



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

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

**MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** District Superintendents  
District Special Education Directors  
District Human Resources Directors

**FROM:** Molly M. Spearman  
State Superintendent of Education

**DATE:** August 4, 2020

**RE:** Educator Certification for Speech Language Pathologists

Effective July 1, 2020, the State Board of Education (SBE) approved issuance of educator certificates in the certification field of Speech Language Pathologist (SLP) and discontinued issuance of new educator certificates in the field of Speech Language Therapist. Based on this change, the South Carolina Department of Education has developed updated guidance regarding educator certification for SLPs working in public school settings in South Carolina. This guidance streamlines both the certification, application, and renewal processes for SLPs.

Individuals currently certified in the area of Speech Language Therapist may retain that certification field on their educator credential and continue in their current employed roles in school districts. They may also request an evaluation to determine eligibility for the certification field of SLP.

The attached guidance document provides additional information, and applicants and educators should review the webpage for [educator certification for SLPs](#). If you have questions regarding the certification process, please contact Mary Hipp, Director of the Office of Educator Services, at [mhipp@ed.sc.gov](mailto:mhipp@ed.sc.gov). For information regarding special education for students with speech-language impairment, please contact Rebecca Davis, Director of the Office of Special Education Services, at [rcdavis@ed.sc.gov](mailto:rcdavis@ed.sc.gov).