# School Calendar Checklist

The South Carolina Department of Education (SCDE) does not approve of school calendars prior to their publication or implementation. Local school boards are responsible for approving school calendars, while the SCDE monitors them for compliance with state statutes and regulations.

This checklist provides an overview of the key issues to consider when developing a school calendar.

_____ 190 days annually [§ 59-1-425]

_____ Minimum of 180 days of instruction covering at least nine calendar months; all 180 days must be in-person [§ 59-1-425 and S. 704]

_____ No instructional days should be classified as eLearning unless in response to emergency situations (e.g., inclement weather). eLearning days are not scheduled in advance or included on the published school calendar [January 31, 2023 Memo]

_____ At least three (3) days to be used as make-up days [§ 59-1-425]

_____ Four (4) scheduled days to be used for collegial professional development [§ 59-1-425]

_____ Does not start before the third Monday in August, unless operating on a year-round modified school calendar [§ 59-1-425]

_____ Closed general election day in November of each even-numbered year; virtual/eLearning is not allowed [§ 59-1-370]

For questions regarding school calendars, contact Sarah Fischer at sfischer@ed.sc.gov.