SOUTH CAROLINA
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

MEMORANDUM

TO: District Superintendents

FROM: Kristi D. Austin, PhD
Director, Office of Assessment and Standards

DATE: September 22, 2026

RE: Classic Learning Test (CLT) Approved as College Entrance Assessment Option

Pursuant to South Carolina Code §59-18-325 (2025), all students must be offered a college entrance assessment from a provider secured by the South Carolina Department of Education (SCDE). Beginning with the 2026–27 school year, the SCDE is adding an additional college entrance assessment option.

The American College Test (ACT), the Classic Learning Test (CLT), and the SAT are approved college entrance assessment options for South Carolina students.

With this approval, districts and schools may offer the following college entrance examinations during the 2026–27 school year:

- ACT
- CLT
- SAT

Consistent with current statewide policy, the SCDE will reimburse the cost of one college entrance examination per student per year, regardless of which approved assessment the student selects.

For accountability purposes, only the SAT and ACT will be included as college-ready indicators.

Districts and schools are encouraged to review these college entrance assessment options and consider how each may align with local instructional priorities and student needs.

Districts or schools interested in learning more about these assessments, including test administration, alignment, or implementation considerations, may contact:

- ACT: Nivia Atwood, **Nivia.Atwood@act.org**
- CLT: Wes Gentry, **wgentry@cltexam.com**; or Charter Schools: Trent Kramer **tkramer@cltexam.com**
- SAT: Libby Brown, **libbrown@collegeboard.org**

Thank you for your continued leadership and commitment to ensuring South Carolina students have access to high-quality opportunities that support their future success.