



UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH DAKOTA
Annual Licensure and Certification Report
Academic Affairs
DATE: November 7, 2023

University Graduates on Licensure and Certification Examinations

This report provides the Board of Regents with information concerning the performance of university graduates on mandatory professional licensure and certification examinations. Graduates have an excellent record of success on these examinations.

1. Examinations Included

The examinations included in this report are those that must be passed before a person may be fully licensed or certified to engage in the occupation or profession. Optional examinations are not included. Some examinations, such as Fundamentals of Engineering or CPA, are not included because graduates are not required to take them in order to practice.

2. Limitations

Licensure and certification examinations cover material related to the specific occupation or profession. These examinations do not provide information about how well students perform in general education courses or in courses outside of the examination field.

3. Format

The programs are listed alphabetically. The data are provided by year for seven years or for available years.

Each table shows the number of graduates who took the examination, the number who passed the examination, and the pass rate (percentage). Additional information for some programs, such as national pass rates, or mean scores is available for some programs. Where available, this information is provided.

4. Programs Included

- A. Addiction Counseling and Prevention
B. Audiology
C. Clinical Psychology
D. Dental Hygiene
E. Law
F. Medicine
G. Nursing
H. Occupational Therapy
I. Physical Therapy
J. Physician Assistant Studies
K. Social Work
L. Speech/Language Pathology

Students in the following programs achieved a 100% pass rate on the test for which the latest information is available.

Table with 2 columns: University and Program. Rows include USD for Addiction Counseling and Prevention (B.S.), USD for Addiction Counseling and Prevention (M.A.), USD for Clinical Psychology (Ph.D.), and USD for Dental Hygiene (B.S.).

Program: Addiction Counseling and Prevention
 University: University of South Dakota
 Degree: Bachelor of Science in Addiction Studies (B.S.)
 Examination Title: International Certification and Reciprocity Consortium (ICRC) Examination
 Organization/Agency: SD Board of Addiction and Prevention Professionals

Year	Month Taken	Number of Writers	Number Passed	% Total Writers Passed	National % Passed
2019	03 & 09	10	10	100%	65%
2020	03 & 09	10	10	100%	71%
2021	Jan-Dec	7	5	71%	70%
2022		7	7	100%	70%
2023**	Incomplete Data			%	%
2019-2022**		34	32	94%	69%

*The SD Board of Addiction Prevention Professionals began open testing for the 12-month period between January and December 2021. Previously, testing was completed during the months of March and September.

Therefore, the complete testing results for 2022 will not be available until January 2023. The complete 2022 data will be reported next October 2023. Only partial data is being reported for 2022.

**The current data is partial and will not be counted in the overall averages.

Program: Addiction Counseling and Prevention
 University: University of South Dakota
 Degree: Master of Arts in Addiction Studies (M.A.)
 Examination Title: International Certification and Reciprocity Consortium (ICRC) Examination
 Organization/Agency: SD Board of Addiction and Prevention Professionals

Year	Month Taken	Number of Writers	Number Passed	% Total Writers Passed	National % Passed
2019	03 & 09	18	18	100%	72%
2020	03 & 09	10	9	90%	57%
2021	Jan-Dec	10	10	100%	70%
2022		7	7	100%	69%
2023*	Incomplete Data			%	%
2019-2022**		45	44	98%	67%

*The SD Board of Addiction Prevention Professionals began open testing for the 12-month period between January and December 2021. Previously, testing was completed during the months of March and September.

Therefore, the complete testing results for 2022 will not be available until January 2023. The complete 2022 data will be reported next October 2023. Only partial data is being reported for 2022.

** The current data is partial and will not be counted in the overall averages.

Degree: Au.D.
Examination Title: Praxis Exam: Audiology (5342)
Organization/Agency: American Speech, Language and Hearing Association (ASHA)

Year	Number of Writers	Number Passed	% Total Writers Passed	National % Passed
2017	6	6	100%	N/A
2018	5	5	100%	N/A
2019	5	5	100%	N/A
2020	5	5	100%	N/A
2021	4	4	100%	N/A
2022	4	4	100%	N/A
2023	6	5	83.33%	N/A
2017-2023	35	34	97.14%	N/A

Date: October 24, 2023
 Program: Clinical Psychology
 University: University of South Dakota
 Degree: Ph.D.
 Examination Title: Examination for Professional Practice in Psychology
 Organization/Agency: Association of State and Provincial Psychology Boards

Year	# of Graduates	# of Writers ^a	# Passed	% Total Writers Passed	National % Passed ^b
2017	6	8	8	100.00%	N/A
2018	5	2	2	100.00%	N/A
2019	5	6	6	100.00%	N/A
2020	5	2	2	100.00%	N/A
2021	4	6	6	100.00%	N/A
2022	7	3	3	100.00%	N/A
2023	2	6	6	100%	N/A
2017-2023	34	33	33	100.00%	N/A

^a Not all of our graduates take the national exam unless required by their employment site (for example, academic appointments do not typically require licensure). Most states require one or two years of post-doctoral supervised experience prior to sitting for the exam. *Therefore, the number of graduates in each year and the number who took/passed the licensing exam do not reflect the same people.* The number taken/passed are those graduates from previous years who took the exam in that year. USD graduates take the national exam in the state in which they plan to practice. The national examination (Examination for Professional Practice in Psychology, EPPP) is administered through the licensing boards of those states. Each state sets its own acceptable “cut off” scores. Nearly all states also require an oral exam and/or a written jurisprudence exam in addition to the national written exam.

^b National pass rates for graduates from accredited PhD Clinical Psychology Programs are not available annually. The Association of State and Provincial Psychology Boards (ASPPB, who develops/owns the EPPP) provides a five-year summary of pass rate for doctoral candidates (all practice specialties in the US and Canada; first time test takers). Nationally, the pass rate for candidates taking the EPPP between February 2015 - February 2017, was 80.81%.

^c The methodology for counting will now be reported based on the calendar year (May, Aug, Dec); went back and made this consistent

NOTE: 2022 is not complete so it counts only May and August 2022 graduates and test-takers through August 2022

The following list accounts for graduates from each year who did not take the exam.

2017 1 graduate from 2017 lives in Canada and does need to be licensed
 2019 1 graduate from 2019 lives in Switzerland and does not need to be licensed
 2021 4 graduates from 2021 are completing postdocs and not yet eligible
 2022 7 graduates from May & August 2022 are completing post docs and not yet eligible
 2023 2 graduates from 2023 are completing postdocs and not yet eligible

Program: Dental Hygiene
 University: University of South Dakota
 Degree: B.S.
 Examination Title: National Board of Dental Hygiene Examination
 Organization/Agency: American Dental Association

Year	Month Taken	Number of Writers	Number Passed	% Total Writers Passed	National % Passed
2017	04	32	32	100%	93.8%
2018	04	32	32	100%	94.3%
2019	04	32	32	100%	92.2%
2020	04	32	31	96.9%	90.7%
2021	04	31	31	100%	86.7%
2022	04	31	31	100%	86.1%
2023	04	32	32	100%	*N/A
2017-2023		222	221	99.6%	

*National % Passed Rate is not yet available for the current year.

Program: Law
 University: University of South Dakota
 Degree: J.D.
 Examination Title: South Dakota Bar Examination
 Organization/Agency: South Dakota Board of Bar Examiners

Year	Month Taken	Number of Writers	Number Passed	% Total Writers Passed	National % Passed *
2017	Feb-1 st time	4	2	50.00%	N/A
	Feb Retesters	19	6	31.58%	N/A
	July-1 st time	29	15	51.72%	N/A
	July Retesters	13	6	46.15%	N/A
2018	Feb-1 st time	9	5	55.56%	N/A
	Feb Retesters	16	4	25.00%	N/A
	July-1 st time	33	27	81.82%	N/A
	July Retesters	17	3	17.65%	N/A
2019	Feb-1 st time	6	4	66.67%	N/A
	Feb Retesters	14	7	50.00%	N/A
	July-1 st time	37	30	81.08%	N/A
	July Retesters	7	3	42.86%	N/A
2020**	Feb-1 st time	2	0	0.0%	N/A
	Feb Retesters	8	3	37.50%	N/A
	July-1 st time	34	26	76.47%	N/A
	July Retesters	6	1	16.67%	N/A
2021**	Feb-1 st time	6	5	83.33%	N/A
	Feb Retesters	8	6	75.00%	N/A
	July-1 st time	40	32	80.00%	N/A
	July Retesters	4	1	25.00%	N/A
2022**	Feb-1 st time	5	3	60.00%	N/A
	Feb Retesters	10	2	20.00%	N/A
	July-1 st time	53	41	77.36%	N/A
	July Retesters	8	0	0.0%	N/A
2023**	Feb-1 st time	2	2	100%	N/A
	Feb Retesters	16	6	37.5%	N/A
	July-1 st time	37	28	75.68%	N/A
	July Retesters	7	5	74.43%	N/A
2017-2023	Feb-1 st time	34	21	61.76%	N/A
	Feb Retesters	91	34	37.36%	N/A
	July-1 st time	263	199	75.67%	N/A
	July Retesters	62	19	30.65%	N/A

* Each state establishes its own passing score so pass rates are not directly comparable across the states.

** The Covid-19 pandemic interrupted normal exam preparation. Students experienced uncertainty about test availability and dealt with interruptions in income, family, and health that may continue into next year.

Note: The South Dakota Board of Bar Examiners treats as a first-time examinee anyone who has taken the bar exam in South Dakota for the first time. The Law School, however, follows the rule established by its accreditor, the ABA: we treat as a first-time examinee only those graduates who sit for the first time in *any* jurisdiction. We are reporting on this chart the data provided by the South Dakota Board of Bar Examiners.

Program: Medicine updated on 10/26/2023 (by Dr. Lori Hansen)
 University: University of South Dakota
 Degree: M.D.
 Examination Title: Step 1: United States Medical Licensing Examination
 Step 2-CK: United States Medical Licensing Examination
 Organization/Agency: National Board of Medical Examiners

Graduation Year	Step	Number of Writers	Number Passed	% Total Writers Passed	National % Passed
2018*	1	57	55	96%	95%
	Retesters	2	2	100%	73%
	2-CK	60	57	95%	96%
	Retesters	1	1	100%	84%
2019	1	66	65	98%	96%
	Retesters	1	0	0%	73%
	2-CK	62	60	97%	97%
	Retesters	1	1	100%	81%
2020	1	69	69	100%	96%
	Retesters	0	--	--	73%
	2-CK	72	72	100%	98%
	Retesters	0	--	-	83%
2021	1	67	65	97%	97%
	Retesters	2	2	100%	72%
	2-CK	62	62	100%	98%
	Retesters	0	0	-	85%
2022	1	65	64	98%	97%
	Retesters	0	--	-	77%
	2-CK	68	68	100%	99%
	Retesters	0	--	-	88%
2023	1	67	67	100%	96%
	Retesters	0	-	-	74%
	2-CK	65	65	100%	99%
	Retesters	0	-	-	82%
2024	1	69	64	93%	93%
	Retesters	4	2	50%	80%
	2-CK	64	63	98%	98%
	Retesters	0	-	-	83%
2018-2024	1	460	449	98%	96%
	Retesters	9	6	67%	73%
	2-CK	453	447	99%	98%
	Retesters	2	2	100%	84%

* Years reported use National Board of Medical Examiners reports for corresponding year of examination for all first-time examinees and repeaters.

NOTE: All graduates with the MD degree must successfully pass the Step 1 and Step 2-CK (Clinical Knowledge) examinations prior to graduation. Step 1 is taken following core basic science training, Step 2-CK following core clinical training. Step 3 is required for licensure and is taken during Residency training.

Program: Nursing
 University: University of South Dakota
 Degree: B.S.N.
 Examination Title: National Council Licensure Examination of Registered Nurses
 Organization/Agency: South Dakota Board of Nursing

Year	Month Taken	Number of Writers	Number Passed	% Total Writers Passed	National % Passed	State of SD Pass Rate
2016	1/01/2016-12/31//2016	142	126	88.73%	88.84%	86.30%
2017	1/01/2017-12/31/2017	129	120	93.02%	90.04%	88.50%
2018*	1/01/2018-12/31/2018	119	108	90.76%	91.57%	91.57%
2019	1/01/2019-12/31/2019	148	140	94.59%	91.22%	92.87%
2020	1/01/2020-12/31/2020	195	186	95.38%	86.57%	92.35%
2021	1/01/2021-12/31/21	159	144	90.57%	86.06%	87.4%
2022	1/01/2022-12/31/2022	136	128	94.12%	82.32%	86.72%
2023**	01/01/2023-06/30/2023	134	129	96.27%	87.62%	91.73%
2016-2022	01/01/2016-12/31/2022	1028	952	92.61 % avg.	88.09% avg.	89.39% avg.

* The last graduating class for the AS in Nursing was December 2018.

**Current year (2023) contains only through 2nd quarter data.

Program: Occupational Therapy
 University: University of South Dakota
 Degree: OTD (first class graduated May 2017)*
 Examination Title: NBCOT (National Board for Certification in Occupational Therapy)
 Organization/Agency: National Board for Certification in Occupational Therapy (NBCOT)

Year		Number of Writers	Number Passed	% Total Writers Passed	National % Passed
2017	1 st Time Retesters	19	19	100%	82%
2018	1 st Time Retesters	16 1 (counted in 16 above)	15 1	93.75% 100.00%	81%
2019	1 st Time Retesters	27 2 (Counted in 27 above)	25 2	93% 100.00%	82%
2020	1 st Time Retesters	29	29	100%	84%
2021	1 st Time Retesters	30 6 (counted in 30 above)	24 6	80 % 100%	81%
2022	1 st Time Retesters	24 3 (counted in 24 above)	21 3	87.5 % 100%	81%
2023	1 st Time Retesters	22***	21	95%	Not yet available (2023 as of 10/2023)
2017-2023	1 st Time Retesters	166 12 (Counted in 166 above)	154 12	92.77% 100.00%	N/A

* First OTD graduating class May 2017

** The last class of MS students graduated in December 2017 and sat for the exam in 2018.

*** Note – not all students in the Class of 2023 have tested yet. One student’s exam result has not been received.

Program: Physical Therapy
University: University of South Dakota
Degree: DPT
Examination Title: National Physical Therapy Board Exam (NPTE)
Organization/Agency: Federation of State Board of Physical Therapy

COHORT ANALYSIS

Year of Graduation	Number of USD Writers	Number USD Writers Passed [first attempt ultimate]	% Total USD Writers Passed [first attempt ultimate]	US Accredited Program % Passed [first attempt ultimate] ^a
2017 Cohort	25	25 25	100% 100%	92.5% 99.2%
#Retesters from Cohort	0	0 0	100% 100%	N/A** N/A**
2018 Cohort	28	25 28	89.3% 100%	90.9% 99.1%
#Retesters from Cohort	3 ^c	0 3	NA 100%	N/A** N/A**
2019 Cohort	28	26 28	92.9% 100%	90.5% 98.6%
#Retesters from Cohort	2 ^d	0 2	NA 100%	N/A** N/A**
2020 Cohort^d	28	27 28	96.4% 100%	91.2% 98.9%
#Retesters from Cohort	1	0 1	NA 100%	N/A** N/A**
2021 Cohort	30	30 30	100% 100%	88.0% 98.7%
#Retesters from Cohort	0	0 0	100% 100%	N/A** N/A**
2022 Cohort	31	31 31	100% 100%	84.9% 97.1%
#Retesters from Cohort	0	0 0	100% 100%	N/A** N/A**
2023 Cohort	32	32 29	90.6% 90.6%	86.3% 88.7%
#Retesters from Cohort	0 ^e	0 0	% %	N/A** N/A**
2017-2023	202	196 199	97.0% 98.5%	M = 89.2%** 97.2%**

**Information not available from the Federation of State Boards of Physical Therapy (FSBPT)

NOTES:

^aThese statistics are based upon [#successful exams within year] | [#exams within year]; USD statistics at left are reported as [#successful students in cohort] | [#students in cohort]. Successful attempts are added retroactively if they fall into a subsequent year.

^bA graduate from the Class of 2016 took the NPTE in 2016, in 2017, and in 2018 and did not pass on any occasion; the student has met the allowable retest limitation for sitting for the board exam.

^cA graduate from the Class of 2018 passed the exam in 2018; two graduates from the Class of 2018 passed the exam in 2019

^dNote. Members of this cohort experienced many COVID-19 scheduling disruptions, including numerous last-minute exam site cancellations and delays in testing.

^eThree Class of 2023 students are registered to retake the NPTE October 25 or 26, 2023.

CALENDAR YEAR [REPEATED ATTEMPTS] ANALYSIS

Calendar Year	Number of USD Writers	Number USD Writers Passed	% Total USD Writers Passed	US Accredited Program % Passed [first attempt ultimate]
CY 2017	25	25	100%	92.5% 99.2%
# Retest Attempts in CY (any cohort)	3 ^a	0	N/A	N/A** N/A**
Overall Exam Success Rate	28	25	89.3%	N/A** N/A**
CY 2018	28	25	89.2%	90.9 99.1%
# Retest Attempts in CY (any cohort)	3 ^b	1	N/A	N/A** N/A**
Overall Exam Success Rate	31	26	83.9%	N/A** N/A**
CY 2019	27	27	100%	90.5% 98.6%
# Retest Attempts in CY (any cohort)	4 ^c	3	N/A	N/A** N/A**
Overall Exam Success Rate	31	30	96.8%	N/A** N/A**
CY 2020^d	29	27	93%	91.2% 98.9%
# Retest Attempts in CY (any cohort)	2 ^e	2	N/A	N/A** N/A**
Overall Exam Success Rate	31	29	93.5%	N/A** N/A**
CY 2021	30	30	100%	88.0% 97.9%
# Retest Attempts in CY (any cohort)	0	0	N/A	N/A** N/A**
Overall Exam Success Rate	30	30	100%	N/A** N/A**
CY 2022	31	31	100%	97.4% 90.3%
# Retest Attempts in CY (any cohort)	0	0	N/A	N/A** N/A**
Overall Exam Success Rate	31	31	100%	N/A** N/A**
CY 2023	32	29	90.6%	% %
# Retest Attempts in CY (any cohort)	0 ^f	0 ^f	N/A	N/A** N/A**
Overall Exam Success Rate	32	29	90.6%	N/A** N/A**
CY 2017-2023	202	194	96%	N/A** N/A**
# Retest Attempts in CY (any cohort)	12	6	N/A	N/A** N/A**
Overall	211	200	94.8%	N/A** N/A**

**Information not available from the Federation of State Boards of Physical Therapy (FSBPT)

NOTES:

^a Includes 3 retest attempts by a member of the Class of 2016.

^b Includes 2 retest attempts by a member of the Class of 2016 and 1 retest attempt by a member of the Class of 2018

^c Includes 3 retest attempt by 2 members of the Class of 2018 and 1 retest attempt by a member of the Class of 2019

^d Note. There were many COVID-19 scheduling disruptions for exam-takers, including numerous last-minute exam site cancellations and delays in testing.

^e Includes 1 successful retest attempt by 1 member of the Class of 2020; a member of the Class of 2019 took the exam for the first time without success and passed on second attempt

^f Three Class of 2023 students are registered to retake the NPTE October 25 or 26, 2023.

Program: Physician Assistant Studies
 University: University of South Dakota
 Degree: MSPAS (approved 2003)
 Examination Title: PANCE (Physician Assistant National Certifying Exam)
 Organization/Agency: NCCPA (National Commission on Certification of Physician Assistants)

Year	Number of Writers	Number Passed	% Total Writers Passed	National % Passed
2017	25	24	96%	97%
Retakes	1	1	100%	N/A
2018	24	23	96%	98%
Retakes	1	1	100%	N/A
2019*	25	20	80%	93%
Retakes	4	4	100%	N/A
2020	26	25	96%	95%
Retakes	1	1	100%	N/A
2021	25	24	96%	93%
Retakes	1	1	100%	N/A
2022**	25	23	92%	92%
Retakes	1	1	100%	N/A
2023***	23	21	91%	Available in 2024
Retakes	-	-	N/A	N/A
2017-2023	173	160	92.5%	94.7%
+Retakes	9	9	100%	N/A

* 2019 1 student has elected to not retest.
 **2022 1 student has yet to retake the exam.
 ***2023 1 student has yet to test and 2 have yet to retest.
 N/A National retest % not available from national testing agency.
 +2017-2023 Retakes Student(s) yet to retake (not included in calculation).
 †2017-2023 National % pass 6-year first time pass; 2023 not included.

Program: Social Work
 University: University of South Dakota
 Degree: Master of Social Work (M.S.W.)
 Examination Title: South Dakota Social Work Licensing Examination
 Organization/Agency: Association of Social Work Boards (ASWB)

Year	Number of Writers	Number Passed	% Total Writers Passed	National % Passed
2016	42	38	90%	81%
Retesters*	6	2	33%	32%
Overall	48	40	83%	70%
2017	34	31	91%	81%
Retesters*	5	1	20%	36%
Overall	39	32	82%	70%
2018	33	27	82%	76%
Retesters*	5	2	40%	26%
Overall	38	29	76%	63%
2019	29	25	86%	74%
Retesters*	7	2	29%	27%
Overall	36	27	75%	61%
2020	33	30	91%	75.4%
Retesters*	11	3	27%	32.1%
Overall	44	33	75%	62.9%
2021**	-	-	-	73%
Retesters*	-	-	-	-
Overall	-	-	-	-
2022**	68	51	75%	72.5%
Retesters*	20	3	15%	-
Overall	88	54	61.4%	-
2016-2021	239	202	84.5%	74.5%
Retesters*	54	13	24.1%	85.9%
Overall	293	215	73.1%	80.2%

* Includes 1st and subsequent retesters.

** 2021 state pass rates are not available.

NOTE: The ASWB allows for the release of pass rate data to graduates' respective social work program.

Program: Social Work
 University: University of South Dakota
 Degree: Master of Social Work (M.S.W.) – Clinical Examination¹
 Examination Title: South Dakota Social Work Licensing Examination
 Organization/Agency: Association of Social Work Boards (ASWB)

Year	Number of Writers	Number Passed	% Total Writers Passed	National % Passed
2016	5	5	100%	78%
Retesters*	0	0	NA	36%
Overall	5	5	100%	67%
2017	9	8	89%	78%
Retesters*	1	1	100%	40%
Overall	10	9	90%	68%
2018	20	17	85%	73%
Retesters*	1	1	100%	34%
Overall	21	18	86%	61%
2019	27	25	93%	74%
Retesters*	4	3	75%	35%
Overall	31	28	90%	61%
2020	20	18	90%	74.8%
Retesters*	2	1	50%	36.7%
Overall	22	19	86.3%	62.6%
2021**	-	-	-	-
Retesters*	-	-	-	-
Overall	-	-	-	-
2022**	38	33	86.8%	74.4%
Retesters*	7	3	42.9%	-
Overall	45	36	80%	-
2016-2021	119	106	89.1%	74.4%
Retesters*	15	9	60.0%	87.7%
Overall	134	115	86%	85.9%

* Includes 1st and subsequent retesters.

** 2021 state pass rates are not available.

NOTE: The ASWB allows for the release of pass rate data to graduates' respective social work program.

¹ The Clinical Examination is taken by graduates who have completed a minimum of two years of full-time, appropriate supervised post-MSW employment as a licensed social worker at the Certified Social Worker (CSW) level. Upon successful completion of the test and other requirements, the individual then receives the designation as a Certified Social Worker in Private or Independent Practice (CSW-PIP). In 2014, only one MSW Program graduate took the Clinical Exam and did not pass. In 2015, 3 individuals took the Clinical Exam for the first time and passed it. Two individuals re-took the exam, and one passed; the other did not. We do not know if the individual who took and failed the test in 2014 was one of the two people who retook the exam in 2015. Department faculty will reach out to MSW program graduates and invite them to participate in the licensing preparation workshop offered each spring semester. Test preparation will include the Clinical Exam.

Program: Speech Pathology
University: University of South Dakota
Degree: MA
Examination Title: Praxis Exam: Speech Language Pathology (5331)
Organization/Agency: American Speech, Language and Hearing Association (ASHA)

Year	Number of Writers	Number Passed	% Total Writers Passed	National % Passed*
2017	22	21	95.45%	N/A
2018	16	16	100.00%	N/A
2019	12	12	100.00%	N/A
2020	14	13	92.86%	N/A
2021	24	23	95.83%	N/A
2022	26	24	92.31%	N/A
2023	21	19	90.47%	N/A
2017-2023	135	128	94.81%	N/A