

South Dakota Real Estate Cheat Sheet 2026

The night-before summary, built like the exam.

— Scored questions	— Time limit	75% on each portion (nat... Passing score
— Exam fee	South Dakota Real Estat... Governing body	— Pass rate

The numbers to remember

- Two portions: national and South Dakota state law, administered by PSI.
- National: 90 items (100 points), 150 minutes, pass at 75%.
- State: 52 items (52 points), 120 minutes, pass at 75%.
- Testing locations: Madison, Rapid City, and Sioux Falls (computer-based).
- Minimum age 18; must be a U.S. citizen or South Dakota resident.
- Broker Associate path includes a 116-hour prelicensing course.
- File your license application within 60 days of your passing notice.
- Broker Associate application fee is reported at \$225; renewal is reported at \$125 every 2 years.

Content domains and weights

- National — Contracts: 19% (largest national domain)
- National — Agency: 13%
- National — Practice of Real Estate: 12%
- National — Property Ownership: 10%
- State — Statutory Requirements: 42 items (dominant share of the 52-item state portion)
- State — Licensing Requirements: 6 items
- State — Commission Duties/Powers: 4 items

High-yield review areas

- Contracts and agency together are the single biggest chunk of the national portion — review these last-mile.
- Statutory requirements alone make up roughly 4 of every 5 state-portion questions; over-index your review here.
- Know the 75% passing threshold applies to each portion separately — there is no averaging across national and state scores.
- Retake rule: if you fail only one portion, you retake only that portion, not the whole exam — so a strong pass on one side is banked and never has to be repeated.
- Timing: you cannot retest the same day you fail, but the turnaround can be short — for example, a Wednesday fail can sometimes retest as early as Friday, depending on seat availability.

Top traps

- Do not assume a strong national score offsets a weak state score, or vice versa — both must independently clear 75%.
- Do not assume you can retest the same day after a fail; plan for at least a short scheduling gap (as early as the next available slot, availability permitting).
- Do not treat licensing requirements and Commission duties as skippable just because they carry fewer items (6 and 4) — a few missed points there matters on a 52-item section.
- Remember the Broker Associate license is a step toward Responsible Broker, which needs 2 years of active status plus a

24-hour course on top of the same 75% exam standard — don't confuse the two credentials' requirements.

Official sources

- South Dakota Real Estate Commission (SD Department of Labor and Regulation) — Real Estate Broker Associate Examination — Candidate Information Bulletin (PSI Services LLC): <https://proctor2.psionline.com/programs/Instructions/SDRE.pdf>
- South Dakota Real Estate Commission (SD Department of Labor and Regulation) — South Dakota Real Estate Commission - License Types and Requirements: https://dlr.sd.gov/realestate/license_types_requirements.aspx
- South Dakota Real Estate Commission (SD Department of Labor and Regulation) — South Dakota Real Estate Commission - Fee Schedule: <https://dlr.sd.gov/realestate/fees.aspx>

Free practice questions for this exam: www.everyexamprep.com/practice/exams/real/south-dakota-real-estate-broker-associate