



STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Mick Zais
Superintendent

1429 Senate Street
Columbia, South Carolina 29201

MEMORANDUM

TO: District Superintendents

FROM: Mick Zais, Ph.D.
State Superintendent of Education

DATE: May 23, 2014

RE: Act 155 Diploma Procedures

Through the passage of Act 155, the South Carolina General Assembly approved the removal of the exit exam as a requirement for graduation beginning with the graduating class of 2015. The elimination of the exit exam (BSAP, HSAP) requirement is retroactive to the graduating class of 1990. The Office of Federal and State Accountability at the South Carolina Department of Education has written procedures for districts and the Department to follow in order to meet the diploma petition process required by this legislation. **Please note that the General Assembly established the dates and petition process to be followed in the law, and the Department's guidance will ensure statutory compliance.**

For additional information or clarification please contact Marty Martin at mamartin@ed.sc.gov or (803) 734-8111. A copy of the legislation is also included.

I am encouraging each district to allow students with a certificate who can petition for a diploma to participate in graduation ceremonies.

cc: Secondary Principals

enclosures: Act 155 Diploma Granting Procedures
Act 155