



SOUTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

SCHOOL DISTRICT MEMORANDA

ed.sc.gov



December 21, 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](#).

COVID-19 CASES

COVID-19 Cases Associated with Staff and Students

As of December 16, 2021, DHEC has reported the following student and staff quarantines and isolations since the beginning of the 2021-2022 school year:

- **238,867 student quarantines**
- **52,579 student isolations**
- **6,060 staff quarantines**
- **6,179 staff isolations**

[Student, Staff Isolation & Quarantine Report](#) (as of 12/16/2021)

[South Carolina County-Level Data for COVID-19](#) (as of 12/19/2021)

COVID-19 TESTING

DHEC Statement about CDC's MMWR Reports Evaluating the Effectiveness of Test to Stay Strategy for K-12 Students

The South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control (DHEC) is reviewing both MMWR reports released by CDC on Friday evaluating the effectiveness of a "test-to-stay" strategy for students in K-12 grades. This strategy would allow schools to perform rapid tests on K-12 students who may have been exposed to COVID-19 in the hopes that more students can remain in class rather than quarantining students who may not develop an infection. DHEC recognizes the effectiveness of in-person learning and how important being in school is for the academic, social, and mental development of our youth. We also want to ensure that all students, teachers, and faculty, have a safe and healthy school community.

DHEC continues encouraging vaccinations for all eligible residents, which now include ages 5

and older. The agency also continues to recommend universal masking in public settings and in areas of high and moderate transmission.

DHEC will continue to work with federal and state partners to implement evidence-based strategies to combat COVID-19 and its variants in South Carolina.

Here are the links to the new MMWRs and additional guidance CDC released on Friday:

- MMWR Test to Stay in LA County:
https://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/volumes/70/wr/mm705152e1.htm?s_cid=mm705152e1_w
- MMWR Test to Stay in Lake County, IL:
https://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/volumes/70/wr/mm705152e2.htm?s_cid=mm705152e2_w
- Updated webpage on COVID-19 Testing in Schools:
<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/schools-childcare/what-you-should-know.html>
- Updated Science Brief: https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/science/science-briefs/transmission_k_12_schools.html
- Updated banner on K-12 guidance: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/schools-childcare/k-12-guidance.html>
- FAQs for School Administrators: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/schools-childcare/admin-faq.html>

GRANTS

2022 Summer Reading Camp Community Partnership Grant Opportunity

AUDIENCE: District Superintendents, Public Information Officers, Community Partner Organizations

CONTACT: Ablean Hanna, ahanna@ed.sc.gov

The South Carolina Department of Education (SCDE) announces the Request for Proposals (RFP) for the 2022 Summer Reading Camp (SRC) Community Partnership Grant (CPG) under Proviso 1.57 of the General Appropriations Act is now available online. Approximately \$700,000 in funding will be distributed on a competitive basis. The deadline to apply is **5:00 p.m., February 24, 2022**. Applications must be submitted [online](#) and will not be accepted after this deadline.

The purpose of the SCR CPG is to provide grants to provide additional resources to support the SC Read to Succeed Act of 2014 by creating effective partnerships between community organizations and school districts to provide students who are significantly below grade-level reading proficiency with the opportunity to receive quality, intensive instructional services and support.

[2022 Summer Reading Camp Community Partnership Grant Opportunity - Memo](#) PDF (139 KB)

21st Century Community Learning Centers Subgrant Opportunity

AUDIENCE: District Superintendents, Principals, Public Information Officers

CONTACT: Joyce Patterson, jypatterson@ed.sc.gov, Amy Bosch, abosch@ed.sc.gov

The South Carolina Department of Education (SCDE) announces that the 2022–23 Request

for Proposals for the 21st Century Community Learning Centers (CCLC) subgrant program is now available online. Approximately \$3 million in funding will be distributed on a competitive basis and the deadline to apply is **March 7, 2022**.

For this funding round, the SCDE will fund public school districts, community-based organizations, Indian tribes or tribal organizations, faith-based organizations, and other public or private entities. All applicants must meet the criteria of a joint applicant to be considered for funding. Applicants must propose to establish or expand activities in community learning centers that provide opportunities for academic enrichment and tutorial services; offer students a broad array of additional services, programs, and activities; and offer families of students served opportunities for literacy and related educational development.

[21st Century Community Learning Centers Subgrant Opportunity - Memo](#) PDF (175 KB)

PUBLIC COMMENT

Model Policy for Library/Media Center Materials Selection and Reconsideration Process - Public Comment Requested

AUDIENCE: District Superintendents, District Supervisors of Library Media Services, School Librarians, School Board Members

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

The purpose of this memorandum is to inform districts of the opportunity to provide public comment on the [Model Policy for Library/Media Center Materials Selection and Reconsideration Process](#) and [Reconsideration of Library/Media Center Materials Form](#) presented at the December 14, 2021 State Board of Education meeting.

Public Comment may be provided by completing the following: [Best Practices and Model Policy for State Board of Education Feedback - Formstack](#).

[Model Policy for Library/Media Center Materials Selection and Reconsideration Process - Public Comment Requested - Memo](#) PDF (131 KB)

STUDENT INFORMATION SYSTEM

Updating Transcripts with Legal Name and Gender

AUDIENCE: District Superintendents, High School Principals, District PowerSchool Coordinators, District School Counseling Personnel Coordinators

CONTACT: Anna Duvall, aduvall@ed.sc.gov, Wyatt Cothran, wcothran@ed.sc.gov

The student transcript is an official academic record and legal document. As such, the student's legal name and gender are reflected on the official document. For the student's permanent record and legal documents, the Student Information System requires the entry of the student's legal name and gender.

Earlier versions of the Student Information System did not utilize the legal name and gender fields. Beginning in 2021-22, the Student Information System has included the legal name and gender fields, and therefore updating the student's official transcript is necessary. The Updating Transcripts with Legal Name and Gender procedures document is available here: [Updating Transcripts with Legal Name and Gender](#).

[Updating Transcripts with Legal Name and Gender - Memo](#) PDF (133 KB)

Important Information Concerning SketchUp Pro

AUDIENCE: District Superintendents, District Information Technology Leaders

CONTACT: Jeff Henry, rhenry@ed.sc.gov

SketchUp is a 3D modeling software program used by many schools. For several years, free access was provided to schools through a process by which the South Carolina Department of Education (SCDE) would “whitelist” IP Addresses enabling the schools to download the software. The SCDE’s Office of the Chief Information Officer wants to inform you that this licensing method, the SketchUp Pro Grant Program, will be ending on July 1, 2022; however, the program is transitioning to SketchUp for Schools, a free license issued directly to the interested school. The current licensing will be active until that time. The new software can be accessed here: <https://www.sketchup.com/products/sketchup-for-schools>. The software currently requires use with G-Suite or Microsoft Education.

[Important Information Concerning SketchUp Pro - Memo](#) PDF (132 KB)

