

South Dakota

South Dakota Department of Education
R372A120015

Project Title: *Student Teacher Accountability Reporting System (SD-STARS)*

Project Description: The South Dakota Department of Education presents its proposal for the Student Teacher Accountability Reporting System (SDSTARS) in response to the US Department of Education's Statewide, Longitudinal Data Systems initiative. The purpose and vision for the South Dakota STARS is to provide policymakers, the SEA, LEAs, educators, students and families, as well as other key stakeholders with reliable, up-to date and accessible information that will support policy decisions, educational improvements and student achievement. Toward this end, the SDDOE proposes the design, development, and implementation of *a statewide, longitudinal comprehensive and longitudinal data system*. The system will initially be developed as a warehouse for K-12 data but will be designed with the capability to be expanded to include post-secondary and workforce data.

South Dakota has been focused on the collection and compilation of data since the implementation of *No Child Left Behind* and South Dakota's Accountability System. The Student Information Management System (SIMS) is utilized by 99% of South Dakota LEAs including private, Tribal, and BIE schools. The system provides a unique student identifier that can serve as the foundation for a more robust and comprehensive longitudinal data system that can effectively link with other critical educational variables. The South Dakota STARS provides the capacity to connect with or incorporate data from a variety of existing but disparate data sources that reflect student demographics, a variety of measures of educational performance, and personnel records. STARS will provide effective data management, reporting and analysis necessary to make informed decisions from the policy level to individual classrooms and students.

South Dakota Department of Education is fully committed to the development of the statewide longitudinal data system. Beyond the SIMS, SDDOE has identified and directed existing resources to the development of model longitudinal data system for ten high need LEAs in South Dakota. A successful application under the US DOE Statewide, Longitudinal Data Systems program would provide necessary resources for the further development of the model for expansion to all 152 local public school districts. The objectives of the STARS proposal and implementation will be:

1. To customize and implement a **comprehensive K-12 commercial-off-the-shelf (COTS) longitudinal data system** capable of connecting existing data repositories, data editing and validation and expansion to all LEA's.
 2. To develop and implement a **robust and scalable reporting and analysis module** that will inform and improve required reporting, policy making, educational improvement, access and transparency.
 3. To design system expansions that respond to **LEA needs; link teachers and students; and reflect growth in student achievement** through various lenses.
 4. To design, develop and implement system specifications that capture and analysis data to reflect **teacher and school leader effectiveness**.
 5. To ensure effective, responsive and representative structure for data **governance and management**.
 6. To provide **training for SDDOE and LEA end users** that will improve accurate data collection, data upload and relevant data reporting and analysis.
-