

## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** District Superintendents  
District Instructional Leaders  
Principals  
Read to Succeed Liaisons

**FROM:** Alisha Green, EdD  
Director, Office of Instructional Supports

**DATE:** August 12, 2025

**RE:** Year One and Year Two Reading Coach Training

The Office of Instructional Supports (OIS) provides all Read to Succeed (R2S) Reading Coaches with two years of professional learning designed to fulfill the requirements for the South Carolina Department of Education (SCDE) Literacy Coach Endorsement.

To earn this endorsement, coaches must complete two sequential courses:

1. Year One: *Principles of Coaching*
2. Year Two: *Action Research in Literacy Coaching*

Coaches are required to complete *Principles of Coaching* during their first year and *Action Research in Literacy Coaching* during their second year. Successful completion of both courses will result in SCDE Literacy Coach Endorsement and certificates of completion. The educator must submit a request to add the endorsement through My SC Educator Portal and upload the completion certificates.

### Course Structure and Delivery

Each course features monthly sessions delivered in a virtual or hybrid format, complemented by opportunities for individualized or small-group virtual support. The online learning experience is thoughtfully designed to engage participants in the work of coaching as scholar-practitioners, blending theory with practical application. To ensure full participation and minimize distractions, participants are expected to join sessions from a quiet, dedicated space conducive to professional learning.

August 12, 2025

Both courses will be offered monthly, with **registration required by August 29, 2025**. The registration link can be found on **page 3** of this memo.

## **Year One: Principles of Coaching**

The *Principles of Coaching* course focuses on developing foundational knowledge and skills for effective literacy coaching. Aligned with the **Literacy Competencies for South Carolina Reading Coaches**, the course helps participants:

- Define and model effective coaching practices
- Build partnerships with teachers to improve instruction
- Use coaching strategies to support school improvement and increase student achievement

Topics include adult learning theory, organizational change, literacy leadership, coaching models, MTSS, professional development design, and the relationship between teacher quality and student outcomes.

- **Syllabus:** *Year One Coach Training:* [Year One Principles of Coaching](#)

## **Year Two: Action Research in Literacy Coaching**

In the *Action Research in Literacy Coaching* course, coaches engage in theory-to-practice learning experiences that position them as practitioner researchers. Participants will:

- Explore foundational theories of action research
- Identify and investigate problems of practice within their coaching role
- Plan, collect, and analyze data related to coaching interventions
- Report findings and develop strategies for ongoing improvement

This course empowers coaches to reflect deeply on their work and its impact on teacher learning and student achievement.

- **Syllabus:** *Year Two Coach Training:* [Year Two Action Research in Literacy Coaching](#)

## **Registration Information**

Year One and Year Two Reading Coach Training  
Page 3

August 12, 2025

To ensure coaches receive the appropriate regional support from the SCDE Literacy Specialist team, registration is organized by geographic region. Please register for sessions within your designated region.

- **Registration Deadline:** August 29, 2025
- **Session Access:** Participants are expected to log in at least 30 minutes prior to each session start time
- **Regional Offerings:** See pages 3–4 for detailed charts outlining session schedules for Year One and Year Two coaches

Please [register](#) prior to Friday, August 29, 2025.

Year One Coach Training: <i>Principles of Coaching</i>	
<b>Upstate Dates:</b>  September 17, 2025  October 15, 2025  November 12, 2025  December 8-11, 2025  January 21, 2026  February 18, 2026  March 18, 2026  April 13-16 (choice), 2026	<b>Upstate Facilitators:</b>  Kathryn Gandy  Sandi Maddox  Bettina McNeil  Sarah Lynch
<b>Midlands Dates:</b>  September 15, 2025  October 13, 2025  November 10, 2025	<b>Midlands Facilitators:</b>  Jamilah Campbell  Renee Driggers  Cynthia Haigler

Year One and Year Two Reading Coach Training  
Page 4

August 12, 2025

December 8, 2025 January 12, 2026 February 9, 2026 March 9, 2026 April 20, 2026	Celeste Robertson
<b>Lowcountry Dates:</b> September 15, 2025 October 6, 2025 November 10, 2025 December 8, 2025 January 12, 2026 February 9, 2026 March 9, 2026 April 20, 2026	<b>Lowcountry Facilitators:</b> Rikki Benjamin Talana Palmer Jennifer Shuffler

<b>Year Two Coach Training: <i>Action Research in Literacy Coaching</i></b>	
<b>Year Two Upstate Dates:</b> September 24, 2025 October 22, 2025	<b>Facilitators:</b> Kathryn Gandy Sandi Maddox

Year One and Year Two Reading Coach Training  
Page 5

August 12, 2025

November 19, 2025 December 15-18, 2025 January 28, 2026 February 25, 2026 March 25, 2026 April 20-23 (choice), 2026	Bettina McNeil Sarah Lynch
<b>Midlands Dates:</b> September 22, 2025 October 20, 2025 November 17, 2025 December 15, 2025 January 20, 2026 February 23, 2026 March 16, 2026 April 21 & 22, 2026	<b>Facilitators:</b> Jamilah Campbell Renee Driggers Celeste Robertson Cynthia Haigler
<b>Lowcountry Dates:</b> September 22, 2025 October 20, 2025 November 17, 2025 December 15, 2025	<b>Facilitators:</b> Rikki Benjamin Talana Palmer Jennifer Shuffler

Year One and Year Two Reading Coach Training  
Page 6

August 12, 2025

January 20, 2026	
February 23, 2026	
March 17, 2026	
April 21 & 22, 2026	

If you have additional questions please contact Marie Gibbons, Read to Succeed Team Lead, at [mgibbons@ed.sc.gov](mailto:mgibbons@ed.sc.gov).