



SC Diploma Pathway Project

December 7, 2017

Molly M. Spearman – State Superintendent of Education

Diploma Pathways Presenters

In order of presentation:

- ❖ **Sherrie Beaver**- Office of Student Intervention Services
- ❖ **Kama Staton**- Office of Career and Technology Education
- ❖ **Katina Montgomery**- Office of Virtual Education
- ❖ **Tabitha Strickland**- Office of Special Education Services

Today's Presentation will include-

- a history and overview of the Diploma Pathways Initiative and implications for School Counseling personnel,
- an introduction to Seals of Distinction/Endorsements;
- clarification of EEDA vs. CATE majors,
- information to distinguish Virtual SC's role in Diploma Pathways,
- an introduction to the Employability Credential, and
- concluding reminders and dates for School Counseling personnel.

Diploma Pathway Work Details

- **June 2016 – July 2016**
 - **Convened Internal SCDE Group and Examined Practices, Data, Resources, Policies and Regulations to Identify Barriers and Improvements Foundational to the Diploma Project;**
- **August 2016 – November 2016**
 - **Convened External Work Group with School and District Expertise to Examine the Work in Other States, the Proposed Accountability Design, Data, Federal and State Legislation, Current Research and Best Practice to Develop the New Diploma Design;**
- **November – December 2016 Presentations:**
 - **Provided Face-to-Face and Virtual Presentations to Superintendents, Instructional Leaders, Commission on Higher Education, State Board of Education, Special Education Directors, and Several Specific Cross-Representational Stakeholder groups to Vet the Work of the External Work Group;**
- **January - June 2017 – SCDE presented to Legislature ; Signed into law;**
- ❖ **59-39-100 – Issuance of uniform diplomas by accredited high school; units required.**

❖ 59-39-100.

Supports the Profile of the S.C. Graduate

PROFILE OF THE South Carolina Graduate

WORLD-CLASS KNOWLEDGE

Rigorous standards in language arts
and math for career and college
readiness

Multiple languages, science, technology,
engineering, mathematics (STEM), arts and
social sciences



WORLD-CLASS SKILLS

Creativity and innovation
Critical thinking and
problem solving

Collaboration and teamwork
Communication, information,
media and technology
Knowing how to learn

LIFE AND CAREER CHARACTERISTICS

Integrity • Self-direction • Global perspective • Perseverance • Work ethic • Interpersonal skills

© SCASA Superintendents' Roundtable

Adopted by: SC Arts in Basic Curriculum Steering Committee, SCASCD, SC Chamber of Commerce, SC Council on Competitiveness, SC Education Oversight Committee, SC State Board of Education, SC State Department of Education, TransformSC Schools and Districts.

Components of the Initiative

- One State High School Diploma
- Personalized Pathways
- Seals of Distinction
- State Employability Credential

Personalized Pathway Example: Math

DIPLOMA	
Content	Course Options Should be Aligned to Students' Post-Secondary Plans
Math	<p>4 Credits Required</p> <p>Algebra I* or Foundations of Algebra and Intermediate Algebra*</p> <p>Algebra II</p> <p>Geometry</p> <p>Customized Algebra I and Algebra II*</p> <p>Customized Geometry</p> <p>Integrated, applied, innovative, or customized courses for students' personalized career paths considered on an individual student basis <u>if the courses align with the SC academic standards in mathematics.</u></p> <p>4th Math is aligned to students' post high school plans.</p> <p><u>Applied Mathematics Examples Only (Max 2 credits):</u></p> <p>Personal Finance</p>

Personalized Pathway Example: English

	DIPLOMA
Content	Course Options Should be Aligned to Students' Post-Secondary Plans
English	<p>4 Credits Required</p> <p>English I*, II, III, IV or designated combination of 4 courses</p> <p>Customized English I*, II, III, IV: Integrated, applied, innovative, or customized courses for students' personalized career paths considered on an individual student basis if the courses align with the SC academic standards in English.</p> <p>Applied English choices aligned to students' post high school plans.</p> <p><u>Applied English Examples Only (Max 1 credit)</u></p> <p>Public Speaking Business English</p>

South Carolina Graduation Seals Criteria

Students enrolled in South Carolina high schools shall have the opportunity to earn graduation *Seals of Distinction* within each high school diploma pathway that identifies a particular area of focus, beginning with the freshman class of 2018-19. The earning of a graduation seal(s) shall be based upon the following criteria:

- A. Students shall meet all requirements set forth in State Board Policy R43-234: State Graduation Requirements related to earning a high school diploma.**
- B. Students may earn one or more *Seals of Distinction* including an Honors Seal, College Seal, Career Seal, Specialization Seal (with focus areas in the following: STEM, World Language, Arts, and Military).**
- C. English I, II, III, IV or their course equivalents (Customized English I, II, III, IV), or higher level substitutes (AP, IB, or Dual Credit) must be taken to earn all *Seals of Distinction*.**
- D. Students are not required to earn a *Seal of Distinction* in order to receive a diploma.**
- E. The implementation of this policy is required for all Local Education Agency⁹ high schools.**

Honors Seal of Distinction

- A. English I–IV – At least two courses at the honors level or higher.**
- B. Mathematics – Algebra I, Geometry, and Algebra II with at least two at the honors level or higher and a fourth honors or above mathematics course with Algebra II as a pre-requisite.**
- C. Science – Three units of a lab science including at least one course in biology and one course in chemistry and a third science with biology and chemistry as a prerequisite. At least two of the science courses must be at the honors level or higher.**
- D. Social Studies – Three units of social studies including U.S. History and Government/Economics and a third course of the student’s choice with at least two at the honors level or higher.**
- E. World Language – At least two world language courses in the same language other than English.**
- F. Advanced Coursework – At least four higher-level courses during junior and/or senior years which carry quality points at the honors, Advanced Placement, International Baccalaureate or Dual Enrollment level (*Note: Honors and dual credit CATE courses as well as Project Lead the Way courses are included*).**
- G. GPA – A GPA on the *State Uniform Grading Scale* of 3.5 or higher.**

Specialization Seals of Distinction

This seal supports the Profile of the South Carolina Graduate by allowing students to concentrate in STEM, World Language, the Arts, and the Military. These requirements are in addition to the requirements of the standard diploma as set forth by State Board Policy.

- **STEM – Four elective courses beyond the required courses in math, science, and technology with at least two courses at the honors level or higher. The four courses may be in one area of STEM or across the four areas of STEM.**
- **Military – Four courses in JROTC and a score of 31 or higher on the ASVAB assessment.**

(Continued...)

Specialization Seals of Distinction

Continued

- **Arts** – Four elective courses in single or multiple areas of the Arts with two or more courses at the honors or AP/IB levels. Successful demonstration of mastery on an externally validated performance task (AP exam of 3 or IB exam of 4 may count if the courses are taken before the senior year).
- **World Language** – Proficiency in a language other than English by completing a four course concentration in the same language and/or demonstrating proficiency with a score of “Intermediate Low” or higher on the American Council for Teaching of Foreign Language (ACTFL) Exam. AP exams of 3 or higher or IB exam of 4 or higher may demonstrate proficiency if courses are taken before the senior year. Limited English Proficiency students may complete the same criteria above but also demonstrate English proficiency with a Level 5 composite score or higher on the ACCESS language proficiency test.
- **GPA** – For all of the specialization seals, the student shall earn a GPA on the *State Uniform Grading Scale* of 3.0 or higher.

College-Ready Seal

- A. **Mathematics** – Algebra I, Geometry, and Algebra II with at least two at the honors level or higher and a fourth honors or above mathematics course with either Algebra II or Integrated Mathematics III as a pre-requisite.

- B. **Science** – Three units of a lab science including at least one course in biology and one course in chemistry and a third lab science with biology or chemistry as a prerequisite. *(Note: South Carolina’s physical science course is not counted as a lab science by the Commission on Higher Education).*

- C. **Social Studies** – Three units of social studies including U.S. History and Government/Economics and a third course of the student’s choice.

- D. **World Language** – At least two world language courses other than English.

- E. **Fine Arts** – At least one fine arts course.

- F. **GPA** – GPA on the State Uniform Grading Scale of 3.0 or higher or the college ready benchmark on the ACT (18 English/22 mathematics).

Career Seal of Distinction

- A. Mathematics – Algebra I, Geometry, and Algebra II or customized math sequence and a fourth math course (including applied math courses) aligned to post secondary career goals.**

- B. Science – Three units of science with at least one course in biology and two courses (including applied science courses) tied to postsecondary career goals.**

- C. Career and Technical Education – Completion of a major (four aligned courses within a career cluster designated by the district as a part of the EEDA) in one of the 16 national career clusters listed on the following slide.**

- D. Earn at least one industry-recognized credential, a Career Readiness Certificate (CRC) at the Silver or higher on WorkKeys (or designated career readiness assessment), or a semester-long WBL placement credit.**

- E. GPA on the *State Uniform Grading Scale* of at least 2.5**

16 National Career Clusters

- **Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources**
- **Architecture & Construction**
- **Arts, A/V Technology & Communications**
- **Business Management & Administration**
- **Education & Training**
- **Finance**
- **Government & Public Administration**
- **Health Science**
- **Hospitality & Tourism**
- **Human Services**
- **Information Technology**
- **Law, Public Safety, Corrections & Security**
- **Manufacturing**
- **Marketing**
- **Science, Technology, Engineering & Math**
- **Transportation, Distribution & Logistics**

SC Diploma Pathways Career Seal of Distinction

- A. **Mathematics** – Algebra I, Geometry, and Algebra II or customized math sequence and a fourth math course (including applied math courses) aligned to post secondary career goals.
- B. **Science** – Three units of science with at least one course in biology and two courses (including applied science courses) tied to postsecondary career goals.
- C. **Career and Technical Education** – Completion of a major (four aligned courses within a career cluster designated by the district as a part of the EEDA) in one of the following national career clusters:
- Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources
 - Architecture & Construction
 - Arts, A/V Technology & Communications
 - Business Management & Administration
 - Education & Training
 - Finance
 - Government & Public Administration
 - Health Science
 - Hospitality & Tourism
 - Human Services
 - Information Technology
 - Law, Public Safety, Corrections & Security
 - Manufacturing
 - Marketing
 - Science, Technology, Engineering & Math
 - Transportation, Distribution & Logistics
- D. Earn at least one industry-recognized credential, a Career Readiness Certificate (CRC) at the Silver or higher on WorkKeys, or a semester-long WBL placement credit.
- E. GPA on the *State Uniform Grading Scale* of at least 2.5

EEDA Major vs. CATE Completer

- **EEDA Major:** Completion of four aligned courses within a career cluster designated by the *district's curriculum framework* for the career clusters of study.
- **CATE Completer:** A **Completer** is a CATE concentrator who has earned **all** of the required units in a state-recognized CATE program identified by the assigned CIP code.

---Courses in a district's curriculum framework could include Local Board Approved (LBA) courses that are NOT CATE courses.---

Implications for School Counseling Personnel

- **IGPs for Rising Freshmen Class 2018-2019**
 - Awareness of the coming options;
 - Course selections over next 3-4 years will evolve.

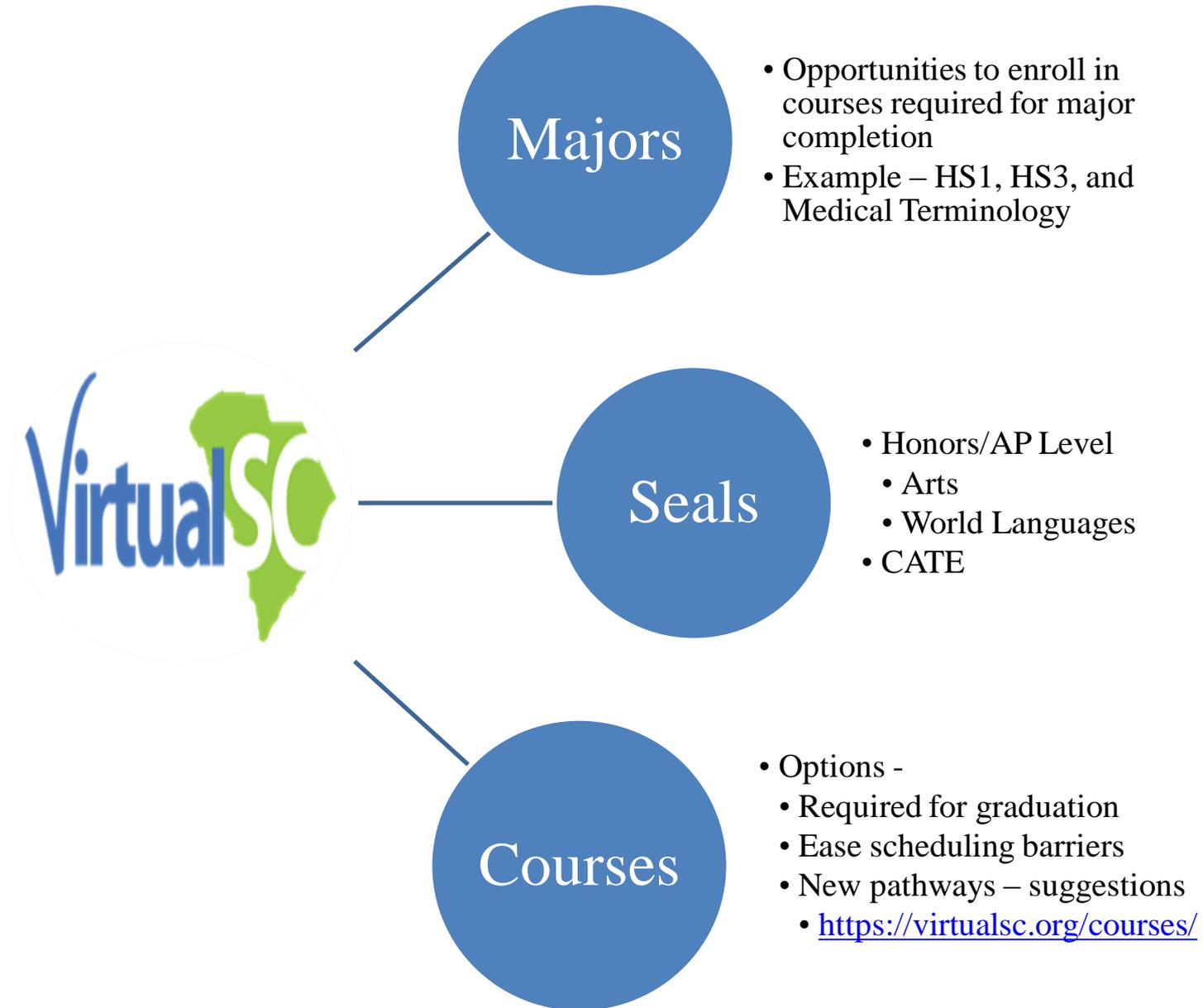
*Remember availability of VirtualSC course options.
- **Personalized Pathways/Customized Courses**
 - Districts will determine the pathways/courses offered based on SCDE approved list/agreements and guidance.
- **Seals of Distinction- Endorsements**
 - Not required- Some type of designation awarded if one or more completed;
 - Power School Reports should assist in identification.
- **Career Assessment Utilization-**
 - Important to use this information to assist in choosing pathways that align with post-secondary plans.



What is VirtualSC?

- Supplemental program that offers courses for high school credit to students in grades 7-12.
 - Free-of-charge.
 - Not a school and does not issue credit or diplomas.
 - No limit to the number of courses per student.
 - Students must be enrolled in grades 7-12 in a South Carolina public, private, homeschool or adult education program.
 - Enrollment is based on a first-come, first served basis with priority enrollment for juniors and seniors.

VirtualSC & Diploma Pathways



Course Registration Dates

- Spring Session 2018
 - January 3-17 (Grades 11-12)
 - January 10-17 (Grades 7-10)
 - January 3 – March 9 (CR)
- Summer Session 2018
 - May 16-30 (Grades 11-12)
 - May 23-39 (Grades 7-10)
 - April 25 – June 8 (CR)



Fast Track Sessions

- 8-week courses
 - Offered during fall and spring semesters
 - 2017-18 Available Courses:
 - Computer Applications
 - Family Life Education
 - Health Science 1
 - Keyboarding
 - Medical Terminology
 - Personal Health
 - Music Appreciation
 - Physical Education
 - Sociology
- Spring Fast Track registration opens:
 - February 7 (Grades 11-12)
 - February 14 (Grades 7-12)
- Spring Fast Track registration closes – February 21



South Carolina's Employability Credential

Tabitha Strickland

**South Carolina Department of
Education**

Office of Special Education Services

Considerations

- Applicable students with IEPs
- Not a high school diploma
- About 1/2 of districts already award a comparable credential at the local level
- Standardized, state-recognized credential
 - Student recognition
 - Employer documentation of skills for competitive employment
- Assurances are needed to protect students so that they are not inappropriately identified

Phase I: Regulate

New Regulation 43-235

- A.** Introduction (alignment to federal requirements) and purpose
- B.** Definitions (to clarify and have common language)
- C.** Requirements
 - a) For students – academic and work experience
 - b) For schools – policies, procedures
- D.** Monitoring and Enforcement

Employability Credential Regulation

DRAFT Coursework & Components (1)

24 earned units that include course work aligned with the SC College and Career-Ready Standards

4 Units	English Language Arts
4 Units	Mathematics
2 Units	Science
2 Units	Social Studies
4 Units	Employability Education
1 Unit	Physical Education/Health (or equivalent)
1 Unit	Technology Course
6 Units	Electives

Please note this is a draft – not the finalized regulation - and the details are subject to change.

Employability Credential Regulation **DRAFT Coursework & Components (2)**

In addition to completing the coursework outlined on the previous slide, to receive an Employability Credential, a student must:

1. Complete a career portfolio that includes a multimedia presentation project;
2. Obtain work readiness assessment results that demonstrate the student is ready for competitive employment and ...

Please note this is a draft – not the finalized regulation - and the details are subject to change.

Employability Credential Regulation

DRAFT Coursework & Components (3)

3. Complete work-based learning/training that totals at least 360 hours, in which:

- ✓ Work-based learning/training may be school-based, community-based, and/or paid or unpaid employment;
- ✓ Work-based learning/training must be aligned with the student's interests, preferences, and postsecondary goals and individual graduation plan; and
- ✓ Paid employment must be at a minimum wage or above and in compliance with the requirements of the Federal Fair Labor Standards Act.

Please note this is a draft – not the finalized regulation - and the details are subject to change.

Phase II: Plan

- Develop guidance documents and course descriptions
 - Academics
 - Work Experience
 - Monitoring/Reporting/Policies
- Collaborate w/ intra-agency offices and external partners to ensure plan aligns with Pathways to a Diploma
- Implement Statewide Support for Rollout
 - Information will be forthcoming

Phase III: Implement

Begins
2018-2019
Freshman
Class

Employability Credential

Districts with Occupational
Credentials:
Minimal support

Districts with Occupational
Credentials:
Targeted support

Districts w/o Occupational
Credentials:
Intensive Support

Office of Special Education Services

John R. Payne

Director

jrpayne@ed.sc.gov

Tabitha S. Strickland

Education Associate

tstrickland@ed.sc.gov

803-734-8224

Still have questions about the Employability Credential?

[OSES Website](#)

[TASC Website](#)

Try our online Q & A forum:

https://padlet.com/transition_sc/credential

Communication

School Counseling ListServ

- SCDE main method of communication to all guidance personnel to release most up to date information
- Previously called the Guidance ListServ
- Moderator is in place to review before posting
- Link:
<http://listserv.ed.sc.gov/scripts/wa.exe?SUBED1=guidance&A=1>
- Encourage all School Counselors, Career Specialists, Work-Based Learning Coordinators, and School Counseling personnel to join the ListServ

Webinars and Reminders

Additional Webinar

- **EEDA/IGP Updates
(Take 2- Re-recording)
December 14
10-11:30am**

Important Deadlines:

- **CSAR Report- Period 1
Due on or before
January 19, 2018**
- **CSAR Report- Period 2
Due on or before
May 18, 2018**
- **IGP Completion in PS
due on or before
May 25, 2018**



Shout Out to...
Office of Intervention Services
Director – Dr. Sabrina Moore

Best Practices Needed!
Send your stories for publication
consideration in our Newsletter.

[Sherrie Beaver](#)

sbeaver@ed.sc.gov

Office of Intervention Services

Wishing you a well-deserved
Happy Holiday Season!



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