

2025-2026

*Coyote*

**NEW  
STUDENT  
GUIDE**



UNIVERSITY OF  
SOUTH DAKOTA





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VIEW DIGITAL VERSION

## Welcome to the UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH DAKOTA!

We are so glad you are joining us on campus. Your first year will provide you with opportunities to meet new people, follow your curiosity and find your home away from home. You have many opportunities ahead of you, and we are excited to see what you accomplish at USD.

As you embark on this new chapter, I encourage you to take advantage of the resources available to you. Whether you are seeking support in academics, career services, mental health, wellness or another area that is key to your success, know that USD faculty and staff are here to help. You have a support network that stretches across campus. No matter what your

interests or needs are, there are Coyotes ready to learn with you, celebrate your accomplishments and help you succeed.



*President*  
**Sheila K. Gestring**

*Sheila K. Gestring*

All of us at USD are excited that you are a part of our Coyote family. We look forward to a great year together!

*Go Yotes!*



ADMITTED  
STUDENT  
CHECKLIST

### We're thrilled about your upcoming arrival on campus!

Our Admitted Student Checklist is designed to keep you on track as you complete the necessary steps in becoming part of the Yote community. Utilize this checklist and the information throughout this booklet to prepare for the upcoming year.



Items marked with this check icon are important items for you to complete.



## UNLEASH YOUR *Coyote Spirit!*

We hope that while you are at USD, you'll embrace the vibrant spirit that makes our campus community so special. Here are a couple ways to truly unleash your inner Coyote:

### LEARN THE FIGHT SONGS

There's nothing quite like the energy of a cheering crowd! Knowing the words to our school fight songs will make you feel like a true member of the pack.

### WEAR RED ON FRIDAYS

Fridays aren't just the last day of the school week; they're a celebration of our unity and pride at USD! Join your fellow Coyotes by wearing red on Fridays to show your school spirit.



### South Dakota Victory

Author and composer unknown

Fight, South Dakota,  
You're the pride of the Western plain

As we cheer each victory  
Ever loyal will our love remain  
to you, South Dakota  
You're a great university

So, Yipeeo, here we go forward today,  
South Dakota victory!

### Hail South Dakota

by Oliver Johnson

Hail, South Dakota, Pride of the West,  
Old alma mater, Noblest and best,  
We rally 'round thee, Marching abreast,  
Hail thee! Hail thee!  
Riding the crest.

Thy sons and daughters ever will be  
Loyal and true to thee.  
Varsity, varsity, Hail varsity! U. S. D.

### Get Along Coyotes

by Fred Waring, Roy Ringwald and Pat Balard

Get along, you Coyotes, get along.  
Sing a song, you Coyotes, sing a song.  
For Vermillion and White  
You gotta fight, fight, fight.  
Get along, you Coyotes, get along.

Raise the dust, you Coyotes, raise the dust.  
Win you must, you Coyotes, win you must.  
Chase 'em on till they drop  
Don't ever stop, stop, stop  
South Dakota raise the dust, you Coyotes,  
raise the dust.

Cheer for the Coyotes, We're for the Coyotes,  
Cheer! We're here for victory today.  
Oh South Dakota, Go South Dakota,  
Go! Go! Go! Dakota, win today!





# STAY *Connected*



## Keep Up with the Yotes!

Stay connected with your Coyote community by following us on social media. You can follow stories and events that happen around campus on platforms such as Facebook, Instagram and LinkedIn!

Now that you are officially a Coyote, you will begin to receive official university communications from across campus in your USD email inbox. Our weekly student newsletter includes details of upcoming events, important dates from the academic calendar, recent news stories and resources that you might find helpful!

Be sure to follow the USD social media accounts and check your USD email inbox frequently to stay up-to-date!



☐ Follow us on social media

☐ Connect with us on Unibuddy



UNIBUDDY



Connect with current students, faculty, staff and alumni in real-time through Unibuddy!

[link.usd.edu/chat](https://link.usd.edu/chat)



@UniversityofSouthDakota



@usouthdakota



@UniversityofSouthDakota



## PARENTS & FAMILIES



### Family Resources

We're glad your family is a part of our Coyote community! Learn more about USD, opportunities available on campus and ways that your family can stay connected and get involved.

[usd.edu/Parents-and-Families](https://usd.edu/Parents-and-Families)



### PARENT & FAMILY CHECKLIST ITEMS

#### ☐ Sign up for the Parent & Family Newsletter

This monthly newsletter includes important events, upcoming dates from the academic calendar, recent news stories from USD and more.

[link.usd.edu/Family-Emails](https://link.usd.edu/Family-Emails)

#### ☐ Join the University of South Dakota Parent Group on Facebook

Parents and families of the University of South Dakota's students come together to share USD news and ask questions about life at USD.

[link.usd.edu/ParentFB](https://link.usd.edu/ParentFB)

*Save the date  
for Family Weekend!*







## FINDING YOUR *Community*

College is more than just a degree. It is the experience, the lifestyle and the community that surrounds it. Your social experience at USD is whatever you choose to make of it and that is what makes the Yote Life so special. Whatever your interest, there is a place here for you!



### Join a Student Organization or Club

Students at USD have come together to build over 200 student organizations and clubs. We are confident that you will find something that fits you perfectly. You can join as many clubs and organizations as you would like. It is the perfect way to connect with others that have the same interests. Keep an eye out for an email from us about the Student Organization Fair held in the fall.

What happens if you can't find an organization you were hoping for? You can create your own! Students can register an organization through USD Involved!

[usdinvolved.usd.edu](http://usdinvolved.usd.edu)



EXPLORE  
ORGANIZATIONS



### Take Part in Campus Events

As a student, you have FREE access to countless athletic events, guest speakers, music, art, theatre performances and so much more! USD Involved is a great way to stay connected to the Yote Life.



### Serve. Learn. Connect.

Looking for a way to find your place at USD and make a meaningful impact? Service-learning gives you the chance to engage with real community needs while building valuable academic and professional skills.

[usd.edu/Service-Learning](http://usd.edu/Service-Learning)

### Sorority & Fraternity Life

Joining a sorority or fraternity at USD offers more than friendship; it provides opportunities for leadership, community service, scholarship funding, networking with notable alumni and access to academic resources, ensuring a fulfilling college experience and lifelong skills development.

[usd.edu/Greek](http://usd.edu/Greek)

### Fine Arts Programs

With over 100 events annually including music concerts, theatrical performances and art exhibits, students with a drive for artistic excellence should get involved. Non-majors are welcome to audition or take classes. Contact your advisor or Fine Arts for more information.

[usd.edu/FineArts](http://usd.edu/FineArts)

### USD Ambassadors

Our Ambassador Scholars serve as influential voices for USD and play an important role in promoting and supporting our campus culture, unique programs and student opportunities. Through this program, students develop leadership skills, build professional networks and contribute to the success of our campus community, all while earning a scholarship award.

[usd.edu/Scholarships](http://usd.edu/Scholarships)





# COYOTE *Pride*



## Dakota Days

An entire week to showcase the pride and school spirit that define life at USD, Dakota Days is the most highly anticipated campus tradition each year. This week features events that are designed and planned for all members of the Coyote community.

The celebration begins early in the week with the Kickoff & Royalty Reveal and concludes at the end of the week with the Dakota Days Parade and football game held in the DakotaDome.

[usd.edu/DakotaDays](http://usd.edu/DakotaDays)

## Charlie's Bookstore & Fan Shop

Charlie's Bookstore and Fan Shop provides a wide-ranging selection of things you may need throughout your school year. Here, you can shop school supplies and official fan gear of USD Athletics!

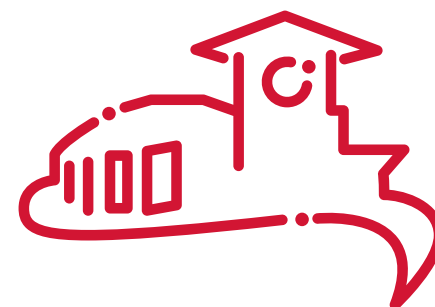
[USDCharlieStore.com](http://USDCharlieStore.com)

## Coyote Crazies

Cheering on the Coyotes is more than just a hobby. Share your love for the Yotes and help promote school pride as part of the Coyote Crazies.

Want to join our pack? Join us by filling out our application! We would love to have you!

[usd.edu/Coyote-Crazies](http://usd.edu/Coyote-Crazies)



# WELCOME TO *Vermillion*

Welcome to Vermillion, South Dakota — a vibrant and welcoming community nestled along the bluffs of the Missouri River. As you begin your journey here, you'll discover a town brimming with opportunities for engagement and exploration. From attending local festivals and exploring our historic downtown to joining student organizations and volunteering in the community, there's something for everyone eager to immerse themselves in Vermillion's charm.

The Vermillion Area Chamber & Development Company (VCDC) is your gateway to connecting with the heart of Vermillion's business and community network. Located downtown, the VCDC serves as a hub for networking, resources and support for local businesses and residents.

Vermillion's location provides effortless access to major urban centers. With close proximity to Sioux Falls, Omaha, Sioux City, Minneapolis and Kansas City, Vermillion offers the perfect balance of city proximity and small-town charm.

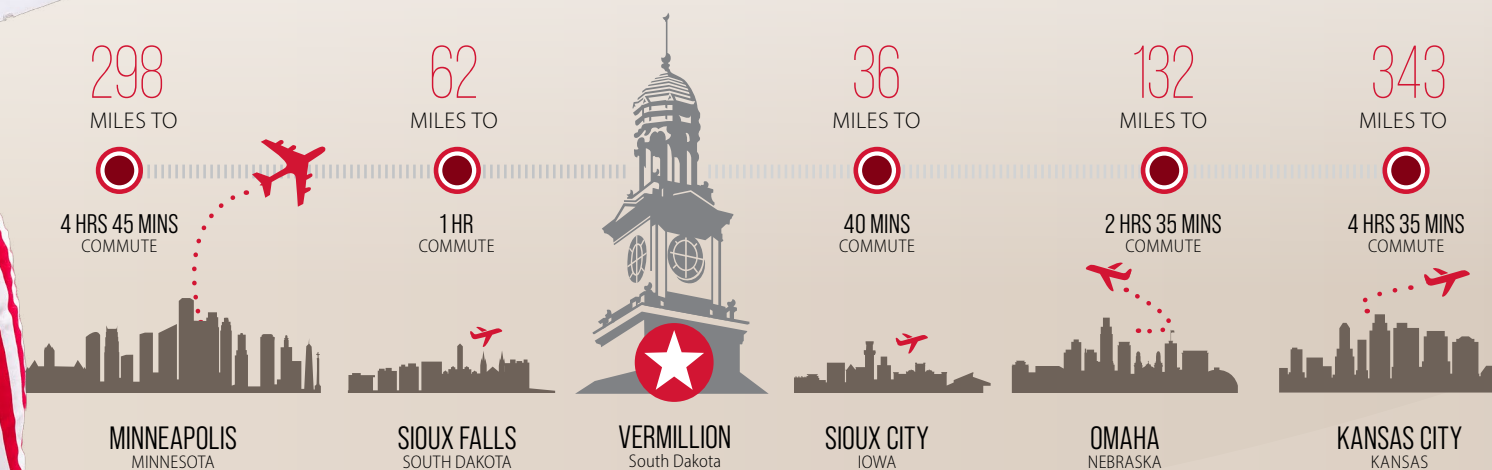
Explore the Vermillion community from anywhere. Download the app for business listings, calendars and updates on area events in and around our community.



Download on the App Store



GET IT ON Google Play





# REGISTRATION *Information*



## General Education Requirements

The foundational core of an undergraduate education that provides a comprehensive educational experience and preparation for study within your major. This coursework teaches you to think critically and communicate effectively, solve problems, generate new ideas, expand your knowledge, make connections between academic disciplines, respect and understand differences and develop intellectual curiosity and a love of learning.

Check out the guide on the next page!



## Course Registration

During Coyote Registration, you will meet individually with an academic advisor to register for classes and plan for your academic journey.

[usd.edu/Registration-Information](https://usd.edu/Registration-Information)



## Course Placement & Challenge Placement Options

Placement exams are used to determine what course level will be the right fit for you. English and math course placements are determined by evaluating your test scores, your high school GPA and/or previously completed college coursework. Your academic advisor will assist you with course placement and ensure your course registration aligns with the accurate placement. Learn more and identify your placement for these subjects via our website.

[usd.edu/Placement-Exams](https://usd.edu/Placement-Exams)



☐ Register for your classes

☐ Order your textbooks



## First Year Seminars

To help ease the transition to college, over 80% of USD freshmen enroll in a first year seminar course. First year seminars provide the opportunity to meet and make meaningful connections with fellow classmates, faculty and staff and provide a curriculum to help you make the most of your college experience.



## Ordering Textbooks

Once you have officially registered for your classes, access the online bookstore to buy, rent or download textbooks and course materials. Scan the QR code to learn more and review your required coursework materials.



## Coyote Connections via Navigate360

Stay on track and connected with the Navigate360 Student app! From class schedules and reminders to advisor messaging and study groups, it's your go-to tool for navigating college life—**available in the Apple and Android app stores.**



# A GUIDE TO YOUR USD *Education*

## Interacting Effectively: Written and Oral Communication Skills

Students complete one course in each of the sections A–C.

A.	_____ ENGL	101	Composition I	_____ UHON	110	Honors English
B.	_____ ENGL	201	Composition II	_____ ANTH/SOC	211	Social Science Writing
	_____ ENGL	205	Business Writing	_____ CJUS	202	Writing & Research in CJUS
	_____ ENGL	283	Creative Writing	_____ POLS	202	Writing & Research in POLS
	_____ ENGL	284	Introduction to Criticism	_____ UHON	211	Interdisciplinary Civilizations
C.	_____ CMST	101	Foundations of Communication	_____ CMST	222	Argumentation
	_____ CMST	215	Public Speaking	_____ UHON	101	Honors Speech

## Exploring with Data and Numbers: Quantitative Skills

\_\_\_\_\_ COMPLETE A MINIMUM OF ONE COURSE (3 – 4 CREDIT HOURS) AT THE MATH 103/LAB, MATH 104, MATH 114/LAB LEVEL OR HIGHER OR STAT 281.

## Understanding the Social and Cultural Context: Social Sciences

Students complete two courses (6 hours) from the various Social Science disciplines listed. Students cannot choose two courses from the same discipline.

_____ ANTH	210	Cultural Anthropology I	_____ NATV	110	Introduction to Native American Studies
_____ ANTH	220	Physical Anthropology	_____ POLS	100	American Government
_____ ANTH	230	Introduction to Archaeology	_____ POLS	141	Governments of the World
_____ CIV	100	American Civics	_____ POLS	210	State and Local Government
_____ CJUS	201	Introduction to Criminal Justice	_____ POLS	250	Introduction to International Relations
_____ CMST	201	Interpersonal Communication	_____ PSYC	101	General Psychology
_____ ECON	201	Microeconomics	_____ SOC	100	Introduction to Sociology
_____ ECON	202	Macroeconomics	_____ SOC	150	Social Problems
_____ EPSY	210	Lifespan Development	_____ SOC	250	Courtship and Marriage
_____ GEOG	210	World Geography	_____ SUST	111	Sustainable Society
_____ HIST	151	United States History I	_____ UHON	111	Ideas in History
_____ HIST	152	United States History II	_____ UHON	210	Interdisciplinary Civilizations I
_____ INED/NATV	211	SD American Indian Culture & Education	_____ WMST	247	Intro to Women, Gender & Sexuality Studies

## Depicting the Human Condition: Humanities and Fine Arts

Students complete one course in both Humanities and Fine Arts.

### HUMANITIES

_____ Any Language	-	see catalog.usd.edu	_____ HUM	100	Introduction to Humanities
_____ ENGL	210	Introduction to Literature	_____ MCOM	151	Intro to Mass Communication
_____ ENGL	212	World Literature II	_____ MFL	101	Intro to Foreign Language & Culture I
_____ ENGL	214	Intro to American Indian Literature	_____ MFL	102	Intro to Foreign Language & Culture II
_____ ENGL	221	British Literature I	_____ PHIL/CLHU	100	Introduction to Philosophy
_____ ENGL	222	British Literature II	_____ PHIL	200	Introduction to Logic
_____ ENGL	241	American Literature I	_____ PHIL	215	Intro to Social/Political Philosophy
_____ ENGL	242	American Literature II	_____ PHIL	220	Ethics
_____ HIST	111	World Civilizations I	_____ PHIL	240	Ethics, Law & Society
_____ HIST	112	World Civilizations II	_____ PHIL	242	Ethics, Law & Literature
_____ HIST	121	Western Civilization I	_____ REL	225	New Testament
_____ HIST	122	Western Civilization II	_____ REL	250	World Religions

### FINE ARTS

_____ ART	101	Introduction to Fine Arts	_____ ARTH/NATV	251	American Indian Art History
_____ ART	111	Drawing I	_____ MUS	100	Music Appreciation
_____ ART	112	Drawing II	_____ MUS	117	Music in Performance I
_____ ART	121	Design I	_____ MUS	240	Music Cultures of the World
_____ ART	123	Three Dimensional Design	_____ THEA	100	Introduction to Theatre
_____ ARTH	100	Art Appreciation	_____ THEA	131	Introduction to Acting
_____ ARTH/HIST	211	History of World Art I	_____ THEA	201	Film Appreciation
_____ ARTH/HIST	212	History of World Art II	_____ THEA	231	Acting I

## Investigating How the World Works: Natural Sciences

Students complete two science lecture courses and the corresponding lab courses; some combinations will not be allowed.

_____ BIOL	101/101L	Biology Survey I	_____ ISCI	153/153L	Integrated Science II
_____ BIOL	103/103L	Biology Survey II	_____ MTRO	101/101L	Meteorology
_____ BIOL	151/151L	General Biology I	_____ PHGY	220/220L	Anatomy & Physiology I
_____ BIOL	153/153L	General Biology II	_____ PHGY	230/230L	Anatomy & Physiology II
_____ CHEM	106/106L	Chemistry Survey	_____ PHYS	111/111L	Introduction to Physics I
_____ CHEM	107/107L	Organic and Biochemistry Survey	_____ PHYS	113/113L	Introduction to Physics II
_____ CHEM	112/112L	General Chemistry I	_____ PHYS	185/185L	Solar System Stars, Galaxies, Cosmology I
_____ CHEM	114/114L	General Chemistry II	_____ PHYS	187/187L	Solar System Stars, Galaxies, Cosmology II
_____ CHEM	116/116L	Honors Principles of Chemistry	_____ PHYS	211/211L	University Physics I
_____ ESCI	101/101L	Dynamic Earth	_____ PHYS	213/213L	University Physics II
_____ ESCI	103/103L	Earth and Life Through Time	_____ SUST	113/113L	Sustainable Environment
_____ HSC	280/280L	Essentials of Human Anatomy & Physiology	_____ Elementary Education	Foundational Sciences	
_____ ISCI	151/151L	Integrated Science I	(BIOL 104/L, CHEM 104/L, ESCI 104/L and PHYS 104/L)		



# CAMPUS *Support & Resource* GUIDE

**At USD, your well-being is our priority, and we're dedicated to supporting you throughout your journey on campus. We offer a variety of departments, services and resources designed to provide support to ensure your needs are met.**

## Academic Advising & Success Center

*Academic Commons, Room 100 (I.D. Weeks Library)*

USD offers a variety of resources to help you select classes, find opportunities, learn new skills and prepare for your future career. The Advising Center employs a staff of advisors and academic coaches eager to help you find your academic path to graduation through major exploration and learning strategies.

[usd.edu/Advising](https://www.usd.edu/Advising)

## Center for Career Design

*Muenster University Center, First Floor*

Career planning pays off! Our staff offer support to explore interests, foster curiosity and practice skills that help you design career plans and excel in the workplace. Services include personalized coaching and Coyote Careers — USD's career and employment software system.

[usd.edu/Career-Services](https://www.usd.edu/Career-Services)

## Charlie's Career Closet

*Burr House*

Charlie's Career Closet provides new and gently-used professional and business casual attire to USD students, free of charge. In addition to free clothing, you can also receive assistance with resume writing, job searching, interviewing, building a professional brand and more through our partnership with the Center for Career Design. Charlie's Career Closet is open on Mondays and Thursdays from 2 - 5 p.m.

[usd.edu/Charlies-Career-Closet](https://www.usd.edu/Charlies-Career-Closet)

## Charlie's Cupboard

*Center for Continuing Education, Room 114*

Here, you are able to stock up on non-perishable foods and hygiene products as needed. You can access Charlie's Cupboard on Thursdays from 4 to 6 p.m.

[usd.edu/Charlies-Cupboard](https://www.usd.edu/Charlies-Cupboard)

## Coyote Assistance

*Offered by the Opportunity Center*

If you need transportation assistance to our major grocers, you can catch a ride to Walmart or Hy-Vee with other students. Students meet at the Burr House and travel together to their desired destination. There are a select number of spots available, so be sure to sign up online on the USDInvolved event calendar. Questions? Contact

[coyoteassistance@usd.edu](mailto:coyoteassistance@usd.edu)

## Delta Dental Oral Health Clinic

*Center for Health Education, Room 101*

Run by the Department of Dental Hygiene, the clinic offers dental services to students at a reduced rate. Utilizing these services at the convenient on-campus location offers practical hands-on experience for our dental hygiene students.

[usd.edu/Delta-Dental](https://www.usd.edu/Delta-Dental)

## Gallagher International Center

*Al Neuharth Media Center, First Floor*

The Gallagher International Center oversees the university's international affairs, including the study abroad program, international admissions and student services.

[usd.edu/GIC](https://www.usd.edu/GIC)

## Learning Specialist

*Academic Commons, Room 101 (I.D. Weeks Library)*

The learning specialist works one-on-one with students to help them understand their learning styles, acquire successful learning strategies, develop a personal academic plan and create a specific action plan for classes or academic tasks.

[usd.edu/Academic-Support](https://www.usd.edu/Academic-Support)

## Math Emporium

*North Complex Commons, Room 108*

The Math Emporium offers a focused space to study, get help with tough problems or assignments and collaborate with others. No appointment needed.

[usd.edu/Academic-Support](https://www.usd.edu/Academic-Support)

## Military & Veteran Services

*North Complex Commons, Room 103*

USD has prioritized programs and services to help military and veteran students transition into student life as smoothly as possible. This office provides you with academic and social support that you may need throughout your time at USD.

[usd.edu/Veterans-Services](https://www.usd.edu/Veterans-Services)

## Native Student Services

*Native American Cultural Center (409 E. Clark St.)*

The Native American Cultural Center offers a welcoming space for Native American students and those interested in Indigenous cultures. Connect through events like the annual Wacipi and other culturally enriching experiences across campus.

[usd.edu/NSS](https://www.usd.edu/NSS)

## Office of Accessibility

*Academic Commons, Room 103 (I.D. Weeks Library)*

We are committed to providing services and support to ensure that students can access and participate in all campus activities, resources and programs. Our services are available to students with a qualifying and documented learning, physical or psychological disability.

[usd.edu/Accessibility](https://www.usd.edu/Accessibility)

## Opportunity Center

*Muenster University Center, Room 204 A&B*

The USD Opportunity Center offers a central connection point for campus resources that are designed specifically for student success. From leadership development opportunities and tutoring to wellness coaching and career advising, we are here to help you find the resources you need to develop as an individual and make USD your home.

[usd.edu/OpportunityCenter](https://www.usd.edu/OpportunityCenter)

## ROTC

*Cook House (Corner of Clark & Willow St)*

Through our Reserve Officer Training Corps (ROTC), we educate and train students to commission as 2nd lieutenants in the United States Army. Serve our state and country by joining ROTC!

[usd.edu/Military-Science](https://www.usd.edu/Military-Science)

## SGA Legal Services

Offered by the Student Government Association (SGA), student legal aid is available for all current students. Legal aid services are contracted with a local attorney.

[usd.edu/SGA](https://www.usd.edu/SGA)

## Study Abroad

*First Floor, Neuharth Media Center*

Discover diverse opportunities, from short-term faculty-led programs to semester-long academic ventures abroad, fostering skill development and network expansion. Explore further through the Gallagher International Center.

[usd.edu/StudyAbroad](https://www.usd.edu/StudyAbroad)

## Student Counseling Center

*Dakota Hall*

The Student Counseling Center provides a wide range of confidential services to currently enrolled USD students at no cost. We offer individual and group counseling, as well as self-help tools and general health information to help students take care of their mental health and access wellness resources during their time at USD.

[usd.edu/SCC](https://www.usd.edu/SCC)

## Student Health Services

*Sanford Vermillion Clinic (20 S. Plum St.)*

Sanford Vermillion Medical Center provides comprehensive health services for enrolled students. Fee schedules and additional information can be found at the following link.

[usd.edu/Student-Health-Services](https://www.usd.edu/Student-Health-Services)

## Testing Center

*North Complex Commons, Room 107*

The Testing Center at the University of South Dakota promotes student success and academic integrity with the operation of a secure testing facility which provides services to on-campus and distance students as well as our surrounding communities. Appointments are required.

[usd.edu/Testing-Center](https://www.usd.edu/Testing-Center)

## TRIO Student Support Services

*North Complex Commons, Room 101*

This program supports eligible first-generation students, low-income students and students with disabilities. From individualized academic guidance and tutoring to career and postgraduate planning, our dedicated staff will help you achieve your academic goals.

[usd.edu/TRIO](https://www.usd.edu/TRIO)

## Tutoring

*Academic Commons, Room 101 (I.D. Weeks Library)*

The Academic Advising & Success Center, as well as many of USD's colleges and schools, offer free tutoring in a wide range of classes. You can reach out to your academic advisor if you need any assistance finding the help you need.

[usd.edu/Academic-Support](https://www.usd.edu/Academic-Support)

## Wellness Center & Natatorium

*1031 N. University St.*

With a valid Student ID, you get free access to our state-of-the-art Wellness Center and brand-new Natatorium. Work out with weights and equipment, join group fitness classes, play intramural sports, scale the indoor climbing wall or dive into the aquatic center—featuring a competition pool, recreation pool, hot tub, steam room and more.

[usd.edu/Wellness](https://www.usd.edu/Wellness)

## Writing Center

*Academic Commons, Room 133 (I.D. Weeks Library)*

The Writing Center is available to you if you need help organizing, revising or polishing the writing work that you've been assigned. This resource is available both in person and online, so no matter your location, you can perfect your writing.

[usd.edu/Academic-Support](https://www.usd.edu/Academic-Support)



# TECHNOLOGY *Resources*

USD offers technology leadership and support for the entire university community. From classroom technology assistance to personal device repairs, the Information Technology Services (ITS) team offers a range of services to promote the teaching, research and service goals of the university and to help facilitate learning for our students.

## Coyote One Stop

Through Coyote One Stop, you'll access D2L, student email, financial aid self-service, SDePay and more. This will be your go-to hub for all things USD. Find answers to your questions and get quick access to the tools and services you use most—right in one place.

[link.usd.edu/onestop](http://link.usd.edu/onestop)



QUICK LINKS



## Technology Check-Out

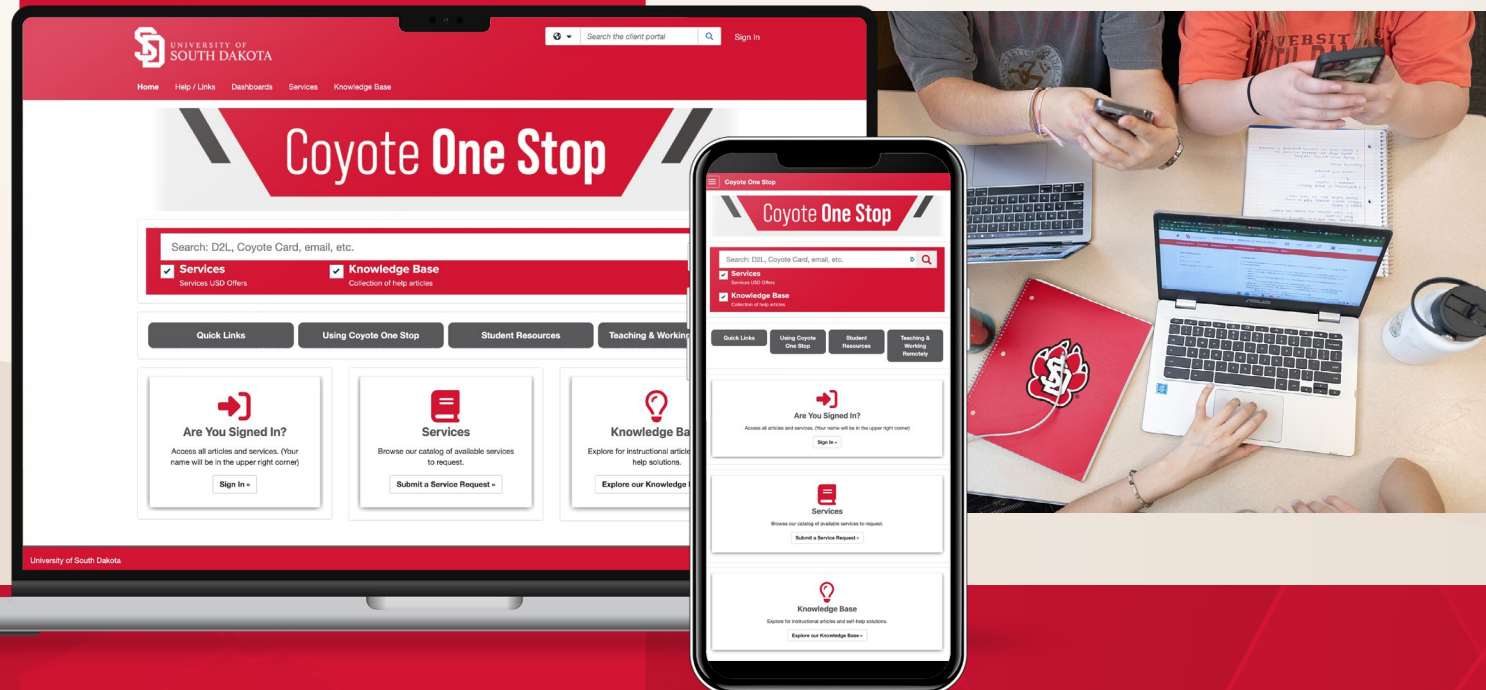
Our ITS department maintains an inventory of laptops and various media equipment available for short-term checkout to students, faculty and staff. Equipment reservations are available through Cheqroom. Additional details can be found on Coyote One Stop here: [link.usd.edu/Equipment-Checkout](http://link.usd.edu/Equipment-Checkout)



## Computer Requirements & How to Purchase a Laptop from USD

A personal computer is important to your academic and communication needs at college. USD makes this easy by offering laptop purchases through our ITS department! You can purchase a laptop with Office 365 pre-installed, a four-year warranty with onsite and accidental damage protection, free support offered by USD technicians and more! Already have a laptop? Great! Just make sure it meets the requirements of your program. These can vary and change over time, so be sure to check our website for the most current specifications and recommendations.

[link.usd.edu/Computer-Recommendation](http://link.usd.edu/Computer-Recommendation)



# COYOTE CAREERS & LIFE AFTER COLLEGE



## Coyote Career Kickstart

Coyote Career Kickstart is a project funded by the US Department of Education for qualifying rural students. The program is more than just another group to join; it supports students with career design tools, professional practice opportunities and an employment network for those who want to work while they are in college.

If you will or have graduated from a rural US high school – as designated by the National Center for Education Statistics (NCES) – you are eligible to participate. For future students, your admissions counselor can tell you if your school meets the designation. Feel free to reach out to [kickstart@usd.edu](mailto:kickstart@usd.edu) and we'll let you know if you qualify.

[usd.edu/Kickstart](http://usd.edu/Kickstart)



## Getting a Job on Campus

The University of South Dakota provides a range of resources to support students seeking employment during their time at USD. Whether you're looking for a work-study job on campus, a part-time position in the Vermillion area or a summer internship in another city, we can help you find the right fit. Start your search with Coyote Careers, USD's online job portal where students can explore a variety of employment opportunities.

[usd.edu/Work-Opportunities](http://usd.edu/Work-Opportunities)



## Career Coaching

USD Career Coaches are available to help you if you are not confident about a future career, your major choice or when you have other what-do-I-do-with-my-life kind of questions. Our career coaches meet one-on-one with students of all majors, no matter the year in school or degree level. You can log into Coyote Connections and schedule an appointment.

[usd.navigate.eab.com](http://usd.navigate.eab.com)



## Life After College

We believe it is essential to prepare students for real-world experiences in the workplace such as interviews, internships and career exploration. The Center for Career Design helps students prepare for the workplace by offering services to all students and alumni. From identifying career options to locating an internship and preparing for job interviews, we give our students the tools and resources they need to fine-tune skills and prepare for success after graduation.

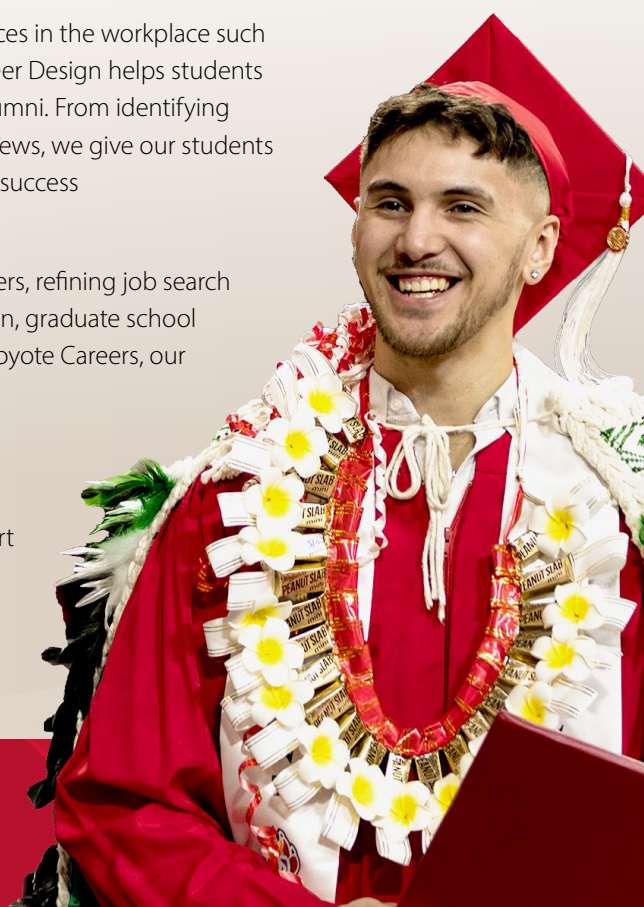
Our services offer support for students in exploring majors and careers, refining job search documents, navigating job/internship searches, interview preparation, graduate school applications, attending career events and workshops and utilizing Coyote Careers, our online job board.



## USD Alumni Association

The Alumni Association represents over 70,000 USD alumni. This important network also provides invaluable connections and support for current students. Find fellow Coyotes no matter where you go.

[usdalumni.com](http://usdalumni.com)





# DESIGNING *Your* USD

We all want the same things: A healthy and long life, an enjoyable profession, loving and meaningful relationships and a lot of fun along the way. However, how we think we will achieve these things can greatly vary.

We go to college for different reasons and there are many ways to go about it, but there is not just one right way. Identifying your “why” is part of being self-aware, which helps with decision-making. It is also fine to play with wearing different hats while you are here.

## WHICH OF THE FOLLOWING ARCHETYPES BEST FITS YOUR REASON FOR GOING TO COLLEGE?

*Charlie wants to know: what is an archetype?*

**ar·che·type**  
/'ärk(ə), tīp/  
**noun**

1 a very typical example of a certain person or thing.



### LIFE of THE MIND

I want to expand my mind and learn for the joy of learning. I came because I want to develop subject matter expertise and learn new things.



### CAREER Readiness

I came to college to launch my career. I'm interested in developing skills and amassing experiences that will position me well for joining the workforce.



### Supporting MYSELF & MY COMMUNITY

I have a family or community depending on me. Education is key to social mobility or financial security and a college degree creates access to necessary resources now and in the future.



### Becoming YOU

I came to college to explore, figure out who I am, what I like and what matters to me. I hope to travel abroad, play a sport, find different communities and express myself while I am at USD.

## MAJOR-CAREER LINKAGE

While some majors and careers are tightly linked, most majors and careers are loosely linked. Is the world organized around college majors? No! The world is organized around what it is doing. There are a lot of jobs and careers that need your talents. Your major is not your destiny. Even if your major and career are closely linked, you still need to have a lot of choices and options during your time at USD.

How many undergraduate majors does USD offer?

79

How many vocations are there in the world?

300,000-400,000

# Wayfinding **TOOL**

No one is destined for one single job in their life. Unfortunately (or fortunately), we cannot put our goals into a GPS and get turn-by-turn directions for our desired life. What you can do is train yourself to pay attention and make your best way forward with the tools you have at hand. We call this “wayfinding.”

## How to Wayfind

Paying attention to your engagement and energy provides the initial clues to help you find your way. Using a Good Time Journal to track (or log) when you are engaged, energized or bored along with what you are doing during those times forces you to practice paying attention.

This leaves a record that may someday tell a story or show a pattern. Do this daily, or at the very least every few days, for a total of three weeks every semester. Everyone benefits from wayfinding – it helps you understand what makes you confident and what leaves you feeling empty in both big and small ways.

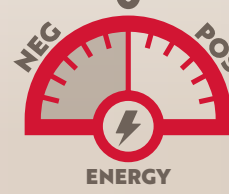
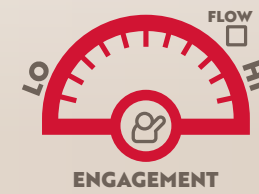
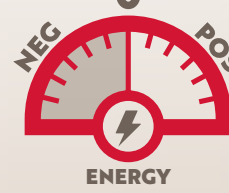
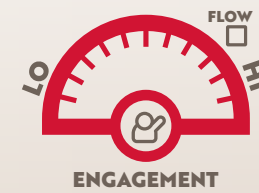
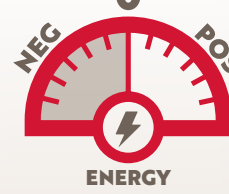
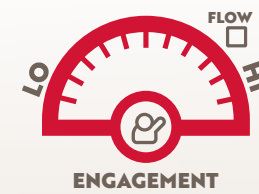
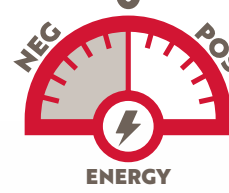
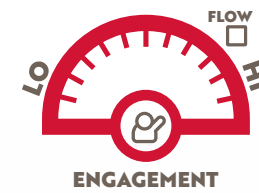
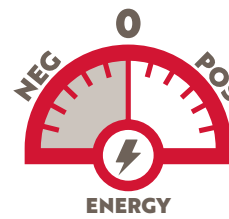
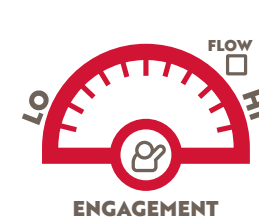
When using your Good Time Journal, be specific about what you are doing. Not just art class, but art class lecture or figure drawing; not just student club meeting, but planning “x” event.

For the engagement and energy gauges, you will draw in the dial pointing at the level you were feeling.

## What's that Flow Box?

People “in flow” report experiencing complete involvement in the activity, a sense of euphoria, inner clarity, total calmness or the notion that time is standing still. If you experienced anything like this during an activity, check the box.

## MY GOOD TIME JOURNAL



USD WAYFINDING JOURNAL



### WAYFINDING CHECKLIST ITEMS

- ☐ Complete this exercise
- ☐ Engage with the Center for Career Design



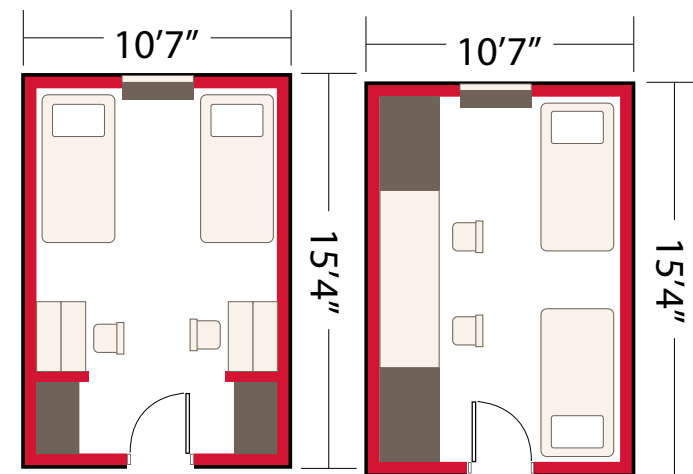
# YOUR UNIVERSITY, *Your Home*



**No matter where you live on campus, there will be opportunities to get involved and find your community through academic and social groups, living learning communities and various student activities. USD offers a variety of on-campus housing options for first-year students.**

## North Complex

The majority of our first-year students live in the North Complex made up of Mickelson, Beede, Olson and Richardson halls.



RICHARDSON LAYOUT

## Living Learning Communities

Get to know students who share your interests and find your community by joining a North Complex Living Learning Community (LLC). USD's LLCs include Honors, Wiyuskiyan, Unpi Tipi, ROTC and Sustainability.

[usd.edu/LLC](http://usd.edu/LLC)



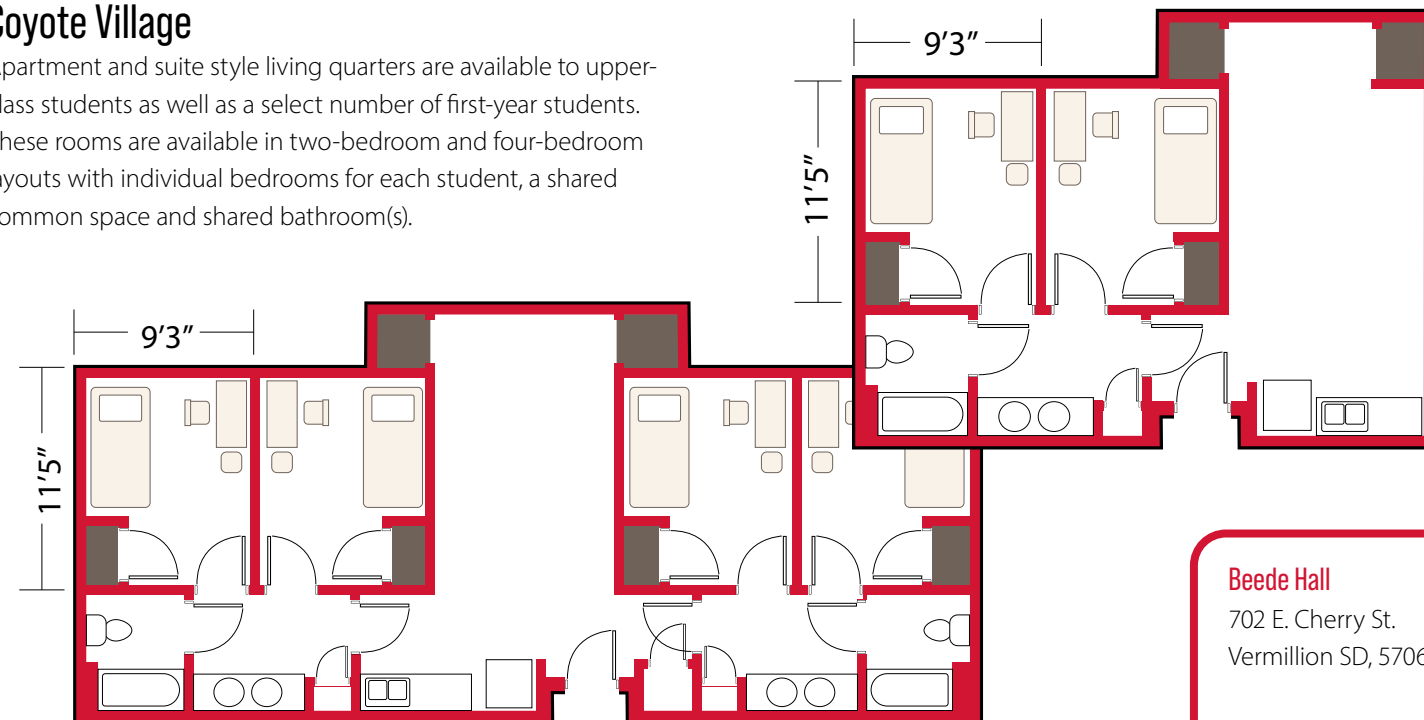
☐ **Connect with your roommate**  
Roommate assignments are sent to your USD email account.

☐ **Review the list of items to bring to campus**  
[usd.edu/Move-In-Day](http://usd.edu/Move-In-Day)



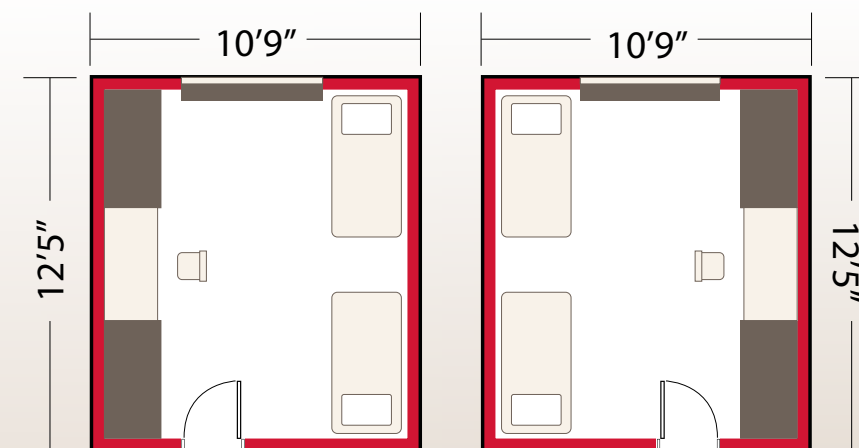
## Coyote Village

Apartment and suite style living quarters are available to upper-class students as well as a select number of first-year students. These rooms are available in two-bedroom and four-bedroom layouts with individual bedrooms for each student, a shared common space and shared bathroom(s).



## Burgess and Norton

These halls offer single-gender communities in a traditional residence hall setting.



## Recycling Program

USD actively participates in sustainability initiatives across campus. Your room will be equipped with both trash and recycling bins. Your trash will be emptied into the dumpster while the recycling can be emptied into the large green bin you will find in the lobby of your residence hall.



## Move-Out Donation Days

Move-Out Donation Days is a university-wide initiative to reduce landfill trash and help find homes for things that can be reused. You can donate items such as food, clothing, toiletries, decorations, school supplies and other gently used items.

### Beede Hall

702 E. Cherry St.  
Vermillion SD, 57069

### Mickelson Hall

700 E. Cherry St.  
Vermillion SD, 57069

### Richardson Hall

802 N. Plum St.  
Vermillion SD, 57069

### Olson Hall

800 N. Plum St.  
Vermillion SD, 57069

### Burgess Hall

416 N Pine St.  
Vermillion SD, 57069

### Norton Hall

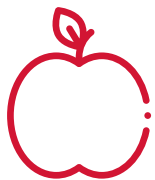
400 N Pine St.  
Vermillion SD, 57069

### Coyote Village

901 Rose St.  
Vermillion SD, 57069



# CAMPUS Dining



## Meal Plans

A variety of meal plans are available to select from. Each meal plan includes a combination of meal swipes that can be redeemed in the Coyote Dining Hall, an all-you-care-to-eat option and flex dollars that can be redeemed at any campus dining location. Students with specific dietary needs or restrictions can work with our Campus Dining staff to ensure your meal plan aligns with your needs. Visit our website to learn about the specific meal plans available to you.

[usd.edu/Meal-Plans](https://usd.edu/Meal-Plans)

## Coyote Dining Hall Hours:

### Monday – Friday

Breakfast: 7:30 - 10 a.m.

Lunch: 11 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Dinner: 5 - 7 p.m.

### Saturday – Sunday

Brunch: 11 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Dinner: 5 - 7 p.m.

Visit our website to view the hours for each specific retail dining location.

[usd.edu/Dining](https://usd.edu/Dining)



# Coyote CARD



## About Your Coyote Card

Your Coyote Card and Coyote Card Mobile ID are your most important pieces of identification at USD. This is how you will access your residence hall, use the laundry machines and access your meal plan swipes/flex to pay for meals in the MUC. It also acts as your library card, gives you access to printing services and more. The Coyote Card Office is located in the I.D. Weeks Library, room 104.

[usd.edu/CoyoteCard](https://usd.edu/CoyoteCard)



## Meal Swipes

Depending on the meal plan you select, your Coyote Card will be equipped with a certain number of swipes to use in the MUC Dining Room each semester. Visit [usd.edu/Dining](https://usd.edu/Dining) to discover specifics on campus dining and the options available to you.



## Flex Dollars

In addition to meal swipes, your meal plan may also include flex dollars, which are meal plan dollars that can be spent at dining service locations, concession stands and Charlie's Cupboard. Flex dollars are carried over from fall to spring semesters but do not carry over to the next academic year. If you run out of flex within the year, you may purchase additional add-on flex dollars.



## Coyote Cash

Coyote Cash is essentially a debit account that can be used at all on-campus dining locations, as well as many restaurants and businesses in Vermillion. Coyote Cash funds can be used all year round and will remain on your account throughout your time at USD. These funds can also be used at on-campus vending and laundry machines and for printing when Pharos have been depleted.



## Campus Print Management

Any USD student with a current Coyote Card can easily print documents at various print stations located across campus. Simply swipe your Coyote Card at any print station to access the printing services.

### You can print at the following locations:

- Academic Commons (first floor I.D. Weeks Library)
- School of Business Lab (Beacom 240)
- School of Education Lab (Delzell 109)
- Computer Science Lab (McKusick 201)
- University Housing Front Desks
- Media & Journalism (Al Neuharth 207)
- School of Medicine
- Knudson School of Law



CAMPUS  
DINING





# CAMPUS *Transportation*



## A Walkable City

There are many resources available to students just a short distance from campus. You can take a trip down the street to visit Prentis Park, a short walk to pick up your groceries or head downtown to meet with friends at the local dining spots.



## Parking Passes

If you choose to bring a vehicle and plan to park on campus, you will be required to purchase a parking pass. Students living on campus will purchase a "B" parking permit to park in any "B" designated parking lots. "A" parking permits are best for commuter students living off-campus and faculty/staff members.

[parking.usd.edu](http://parking.usd.edu)



## Bicycles

Many students choose to bring their bicycle with them to USD as another means of transportation. Students who do this need to register their bikes at the University Police Department.



## Public Transportation

Looking for public transportation options? Vermillion Public Transit offers an affordable way to get around Vermillion and its surrounding areas. You can even schedule a trip to surrounding towns such as Sioux Falls, Sioux City or Yankton. To schedule a ride, call

**605-624-RIDE.**



☐ Register vehicle and purchase parking pass

☐ Register bicycle with UPD

# SECURITY & SAFETY



## Safety in Residence Halls

The residence halls are equipped with a multi-level security system. You will need your Coyote Card to gain access to your building and your floor. When you are not in your residence hall, be sure to lock your door to prevent any possible issues from occurring.



## Safety Reminders

- Lock your room door when you are not in it
- Keep your Coyote Card on you at all times
- Download Everbridge
- Report anything that seems to be suspicious



## Security and Safety Resources

For additional security and safety resources, visit our website or reach out to the University Police Department with any questions.

[usd.edu/Safety](http://usd.edu/Safety)

## Non-Emergency Phone Number:

**(605) 658-6199**



## Everbridge

USD utilizes the Everbridge emergency notification system to alert the USD community of any emergencies. This app features an SOS panic button, safe corridor check-in notifications and an emergency call feature. Download the free app to stay in the know and gain access to these safety features.



## University Police Department

At USD, your safety is our priority. You will often see our officers patrolling around campus, the residence halls and at events on campus. They are here to help you with any concerns you may have while you are on campus. UPD also partners with the Vermillion Police Department to ensure around-the-clock safety measures are available to USD students.

The Campus Alert System emergency notification tool also uses Everbridge to help notify students, staff and faculty of emergencies that occur on or near campus locations. These emergencies may include, but are not limited to, weather alerts, school closings, fire or criminal activity.

[usd.edu/UPD](http://usd.edu/UPD)



☐ Download the Everbridge app

☐ Familiarize yourself with campus safety initiatives

Meet Griffin, USD's Therapy K-9! Griffin's role on campus is to provide comfort, support and safety to our campus community.





# Paying FOR COLLEGE



## SDePay

This site can be found in your MyUSD Portal and will take you where you need to go for paying your bill online. You can also go to this site to set up an authorized payer for your account.



## Payment Plans

You or an authorized payer have the option to sign up for an incremental payment plan via the SDePay portal. Feel free to contact the USD Business Office for guidance in selecting a payment plan that suits your needs.

[usd.edu/Billing-and-Payment](https://usd.edu/Billing-and-Payment)



## Authorized Payers

You can log into SDePay and add additional authorized payers by clicking its respective tab. These people can then log in through the Authorized Payer sign-in page.



## Scholarships

Scholarships are a form of gift aid that does not need to be repaid. While many scholarships are awarded to incoming students, there may be additional opportunities to earn scholarships throughout your academic career.

[usd.edu/Scholarships](https://usd.edu/Scholarships)



## Financial Aid

There are many options for you to consider when it comes to paying for your tuition. The Office of Financial Aid is here to assist you with any questions you may have when it comes to your tuition, billing and payments.

[usd.edu/Financial-Aid](https://usd.edu/Financial-Aid)



## Work Study

Students must complete the FAFSA to be considered for a Work Study award. Students who are selected earn the awarded money through on-campus employment. Work Study is a federal program administered by the Office of Financial Aid.

# 2025-2026 COST OF ATTENDANCE

		South Dakota Residents, Child of Alumni & South Dakota Advantage		Non-Residents & International	
DIRECT COSTS	Tuition and Fees:	\$9,687		\$13,299	
	Housing and Food:	\$10,590		\$10,590	
	<b>Total</b>	<b>\$20,787</b>		<b>\$24,399</b>	
INDIRECT COSTS	Books, course materials, supplies & equipment: <b>\$800</b>	Personal Expenses: <b>\$2,595</b>	Transportation: <b>\$1,767</b>	Loan Fees: <b>\$66</b>	

Current academic year costs. Tuition rates are typically set by the South Dakota Board of Regents in April of each year. Students enrolled in select disciplines subject to additional fees. For detailed information on tuition and fees, visit [usd.edu/UndergradCOA](https://usd.edu/UndergradCOA).

COST OF ATTENDANCE





- ☐ Request an individual appointment with Financial Aid (Optional)  
[link.usd.edu/FinancialAidMeeting](https://link.usd.edu/FinancialAidMeeting)
- ☐ Review your financial aid award  
Your official award letter notification will be sent to your USD email account.
- ☐ Establish a plan to pay your tuition  
[usd.edu/Value](https://usd.edu/Value)
- ☐ Review and pay tuition bill on SDePay  
[usd.edu/Billing-and-Payment](https://usd.edu/Billing-and-Payment)



# STUDENT Handbook & POLICIES



## Student Conduct

As a student at the University of South Dakota, there are policies and guidelines in place to ensure you have a safe and positive experience here at USD. Please review the USD Student Handbook by scanning the QR code to learn more about these guidelines.



## Academic Policies

Academic integrity encompasses the values of honesty, trust, fairness, respect and responsibility and is the foundation for the standards of acceptable behavior that apply to all within the university community.

Academic integrity is of the utmost importance for all members of the campus community. Procedures are in place for faculty to follow in the event of misconduct and can be reviewed online in Academic Policies.

[usd.edu/Academic-Policies](https://usd.edu/Academic-Policies)



## Attendance Policy

Regular attendance and active participation are crucial components of academic success and student development. Students are expected to attend all scheduled classes, lectures, seminars and other academic activities as outlined by the course instructor and syllabus. For any absence, it is your responsibility to communicate with your instructors.

Specific attendance policies will vary by course and instructor. Refer to your course syllabus for additional information and details.

**Dean of Students Office: 605-658-3555.**



- ☐ Review student handbook
- ☐ Review attendance policies for each of your courses





# Move-In DAY

Friday, August 22, 2025

We can't wait to officially welcome you to campus on Move-In Day! We've got an exciting slate of orientation events and activities to help you acclimate before classes officially begin on Monday, August 25. Here are some events to look forward to once you've arrived.



## Class of 2029 Coyote Welcome

Put on your class t-shirt and meet outside North Complex to walk to your official welcome into the Coyote Community.



## Welcome Dinner

You, your family and your peers are invited to share a meal together for the first time at USD!



## Evening Activities

Join fellow USD students for an evening full of games, traditions and fun!

Wondering what essentials to bring and what to leave behind? Look no further! Check out our comprehensive "Move-In Day" webpage, meticulously crafted to ensure that you're fully prepared to join us on campus.

[usd.edu/Move-In-Day](https://usd.edu/Move-In-Day)

## New Student Orientation

The New Student Orientation, a collaborative effort by Student Services, Enrollment Management and the Academic Advising & Success Center, aims to foster a sense of belonging among new students while equipping them with the necessary tools for success. Assigned student leaders - Pack Leaders - will lead small group discussions covering various topics throughout the schedule, commencing on Friday and concluding with dinner on Sunday, August 24. The itinerary features USD traditions, sessions on belonging and campus resources, discussions on sexual assault prevention and bystander intervention, clarification of academic expectations and engaging activities.

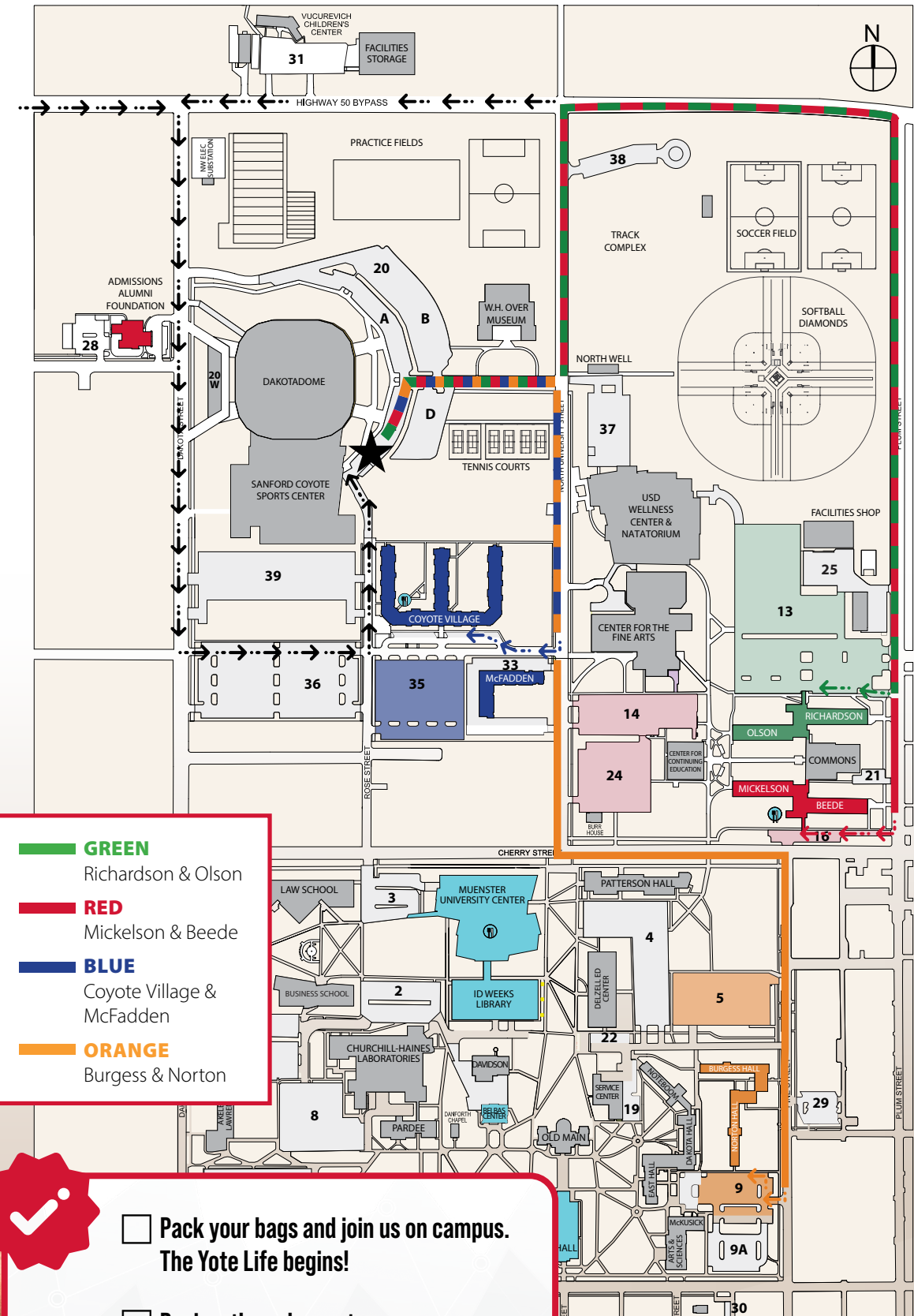
[usd.edu/WelcomeWeek](https://usd.edu/WelcomeWeek)

## What To Expect

We pride ourselves on the best Move-In Day experience, so please be sure to check your USD email inbox for important Move-In Day related items sent throughout the summer.

When you arrive on August 22, you will start your day at the DakotaDome, where you will be given your room key and your student ID (if you have not yet received it) and from there, you will follow the route specific to your assigned residential hall.

Volunteers are stationed around campus throughout the day to assist with questions, directions and moving your belongings into your new home.



☐ Pack your bags and join us on campus.  
The Yote Life begins!

☐ Review the color route

☐ Pick up your parking pass







# CHARLIE'S Favorite THINGS

- 17 **Game Day Grub:** My favorite? Cheering on our sports teams with a pack of friends and a belly full of stadium grub. You have to try my personal favorite game day treat, the Dome Dog! There's nothing like the roar of the crowd when we snatch victory at the **DakotaDome!**

9 **Mental Wellness Woof:** College can be stressful, that's a fact. But USD cares about your well-being! Don't be afraid to take advantage of the mental health services offered at the **Student Counseling Center in Dakota Hall.**

19 **Academic Success:** My friends at the Center for Career Design are the best! They are great at helping Yotes connect academic success and their future, sniff out dream jobs, hone in study skills and more. Don't wait, go design your USD future with them in the I.D. Weeks Library!
- 20 **Pack Mentality:** Don't be a lone Yote, find your pack! USD has clubs for everything under the sun. Join one that gets your tail wagging (you won't regret it)! Find the activity hub at the **Muenster University Center.**

8 **Smarts and Arts:** Want to explore a seriously paw-some place on campus? You have to check out **Old Main**, where you'll find **Farber Hall** (where brains meet brilliance), the Honors Program offices (where smart cookies like us hang out) and the incredible **Oscar Howe Gallery!**

! **Fun First!** Most importantly, have a blast! College is a time to explore, make lifelong friends and create memories that'll last a lifetime.

**Yipeeo, here we go, new Yotes!**



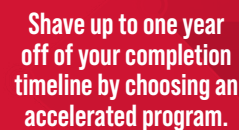
- |                                    |                             |                                    |   |  |                                 |                                     |
|------------------------------------|-----------------------------|------------------------------------|---|--|---------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 1. Lee Medicine & Science Building | 6. Dean Belbas Center       | 11. Slagle Hall & Aalfs Auditorium | 16. USD Knudson School of Law                 | 21. Lillibridge Track Complex              | 25. North Complex               | 30. Native American Cultural Center |
| 2. Pardee Estee Laboratories       | 7. Delzell Education Center | 12. McKusick Technology Center     | 17. DakotaDome & Sanford Coyote Sports Center | 22. Wellness Center                        | 26. Center for Health Education | 31. McFadden                        |
| 3. Churchill-Haines Laboratories   | 8. Old Main                 | 13. Arts & Sciences                | 18. Coyote Village                            | 23. Warren M. Lee Center for the Fine Arts | 27. Burgess & Norton            | 32. South Dakota Union              |
| 4. Danforth Chapel                 | 9. Dakota Hall              | 14. Al Neuharth Media Center       | 19. I.D. Weeks Library                        | 24. Center for Continuing Education        | 28. USD Service Center          | 33. Patterson Hall                  |
| 5. Davidson Building               | 10. East Hall               | 15. Beacom School of Business      |   |  | 29. Wagner Welcome Center       |                                     |



**It's never too early to begin thinking about your future beyond your undergraduate studies. Graduate school offers exciting opportunities for further specialization, career advancement and personal growth.**

Explore our Accelerated Programs, where undergraduate courses count towards graduate or professional degrees, offering cost savings, early career exposure and strengthened academic connections. With a focus on maximizing lifelong earning potential and providing advanced knowledge, these programs streamline your path to higher degrees while offering financial support through graduate assistantships.

We know researching graduate programs can be a detailed process, especially with all of the options available. Our Graduate Admissions team is here to help you every step of the way.



DOCTORAL	PROFESSIONAL
\$2,109	\$2,206

**Bureau of Labor Statistics, 2023**

MASTER'S  
\$1,737

**BACHELOR'S**  
**\$1,493**

**ASSOCIATE**  
**\$1,058**

SOME COLLEGE  
\$992

H.S. DIPLOMA  
\$899

LESS THAN  
H.S. DIPLOMA  
\$708

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# AUG

- 22** Move-In Day
- 25** Classes Begin
- 29** Last Day to Add/Drop First 8-Week course with Full Refund



# JAN

- 12** Classes Start
- 16** Last Day to Add/Drop First 8-Week Course with Full Refund
- 19** Martin Luther King Jr. Day - No Classes
- 22** Last Day to Add/Drop Full term course with Full Refund

# SEPT

- 1** Labor Day - No Classes
- 4** Last Day to Add/Drop Full Term course with Full Refund

**19-21**

Family Weekend  
**Sept. 28 - Oct. 4**  
Dakota Days



# FEB

- 16** Presidents Day - No Classes
- 19** Last Day to Drop First 8-Week course with "WD" grade

# OCT

- 1** Last Day to drop First 8-Week course with "WD" grade
- 13** Native American Day - No Classes
- 17** Midterm
- 27** Last Day to Add/Drop Second 8-Week course with Full Refund



# MAR

- 13** Last Day to Add/Drop 2nd 8-Week class with Full Refund
- 13** Spring Break Begins at 5 p.m.
- 23** Spring Break Ends - Classes Resume

# NOV

- 7** Last Day to Drop Full Term course with "WD" grade
- 11** Veterans Day - No Classes
- 26** Thanksgiving Recess Begins - No Classes



# APR

- 3** Easter Recess Begins - No Classes
- 6** Easter Recess Ends. Classes Resume
- 7** Last Day to Drop Full term course with "WD" grade
- 22** Last Day to Drop 2nd 8-Week course with "WD" grade

# DEC

- 1** Thanksgiving Recess Ends, Classes Resume
- 1** Last Day to Drop Second 8-Week course with Full Refund
- 9** Last Day of Fall Term Classes
- 10** No Classes
- 11** Final Exams Begin
- 17** Semester Ends - Residence Halls close at 5 p.m.



# MAY

- 1** Last Day of Spring Term Classes
- 4** Final Exams Begin
- 8** Semester Ends - Residence Halls close at 5 p.m.
- 9** Commencement

