![Northern State University logo] NORTHERN STATE UNIVERSITY

NSU Center for Statewide E-Learning: Continuing a Tradition of Service

1. The Northern State University Center for Statewide E-Learning's tradition for excellence in service continues as NSU E-Learning answers instructional needs for K-12 schools.

   Priority Registration for the 2024-25 school year ran from 8 a.m. April 1 through 5 p.m. April 5. After Priority Registrations were processed, there was a waitlist of 124 registrations: 58 in English, 30 in Math and 36 in Social Science.

   Registrations and waitlist numbers reflect schools searching for teachers. NSU E-Learning always tells schools to register students and continue their active searches. If the school hires, we are happy for them. If not, we have the school covered. Registration and waitlist numbers increase or decrease as one school hires or withdraws, so another school is accepted for seats, or a school loses a teacher and registers students. The waitlist was highest at the end of May with 612 pending registrations for the following curriculum areas: 5 CTE Business, 271 English, 187 mathematics, 97 social science, 49 science, and 3 Spanish.

   Beginning in August, we began advising schools with waitlist registrations that they were not likely to get seats. Many of the schools no longer needed seats while others had prospective hires and were just being cautious before releasing seats. By August 11, the waitlist was down to 28.

   When classes started on August 21, registrations were at 2716, and the waitlist was at 20. Once classes start, schools adjust rosters for changes in registrations. As seats became available, the final waitlist registrations were accepted.

   Our final changes came when a school added science seats because a teacher didn't work out, officially starting science classes on October 3, and a school added English seats because a teacher didn't work out, officially starting English classes on October 28. Ironically, a school lost a science teacher on October 29, but we couldn't get them in.

   The science seats and English seats were available because of the withdrawal process as schools hired late and dropped courses only a few days before or after classes began.
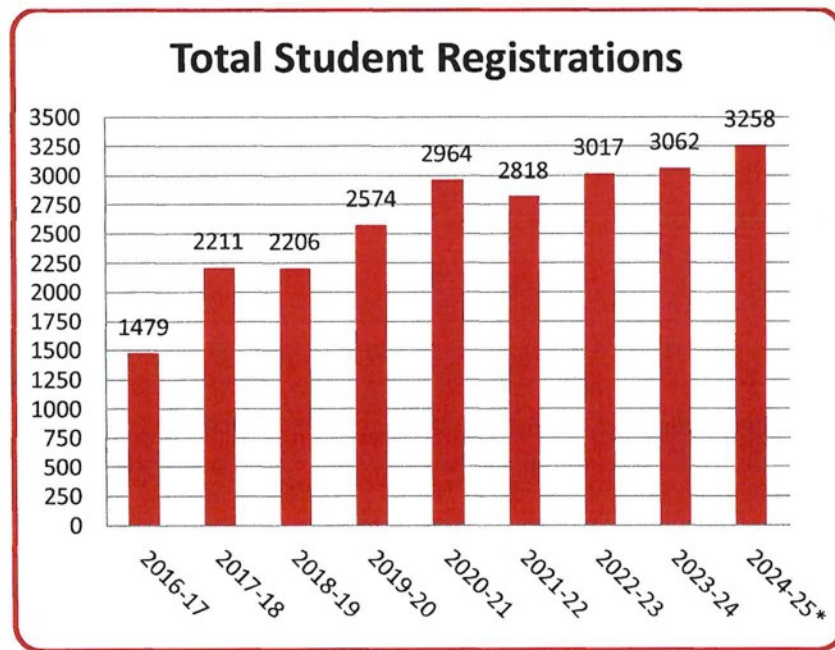
   Projected high school registrations at census: 2724.

2. NSU E-Learning total registrations are at a record high, driven by a continuing strong demand for NSU E-Learning courses and challenges in hiring qualified teachers.
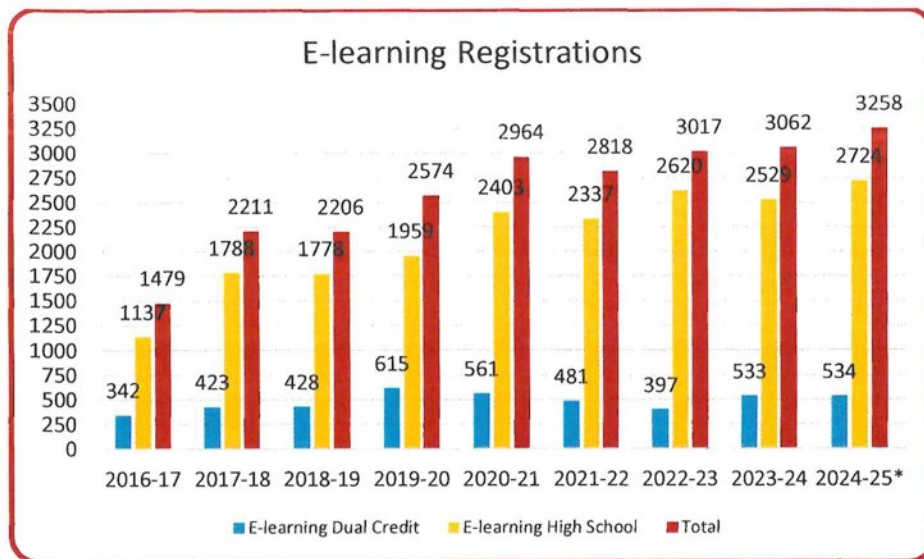
   Projected NSU E-Learning 2024-25 registrations include 2724 registrations in E-Learning high school courses, an increase of 7.71%, and 534 registrations in E-Learning dual-credit courses, no change from 2023-24. The projected total of 3258 registrations compares to 3062 registrations for the 2023-24 school year: an increase of 6.4%. For the third consecutive year, NSU E-Learning is at capacity and cannot responsibly serve more students without adding teachers. *2024-25 numbers below are projections pending final census data.
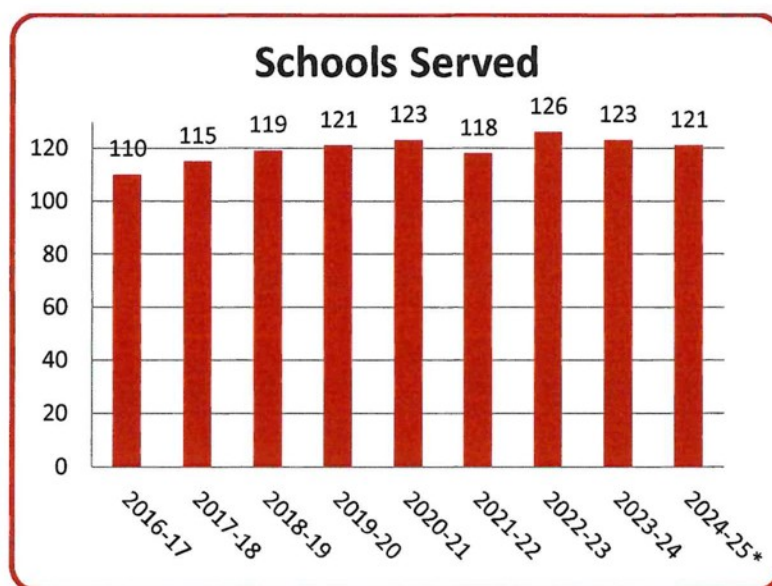
Figure 1: Total Student Registrations

Total Student Registrations

Year	Registrations
2016-17	1479
2017-18	2211
2018-19	2206
2019-20	2574
2020-21	2964
2021-22	2818
2022-23	3017
2023-24	3062
2024-25*	3258

2: E-Learning Student Registrations

E-learning Registrations

Year	E-learning Dual Credit	E-learning High School	Total
2016-17	342	1137	1479
2017-18	423	1788	2211
2018-19	428	1778	2206
2019-20	615	1959	2574
2020-21	561	2403	2964
2021-22	481	2337	2818
2022-23	397	2620	3017
2023-24	533	2529	3062
2024-25*	534	2724	3258

3. For the 2023-24 academic year, 88% of students completed their E-Learning courses and 96% of students who completed their course work passed their courses.

4. There are 30.5 FTE Master Teachers. All NSU E-Learning teachers are supported by state-of-the art infrastructure including a Media Services control hub, instructional technology specialists, and a central office. The Northern support staff and infrastructure that make the delivery of the NSU E-Learning high school courses possible are all located and maintained on the Northern campus, distinguishing Northern as the place where advances, innovations, and best practices in E-Learning take place. Northern is continually identifying and integrating new educational technologies and improving pedagogies.

5. NSU E-Learning continues to serve a significant number of South Dakota schools. The overall number of schools served remains relatively constant because NSU E-Learning is reaching target partners and NSU E-Learning is at capacity, so some potential schools are turned away.

Figure 3: Schools Served

6. NSU E-Learning continues to refine a model for connecting Native American students with highly qualified teachers for core curriculum and elective courses. NSU E-Learning is currently serving four schools with large Native American populations. Census student registrations in the courses are as follows:

- English I: 6, English II: 41, English III: 33, English IV: 10, Speech*:40
- Pre-Algebra: 11, Algebra I: 6, Geometry: 9, Consumer Math: 2, Algebra II: 12
- Mathematics for College Readiness (fall semester): 16, College Algebra*: 7
- Personal Finance: 10
- Sociology: 2
- Physical Science: 6, Biology: 8
- Spanish I: 9
    *Spring semester courses. Enrollment is a projection.

7. The NSU Center for Statewide E-Learning fulfills its legislative mandate by helping schools meet instructional challenges and connecting students with high-quality instructors, filling critical unmet needs while equalizing opportunities and making benchmark education available to all South Dakota students. NSU E-Learning has served every school district in the state since its inception in 2001.

   NSU E-Learning is ideally positioned to continue the tradition of service. NSU E-Learning has established partnerships with schools: for 2024-25 the 30.5 FTE master teachers serve a projected 3258 students from 121 school districts. The technological infrastructure and support staff are in place. In FY25, NSU E-Learning received $4,142,392 in state general funds to support technology and 39.9 FTE.

   NSU E-Learning's ability to serve is limited by capacity. With additional funds, NSU E-Learning can add teachers and serve more students across the state.