UNIVERSITY OF
SOUTH DAKOTA
SANFORD SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

2025-2026 DATA REFERENCE CARD

100% of our graduates were satisfied with the quality of their medical education and confident they acquired clinical skills necessary for residency

More than 90% of our graduates indicated basic science coursework had sufficient illustrations of clinical relevance

Most of our graduates plan to practice in South Dakota upon completion of medical training

Our faculty are rated in the top decile nationally for effective clerkship teaching

Founded in 1907, the USD Sanford School of Medicine strives for excellence in education, research and service.

UNIVERSITY OF
SOUTH DAKOTA
SANFORD SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

Together in teaching, innovation and compassion

For additional information contact:

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M.D. Program

USD students spend their first three semesters in Vermillion taking classes in biomedical and translational sciences. The next five semesters of clinical training is in Rapid City, Sioux Falls or Yankton. About 50% of each class trains in Sioux Falls, while the others split among the Rapid City and Yankton campuses and the Frontier And Rural Medicine (FARM) program, where 13 of them train for two semesters.

Annual Medical Student Tuition/Fees

- Resident $35,718
- Non-Resident $81,848

Average Debt of Indebted Graduates - Class of 2025 ..... $198,300

Number of Alumni from 1907 to 2025 4,265

Physician Scientist (M.D./Ph.D.) Program

The curriculum for the M.D./Ph.D. Program, implemented in 2006, is designed to be completed in seven years. The first three and final five semesters are the medical portion of the program, while the middle three years encompass the research portion of the program.

M.D./Ph.D. Program Tuition/Fees - M.D. (first year)

- Resident $10,297
- Non-Resident $11,732

Scholarship ..... $31,500 per year

Positions Filled in July 2025 1

Total Students in Program 12

Total Graduates (also counted in M.D. and Ph.D. programs) 27

Ph.D. Program

Graduate Students 39

Postdoctorate Scholars 7

Total Ph.D./Master's Graduates 376

Annual Graduate School Tuition

- Resident (for 21 credits/year) $8,532
- Non-Resident (for 21 credits/year) $15,315
- Graduate Assistantship Tuition Rate $5,061

Stipends

- Ph.D. $31,500
- M.Sc. $15,750

Medical Student Information (Fall 2025)

Matriculating Class 71

Applications Received 1,076

- Interviews Granted 201
- Mean Undergraduate GPA:
  - Cumulative 3.79
  - Science 3.73
- Mean Cumulative MCAT 508.3
- Residence:
  - South Dakota 57
  - Non-Resident with ties to S.D. 14
- Gender:
  - Men 31
  - Women 40

Graduate Medical Education

Residencies are clinical training experiences required for South Dakota licensure. These are funded predominantly by the federal government and coordinated through affiliations between the medical school and local health care facilities.

SSOM residencies include Emergency Medicine, Family Medicine (Sioux Falls/Pierre and Rapid City), General Surgery, Internal Medicine, Neurology, Pathology, Pediatrics, Psychiatry, Transitional Year. Fellowships include Cardiovascular Disease, Interventional Cardiology, Child & Adolescent Psychiatry, Gastroenterology, Geriatrics, and Surgical Pathology.

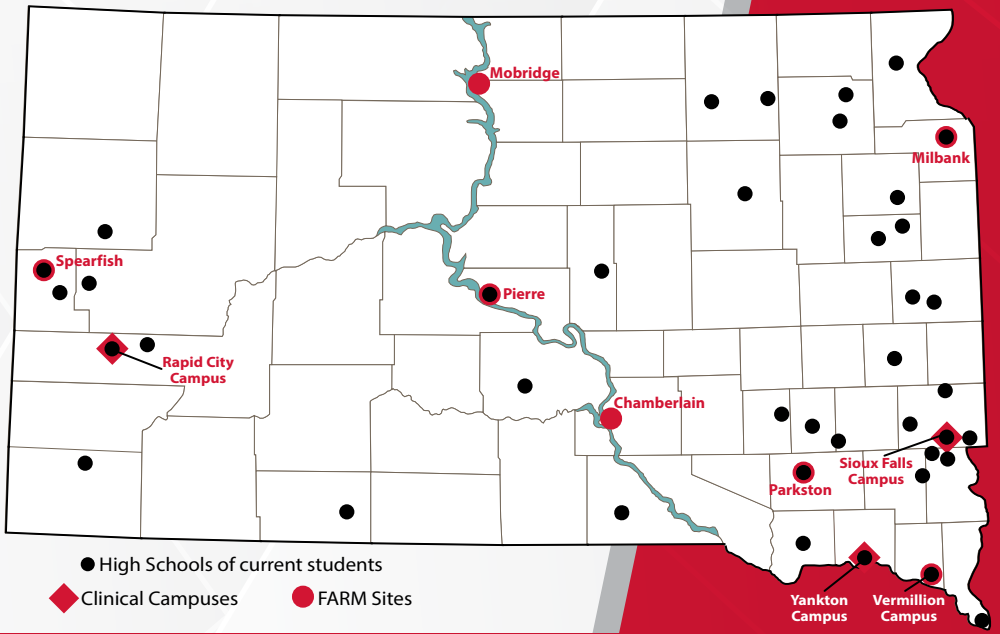
- Sioux Falls 172
- Rapid City 23
- Pierre 4
- **Residency Graduates 1,483**

Teaching Locations

The USD Sanford School of Medicine is a community-based medical school, which means that clinical education experiences are completed at hospitals and clinics throughout South Dakota.

There are 53 South Dakota high schools with graduates currently in the M.D. or M.D./Ph.D. program.

Aberdeen Central	6
Aberdeen Christian	1
Aberdeen Northern Plains Christian Academy	1
Aberdeen Roncalli	2
Alexandria Hanson	1
Box Elder Douglas	1
Brandon Valley	12
Brookings	6
Burke	1
Castlewood	1
Dell Rapids	3
Doland	1
Harrisburg	9
Harrisburg Homeschool	1
Hartford West Central	3
Hayti Hamlin	2
Highmore	1
Hot Springs	1
Huron James Valley Christian	1
Lead-Deadwood	2
Lennox	1
Madison	2
Martin Bennett County	1
Milbank	2
Miller	1
Mitchell	10
Newell	1
North Sioux City Dakota Valley	3
Parkston	1
Pierre TF Riggs	3
Presho Lyman	1
RC Central High School	3
RC Christian School	2
RC St. Thomas More	3
RC Stevens	10
Rosholt	1
Roslyn	1
SF Christian	5
SF Homeschool	1
SF Lincoln	16
SF O'Gorman	30
SF Roosevelt	14
SF Washington	8
Sisseton	1
Spearfish	4
Sturgis Brown	1
Tea Area	3
Tyndall Bon Homme	2
Vermillion	2
Volga Sioux Valley	2
Watertown	8
Webster Area	1
Yankton	12
Total	**212**



Economic Impact/Factors

The USD Sanford School of Medicine:

- In 2024, had more than 30 active external research grants, projects and contracts, which create high-paying jobs, support facility construction and grow the economy in many other ways.
- Provides the opportunity for South Dakota students to become physicians, physician scientists and/or biomedical scientists.
- Prepares physicians needed for the state's growing health care industry.
- SD HOSA – Future Health Professionals, an organization that exposes and engages high school students to careers in health care, has 1,300 members in 52 active chapters across South Dakota.
- The Frontier And Rural Medicine (FARM) Program, with 13 students in seven communities, continues to work to bolster the number of primary care physicians for rural South Dakota with a 59% primary care match rate (FM, Peds, IM) out of its 86 graduates. More than 50% of those who have completed residency and fellowship are practicing in the state, with 39% in health professional shortage areas.
- The Center for Rural Health Improvement and South Dakota Area Health Education Centers have brought in millions in grant funds to foster a wide portfolio of projects that address health care and community-driven needs in South Dakota, with emphasis on mental health, substance abuse and workforce shortages.
- Sponsors or is affiliated with 10 residency and six fellowship programs, which have an annual impact of more than $20.1 million.

The USD School of Health Sciences also has a profound economic impact:

- Enrolls over 1,800 undergraduate and graduate students majoring in Addiction Counseling & Prevention, Dental Hygiene, Medical Laboratory Science, Nursing, Occupational Therapy, Physical Therapy, Physician Assistant Studies, Public Health and Health Sciences, and Social Work.
- Graduates over 475 students per year, with about 60% staying in South Dakota to work.
- Has a robust public service mission with one counseling educational and two dental hygiene clinics, the Center for Prevention of Child Maltreatment (CPCM) and the Interprofessional Health Education Center (IHEC). To learn more, visit usd.edu/health.

Vision Statement

The University of South Dakota Sanford School of Medicine will be a leader in educating students, who, with knowledge, skill and compassion, dedicate their lives to the well-being of their patients, their community and their profession.

Mission Statement

The Mission of the University of South Dakota Sanford School of Medicine is to provide the opportunity for South Dakota residents to receive a quality, broad-based medical education with an emphasis on family medicine. The curriculum is to be established to encourage graduates to serve people living in the medically underserved areas of South Dakota, and is to require excellence in the biomedical sciences and in all clinical disciplines.

The University of South Dakota Sanford School of Medicine is to provide to its students and to the people of South Dakota excellence in education, research and service. To these ends, the school is to provide educational pathways leading to both the Doctor of Medicine and the Doctor of Philosophy degrees; and quality health care for the people of South Dakota is addressed by undergraduate, graduate and continuing educational programs as well as by biomedical and applied medical research.

The School of Medicine should serve as a technical resource in the development of health care policy in the state and provide extension and research initiatives to improve the health care of the citizens of the state.

Opportunity Statement

The University of South Dakota Sanford School of Medicine is committed to fostering a dynamic and welcoming learning environment for all. Therefore, the medical school is committed to both recruitment and retention of students, residents, faculty, and staff who through their intellectually and ideologically diverse perspectives enrich the learning environment. We provide equal opportunities for all. We value people with broad life experiences, with records of service to disadvantaged populations, and with other attributes that may enhance the learning community.