Introduction

The South Dakota Board of Regents (SDBOR) makes a variety of online courses available for dual credit to high school students across the state. These provide access to high-quality courses without the need to go to a specific location at a specific time; however, in order to effectively facilitate activities, these courses require various technologies and plugins.

> **IMPORTANT**: Some courses and institutions may have technology requirements beyond what are listed here. For more information about these requirements, please consult the course's syllabus and/or the institution's support links below.

Computer Requirements

While core functions of SDBOR online courses will work on most mobile devices—smartphones, tablets, Chromebooks™, etc.—other functions will not; therefore, students must have access to a **PC or Mac built within the past five years**.

> **IMPORTANT**: Students using computers that they do not own—e.g. work computers, those managed by their school, etc.—will need to have **administrative access** to install most of the software listed below, and will need to have the software installed *BEFORE* their courses start.

Internet Requirements

The course technologies selected for delivery of SDBOR online courses are designed to work with even limited internet connections (e.g. dialup); however, if broadband access (DSL, cable, fiber, etc.) is available to students, the SDBOR strongly recommends that it be utilized over dial-up access, as SDBOR resources will be much more responsive.

Recommended Web Browser

While the latest version of any popular web browser will generally work with D2L, the SDBOR recommends the Chrome web browser for the best experience. Firefox and Safari (preinstalled on Macs) are also acceptable.

Recommended Plugins

Some plugins are used frequently enough by SDBOR online courses that they should be installed for all courses:

- Adobe Acrobat Reader: used for accessing course documents in PDF format (note: Macs have a built-in PDF viewer)
- Adobe Flash Player: used for interactive course tools and some streaming video services
- Oracle Java: used for a variety of tools, including the SDBOR web conferencing tool, Collaborate
- Collaborate Launcher: used to open Collaborate sessions (Windows | Mac)

Lockdown Browsers

Many online courses use the Respondus LockDown Browser (LDB) to help facilitate exam security. If required, this will be specified in the course's syllabus, and must be installed before the student can access an exam.

> **IMPORTANT**: If you are using a computer from a K-12 school district, contact your school's technical administrator for installation of the **lab version** of the LockDown Browser, as it is the only version that will work for users without administrative access.

NOTE: Some SDBOR math courses utilize the Pearson LockDown Browser, which is *DIFFERENT* than the Respondus LDB. If required, this will be specified in the course's syllabus.

SDBOR Institutional Online Support Services

For additional information, students should refer to the support services of the SDBOR institution offering their course:

Black Hills State University	Dakota State University
Northern State University	South Dakota School of Mines and Technology
South Dakota State University	University of South Dakota