



SOUTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

SCHOOL DISTRICT MEMORANDA

ed.sc.gov



April 12, 2022

Missed last week's memos?

All SCDE weekly memo communications are archived [here](#). Individual memos can be found on the [School District Memoranda Archive](#).

COVID-19 TESTING

DHEC continues to strongly encourage schools to maintain capacity for testing as a preventative measure for increases in cases. Increased disease transmission due to spring break travel may be anticipated during this time. In light of recent increases in cases in Europe and parts of the U.S. due to the BA.2 subvariant, maintaining the ability to respond to potential outbreaks remains important. For those districts and charter schools using vendor tests, please consider using them for additional testing prior to events such as prom, field trips, and graduation as an additional precaution. An order form for at-home iHealth COVID-19 Antigen Rapid test kits has been sent via email to district superintendents, charter school principals in the SC Public Charter District and Charter Institute at Erskine, and district nurses. If your school or district has not ordered tests, consider making use of this opportunity to provide at-home tests for students and staff. If you did not receive the order form in error, please contact Kendra Neely at Covid19SCschools@dhec.sc.gov.

ASSESSMENT & STANDARDS

Testing Requirements for All Students

AUDIENCE: District Superintendents, Principals, District PIOs, District Instructional Leaders, District Testing and Accountability Leaders

CONTACT: Christina Melton, csmelton@ed.sc.gov

No Statutory provision exists for parents to opt their children out of testing. The state, districts, and schools are required by state and federal law to administer assessments to all public school students. Please ensure that your district and school leaders are consistently communicating that the schools' obligation is to administer tests to all students. Because of that obligation, it would not be appropriate to provide alternative activities for students in lieu of testing.

[Testing Requirements for All Students - Memo](#) PDF (168 KB)

EARLY LEARNING AND LITERACY

2021-22 Multi-Tiered System of Supports (MTSS) Required Reporting

AUDIENCE: District Superintendents, District Instructional Leaders, District MTSS Coordinators

CONTACT: Quincie Moore, qmoore@ed.sc.gov

On May 18, 2018, Governor Henry McMaster signed into law Act 213, which directed districts to begin implementation of MTSS during the 2019–20 school year. A full copy of the law, including requirements for schools, districts, and the state, may be found [here](#).

Act 213 requires all districts and charter schools to report data on the implementation of MTSS and literacy universal screening procedures. The South Carolina Department of Education (SCDE) will combine this data to present to the State Board and General Assembly. **These district reports are due to the SCDE by June 30, 2022.**

[2021-22 Multi-Tiered System of Supports \(MTSS\) Required Reporting - Memo](#) PDF (177 KB)

EDUCATOR EFFECTIVENESS & LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

Educator Effectiveness Professional Learning Library (PLL) Trainings

AUDIENCE: District Superintendents, Human Resource Directors, District Instructional Leaders

CONTACT: Faye Colley, fcolley@ed.sc.gov

The South Carolina Department of Education is pleased to provide districts, principals, and educators a new online PLL to support personalized professional learning of educators and school administrators. Research-based instructional and leadership resources are aligned with the domains and indicators outlined in the South Carolina Teaching Standards (SCTS) and the Program for Assisting, Developing, and Evaluating Principal Performance (PADEPP) Leadership Standards. The PLL can be accessed through the [SCLead.org](https://sclead.org) evaluation and support system and through <https://scde.pl.powerschool.com/>. Courses and videos will eventually be available through the South Carolina Instruction Hub.

[Educator Effectiveness Professional Learning Library \(PLL\) Trainings - Memo](#) PDF (220 KB)

Educator Effectiveness Professional Learning Opportunities 2022-23

AUDIENCE: District Superintendents, Human Resource Directors, District Instructional Leaders

CONTACT: Faye Colley, fcolley@ed.sc.gov

The Office of Educator Effectiveness and Leadership Development offers a variety of

professional learning opportunities to support districts and schools. South Carolina's educator evaluation systems are aligned with student-centered teaching and learning and the *Profile of the South Carolina Graduate*. Ongoing training for evaluators and district leaders is critical in ensuring the South Carolina Principal Standards, the South Carolina Teaching Standards (SCTS), and the 2020 Special Areas Evaluation Standards are implemented in ways that support educator growth and effective instruction in every school.

[Educator Effectiveness Professional Learning Opportunities 2022-23 - Memo](#) PDF (228 KB)

Leadership Development Professional Learning Opportunities 2022-23

AUDIENCE: District Superintendents, Human Resource Directors

CONTACT: Keasha Grant, ksgrant@ed.sc.gov, Tom Smith, tsmith@ed.sc.gov, Walter Clark, wclark@ed.sc.gov

The Office of Educator Effectiveness and Leadership Development is pleased to announce dates for instructional leadership development cohorts beginning summer and fall 2022. Our mission is to increase access to highly effective teaching and leadership for every student in South Carolina. Participants in our cohorts build their leadership capacity in three focus areas closely related to the *Profile of the South Carolina Graduate*: personalization, collective leadership, and equitable access to effective instruction.

[Leadership Development Professional Learning Opportunities 2022-23 - Memo](#) PDF (202 KB)

Principal Induction Program (PIP) Registration 2022-23

AUDIENCE: District Superintendents, Human Resource Directors

CONTACT: Frank Robinson, frobinson@ed.sc.gov

The South Carolina Principal Induction Program (PIP) is now accepting enrollment of all first-time principals for the 2022–23 school year. Satisfactory completion of PIP is required for all first-time principals per S.C. Code Ann. §§ 59-5-60 and 59-24-80. State Board of Education Regulation 43-165.1 defines a principal as, “the chief administrative head or director of an elementary, middle, or secondary school or of a vocational, technical, special education, or alternative school.” Induction principals are those serving for the first time as building-level principals. These principals are considered probationary until they have completed the requirements of PIP and have received an overall rating of Proficient or Exemplary on the Program for Assisting, Developing, and Evaluating Principal Performance (PADEPP) evaluation instrument in the second year of employment as a principal. The successful completion of PIP is the first step for a principal to move from Tier One to Tier Two of their principal certification.

[Principal Induction Program \(PIP\) Registration 2022-23 - Memo](#) PDF (136 KB)