



STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

ELLEN E. WEAVER
STATE SUPERINTENDENT OF EDUCATION

MEMORANDUM

TO: District Superintendents

FROM: Phillip Cease
Director of Governmental Affairs

DATE: March 7, 2023

RE: Distribution of Child ID Kits

South Carolina Child ID kits are in the process of being distributed to every school district in the state through a partnership with the South Carolina Attorney General's Office, South Carolina Department of Education (SCDE), and grant support from Duke Energy and Dominion Energy.

Under Act 180 of 2022, the Child ID law, districts are required to notify parents of the availability of the Child ID kits and should provide the kits at the parent's or guardian's request. There is no timeframe included in the law, but the SCDE would ask that the districts notify the parents by the end of March. While this first supply is for all students K-12, after this year, each child entering Kindergarten will have the same opportunity to request and receive a kit.

The Act does not prescribe the method to distribute the Child ID kits or the way in which parents should be notified of their availability. Below is some suggested language from the SCDE to use in notifying the parents of the kits availability:

In 2022, the South Carolina General Assembly unanimously passed S.1103, otherwise known as the South Carolina Child ID law. As a result, [INSERT SCHOOL DISTRICT NAME HERE] has been given at-home child ID kits that are available for each student. To obtain a kit for your student(s) please, [INSERT DISTRICT PLAN FOR KIT DISTRIBUTION].

These are inkless, at-home kits, stored by parents and guardians that never enter a database. This kit should take less than 2 minutes to complete and is designated to be stored solely by you as a parent or guardian in a cool, dry, and safe place at home.

Please understand there is no obligation to request or use the kit. However, it will allow you to have your child's vital information, fingerprints, and DNA in a safe place should you ever need it. These kits are to be **STORED AT HOME** and should only be given to law enforcement in case of an emergency.