

**Project Abstract**

**Project Title:** Reimagining Remote Education in South Dakota  
**Applicant Name:** South Dakota Department of Education  
**Address:** 800 Governors Drive, Pierre, SD 57501  
**Contact:** Benjamin F. Jones, Ph.D., Education Secretary  
[REDACTED]  
**Absolute Priority:** 3  
**Funding Request:** [REDACTED]

This project will address significant educational challenges by setting a goal that all schools deliver high-quality learning along a continuum of settings that support the needs of students, teachers, and families. Through professional development for teachers in areas such as competency-based education and activities to empower parents, students and their families will have the ability to make informed choices on whether children attend school in person or online at any given time.

Main objectives and activities are to: 1) provide training so that every public school has an educator with a certification in online teaching; 2) develop the capacity of 1,600 educators by providing them with professional development in innovative remote learning; 3) create a Rethinking Education Colloquium of 30 schools interested in pursuing new course options in personalized, competency-based education; 4) help pre-service teachers develop skills in delivery of remote/hybrid learning; and 5) expand communication channels and develop resources for parents to understand the remote learning options available to their students and to support families in their decisions on whether to have their child participate in face-to-face or remote instruction. Most funds will go toward professional development and parent resources, with experts in remote/hybrid instruction, competency-based education, and parent engagement serving as consultants in carrying out the grant’s vision. Partners include Technology & Innovation in Education, the South Dakota Statewide Family Engagement Center, and South Dakota State University.