



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

**MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** District Superintendents  
Instructional Leaders  
District Test Coordinators

**FROM:** Matthew Ferguson, Esq.  
Deputy Superintendent and Chief Academic Officer, Division of College and Career Readiness

**DATE:** August 8, 2023

**RE:** Waiver Requests for SC READY Grades 3–8

The [Education Accountability Act](#) (EAA) mandates computer-based testing for SC READY except for students with disabilities as specified in their Individualized Education Program, 504, or Individualized Language Acquisition Plan. The Technology Technical Assistance Proviso (Proviso 1.58) in the 2023 General Appropriations Bill allows districts and public charter schools to request a waiver from the State Board of Education (SBE) to administer the tests on paper.

The intent of this proviso is to provide financial assistance to districts that do not have sufficient devices or infrastructure to offer online testing. Waivers indicating that districts or specific schools do not have access to the internet or do not have appropriate technology to support online testing for all students are eligible to receive a waiver for 2023–24 school year.

The EAA also requires districts to administer SC READY during the last twenty days of each district's regular instructional calendar but allows districts and charter schools to request a waiver from the SBE to extend the testing window.

The deadline to submit waivers is **October 20, 2023**. Please note that this is a change from previous years to enable districts to enter data into PowerSchool before the precode extractions for grades 3–8 testing.

Waivers should be submitted using the [Waiver Request Form](#). Please send any questions to Susan Creighton at [screight@ed.sc.gov](mailto:screight@ed.sc.gov) in the Office of Assessment and Standards.