



2026 South Dakota Legislature

House Bill 1008

Introduced by: **Representative Rice**

1 **An Act to direct the amendment of the Administrative Rules of South Dakota**
 2 **regarding the awarding of high school credit for participation in**
 3 **extracurricular athletics.**

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

5 **Section 1.** No later than September 30, 2026, the South Dakota Board of Education
 6 Standards shall, pursuant to chapter 1-26, provide for and file with the secretary of state, the
 7 amendment of § 24:43:11:02, as set forth below:

8 **24:43:11:02. General requirements for high school graduation.** ~~The units of~~
 9 ~~credit number of credits~~ required for high school graduation must include ~~the following at~~
 10 least:

- 11 (1) ~~Four units or more credits~~ of language arts ~~that, which~~ must include ~~the following:~~
- 12 (a) ~~One unit credit~~ of writing;
- 13 (b) ~~One-half unit credit~~ of speech or debate; and
- 14 (c) ~~One unit credit~~ of literature that must include ~~one-half unit credit~~ of
 15 American literature;
- 16 (2) ~~Three units or more credits~~ of social studies ~~that, which~~ must include ~~the following:~~
- 17 (a) ~~One unit credit~~ of U.S. history; and
- 18 (b) ~~One-half unit credit~~ of U.S. government;
- 19 (3) ~~Three units or more credits~~ of mathematics ~~that, which~~ must include ~~one unit credit~~
 20 of algebra I;
- 21 (4) ~~Three units or more credits~~ of science ~~that, which~~ must include one unit of biology;
- 22 (5) ~~One unit or more credit~~ in any combination of the following:
- 23 (a) Approved career and technical education courses;
- 24 (b) A capstone experience; and
- 25 (c) World languages;
- 26 (6) ~~One-half unit credit~~ of personal finance or economics;

- 1 (7) One ~~unit credit~~ credit of fine arts;
 2 (8) One-half ~~unit credit~~ credit of physical education;
 3 (9) One-half ~~unit credit~~ credit of health or health integration; and
 4 (10) Five and one-half ~~units credits~~ credits of electives.

5 A state-approved advanced computer science course may be substituted for one
 6 ~~unit credit~~ credit of science, ~~but may not be substituted for~~ provided that the science course
 7 being replaced is not biology.

8 Within the coursework outlined above, a student may earn one or more ~~advanced~~
 9 ~~endorsement, but is not required to do so. A student may earn one or more~~ of the following
 10 ~~advanced~~ endorsements: advanced, advanced career, and advanced honors. Substitutions
 11 for laboratory science, using a state-approved computer science course, do not apply to
 12 the advanced and advanced honors endorsements.

13 ~~Students~~ A student may be granted up to one credit in fine arts for participation in
 14 extracurricular activities. ~~A maximum of one-fourth credit may be granted for each~~
 15 ~~extracurricular activity each school year. In order to grant credit, a district must document~~
 16 ~~the alignment of the activity with~~ A student may be granted a maximum of one-fourth
 17 credit for each extracurricular activity each school year. In order to grant credit, the school
 18 district shall document how the extracurricular activity aligns with the fine arts content
 19 standards as approved by the South Dakota Board of Education Standards.

20 A student may be granted up to one-half credit in physical education for
 21 participation in school-sanctioned extracurricular varsity athletic activities. A student may
 22 be granted a maximum of one-fourth credit for each extracurricular varsity athletic activity
 23 each school year. In order to grant credit for participation in an extracurricular varsity
 24 athletic activity, the school district shall document how the varsity athletic activity aligns
 25 with the physical education standards approved by the South Dakota Board of Education
 26 Standards.

27 Academic core content credit may be earned by completing an approved career
 28 and technical education course. Approval to offer credit must be obtained through an
 29 application process with the Department of Education. The application must include:

- 30 (1) ~~Course syllabus;~~
 31 (2) ~~Standards-based curriculum;~~
 32 (3) ~~Teacher certification;~~
 33 (4) ~~Assessment of standards by methods including end-of course exams, authentic~~
 34 ~~assessment, project-based learning or rubrics~~ a copy of the teacher's certification

1 and a course syllabus that includes assessment standards and demonstrates that
2 curriculum is based on state content standards.

3 **Source:** 10 SDR 111, effective April 24, 1984; 11 SDR 96, 11 SDR 112, effective
4 July 1, 1985; 16 SDR 214, effective June 12, 1990; 23 SDR 31, effective September 8,
5 1996; 27 SDR 75, adopted January 17, 2001; 29 SDR 140, adopted April 1, 2003; 31 SDR
6 129, adopted March 2, 2005, effective July 1, 2009; transferred from § 24:03:06:06.01,
7 31 SDR 178, adopted May 4, 2005, effective July 1, 2005; 33 SDR 55, adopted September
8 11, 2006, effective September 1, 2007; 33 SDR 55, adopted September 11, 2006,
9 effective September 1, 2009; 36 SDR 96, effective December 8, 2009; 45 SDR 35,
10 effective September 19, 2018.

11 **General Authority:** SDCL 13-1-12.1, 13-3-47.

12 **Law Implemented:** SDCL 13-3-1.4, 13-33-1, 13-33-19.