

## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** District Superintendents  
Instructional Leaders

**FROM:** Dr. Alisha Green  
Director, Office of Instructional Supports

**DATE:** April 15, 2025

**RE:** Submission Process for 180-Day Attendance Waiver for Kindergarten & CERDEP to Administer Readiness Assessments

Act 114 of 2024 permits district superintendents or charter school authorizers to request a waiver from the South Carolina Department of Education (SCDE) to waive the minimum one hundred eighty-day school attendance requirement for kindergarten and South Carolina Child Early Reading Development and Education Program (CERDEP) students to administer readiness assessments. Upon approval of the waiver request, the school may administer these assessments to kindergarten and CERDEP students during a shortened school day within the first five days of the academic year.

Only 4K students enrolled in CERDEP are eligible for staggered starts. Should a district choose to administer CERDEP or kindergarten assessments on a staggered schedule during the first five days of school, [the superintendent is asked to complete this form](#).

Submit your waiver as soon as possible. Approval from the SCDE must be granted before the district's start date for 2025–26. If approved, the minimum 180-day attendance requirement is waived only for CERDEP and/or kindergarten students.

Contact the following individuals with questions:

- Dr. Tammy Graham, [tgraham@ed.sc.gov](mailto:tgraham@ed.sc.gov), for questions related to Act 114 of 2024;
- Dr. Meghan Walters-Branham, [mgwalters@ed.sc.gov](mailto:mgwalters@ed.sc.gov), for questions related to the administration of 4K and 5K Readiness Assessments: Teaching Strategies GOLD®, myIGDIs™ by Renaissance, and the Kindergarten Readiness Assessment (KRA); and
- Wyatt Cothran [wcothran@ed.sc.gov](mailto:wcothran@ed.sc.gov) for questions about PowerSchool or school setups.