

Executive Proclamation

State of South Dakota Office of the Governor

Whereas, Adult Education and Family Literacy Week raises public awareness, strengthens partnerships, leverages resources, and increases understanding of the essential role of adult education and family literacy; and,

Whereas, adult education programs in South Dakota help individuals build essential skills, pursue postsecondary education opportunities, secure sustainable employment, and achieve greater economic self-sufficiency; and,

Whereas, individuals who earn a high school diploma or its equivalent are more likely to experience higher wages, better job opportunities, and greater financial security; and,

Whereas, fifteen percent of South Dakota adults face literacy challenges, and twenty-four percent experience numeracy difficulties, both of which greatly affect their ability to work productively, support their families, and fully participate as engaged citizens and residents; and,

Whereas, equipping parents with reading strategies strengthens a child's language and literacy development and reinforces the parent's role as a child's first teacher, best coach, and strongest advocate; and,

Whereas, through local partnerships, the Department of Labor and Regulation has served more than 3,100 learners in adult education programs since July 2025, including 279 who earned their GED® credential and 1,356 who studied English as a Second Language;

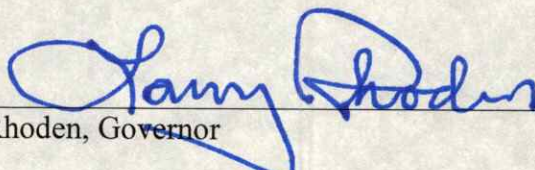
Now, Therefore, I, Larry Rhoden, Governor of the State of South Dakota, do hereby proclaim September 13, 2026, as

Adult Education and Family Literacy Week

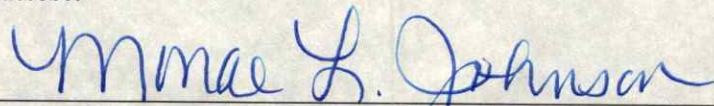
in South Dakota.



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 Thirty-First Day of August in the Year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Twenty-Six.


Larry Rhoden, Governor

Attest:


Monae L. Johnson, Secretary of State