SOUTH DAKOTA BOARD OF REGENTS
ACADEMIC AFFAIRS FORMS

New Site Request

UNIVERSITY:	**SDSU**
DEGREE(S) AND PROGRAM:	**Nursing (B.S.N.)**
NEW SITE(S):	**Online**
INTENDED DATE OF IMPLEMENTATION:	**Fall 2024**
CIP CODE:	**51.3801**
UNIVERSITY DEPARTMENT:	**Nursing**
BANNER DEPARTMENT CODE:	**SNUR**
UNIVERSITY DIVISION:	**Nursing**
BANNER DIVISION CODE:	**3N**

☒ **Please check this box to confirm that:**

- The individual preparing this request has read AAC Guideline 2:11, which pertains to new site requests, and that this request meets the requirements outlined in the guidelines.
- This request will not be posted to the university website for review of the Academic Affairs Committee until it is approved by the Executive Director and Chief Academic Officer.

University Approval

To the Board of Regents and the Executive Director: I certify that I have read this proposal, that I believe it to be accurate, and that it has been evaluated and approved as provided by university policy.

Barry H Dunn

President of the University — 3-13-24 Date

1. What is the need for offering the program at the new physical site or through distance delivery?

South Dakota State University (SDSU) requests authorization to deliver an online Bachelor of Science in Nursing (B.S.N.). This proposal will help meet nursing workforce demands by reaching non-traditional and place-bound students across the state of South Dakota. SDSU is well-positioned to deliver the current B.S.N. didactic curriculum through online/hybrid delivery methods and offer clinical experiences at locations across the state of South Dakota through enhanced partnerships with healthcare facilities. SDSU recognizes there may be individuals who are interested in the nursing profession but have limited access to education because they are place-bound and located in rural areas of South Dakota. By offering the B.S.N. program online students benefit because they are able to "train in place" with limited trips to the SDSU campus. Healthcare facilities also benefit because they may become the student's future place of employment.

Online delivery of the Nursing major allows SDSU to contribute to meet nursing workforce demands. According to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, around 177,400 openings for registered nurses are projected from 2022-2032.[1] By 2030, South Dakota will be the #3 state that will need nurses the most with a projected shortage of 14%.[2] The College of Nursing produces the most baccalaureate-prepared nurses (42% in 2022) among all South Dakota nursing programs[3] and is well-equipped to offer the B.S.N. program online.

SDSU's *Pathway to Premier 2030* strategic plan[4] has identified numerous goals and strategies that support the delivery of an online program. This proposal helps to "attain academic excellence" (Goal: Achieve Excellence Through Transformative Education). Specifically, it will:

- Creatively adapt teaching strategies in new and evidence-based ways to engage learners, expand access, enhance student success, and inspire current and future students.
- Develop and invest in innovative undergraduate, graduate, and professional academic programs and continuing education opportunities with an emphasis on workforce and economic development.
- Maintain student success as a foundational university priority through advancement of innovative strategies and initiatives that meet the needs of all students, enhance student belonging and wellbeing, and support expanded access to higher education.
- Increase utilization of high impact practices across the university to include experiential learning, undergraduate research, international experiences, and service learning to prepare graduates to become global citizens in an ever-changing and interconnected world.

SDSU has strong partnerships with healthcare facilities across the state of South Dakota, many of which provide clinical opportunities for College of Nursing students. This proposal would provide new opportunities for enhanced and expanded partnerships. SDSU's College of Nursing would work closely with the healthcare facility near the student's home to provide their clinical experiences with a Registered Nurse preceptor. A major healthcare facility with locations across South Dakota has already identified itself as an invested partner in this collaboration. SDSU will also offer the opportunity to collaborate with other major healthcare facilities, as well as rural, independently-owned facilities. Due to licensure and out-of-state Board of Nursing regulations, the online Bachelor of Science in Nursing program is only available to individuals residing in South Dakota.

2. Are any other Regental universities authorized to offer a similar program at the proposed site(s) or through distance delivery? If "yes," identify the institutions and programs and explain why authorization is requested.

South Dakota State University, the University of South Dakota, and Northern State University are authorized to offer nursing programs within the SDBOR system. SDSU offers degrees in Bachelor of Science in Nursing (B.S.N.) (Brookings main campus, Rapid City, and Sioux Falls); accelerated B.S.N. (Aberdeen, Rapid City, and Sioux Falls); and registered nurse (RN) to B.S.N. (online). University of South Dakota (USD) offers degrees in B.S.N. (Vermillion main campus and Sioux Falls); Licensed Practical Nursing (LPN) to B.S.N. (Vermillion main

[1] Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor, *Occupational Outlook Handbook*, Registered Nurses, at https://www.bls.gov/ooh/healthcare/registered-nurses.htm (visited *December 25, 2023*).
[2] NursingEducation. (2021). States that will need nurses the most by 2030. Retrieved from https://nursingeducation.org/blog/states-that-will-need-nurses-the-most-by-2030/.
[3] South Dakota Board of Nursing. (2022). Registered Nurses (RNs): 2022 South Dakota Nursing Education Data. Retrieved from https://doh.sd.gov/media/yy4babyy/rn_education_infographic22.pdf.
[4] https://www.sdstate.edu/office-president/pathway-premier-2030

campus and Sioux Falls); and RN to B.S.N. (online). Northern State University (NSU) is authorized to deliver their B.S.N. program on-campus and through HyFlex delivery.

As stated in question #1, by 2030 South Dakota is projected to have the third-highest shortfall in registered nurses in the nation.[5] According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, jobs available as registered nurses are projected to grow 6 percent from 2022 to 2032. Over the next ten years, approximately 193,100 registered nurse positions are projected each year, resulting from workers who transfer to different occupations or exit the labor force, such as retiring.[6] SDSU's online B.S.N. program will allow the university to contribute to meeting South Dakota's workforce demands and is needed to meet the needs of students who are interested in the nursing profession, however, have limited access to education because they are place-bound and located in rural areas of South Dakota. In addition to asynchronous online coursework, SDSU's College of Nursing would work closely with the healthcare facility near the student's home to provide their clinical experiences with a Registered Nurse preceptor. By offering the B.S.N. program online students benefit because they are able "train in place" with limited trips to the SDSU campus, and healthcare facilities benefit because they may become the student's future place of employment.

3. Are students enrolling in the program expected to be new to the university or redirected from other existing programs at the university? Complete the table below and explain the methodology used in developing the estimates.

SDSU expects students to be new to the university. Students like the flexibility of programs offered online, which allow them to continue to live and work anywhere in the state while completing their degree. It is not expected that online delivery will have much impact on the enrollments in SDSU's face-to-face, on-campus courses. The College of Nursing anticipates cohorts of 16 students in years 1 and 2 and the number growing to 24 students in years 3 and 4.

	Fiscal Years*			
	1st	**2nd**	**3rd**	**4th**
Estimates	FY 25	FY 26	FY 27	FY 28
Students new to the university	16	16	24	24
Students from other university programs	0	0	0	0
=Total students in the program at the site	16	32	40	48
Program credit hours (major courses)**	448	992	1152	1488
Graduates	0	16	16	24

*Do not include current fiscal year.
**This is the total number of credit hours generated by students in the program in the required or elective program courses. Use the same numbers in Appendix B – Budget.

4. What is the perceived impact of this request on existing programs in the Regental system?

The impact on existing programs is expected to be minimal as the target audience for the online program are students who may be place-bound and unable to attend an existing face-to-face nursing program. As mentioned in question #2, South Dakota State University, the University of South Dakota, and Northern State University are authorized to offer nursing

[5] NursingEducation. (2021). States that will need nurses the most by 2030. Retrieved from https://nursingeducation.org/blog/states-that-will-need-nurses-the-most-by-2030/ .
[6] Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor, *Occupational Outlook Handbook*, Registered Nurses, at https://www.bls.gov/ooh/healthcare/registered-nurses.htm (visited *December 25, 2023*).

programs within the SDBOR system. University of South Dakota (USD) offers degrees in B.S.N. (Vermillion main campus and Sioux Falls); Licensed Practical Nursing (LPN) to B.S.N. (Vermillion main campus and Sioux Falls); and RN to B.S.N. (online). Northern State University (NSU) is authorized to deliver their B.S.N. program on-campus and through HyFlex delivery. NSU's program is primarily focused on students from northeastern South Dakota and their curriculum will be tailored to address industry needs in telehealth and gerontology. Recruitment for SDSU's online program will focus on place-bound students in rural communities. Students who wish to pursue the Bachelor of Science in Nursing will be required to complete an admission process. Part of the admission process is determining if a qualified preceptor is available in the student's location. Rural areas will be primarily targeted to minimize competition with face-to-face nursing programs. However, if interested students are located in urban areas with available clinical space and preceptors, those locations will be considered as well. The new site will utilize existing resources and provide a pathway for working and place-bound professionals to obtain their B.S.N. degree. Adding an online delivery option would increase accessibility for students who are looking to pursue their education and are place-bound due to current family, employment, or other commitments. Online delivery of the Nursing major allows SDSU to contribute to meeting nursing workforce demands. Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (IPEDS) for 2021-2022 reporting shows that the state produced a total of 718 BSN Nursing degrees.[7] The demand/need for BSNs exceeds the degrees conferred.[8]

5. Complete the table and explain any special circumstances. Attach a copy of the program as it appears in the current catalog. If there are corresponding program modifications requested, please attach the associated form. Explain the delivery of the new courses and attach any associated new course request forms.

Nursing (B.S.N.)	Credit hours	Credit hours currently available from this university online	Credit hours currently available from this university at clinical sites	Credit hours currently available from other universities online	Credit hours new to this university
System General Education Requirements	32	28	0	32	4
Subtotal, Degree Requirements	32	28	0	32	4
Pre-Nursing Requirements	16	16	0	11	0
Major Requirements	62	0	21	0	41
Subtotal, Requirements of the Proposed Major	78	16	0	0	41
Free Electives	10	10	0	10	0
Total, Degree with Proposed Major	120	54	21	53	45

The online Nursing (B.S.N.) will help meet nursing workforce demands by reaching non-traditional and place-bound students across the state of South Dakota. All nursing courses in the curriculum are currently delivered via a combination of distance technology and face-to-face clinical, laboratory, and simulation experiences. The Nursing (B.S.N.) would offer all nursing courses asynchronously or synchronously via Zoom. Virtual reality and other technologies will be utilized to meet some laboratory and simulation experiences, while students will attend an immersion experience at one of the four SDSU College of Nursing sites to complete the remaining laboratory and simulation experience. A major healthcare facility with locations across South Dakota has already identified itself as an invested partner in this

[7] Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (IPEDS) for 2021-2022

[8] NursingEducation. (2021). States that will need nurses the most by 2030. Retrieved from https://nursingeducation.org/blog/states-that-will-need-nurses-the-most-by-2030/.

collaboration, which will allow students to complete most of their clinical experience in their home communities. Clinical experiences that may not be available in their home community (such as obstetrics or mental health) will be obtained during an immersion experience at the major healthcare facility's main location. SDSU's College of Nursing will collaborate with other healthcare facilities as needed to allow students to stay in their home communities.

Requirements for Nursing Major

Bachelor of Science in Nursing

System General Education Requirements

- Goal #1 Written Communication: SGR #1 Electives Credits: 6
- Goal #2 Oral Communication: SGR #2 Elective Credits: 3
- Goal #3 Social Sciences:
  - HDFS 210 - Lifespan Development (COM) [SGR #3, HSDC] Credits: 3
  - SOC 100 - Introduction to Sociology (COM) [SGR #3, HSDC] Credits: 3
    or SOC 150 - Social Problems (COM) [SGR #3, HSDC] Credits: 3
    or SOC 240 - The Sociology of Rural America (COM) [SGR #3, HSDC] Credits: 3
    or ANTH 210 - Cultural Anthropology (COM) [SGR #3, HSDC] Credits: 3
- Goal #4 Arts and Humanities: SGR #4 Electives Credits: 6
- Goal #5 Mathematics: SGR #5 Elective Credits: 3
- Goal #6 Natural Sciences:
  - CHEM 106 - Chemistry Survey (COM) [SGR #6, HSDC] Credits: 3 and CHEM 106L
    - Chemistry Survey Lab (COM) [SGR #6, HSDC] Credits: 1
    or CHEM 112 - General Chemistry I (COM) [SGR #6, HSDC] Credits: 3 and CHEM 112L - General Chemistry I Lab (COM) [SGR #6, HSDC] Credits: 1
  - MICR 231 - General Microbiology (COM) [SGR #6, HSDC] Credits: 4 and MICR 231L - General Microbiology Lab (COM) [SGR #6, HSDC] Credits: 0

Pre-Nursing Requirements

- BIOL 221 - Human Anatomy (COM) Credits: 4
- BIOL 221L - Human Anatomy Lab (COM) Credits: 0
- BIOL 325 - Physiology (COM) Credits: 4
- BIOL 325L - Physiology Lab (COM) Credits: 0
- NURS 119 - First Year Seminar (COM) Credits: 2
- NUTR 315 - Human Nutrition (COM) Credits: 3
- PSYC 101 - General Psychology (COM) [SGR #3, HSDC] Credits: 3

Major Requirements

- NURS 234 - Patient-Centered Care Concepts I Credits: 2
- NURS 235 - Clinical Application I Credits: 2
- NURS 258 - Nursing Principles and Application I: Assessment and Interventions Credits: 2
- NURS 258L - Nursing Principles and Application I: Assessment and Interventions Lab Credits: 2
- NURS 272 - Professional Nursing Concepts I Credits: 2
- NURS 322 - Pharmacology Credits: 3
- NURS 323 - Introduction to Pathophysiology Credits: 3
- NURS 334 - Patient-Centered Care Concepts II Credits: 5
- NURS 335 - Clinical Application II Credits: 3

- NURS 344 - Patient-Centered Care Concepts III Credits: 5
- NURS 345 - Clinical Application III Credits: 3
- NURS 347 - Concepts Synthesis I Credits: 1
- NURS 358 - Nursing Principles and Applications II: Interventions Credits: 2
- NURS 358L - Nursing Principles and Applications II: Interventions Lab Credits: 2
- NURS 360 - Research and Evidence-Based Practice Credits: 3
- NURS 372 - Professional Nursing Concepts II Credits: 2
- NURS 434 - Patient-Centered Care Concepts IV Credits: 5
- NURS 435 - Clinical Application IV Credits: 4
- NURS 437 - Concepts Synthesis II Credits: 1
- NURS 444 - Population-Centered Care Credits: 2
- NURS 444L - Population-Centered Care Lab Credits: 1
- NURS 472 - Professional Nursing Concepts III Credits: 3
- NURS 495 - Practicum (COM) Credits: 1-6 (4 credits required)

Electives

- Taken as needed to complete any additional degree requirements. Credits: 10

Total Required Credits: 120

6. How will the university provide student services comparable to those available for students on the main campus?

Students engaged in the online Nursing (B.S.N.) program will have access to various support services and facilities throughout the academic program. An academic advisor will be assigned to online students in the major. They will connect with students via email, phone, Zoom, or other technologies. SDSU and the College of Nursing are experienced in providing student services to students at a distance from the main campus.

The Office of Continuing and Distance Education (CDE) provides support to new online and distance learners through a dedicated onboarding process, Orientation for Online Learners, and Virtual Move-In Day. CDE staff also provides ongoing support through enrollment and student success coordinators that are available to assist students in connecting to necessary resources online and on campus, through the SDSU Virtual Student Union, student success videos, online tutoring support through Tutor.com. Additional student services such as disability services accommodations will be available to students upon request.

The South Dakota State University Hilton M. Briggs library has long served students engaged in coursework away from campus. This includes students enrolled online. Library support services will be available to students through a variety of means:

- Students can contact librarians for research assistance. The librarian provides online research guides and is available for consultations with faculty and students.
- Distance Library Services include book and article delivery for materials owned by the library. Students may request materials not held by the library through interlibrary loan.
- SDSU students have online access to research databases such as Web of Science, EBSCOhost MegaFILE, and JSTOR.

Students will also have access to technical support provided by SDSU's Information Technology Services.

7. **Is this program accredited by a specialized accrediting body? If so, address any program accreditation issues and costs related to offering the program at the new site(s).**
   The Nursing (B.S.N.) program is accredited by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE). The program will submit a substantive change notification to CCNE upon program initiation. There will be no increased cost for adding this existing program to an existing site. The College of Nursing will request approval for the online program from the South Dakota Board of Nursing following SDBOR approval.

8. **Does the university request any exceptions to Board policy for delivery at the new site(s)? Explain requests for exceptions to Board policy.**

   None.

9. **Cost, Budget, and Resources related to new courses at the site: Explain the amount and source(s) of any one-time and continuing investments in personnel, professional development, release time, time redirected from other assignments, instructional technology & software, other operations and maintenance, facilities, etc., needed to implement the proposed minor.** *Complete Appendix B – Budget using the system form.*

   The College of Nursing does not request new state resources or new student fees to support online delivery of Nursing (B.S.N.). By Year 4, it is expected that tuition and discipline fees generated for this offering will adequately fund the program. As the program grows the College of Nursing will utilize the campus budget process to request additional faculty and staff as needed.