

South Dakota's science and technology industries are paving the way for South Dakota's economic growth

Data collected by Electronic Modeling Specialist International (EMSI) for a 2016 survey of South Dakota's science and technology industries found that 28 percent of South Dakota's job growth in the past five years has come from five key industry sectors: value-added agriculture/agribusiness, energy and environment, materials and advanced manufacturing, human health and nutrition and information technology/cyber security/information assurance.

"As of 2016, just under 22 percent of South Dakota's total employment is within the science and technology-related industries, accounting for more than 123,000 jobs and that number is continuing to grow. Research investments foster economic growth and helps to expand our economy by supporting emerging and existing technology businesses," said Scott Stern Commissioner of the Governor's Office of Economic Development.

Science and technology companies in these five sectors across the state are having a positive influence on economic growth thanks to the coordinated framework of the 2020 Vision: The South Dakota Science and Technology (S&T) plan, a joint collaboration between state government, higher education and the private sector. The S&T plan outlines a set of strategic initiatives to aid in the advancement and growth of economic and workforce development.

The goal of the S&T plan is to build science and technology capacity in South Dakota that will promote innovation, foster knowledge-based companies, create better-paying jobs and generate more opportunity for all South Dakota citizens. The growth in science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) jobs South Dakota has experienced is in part, a reflection of the statewide investment in STEM research infrastructure.

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Linking South Dakota's Future to Science & Technology

Science and Technology Continued...

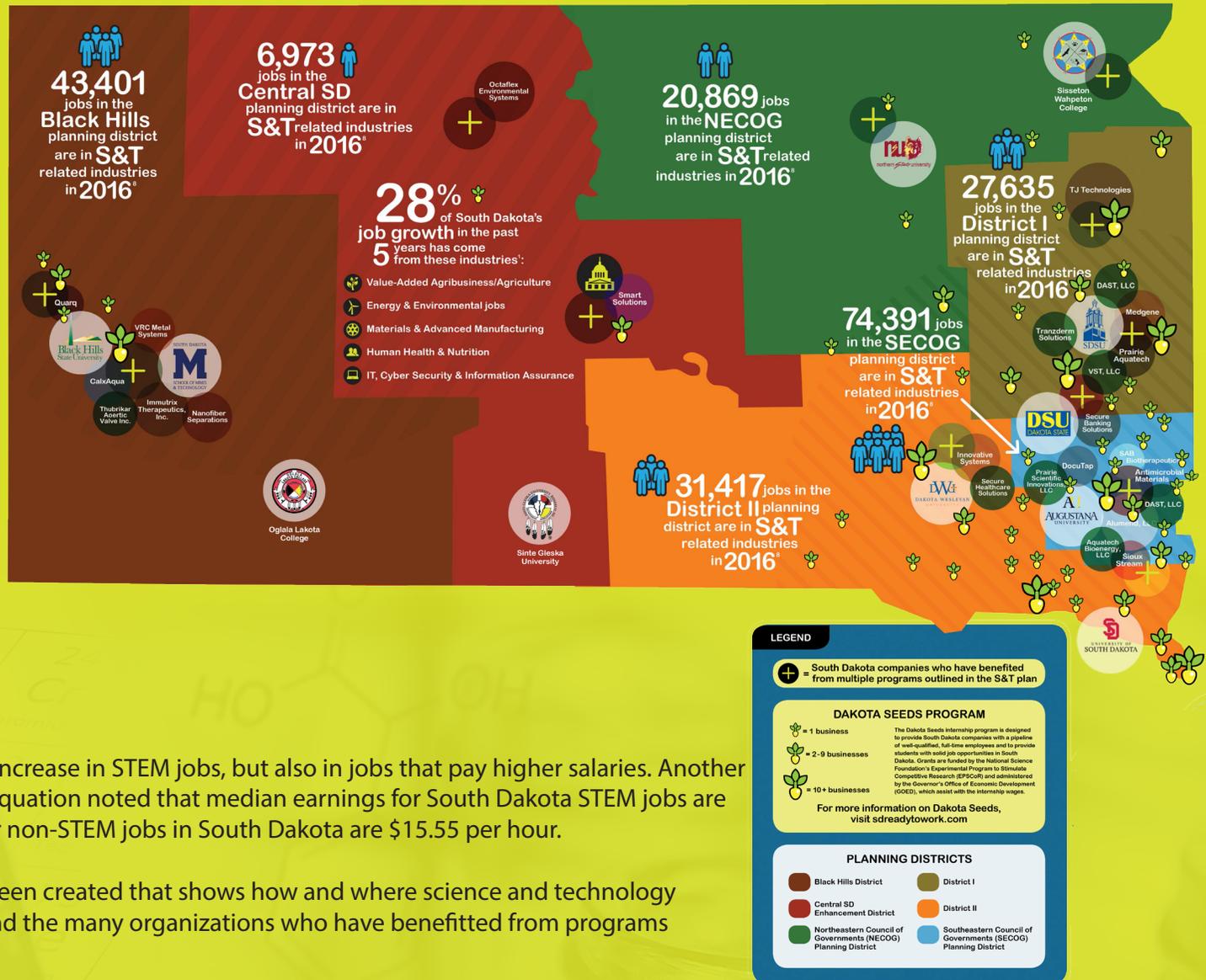
Research infrastructure provides the foundation that generates ideas and fosters the development of talent that grows companies. South Dakota industries created out of STEM research such as biotechnology, has seen a 12 percent increase in jobs between 2012 and 2014 and is projected to grow by 10.8 percent through 2020. Biotechnology is helping to diversify and grow the U.S. economy, aiding in advancements in human health, energy and agriculture.

Another sector that is important in South Dakota's economy, information technology, is projected to see an 11.6 percent increase in jobs statewide by 2020, exceeding the national growth rate of 9.6 percent.

Not only is South Dakota experiencing an increase in STEM jobs, but also in jobs that pay higher salaries. Another study conducted by EMSI for Change the Equation noted that median earnings for South Dakota STEM jobs are \$28.59 per hour, while median earnings for non-STEM jobs in South Dakota are \$15.55 per hour.

An infographic map of South Dakota has been created that shows how and where science and technology industry sectors are advancing our state and the many organizations who have benefitted from programs outlined in the S&T plan.

The full map is available for viewing on the SD EPSCoR website at <http://bit.ly/2m2x350>.



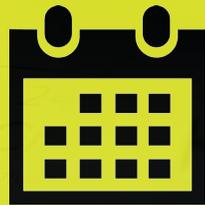
March is STEM Awareness Month

An executive proclamation has been issued by Governor Dennis Daugaard to recognize March 2017 as “**YOUTH SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, ENGINEERING, AND MATHEMATICS AWARENESS MONTH**”. South Dakota science fairs, women in STEM programs, robotics competitions and experiential, hands-on STEM learning programs for youth will take place across South Dakota this month to encourage South Dakotan students to pursue careers in a STEM field. SD EPSCoR is focused on building the human infrastructure that is necessary to drive South Dakota's STEM-based economic development and prepare the workforce to staff it. Encouraging hands-on STEM activities such as science fairs is a proven way to get students interested and continue their STEM studies as they graduate from high school to a college or university. SD EPSCoR is partnering with organizations and institutions across the state to implement its philosophy of making infrastructure investments in hands-on, research-based, educational experiences that prepare students for our future workforce needs.

[CLICK TO VIEW PROCLAMATION](#)



6,000+
Student participants in
STEM-related activities



14 Total STEM
events/activities
statewide



6 Science fairs
statewide



\$29,000+
in award money towards
classroom STEM supplies

**SAVE
THE
DATE**

**ALL INVESTIGATOR
MEETING**

May 23- 24, 2017

Cedar Shore Resort

&

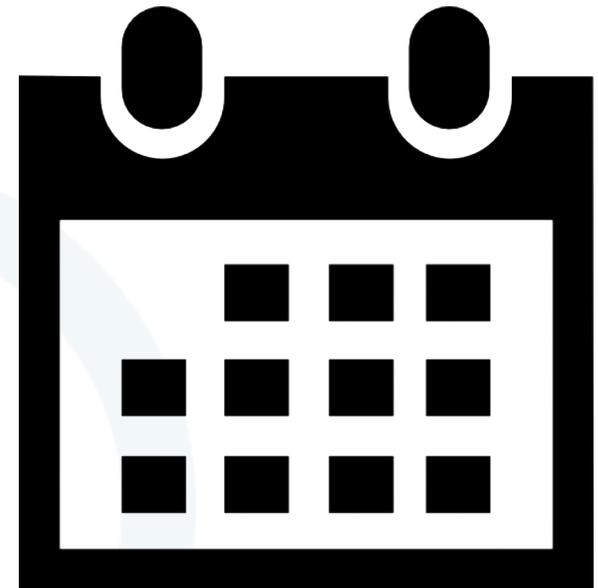
**NSF SUPERCOMMUNICATOR
WORKSHOP**

May 25- 26, 2017

Oacoma, SD

UPCOMING EVENTS/DEADLINES

- **Deadline for SD Biotech Video Competition Submissions - March 17**
- **Eastern South Dakota Science & Engineering Fair - March 21**
Brookings, SD
- **South Central Science & Engineering Fair - March 21**
Mitchell, SD
- **Northern South Dakota Science and Mathematics Fair - March 23**
Aberdeen, SD
- **South Dakota Southwestern Counties Pre-Regional Science Fair - March 24**
Martin, SD
- **High Plains Regional Science and Engineering Fair- March 28**
Rapid City, SD
- **Upper Midwest Regional AISES Conference- March 31**
Brookings, SD
- **Deadline for BioSNTR Summer Undergraduate Research Applications- April 7**



Click to Visit the SD EPSCoR Calendar

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