

MEMORANDUM

TO: District Superintendents
District Instructional Leaders
Principals

FROM: Kristi D. Austin, PhD
Director, Office of Assessment and Standards

DATE: July 21, 2026

RE: Science Fall Office Hours

The Office of Assessment and Standards Science Standards Team is excited to offer Office Hours for Fall 2026. These sessions are designed for teachers of science. Each session will kick off with 20 minutes of facilitated learning centered around a science instructional practice, resources, or support. Following the learning, there will be dedicated time to answer pre-submitted questions. Please limit submitted questions to the topics of science standards, instruction, or assessment development. The August and September office hours will be for all K–12 teachers. Beginning in October the Office Hours will divide into Elementary (K–5) and Secondary (6–12).

K–12 Office Hours (3:45–4:30 p.m.)
August 12, 2026 What’s New for 2026–27: Science Resource Highlights August K–12 Registration
September 9, 2026 Life Cycle of an Item September K–12 Registration

Elementary Office Hours (3:00–3:45 p.m.)	Secondary Office Hours (4:00–4:45 p.m.)
October 14, 2026 Using Performance Tasks to Support Sensemaking October Elementary Registration	October 14, 2026 Claim–Evidence–Reasoning (CER) as a Cross Course Practice October Secondary Registration
December 9, 2026 Teaching Spotlight: Practical Strategies for the Classroom December Elementary Registration	December 9, 2026 Using State Assessment Online Tools Training (EOCEP Focus) December Secondary Registration

For more information about elementary office hours please contact Brent White at bcwhite@ed.sc.gov.

For more information about secondary office hours please contact C. Lark Widener at clwidener@ed.sc.gov.