenty-eight or higher and achieves ACT college~~
- 11 ~~readiness benchmark scores equaling or exceeding eighteen for English, twenty-one~~
- 12 ~~for reading, twenty-two for math, and twenty-four for science; or~~
- 13 ~~—(2)— The student takes the Scholastic Assessment Test and earns a verbal-mathematics~~
- 14 ~~score of twelve hundred fifty or higher, while also attaining sufficiently high markers~~
- 15 ~~in reading, writing, mathematics, and science as not to require remediation in any of~~
- 16 ~~those areas.~~

17 ~~—This section is effective on July 1, 2013.~~