



**STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA**  
**DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION**

**MOLLY M. SPEARMAN**  
*STATE SUPERINTENDENT OF EDUCATION*

**MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** District Instructional Leaders

**FROM:** Dr. Anne Pressley  
Director, Office of Standards and Learning

**DATE:** September 2020

**RE:** 3-12 Rigor for Gifted and Talented Students Professional Learning Opportunity

The Office of Standards and Learning will offer a free, ongoing, virtual professional learning opportunity to support teachers. This professional learning opportunity is designed to focus on maintaining rigor for gifted and talented students through self-directed inquiry in a virtual environment. Participants will engage in research-based, effective virtual/hybrid instruction to apply in their classrooms.

Participation in this series will afford attendees the opportunity to deepen their knowledge and understanding of the *Gifted and Talented Best Practices Guidelines* as well as an understanding of how the *South Carolina College- and Career-Ready Standards* support gifted education through the following:

- maintaining rigor for GT students through self-directed inquiry;
- creating learning experiences to analyze themes, problems, and issues within and across disciplines;
- supporting students through social and emotional learning by communicating abstract and complex ideas, relationships, and issues;
- developing skills needed to document and curate new learning and to plan for future experiences;
- applying new understandings from each professional learning session; and
- analyzing students' understanding to design instruction to further growth.

Throughout this series, participants will refine their practice through synchronous and asynchronous learning opportunities designed to support applying new knowledge in the classroom, analyzing its impact on student learning, and determining next steps to inform instructional planning.

Synchronous and asynchronous sessions will be provided through virtual platforms that will model research-based, effective practices designed to support virtual learning. Certificates of Completion for 20 hours will be issued to participants who meet all expectations of the professional learning opportunity.

**Dates and Times:**

<b>Option 1: Virtual Sessions</b>
Synchronous Monday, November 9 3:30-5:30p.m.
Asynchronous Week of November 16
Synchronous Monday, November 23 3:30-5:30p.m.
Asynchronous Week of November 30
Synchronous Monday, December 7 3:30-5:30p.m.
Asynchronous Week of December 14
Synchronous Monday, January 11 3:30-5:30p.m.
Asynchronous Week of January 18
Synchronous Monday, January 25 3:30-5:30p.m.
Asynchronous Week of February 1
Synchronous Monday, February 8 3:30-5:30p.m.
Asynchronous February 15
Synchronous Monday, February 22 3:30-5:30p.m.

<b>Option 2: Virtual Sessions</b>
Synchronous Tuesday, October 13 4:00-6:00p.m.
Asynchronous Week of October 19
Synchronous Tuesday, November 10 4:00-6:00p.m.
Asynchronous Week of November 16
Synchronous Tuesday, December 8 4:00-6:00p.m.
Asynchronous Week of January 11
Synchronous Tuesday, February 9 4:00-6:00p.m.
Asynchronous Week of February 15
Synchronous Tuesday, March 9 4:00-6:00p.m.
Asynchronous Week of March 15
Synchronous Tuesday, March 30 4:00-6:00p.m.
Asynchronous Week of April 5
Synchronous Tuesday, April 13 4:00-6:00p.m.

<b>Option 3: Virtual Sessions</b>
Synchronous Wednesday, November 4 4:30-6:30p.m.
Asynchronous Week of November 9
Synchronous Wednesday, December 2 4:30-6:30p.m.
Asynchronous Week of December 7
Synchronous Wednesday, January 13 4:30-6:30p.m.
Asynchronous Week of January 18
Synchronous Wednesday, January 27 4:30-6:30p.m.
Asynchronous Week of February 1
Synchronous Wednesday, February 17 4:30-6:30p.m.
Asynchronous Week of February 22
Synchronous Wednesday, March 3 4:30-6:30p.m.
Asynchronous Week of March 8
Synchronous Wednesday, March 24 4:30-6:30p.m.

<b>Option 4: Virtual Sessions</b>
Synchronous Thursday, November 5 3:00-5:00p.m.
Asynchronous Week of November 9
Synchronous Thursday, November 19 3:00-5:00p.m.
Asynchronous Week of November 30
Synchronous Thursday, December 10 3:00-5:00p.m.
Asynchronous Week of December 14
Synchronous Thursday, January 7 3:00-5:00p.m.
Asynchronous Week of January 11
Synchronous Thursday, January 21 3:00-5:00p.m.
Asynchronous Week of January 25
Synchronous Thursday, February 11 3:00-5:00p.m.
Asynchronous Week of February 15
Synchronous Tuesday, February 25 3:00-5:00p.m.

**Registration**

Registration must be submitted online via this [registration link](#). Registration for this professional learning opportunity will close one week prior to each first date.

**Contact Information**

For more information, please contact Josie Stratton, Education Associate for GT/AP/IB via [jstratton@ed.sc.gov](mailto:jstratton@ed.sc.gov).