

Executive Branch Agencies

The three branches of state government include the Legislative Branch, the Judicial Branch, and the Executive Branch. The Executive Branch includes eight elected officials, the lieutenant governor, and the governor. The governor has decision-making authority over four bureaus and 17 departments.

Offices of Elected Officials

Public Utilities Commission - regulates facilities, services, operations, and rates on telephones and utilities in the state.

Secretary of State - provides assistance with all federal, state, and local elections; completes and records all public state documents; and administers corporate, Uniform Commercial Code functions.

Attorney General - as the state's legal counsel, this office represents the state by issuing official legal opinions, investigating consumer complaints, and directing the Division of Criminal Investigation.

State Treasurer - monitors and safely keeps all moneys that are paid to the state treasury; responsible for filing all transactions and reporting the state's indebtedness. In collaboration with the State Auditor, the Treasurer disperses state funds.

State Auditor - administers state employee payroll, records and monitors all fund balances, and submits reports to the governor on the state's financial condition.

School and Public Lands - manages school and endowment lands and trust funds owned by the state for the support of public schools and state institutions.

Office of Executive Management

Bureau of Administration (BOA) - provides administrative, engineering, and nontechnical services to support the operation of other departments. These services are offered through the following programs: Buildings & Grounds, Central Duplicating, Central Mail, Fleet and Travel Management, Surplus Property, Procurement, Space Management, Records Management, the Office of Hearing Examiners, Federal Surplus Property, the State Engineer's Office, and the Office of Risk Management.

Bureau of Finance and Management (BFM) - advises the Governor on the overall fiscal policy; completes and presents the annual fiscal plan; and manages the central accounting and payroll systems. The functions performed by bureau staff fall into four categories--budget analysis, executive management finance office, financial compliance, and financial systems.

Bureau of Information and Telecommunications (BIT) - manages state government information technology and public broadcasting. It includes the following divisions: the Data Center which runs enterprise-computing facilities; the Telecommunications Division maintains local and wide area voice, data and video networks; the Development Division is responsible for developing information systems, and South Dakota Public Broadcasting provides broadcasts over TV, radio, and the Internet.

Bureau of Human Resources (BHR) – administers the human resources management system for the State of South Dakota and its employees. This includes recruitment and selection, job analysis, training for all employees, payroll, compensation, and employee benefits.

Departments

Department of Agriculture & Natural Resources (DANR) - protects and preserves the state's agriculture, environment, and natural resources through effective regulatory services, natural resource conservation, and financial and technical assistance. DANR's five divisions and more than 15 programs work together to achieve the best outcomes for South Dakota's agriculture and natural resources.

Department of Corrections (DOC) – provides the necessary custody, care, and supervision of juvenile and adult offenders for the protection of the citizens of South Dakota, and oversees the operations of the state's adult prisons, adult parole, and juvenile aftercare.

Department of Education (DOE) – oversees K-12 public education in South Dakota, providing support and technical assistance to schools across the state. This includes the South Dakota State Library, which provides services to public, school and research libraries statewide, and direct service to blind and visually-impaired citizens and coordinates postsecondary technical education at the state's four technical institutes.

Department of Game, Fish, and Parks (GFP) – protects and improves the quality of the state's natural environment to provide a variety of recreational opportunities, maintains the state's wildlife, regulates hunting and fishing, and develops and maintains outdoor recreational facilities and state parks.

Department of Health (DOH) – promotes the general health of the public by ensuring access to quality health care, coordinating the delivery of health services, working to prevent and control communicable diseases, providing inspection and certifications of facilities, and coordinating public health preparedness and response efforts.

Department of Human Services (DHS) – promotes the highest level of independence for all individuals regardless of disability or disorder. DHS includes the following Divisions/Facilities: Developmental Disabilities, Rehabilitation Services, Services to the Blind and Visually Impaired, Long Term Services and Supports, and South Dakota Developmental Center in Redfield.

Department of Labor and Regulation (DLR) - assists employers with workforce and employment-related needs; helps people with job placement and career transition services; ensures fair employment practices; handles human rights issues and labor contract mediations; administers the State's unemployment insurance and workers' compensation systems; provides sound state-chartered and licensed financial institutions; sets rules and procedures to ensure investments sold in South Dakota meet standards of full disclosure, including securities products, franchises, and business opportunities; and regulates and licenses the insurance industry in South Dakota to serve and protect consumers, companies, and producers.

DLR also provides for the safety and well-being of the general public by administering the following professional licensing boards: the Abstractor's Board of Examiners, Banking Commission, Board of Accountancy, Board of Barber Examiners, Board of Technical Professions, Cosmetology Commission, Electrical Commission, Plumbing Commission, and Real Estate Commission.

Department of the Military (DOM) - The Adjutant General commands the Army and Air National Guard units in the state and is the Secretary of the Department of the Military. The South Dakota National Guard provides trained forces and proper equipment for the Active Military in times of national emergencies and conflicts. The National Guard also assists local and state government during times of disaster, civil disturbances and other emergencies based on the Governor's direction.

Department of Veterans Affairs (DVA) - The Department of Veterans Affairs assists veterans and their families by providing technical expertise on how to access benefits, file claims for their benefits, processing and paying claims, the GI bill as well as any other issues or concerns they may have. The department also manages the Michael J. Fitzmaurice State Veterans Home in Hot Springs.

Department of Public Safety (DPS) - It is the mission of the South Dakota Department of Public Safety to keep South Dakota a safe place in which to live, work, visit and raise a family. DPS consists of 11 different programs including Enforcement, Licensing, Emergency Services and Homeland Security.

Department of Revenue (DOR) – collects and administers taxes and license fees levied by the state and local governments, ensures that taxpayers are in compliance with South Dakota tax laws, manages and operates secure instant match, video lottery and lotto games to generate revenue for the state's general fund.

Department of Social Services (DSS) – The Department of Social Services provides social, financial and medical services to eligible South Dakotans with the goal of fostering independence and personal responsibility. DSS also ensures children, the elderly and people with disabilities are safe from abuse and neglect. The department also oversees the Human Services Center in Yankton.

Department of Tribal Relations (DTR) – The mission of the Department of Tribal Relations is to establish and maintain an effective communication link between the Governor and the Tribal Governments in the state.

Department of Tourism (TOUR) – The Department of Tourism promotes the state as a premier vacation destination to all visitors, and supports and serves the South Dakota visitor industry.

Department of Transportation (DOT) - provides an effective and efficient transportation system to satisfy diverse mobility needs while retaining concern for safety and the environment. The DOT system and services covers all transportation systems in the state, including highways and bridges, aviation and airports, railroads and public transit.

Governor's Office of Economic Development (GOED) - The GOED grows South Dakota's Gross Domestic Product by assisting businesses in capital investment and quality job creation.