



**STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION**

MOLLY M. SPEARMAN
STATE SUPERINTENDENT OF EDUCATION

MEMORANDUM

TO: Superintendents
Human Resources Personnel

FROM: Angela Bain, Ph.D.
Deputy Superintendent, Division of Educator Effectiveness

DATE: June 10, 2015

RE: Career Changers Alternative Principal Pathway (CCAPP)

In July 2011, the South Carolina Department of Education (SCDE) updated district superintendents regarding amendments to Regulation 43-64 (Requirements for Certification at the Advanced Level). Amendments to this regulation addressed the alternative certification of principals (Alternative Route for Career Changers) and became effective July 1, 2012. For your reference, a copy of the relevant portion of Regulation 43-64 is attached.

A primary reason for the amendment was to provide district superintendents another option for filling assistant principal positions with talented candidates, especially in more rural areas of our state. Provided that requirements in the regulation and the alternative principal certification program are fulfilled, the candidate would be eligible for Tier I principal certification after three years of successful experience as an assistant principal in that district (please refer to the regulation). As stipulated in the regulation, a candidate would be eligible for an initial one-year alternative principal certificate provided the candidate:

- 1) Has a master's degree;
- 2) Provides verification of at least three years of successful experience in leadership, supervision, upper-level management, or other position in a business, corporation, agency, or the military *with responsibilities similar to those of a principal; and*
- 3) Has the recommendation by the superintendent of a South Carolina public school district planning to employ the individual as an assistant principal.

If you are considering a candidate for an assistant principal's position under the Career Changers Alternative Principal Pathway (CCAPP), please contact Mrs. Sally Barefoot in the SCDE Office of School Leadership at (803) 896-0202, sbarefoot@ed.sc.gov. She can discuss your candidate's specific situation and how we may assist you and your district.

Attachment