



SOUTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

SCHOOL DISTRICT MEMORANDA

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August 3, 2021

Missed last week's memos?

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

EARLY LEARNING AND LITERACY

State Funded Reading/Literacy Coach Allocation

AUDIENCE: District Superintendents, School Business Officials, Read to Succeed Liaisons

CONTACT: Melanie Cooper (Funding) mcooper@ed.sc.gov, Marie Gibbons (MOA and Waiver), mgibbons@ed.sc.gov

This memo provides an overview of required documentation for districts utilizing their 2021–22 reading/literacy coach allocation(s).

Due to the pandemic closures, requirements for the hiring of reading/literacy coaches will continue under Provisos 1.60 and 1A.53 for FY 2021–22. Districts may utilize funding to employ school-based reading/literacy coaches that may serve in a primary, elementary, or middle school or a combination of these schools depending on the area of highest need in the district. The district must align the placement of coaches to the district reading plan that is approved by the South Carolina Department of Education (SCDE).

[State Funded Reading/Literacy Coach Allocation - Memo](#) PDF (189 KB)

[Reading/Literacy Coach List from the Office of Finance - Attachment](#) Excel (51 KB)

[Guidance Document for Coaches and Interventionists - Attachment](#) PDF (81 KB)

[Reading Coach Memorandum of Agreement - Attachment](#) PDF (162 KB)

2021-22 District and School Reading Plans (due October 15, 2021)

AUDIENCE: District Superintendents, District Instructional Leaders, School Principals, District Strategic Plan Contacts

CONTACT: Marie Gibbons, mgibbons@ed.sc.gov

The Read to Succeed Act requires that the South Carolina Department of Education (SCDE), with the approval of the State Board of Education (SBE), develop, implement, evaluate, and continuously refine a comprehensive state plan for pre-kindergarten through grade twelve to improve reading achievement. The South Carolina State Reading Plan has been developed to guide the support of the SCDE for districts and schools. The South Carolina State Reading Plan also provides guidance to district and school plans as they work to support the reading and writing development of their students with research-based, outcomes oriented strategies. The South Carolina State Reading Plan was approved by the SBE on June 10, 2015.

[2021-22 District and School Reading Plans \(due October 15, 2021\) - Memo](#) PDF (184 KB)

[Directions for Completing 2021-22 District and School Reading Plans - Attachment](#) PDF (211 KB)

FACE MASKS

Frequently Asked Questions - Face Masks

AUDIENCE: District Superintendents

CONTACT: Katie Nilges, knilges@ed.sc.gov

The purpose of this memo is to answer frequently asked questions related to the [July 6, 2021 memo](#) and Proviso 1.108.

[Frequently Asked Questions - Face Masks - Memo](#) PDF (166 KB)

PROVISO 1.96

Interim Assessment Proviso 1.96

AUDIENCE: District Superintendents, District Information Technology (IT) Leaders, District Instructional Leaders

CONTACT: Dan Ralyea, dralyea@ed.sc.gov

The South Carolina Department of Education (SCDE) has been directed under proviso 1.96 to create a report to the General Assembly on performance on interim assessments. The tests approved for interim assessment are STAR Reading and STAR Mathematics, MAP Growth and MAP for Primary Grades, and i-Ready® Diagnostic. Any changes to the approved interim list will be published [here](#). The guidelines for the approval process are available [here](#).

[Interim Assessment Proviso 1.96 - Memo](#) PDF (165 KB)

SOUTH CAROLINA ARTS COMMISSION

South Carolina Arts Commission Partnership

AUDIENCE: District Superintendents, Instructional Leaders

CONTACT: David Mathis, dmathis@ed.sc.gov, David Platts, dplatts@arts.sc.gov

The South Carolina Department of Education (SCDE) hosted a meeting on July 14, 2021, to outline plans for allocating state level Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER III) funds. One priority of the state funding is a partnership with the South Carolina

Arts Commission (SCAC). This partnership gives school districts opportunities to collaborate with the SCAC in providing innovative opportunities to accelerate learning for all students. The video linked here, [Arts Grow SC video](#), provides an overview of the opportunities as well as information on how to connect with the SCAC for technical assistance, guidance, and support.

[South Carolina Arts Commission Partnership - Memo](#) PDF (151 KB)

WAIVERS

AUDIENCE: District Superintendents

CONTACT: Katie Nilges, knilges@ed.sc.gov

The purpose of this memo is to remind districts of the expiration of [specific flexibilities previously granted](#) for the prior school year (2020–21) pursuant to Act 135.

[Expiration of Waivers Granted for 2020-21 School Year - Memo](#) PDF (170 KB)

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