

Executive Proclamation

State of South Dakota Office of the Governor

Whereas, the goal of National Adult Education and Family Literacy Week is to work side-by-side in every state to heighten public awareness, strengthen alliances, leverage resources, and increase the number of people who understand the vital role adult education and family literacy play in our nation's well-being; and,

Whereas, adult education and family literacy supports jobs and benefits the economy with increased tax revenues, business productivity, and decreased public assistance. It drives economic mobility for adults and economic recovery for America; and,

Whereas, adult education programs in South Dakota assist in building skills and earnings. These credentials lead to postsecondary education, sustainable employment, and economic self-sufficiency. The need for highly literate South Dakotans increases as we move toward an increasingly technological future; and,

Whereas, workers with at least a high school diploma or its equivalency are less likely to be on government support, saving states and federal government money. Individuals benefit from higher salaries, better job opportunities, higher savings, and improved working conditions; and,

Whereas, more than 15 percent of the adults in South Dakota experience literacy issues, and 24 percent experience numeracy issues that severely impact their lives and families, their ability to work productively, and their full participation as citizens and residents; and,

Whereas, teaching parents reading strategies increases a child's language and literacy outcomes. There is no substitute for the parent's role as a child's first teacher, best coach, and most concerned advocate:

Now, Therefore, I, Kristi Noem, Governor of the State of South Dakota, do hereby proclaim the week of September 19, 2022, as

ADULT EDUCATION AND FAMILY LITERACY WEEK

in South Dakota.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the State of South Dakota, in Pierre, the Capital City, this Twenty-third Day of August in the Year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Twenty-Two.



Kristi Noem, Governor

Attest:

Steven J. Barnett, Secretary of State