



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

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

**MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** District Superintendents

**FROM:** David M. Mathis, Ed.D.  
Deputy Superintendent, Division of College and Career Readiness

**DATE:** August 31, 2021

**RE:** Frequently Asked Questions – Dual Modality

The South Carolina Department of Education (SCDE) previously provided districts with information related to [S. 704](#) in an [April 22, 2021, memorandum](#). Further clarification was provided in an April 27, 2021, [Frequently Asked Questions](#). The purpose of this memo is to provide additional information related to the dual modality section of S. 704.

Per S. 704, school districts are prohibited from assigning a teacher to deliver instruction to students simultaneously in-person and virtually unless it is reasonable and necessary due to extreme and unavoidable circumstances in order to ensure that all students have access to highly qualified instructors. In the event that a school district determines it is necessary for a teacher to deliver simultaneously in-person and virtual instruction, the school district must provide additional compensation to the teacher.

In an attempt to clarify further, please review the below responses to frequently asked questions the SCDE has received.

**What does the SCDE consider to be dual modality?**

In a dual modality model, a single class includes two groups of students. One group is receiving in-person instruction while the other group is simultaneously participating in the same lesson by viewing the instruction online. During this period of time, both groups of students are receiving the same content using the same activities. The instruction is considered dual modality even if the teacher is not differentiating instructions given to the in-person and online students.

**If a student is synchronously engaged via video stream in a class where other students are learning in person but does not have access to a chat feature or other direct communication function, is this considered dual modality?**

Yes. If a teacher is required to provide instruction to students in-person while also having students stream into the class virtually, this would be considered dual modality.

**Does the dual modality provision apply to all grade levels and content areas?**

Yes. The dual modality provision of S. 704 applies to teachers in all grade levels and content areas.

For additional information, please contact David Mathis, Deputy Superintendent of the Division of College and Career Readiness at [DMathis@ed.sc.gov](mailto:DMathis@ed.sc.gov).