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### **Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium (SBAC)**

South Dakota along with 30 states have joined the SBAC.

- Consortium of 31 states which won a \$176M grant from the USDOE to develop a comprehensive assessment system that includes formative (interim & benchmark) and summative assessments linked to CCSS (one of two national consortia).
- Membership is limited to states that formally adopt the CCSS by **December 31, 2011**.
- States that adopt the Common Core State Standards later and that do not participate in either of the national assessment consortia may choose to purchase assessments developed by the consortia for use beginning in 2014–15.
- SBAC will produce a summative test that will measure CCSS standards from Grades 3–11 by 2014–15. The exam will use adaptive technology in the construction of the exam, meaning that a positive answer to a particular question will generate a more difficult next question (and the reverse for a wrong answer). This technology allows test length to be reduced over traditional tests.
- SBAC also will produce formative exams and resources that will be available for teachers throughout the year. These exams will inform instruction by giving teachers diagnostic information about the extent students have mastered concepts and developed necessary skills. Professional development resources will also be available through this effort.