

MEMORANDUM

TO: District Superintendents

FROM: Bradley Mitchell
Director, Office of Virtual Education

DATE: May 27, 2026

RE: eLearning Days

Districts meeting SCDE criteria for eLearning may use up to five eLearning days to make up for short-term disruptions to in-person instruction (e.g., power outages, water main breaks). An eLearning day is used on the specific day schools would otherwise have had to close due to unforeseen emergencies or when a make-up day is normally used. These days provide flexibility to avoid loss of instruction due to school closings or manage necessary make-up days already included in the school calendar. For more details on using eLearning Days, see the [eLearning Days District Handbook](#).

Per § 59-1-425 of the South Carolina Code of Laws, each district must build three make-up days into their school calendars. eLearning days do not appear on the planning calendar. If an eLearning district uses a make-up day, it can choose to do so with eLearning, counting toward the five allowed eLearning days.

Application for New eLearning Districts/Schools:

Districts/ Schools that have never submitted applications to be considered for eLearning may [apply](#) from **May 18 through June 30**.

Continued eLearning Designation:

All current eLearning Days Districts/Schools must sign the agreement of terms that comes with the year's handbook. eLearning Districts are expected to follow the guidelines put forth in this handbook in the use of their eLearning Days. The signature [form](#) will be open from **May 18 through June 30**.

Calendar Note for eLearning Districts:

Approved eLearning districts are encouraged to include a note on the calendar about the use of eLearning for scheduled make-up days. An example of language that could be used for clarification is as follows:

District XXX is a SCDE approved eLearning district. The current provision allows the district to use up to five (5) days in eLearning. These days are for emergency situations, such as inclement weather or utility interruptions (for example, water line breaks or power outages). They are not planned days on the calendar.

Usage of eLearning Days:

An instructional day should be classified as eLearning only in response to emergency situations, such as inclement weather or utility interruptions that would typically cause a school to close.

Attendance Coding:

When an eLearning Day is in use, the attendance code for present students should be set to SC-VIRM in PowerSchool. In the Calendar and Closure System, select “Closed - eLearning”.

If you have questions about the use of eLearning days, please contact Tammy Hegler at tthegler@ed.sc.gov or Rebecca Velasquez at rvelasquez@ed.sc.gov. For questions regarding school calendars contact DEIM@ed.sc.gov.