



State Policy Fact Sheet: South Dakota

Nurse Practice Act: SDCL § 36-9 and SDCL § 36-9A

Regulatory Structure: Full Practice

South Dakota law authorizes nurse practitioners (NPs) to evaluate patients, diagnose and prescribe medications and therapeutic measures.

South Dakota requires NPs to practice for 1,040 hours under a written collaborative agreement with a physician, certified NP or certified nurse midwife.

See the Board of Nursing for more information.

SDCL § 36-9A-4

Regulatory Agency

NP licensure is regulated exclusively by the [Board of Nursing](#).

SDCL § 36-9A-5

Licensure Requirements

Requirements include a registered nurse license and national certification.

SDCL § 36-9A-4

Continuing Education (CE)*

CE hours are to be completed in accordance with national certification requirements.

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Medical Staff Membership**

Medical staff is to be determined by a facility's governing body.

SDCL § 34-8-8.1

Primary Care Providers

NPs are defined in law as primary care providers.

SDCL § 58-17F-1

Signature Recognition on Items of Patient Care

- Physical Therapy: NPs are authorized to refer to physical therapy.
SDCL § 36-9A-13.1
- Parking Permits: NPs are not presently authorized to provide proof of disability for disabled parking permits.
SDCL § 32-5-76
- DNR: NPs are authorized to sign Do Not Resuscitate orders.
SDCL § 34-12F-1
- Death Certificates: NPs are authorized to sign death certificates.
SDCL § 36-9A-12
- South Dakota Provider Orders for Life Sustaining Treatment (POLST)/Medical Orders for Scope of Treatment (**MOST**):
NPs are authorized to sign MOST forms.
SDCL § 34-12H-4

*Contact hours in specific topics may be required. Please contact your state Board of Nursing for current information.

**Medical Staff Membership refers to governing and voting privileges and is not reflective of clinical or admitting privileges within institutions.

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