



# SOUTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

## SCHOOL DISTRICT MEMORANDA

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August 8, 2023

### Missed last week's memos?

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

## ASSESSMENT AND STANDARDS

### Instructional Resources to Support the 2023 South Carolina College- and Career-Ready ELA Standards

**AUDIENCE:** District Superintendents, District Instructional Leaders, English Language Arts (ELA) Coordinators

**CONTACT:** Mandy Hocker, [mwhocker@ed.sc.gov](mailto:mwhocker@ed.sc.gov)

The Instructional Resources page to support the 2023 South Carolina College- and Career-Ready ELA Standards has been updated with support and supplemental documents to aid in the implementation of the 2023 SC CCR ELA Standards in the 2024-2025 school year.

[Instructional Resources to Support the 2023 South Carolina College- and Career-Ready ELA Standards - Memo](#) PDF (181 KB)

### Personalized Learning & Competency-Based Education Professional Learning Opportunities

**AUDIENCE:** Chief Academic Officers, Principals

**CONTACT:** [personalizedlearning@ed.sc.gov](mailto:personalizedlearning@ed.sc.gov)

The South Carolina Department of Education is pleased to announce the Office of Personalized Learning is joining the Office of Assessment and Standards (OAS). Within OAS, the Personalized Learning Team will be offering free, blended professional learning opportunities designed to meet the diverse needs of educators in implementing student-centered learning practices.

[Personalized Learning & Competency-Based Education Professional Learning Opportunities - Memo](#) PDF (135 KB)

# Waiver Requests for SC READY Grades 3-8

**AUDIENCE:** District Superintendents, District Instructional Leaders, District Test Coordinators

**CONTACT:** Susan Creighton, [screight@ed.sc.gov](mailto:screight@ed.sc.gov)

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.

[Waiver Requests for SC READY Grades 3-8 - Memo](#) PDF (132 KB)

## CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION

### Education and Economic Development Act Accountability Deadlines

**AUDIENCE:** District Superintendents, Finance Directors, Principals, EEDA Accountability Contacts, School Counseling Directors

**CONTACT:** Anna Duvall, [aduvall@ed.sc.gov](mailto:aduvall@ed.sc.gov)

For accountability purposes related to the Education and Economic Development Act (EEDA), the Office of Career and Technical Education and Student Transition Services collects the Career Specialist Accountability Report (CSAR) twice each year—in January and June—to ensure school counseling personnel are coordinating or facilitating various career awareness, exploration, and preparation opportunities for students throughout the academic year. Additionally, data is collected from the individual graduation plans that must be developed or annually updated for all students in grades 8–12.

[Education and Economic Development Act Accountability Deadlines - Memo](#) PDF (146 KB)

## EARLY LEARNING AND LITERACY

### State Funded Reading/Literacy Coach Allocation (due September 11)

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

**CONTACT:** Michael Scheele (Funding), [mscheele@ed.sc.gov](mailto:mscheele@ed.sc.gov), Marie Gibbons (MOA/Waiver), [mgibbons@ed.sc.gov](mailto:m gibbons@ed.sc.gov)

This memo provides an overview of required documentation for districts utilizing their 2023–24 reading/literacy coach allocation(s).

Requirements for the hiring of reading/literacy coaches continue under Proviso 1.51 for FY 2023–24. 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 (167 KB)

[Coach vs. Interventionist Guidance Document - Attachment](#) PDF (81 KB)

[Reading Coach MOA - Attachment](#) Docx (39 KB)

[Reading Coach District List - Attachment](#) Excel (5,866 KB)

## SAFE SCHOOLS

### School Resource Officer Needs Assessment Survey

**AUDIENCE:** District Superintendents

**CONTACT:** Michael Tucker, [michaeltucker@scdps.gov](mailto:michaeltucker@scdps.gov)

The South Carolina Department of Public Safety (SCDPS) sent superintendents in eligible districts the Needs Assessment Survey (linked below). Information provided will assist SCDPS in the development of its FY 24-25 budget request for the SRO program. Please complete the survey by Friday, August 25.

[FY 24-25 School Resource Officer Needs Assessment Survey](#)

## STRATEGIC ENGAGEMENT

### Substitute Survey and Support

**AUDIENCE:** District Human Resources Personnel

**CONTACT:** Mandy Roberts, [mroberts@scdps.gov](mailto:mroberts@scdps.gov)

In keeping with the South Carolina Department of Education's (SCDE) focus on ensuring that strategic initiatives support teachers and serve students, the agency is asking for your feedback on the issue of substitute teacher recruitment. Although substitutes were not explicitly named in the Teacher Recruitment and Retention Task Force Recommendations, many staff members have heard feedback regarding the difficulty in recruiting substitutes to the classroom and the impact on teachers and support staff of having to absorb responsibility for students without a substitute into their classrooms.

[Substitute Survey and Support - Memo](#) PDF (116 KB)

South Carolina Department of Education  
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