THE SOUTH DAKOTA CHAPTER OF ASPIRE
OPERATING GUIDELINES

PREAMBLE

The South Dakota Chapter of ASPIRE Operating Guidelines shall be established specifically for those members of The South Dakota Chapter of ASPIRE and ASPIRE, INC. (hereafter referred to as Regional ASPIRE), residing in and employed in the State of South Dakota. The mission of The South Dakota Chapter of ASPIRE shall be to provide an organizational structure for The South Dakota Chapter of ASPIRE membership through which to promote the mission of Regional ASPIRE.

These Operating Guidelines shall be subordinate to and shall not conflict with the Bylaws and Operating Guidelines of Regional ASPIRE, and in no way imply the establishment of a legal corporation or entity separate from Regional ASPIRE. There shall be no monetary gain or fiscal identity for The South Dakota Chapter of ASPIRE separate from Regional ASPIRE except as specified in these guidelines.

These Operating Guidelines shall describe the policies, procedures, and general practices of The South Dakota Chapter of ASPIRE. These Operating Guidelines may include, but are not limited to: rules of procedure regarding expenditures; rules of procedure for conducting meetings and business; delegation of specific responsibilities for officers; collection of membership information, State Meeting registration fees, etc. Officers of The South Dakota Chapter of ASPIRE may propose amendments as necessary to ensure the orderly, efficient, and effective operation of The South Dakota Chapter of ASPIRE.

An agenda, including items that will require a vote, shall be sent to the membership no less than two weeks prior to the meeting. This does not limit items addressed at The South Dakota Chapter of ASPIRE Meetings to those included on the agenda distributed prior to the meeting. The date of amendments shall be identified (month/year) and shall be inserted after each amendment.

Operating Guidelines may be waived for a specific period of time by a simple majority vote of The South Dakota Chapter of ASPIRE membership at any regular or special meeting of The South Dakota Chapter of ASPIRE.
ARTICLE I

NAME

The name of this association shall be The South Dakota Chapter of ASPIRE (hereafter referred to as SD/ASPIRE).

ARTICLE II

OFFICERS

The officers of SD/ASPIRE shall be President, President Elect, Past President, and Secretary/Treasurer. Officers shall be Professional Members of Regional ASPIRE during the membership year(s) of their term(s) in office. For any SD/ASPIRE officer who is not a member of Regional ASPIRE within fifteen days of being elected, the election or appointment of such officer should be considered null and void.

The SD/ASPIRE President, President Elect, Past President, and Secretary/Treasurer shall comprise the Executive Committee of SD/ASPIRE that shall represent the interests of SD/ASPIRE and the members of the organization between meetings of the full membership. The President shall appoint a SD/ASPIRE member to serve as Parliamentarian at each State Meeting.

The President, Past President, and Secretary/Treasurer shall serve for a term of two years or until a successor shall be elected; President Elect shall serve for a term of one year or until a successor shall be elected.

Each term of office shall begin at the Regional ASPIRE Conference, ordinarily held in the month of October.

Outgoing officers shall forward all paper and electronic records to incoming officers within thirty days.

A. ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Election of President-Elect and Secretary/Treasurer will be held at the spring state meeting in even years.

Election procedures are outlined under the Elections Committee (ARTICLE V, A). A simple majority vote of SD/ASPIRE shall prevail. In the event that only one candidate for an office is nominated, the election may be conducted by a voice or hand count during the SD/ASPIRE Meeting. Proxy votes and absentee ballots shall not be recognized. Members of SD/ASPIRE shall have one vote. If election of officers does not occur at the Spring Meeting, election of the office may be held at the State Meeting held in conjunction with the Regional ASPIRE Conference, or may be conducted by electronic mail.

For an election by electronic mail, the most recent Past President available, who is a Regional ASPIRE member still employed in a TRIO Program and willing to conduct the election by electronic mail, shall be responsible for the election process. This individual shall solicit nominations, distribute ballots, and receive
ballots. This individual and a committee of no fewer than two other SD/ASPIRE members shall count the ballots. A simple majority vote of SD/ASPIRE members who respond within 14 days shall prevail. Results of the election shall be reported to the membership within thirty days. No individual who is a candidate for office shall serve on the election committee or be involved in counting the ballots.

B. VACANCIES

If the office of President is vacated and there is not a President Elect to assume the responsibility of the office, the most recent Past President available, who is a Regional ASPIRE member still employed in a TRIO Program and willing to assume the responsibility, shall assume the duties of President until the next scheduled state meeting at which time the office of President shall be included on the election ballot.

If the office of President Elect is vacated, an election will be held within 45 days to fill the position (either at an SD/ASPIRE meeting or by electronic ballot). If the office of Secretary/Treasurer is vacated, the President shall appoint a Past President who is a Regional ASPIRE member still employed in a TRIO Program and willing to assume the duties of Secretary/Treasurer.

C. RESPONSIBILITIES OF PRESIDENT

The President shall be the chief elected officer of SD/ASPIRE. The duties and responsibilities as specified in the Regional ASPIRE Operating Guidelines and amended to serve the needs of SD/ASPIRE shall be to:

1. Communicate with the ASPIRE membership within TRIO Programs in South Dakota on a regular and frequent basis to identify and ensure concerns and governmental relation issues related to SD/ASPIRE, Regional ASPIRE, and TRIO Programs are addressed with the Regional ASPIRE Executive Board, and ensure that the SD/ASPIRE membership is represented;

2. Develop a budget in conjunction with the President Elect to be presented for approval at the State Meeting held in conjunction with the Regional ASPIRE Conference. In the event the office of President Elect is vacated, the incoming President shall be elected in October, and the incoming President shall develop a budget for approval within thirty days of assuming office;

3. Oversee the budget of SD/ASPIRE and approve all expenditures;

4. Schedule, determine the agenda, and preside at all SD/ASPIRE Meetings;

5. Appoint a Parliamentarian for SD/ASPIRE Meetings;

6. Represent SD/ASPIRE in all matters between meetings of the membership;

7. Serve as an ex-officio member of all SD/ASPIRE special and standing committees;
8. Appoint committee chairs for all SD/ASPIRE Standing and Ad Hoc committees;

9. Coordinate with the Publications Committee to submit an article on SD/ASPIRE activities for each issue of *ASPIRATIONS*;

10. Identify and contact new directors in South Dakota, and provide the names to the New Members Mentoring Committee Chair. Mentors shall be responsible for providing an overview of SD/ASPIRE, Regional ASPIRE, and COE; ASPIRE personal membership; Regional ASPIRE and COE Fair Share; and information on specific TRIO Programs as deemed appropriate;

11. Set the SD/ASPIRE Spring Meeting dates with consideration for dates set in other states so Regional ASPIRE President(s) may attend this meeting and invite a Regional ASPIRE President(s) to the SD/ASPIRE Spring Meeting;

12. Coordinate, oversee, and preside over training, professional development, and the Conference Committee for SD/ASPIRE State Meetings;

13. Oversee the editing, printing, and distribution of the South Dakota TRIO Fact Book during even years. The SD TRIO Fact Book shall include a summary of information and a one-page TRIO success story for each program in South Dakota. Information shall be collected from Directors and the Department of Education Website and shall include the funding level and cycle, number of participants, and target schools and areas for each program. The data collection shall begin in January, and the South Dakota TRIO Fact Book shall be completed by February 15;

14. Chair and serve on Regional ASPIRE committees;

15. Recommend appointment of representatives for Regional ASPIRE or Council for Opportunity in Education (COE) committees;

16. Compile and submit a roster of South Dakota TRIO personnel to the Regional ASPIRE Membership Chair at the last Regional ASPIRE Executive Board Meeting of the year ordinarily held in December, and report revisions as changes occur. The President shall report changes to the Regional ASPIRE Membership Chair. The roster shall include current employees, position title, address, telephone number, fax number, email address, and ASPIRE Membership status;

17. Generate revenues for Regional ASPIRE and SD/ASPIRE;

18. Prepare South Dakota State Reports for Regional ASPIRE Executive Board Meetings;
19. Attend the COE Policy Seminar in March in Washington, DC. Coordinate the South Dakota ASPIRE Team of TRIO professionals and alumni to communicate budgetary concerns and promote SD TRIO Programs to the South Dakota representatives in the House of Representatives and the Senate; In the event that the President cannot attend the Policy Seminar, and there is no President-Elect at that time, the President will appoint a Past President who is a Regional ASPIRE member still employed in a TRIO Program;

20. Appoint a Past President who is a Regional ASPIRE member still employed in a TRIO Program and willing to assume the duties of Secretary/Treasurer if the office is vacated;

21. Meet with and act as an advisor to the SD/ASPIRE President Elect to provide training and to deliver all relevant records; and

22. Delegate authority when necessary.

D. RESPONSIBILITIES OF PRESIDENT ELECT

In the absence of the President, the President Elect shall serve with the same powers and authority as the President. Duties of the President Elect shall be to:

1. Attend the Regional ASPIRE Leadership Training Institute at the Regional ASPIRE Conference, in October of the year when elected as President Elect. Lodging and per diem over and above the cost of attending the Regional ASPIRE Conference shall be paid by SD/ASPIRE;

2. Oversee the editing, printing, and distribution of the South Dakota TRIO Fact Book during odd years. The SD TRIO Fact Book shall include a summary of information and a one-page TRIO success story for each program in South Dakota. Information shall be collected from Directors and the Department of Education Website and shall include the funding level and cycle, number of participants, and target schools and areas for each program. The data collection shall begin in January, and the South Dakota TRIO Fact Book shall be completed by February 15;

3. Attend the ASPIRE Regional Executive Board Meeting with the current President prior to the Regional ASPIRE Conference in the year when assuming the Presidency of the South Dakota Chapter of ASPIRE;

4. Attend the COE Policy Seminar with the President in the year before assuming the Presidency, if they can secure funding outside of SD/ASPIRE;
5. Develop a budget, in conjunction with the President, to be presented for approval at the State Meeting held in conjunction with the Regional ASPIRE Conference in the year when assuming the Presidency;

6. Succeed to the office of President in October of the year following election to the office of President Elect. The President Elect shall assume the presidency for the remainder of the presidential term in the event of the resignation or incapacitation of the President; and

7. Assist the President with duties as requested.

E. RESPONSIBILITIES OF PAST PRESIDENT

The Past President shall act as a mentor and advisor to the President, and President Elect. Secretary/Treasurer, and SD/ASPIRE. Duties of the Past President shall be to:

1. Serve as South Dakota State Development Coordinator to solicit contributions for Regional ASPIRE Fair Share by purchasing an ASPIRE Project Membership, and COE Fair Share by purchasing an Institutional Membership. In the event the Past President is not available to serve as South Dakota State Development Coordinator, the President shall assume the responsibility or appoint a SD/ASPIRE member to carry out the responsibilities;

2. Serve as SD/ASPIRE Membership Chair to contact South Dakota TRIO Program personnel who are not current members of Regional ASPIRE to join and support the regional and state organizations. In the event the Past President is not available to carry out this responsibility, the President shall assume the responsibility or appoint a SD/ASPIRE member to carry out the responsibility;

3. Serve as Chair of the New Members Mentoring Committee;

4. Serve as the South Dakota Representative on the Regional ASPIRE Legislative Advocacy Committee;

5. Disseminate detailed information on COE and ASPIRE contribution categories and Personal ASPIRE membership to all TRIO personnel in September. Information shall include the cost, whether it is an allowable cost from program funds, and due dates;

6. Collect and disseminate information on current South Dakota state and national congressional delegates and educational aides to the ASPIRE membership. Information shall include names, office address, telephone number, fax number, and email address;

7. Chair the Elections Committee and conduct an election of officers by electronic mail if officers are not elected at the State Meeting, typically held in April;
8. Assume the office of President if vacated and there is not a President Elect to assume the responsibility
of the office until the next scheduled election; and
9. Assist the President with duties as requested.

F. RESPONSIBILITIES OF SECRETARY/TREASURER
The Secretary/Treasurer shall serve as recording Secretary for all SD/ASPIRE Meetings, and shall be
responsible for the receipt and expenditures of all funds in accordance with Regional ASPIRE and SD/ASPIRE
policies. Duties of the Secretary/Treasurer shall be to:
1. Record and distribute minutes of all SD/ASPIRE Meetings. Unapproved minutes shall be distributed to
members within thirty days of the meeting;
2. Maintain records of all votes, SD/ASPIRE Meetings, correspondence, and activities;
3. Maintain a list of South Dakota State Presidents, including the years of their terms of office;
4. Maintain records, including copies of receipts, of SD/ASPIRE revenue and expenditures, and issue
receipts for monies received;
5. Maintain contact with the Regional ASPIRE Treasurer for the purpose of ensuring accuracy of records
of income and expenditures;
6. Distribute the budget to the membership within thirty days of approval, obtain approval of modifications
to the budget between regularly scheduled meetings of SD/ASPIRE by mail, email, or telephone; and
provide a written Treasurer’s Report for distribution at all SD/ASPIRE Meetings. When an approval or
a vote is conducted by mail, email, or telephone, a simple majority vote of SD/ASPIRE members who
respond shall prevail; and
7. Update SD/ASPIRE Operating Guidelines as amended.
ARTICLE III

MEETINGS

SD/ASPIRE Meetings shall be held twice annually: during the Regional ASPIRE Conference at such time as is scheduled by the Regional ASPIRE Executive Board or Conference Chair, and in the spring at the SD/ND ASPIRE Co-State Conference, ordinarily in the month of March or April. Additional or special meetings may be held as deemed necessary by the President or by a simple majority vote of the SD/ASPIRE membership.

SD/ASPIRE Meetings shall be conducted according to Robert’s Rules of Order. A quorum shall be defined as thirty-five percent (35%) of the paid membership. SD/ASPIRE members shall have one vote. A simple majority of SD/ASPIRE members present and voting shall prevail. Proxy votes and absentee ballots shall not be recognized.

The pre-registration fee for the SD/ASPIRE State Conference shall be $150 for ASPIRE members and $250 for Non-ASPIRE members. Registration fees shall be differentiated for pre-registered participants and on-site registrations for both SD/ASPIRE members and for non-members. On-site registration shall be $175 for members and $275 for non-members. A minimal fee of $25 will be assessed for cancellations made with less than five working days prior to the conference start date. The Student State Registration Fee shall be $75 with an ASPIRE Student Membership.

Officers of SD/ASPIRE and other individuals directly involved with the issue or business to be addressed may meet in Executive Session if the nature of the issue or business requires confidentiality. Executive Sessions shall be closed to the general membership. An Executive Session shall be held only upon a majority vote of the officers present and discussion during the closed meeting is restricted to the purpose specified in the closure motion. Any official action concerning such matters shall be made at an open meeting.

ARTICLE IV

MEMBERSHIP

Regional ASPIRE Membership (Professional, Associate, Affiliate and TRIO Program Participant Members) shall constitute membership in SD/ASPIRE and no additional dues shall be assessed. The membership year begins the first day of the Regional ASPIRE Conference and ends the first day of the Regional ASPIRE Conference the following year. SD/ASPIRE membership definition, status, eligibility, rights, and duties shall be as for Regional ASPIRE memberships, except that SD/ASPIRE members shall be employed within the State of
South Dakota. Regional Professional ASPIRE Membership shall be required to hold office. The cost of the Regional ASPIRE Membership is $60 a year.

ARTICLE V
COMMITTEES

The President shall appoint individuals to chair or serve on special or standing committees as required for the purpose of furthering the mission of Regional ASPIRE and SD/ASPIRE. Each committee chairperson or member shall be a paid member of SD/ASPIRE. Any committee chairperson or member who is not a paid member of SD/ASPIRE shall become a paid member within fifteen days of their appointment or the appointment shall be terminated.

SD/ASPIRE Standing Committees shall include, but shall not be limited to: the Elections Committee, Government Relations Committee, Membership Development Committee, Media Relations Committee, Spring Conference Committee, and Social Justice Committee.

A. ELECTIONS COMMITTEE

The Past President, or President’s designee, shall chair the Elections Committee and the President shall appoint two additional members. The committee shall educate SD/ASPIRE members regarding duties, responsibilities, and the importance of offices; secure nominations for the offices of SD/ASPIRE; confirm willingness of nominees to serve; conduct nominations from the floor at the SD/ASPIRE Meeting; prepare the final ballot, supervise the election process, count ballots, and announce election results.

B. GOVERNMENT RELATIONS COMMITTEE

With the assistance of the South Dakota Chapter of ASPIRE President, the Government Relations Committee Chair shall coordinate with COE regarding legislative and United States Department of Education actions. The Committee Chair shall provide the membership with a list of contact information for Field Representative Aides, identify and cultivate advocates for TRIO, and coordinate monthly contact with Field Representatives and Legislative Aides.

The TRIO Awareness Subcommittee shall be chaired by the Government Relations Committee Chair. The President shall appoint two additional members. The TRIO Awareness Subcommittee shall disseminate information about First Generation College Student Day and TRIO Day to encourage activities at institutions that host a TRIO Program or Programs, and submit articles to ASPIRATIONS on the activities. The Subcommittee shall also coordinate efforts with the President for a statewide TRIO Day event on or around National TRIO Day.
C. MEMBERSHIP DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

The Membership Development Chair is responsible for promoting and increasing SD ASPIRE project and individual membership through distribution of membership materials and providing information to new ASPIRE TRIO personnel. The Membership Development Chair shall maintain membership rosters, distribute ASPIRE membership applications, solicit membership from both individuals and programs who have lapsed in membership, and solicit personal donations to ASPIRE.

The New Member Mentoring Subcommittee shall be chaired by the Past President, or President’s designee. The New Members Mentoring Subcommittee Chair shall coordinate with the SD/ASPIRE President to identify new personnel in TRIO Programs in South Dakota. The committee shall be responsible for providing an overview of SD/ASPIRE, Regional ASPIRE, and COE; ASPIRE membership; Regional ASPIRE and COE Fair Share; and identifying mentors for new TRIO staff who request them.

The South Dakota TRIO Alumni Subcommittee Chair shall coordinate with the ASPIRE Alumni Committee to promote the National TRIO Alumni Society, organize Alumni Societies in the ASPIRE Region, and publicize the purposes of creating Alumni Societies.

D. MEDIA RELATIONS COMMITTEE

The Media Relations Chair shall provide upkeep of the SD/ASPIRE Website and Social Media account, encourage and serve as a resource for the membership to write opinion editorials (Op-Eds), coordinate all publication activities for SD/ASPIRE, solicit articles for ASPIRATIONS, and coordinate with the President to ensure that an article on SD/ASPIRE activities is included in each issue of ASPIRATIONS. The Media Relations Committee shall develop and submit an ad for the Regional ASPIRE Conference Agenda each year, typically due in June or July.

E. SPRING CONFERENCE COMMITTEE

The Spring Conference Committee Chair and members of the committee shall plan all details pertaining to the SD/ASPIRE State and Co-State Conference, typically held in April. The Committee Chair shall coordinate with the SD ASPIRE President.

F. SOCIAL JUSTICE COMMITTEE

The Social Justice Committee Chair shall represent South Dakota on the ASPIRE Social Justice Committee. The committee is tasked with acting as a resource and advisory committee on various social justice issues facing our students to ASPIRE members. Duties to include, but not limited to: assist with volunteer project at regional
annual conference, offer assistance to states who wish to host a volunteer project for their State TRIO Day, offer
resources for social justice issues programs to be offered at regional annual conference, and any other duties
as designated by the board.

ARTICLE VI
FISCAL POLICIES
The SD/ASPIRE Fiscal Year shall be concurrent with that of Regional ASPIRE beginning January 1 and
ending December 31.

Officers and persons serving as members of committees shall receive no compensation for time or services,
but may receive reasonable reimbursement for direct and documented expenses. Requests for reimbursement
shall be in accordance with the Regional ASPIRE Bylaws and Operating Guidelines. Reimbursement requests
must be submitted within sixty days following the end of the Fiscal Year. The SD/ASPIRE Secretary/Treasurer
shall maintain records and documentation of all SD/ASPIRE revenue and expenditures.

Expenditures over $100 other than those in the approved budget shall require approval of SD/ASPIRE
members by a simple majority vote. If approval is sought by mail, email, or telephone, a simple majority vote of
SD/ASPIRE members who respond by the designated deadline shall prevail.

Procedures and guidelines for development and approval of the budget are attached as an addendum to
these Operating Guidelines.

ARTICLE VII
AMENDMENTS
These Operating Guidelines and attached addendum may be amended by a simple majority vote of
SD/ASPIRE members at any duly called meeting of SD/ASPIRE.

ADDENDUM TO SD/ASPIRE OPERATING GUIDELINES
Procedures and Guidelines Related to Fiscal Policies

A. PROCEDURES

1. The incoming President each year shall develop a budget to be presented for approval at the State
Meeting held in conjunction with the Regional ASPIRE Conference. In the event that a budget is not
presented for approval at the State Meeting held in conjunction with the Regional ASPIRE Conference, the incoming President shall develop a budget for approval within thirty days of assuming office.

2. If a budget is not approved at the State Meeting held in conjunction with the Regional ASPIRE Conference, it shall be distributed within thirty days for approval by mail. A simple majority vote of SD/ASPIRE members who respond by the designated deadline shall prevail.

3. The budget shall include an estimate of revenue available and projected expenditures during the Fiscal Year.

4. Expenditures over $100, other than those in the approved budget, shall require a simple majority vote by the SD/ASPIRE members. If approval is sought by mail, email, or telephone, a simple majority vote of SD/ASPIRE members who respond by the designated deadline shall prevail.

5. Modifications to the budget between regularly scheduled meetings of SD/ASPIRE shall be by mail, email, or telephone conducted by the SD/ASPIRE Secretary/Treasurer. A simple majority vote of SD/ASPIRE members who respond by the designated deadline shall prevail.

B. GUIDELINES

1. Revenue and cash ordinarily shall be obtained from the following sources:
   a. Balance from the previous year;
   b. Monies from Regional ASPIRE;
   c. Registration fees from SD/ASPIRE Conference; and
   d. Other (such as state fund raisers).

2. Expenditures ordinarily shall be, but shall not be limited to, the following:
   a. Travel for the South Dakota State President to attend Regional ASPIRE Executive Board Meetings, if not paid by Regional ASPIRE;
   b. Travel over and above that provided by Regional ASPIRE for the SD/ASPIRE President to attend the COE Policy Seminar every year, and the President Elect or Past President or TRIO Alumni appointed by the President to attend if the President cannot attend;
   c. Lodging and per diem over and above the cost of attending the Regional ASPIRE Conference for the President Elect to attend the Regional ASPIRE Leadership Development Institute held in conjunction with the Regional ASPIRE Conference in the year when elected as President Elect;
d. Travel for a TRIO Achiever nominated by a South Dakota TRIO Program and selected as a Regional TRIO Achiever to attend the Regional ASPIRE Conference to receive the award, if not paid by Regional ASPIRE;

e. Expenses for the annual SD/ND ASPIRE Co-State Conference including, but not limited to, lodging and per diem for the Regional ASPIRE President(s) that is invited to attend, expenses to host a reception, cost for meeting room(s), cost for speakers who are not employed in a TRIO Program, cost of meal(s) and refreshments for breaks, and supplies as needed; Expenses for the SD TRIO Achiever and SD Friend of ASPIRE award, to include award plaques, banquet/food, room and travel expenses for award recipients.

f. Expenses for Executive Board Meetings as needed;

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g. Expenses for SD/ASPIRE-sponsored TRIO Day activities;

h. Contributions to COE and Regional ASPIRE;

i. Cost of full-page ad for the Regional ASPIRE Conference Agenda; and

j. Operating expenses including printing, postage, supplies, website maintenance, etc.

3. Requests and documentation of expenditures (including original receipts) must be approved by both the SD/ASPIRE President and Treasurer prior to submitting to the ASPIRE Treasurer for payment. To receive reimbursement, requests for reimbursement shall be submitted within sixty days following the end of the Fiscal Year.

4. Travel policies shall be in accordance with the Regional ASPIRE Bylaws and Operating Guidelines.

5. SD/ASPIRE funds shall not be used to sponsor the travel of any TRIO Program personnel to attend the Regional ASPIRE Conference or a SD/ASPIRE Meeting. If an individual must attend a conference or meeting to conduct SD/ASPIRE business prior to the beginning of the conference or meeting, SD/ASPIRE may pay lodging and per diem expenses over and above the normal cost to attend the conference or meeting, if not paid by Regional ASPIRE.