



STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

MEMORANDUM

TO: District Superintendents
Principals
Instructional Leaders

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

DATE: April 30, 2024

RE: Summer 2024 Science Institute

The Office of Assessment and Standards Science Team is excited to announce the location and dates for the Summer 2024 Science Institute. This free, face-to-face professional learning opportunity will be centered around curriculum adaptation for the South Carolina College- and Career-Ready Science Standards 2021 (Science Standards). Participants from across the state will have the opportunity to collaborate and work towards adapting their district instructional materials to best fit the needs of their population of learners. This is based on the regional series offered in Fall 2023 and Spring 2024. Certificates of completion for 18 SCDE Renewal Activity Hours will be issued to participants who meet all expectations of the professional learning opportunity.

Participants will reflect on the first year of implementation of the Science Standards and:

- evaluate and adapt their selected instructional materials for alignment with the vision of three-dimensional science learning;
- assess and adjust the Performance Expectation bundles presented in their selected instructional materials for coherence from the student perspective;
- align and expand the phenomena presented in their selected instructional materials; and
- screen and revise the formative assessments within their selected instructional materials for alignment with the vision of three-dimensional science learning.

Meeting Time, Dates, and Location

- **Time:** Sessions will begin promptly at 8:30 a.m. and conclude by 3:00 p.m.
- **Dates:** This three-day series will be held July 23–25, 2024.
- **Location:** The Summer Institute is hosted by the South Carolina Virtual Charter School, 2023 Platt Springs Rd., West Columbia, SC 29169.
 - Participants are responsible for their own travel and lodging expenses. There are several hotels located along Interstate 26 and in downtown Columbia.

Expectations and Registration Information

- **Expectations:** Participants are expected to attend all three sessions. You may be grouped with educators from another district and will work with that group for the duration of the institute.
- **Audience:** The goal of this professional learning opportunity is for participants to take time to reflect on the first year of implementation of the Science Standards and to make adaptations to their instructional materials for future use. Thus, this institute is intended for:
 - Science Teacher Leaders
 - Curriculum Teams
 - Science Specialists
 - Teachers of Science
- **Registration:** Registration is limited. Registration must be submitted online by **June 15, 2024**, via this [registration form](#).
 - Note: Each registrant must use their own name and email address for registration. Generic registration information (for example: “District Representative”) with an administrator’s email will not be accepted.

For more information about this free professional learning opportunity, please contact C. Lark Widener at clwidener@ed.sc.gov.