

## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** District Superintendents  
Assistant Superintendents  
Principals  
District Foster Care Points of Contact  
Federal Program Directors  
School Counselors  
School Social Workers  
Attendance Supervisors

**FROM:** Kimberly Humphrey  
Foster Care State Point of Contact

**DATE:** July 29, 2025

**RE:** Education Stability Protocol

Educational stability for students in foster care is significantly challenged by frequent changes in placement. The inconsistency in placements disrupts access to educational resources and continuity of academic instruction. As students transition between different placements, they may encounter delays in school enrollment, gaps in assignments, learning loss, and other emotional stressors, all of which can hinder their ability to focus on and succeed in school.

The South Carolina Department of Education (SCDE) and the State Department of Social Services (DSS) are offering joint guidance on how to provide academic stability for students during changes in foster placement. In addition, this guidance highlights the necessary collaboration between school districts and DSS, as well as shared best practices to support students in foster care during such transitions.

Each School District should review the Stability Protocol and apply the available options when applicable to a student's situation. Additional technical assistance and opportunities will be provided in the coming school year. For any questions or feedback, please contact Kimberly Humphrey, Foster Care State Point of Contact, at [khumphrey@ed.sc.gov](mailto:khumphrey@ed.sc.gov).