



SOUTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

SCHOOL DISTRICT MEMORANDA

ed.sc.gov



October 20, 2020

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

Updated DHEC Guidance Documents

The South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control (DHEC) continues to update their school based guidance documents with the latest public health information related to COVID-19. Please take a moment to review this important information.

[School & Childcare Centers \(COVID-19\)](#)

[Recent Disease Activity by County Report](#) (as of 10/15/2020)

[COVID-19 Cases Associated with Staff & Students](#) (as of 10/20/2020)

[Plexiglass Use in Schools](#) (released 10/5/2020)

[Identifying Close Contacts of Athletes in High School](#) (released 9/24/2020)

CORONAVIRUS RELIEF FUNDS

Coronavirus Relief Funds and Internet Hotspots/Services

AUDIENCE: District Superintendents, School Business Officials

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

The purpose of this memo is to provide districts with information related to the continuation of internet hotspots and services, as well as to share new guidance provided to the South Carolina Department of Education (SCDE) on the distribution of Coronavirus Relief Funds (CRF) to districts.

[Coronavirus Relief Funds and Internet Hotspots/Services - Memo](#) PDF (196 KB)

Add-On Weightings

AUDIENCE: District Superintendents, Chief Financial Office, PowerSchool IT Contacts

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

By proviso the Education Finance Act (EFA) has an add-on weighting to weighted pupil units (WPU) for academic assistance. Students in need of academic assistance are students who do not meet state standards in mathematics, English language arts (ELA), or both on state approved assessments in grades three through eight and high school assessments for grades nine through twelve. This includes any student who during the previous school year scored a “Does Not Meet” or “Approaches” on the ELA or Math sections of the Elementary/Middle School state standardized tests or who failed the end of course test (EOCEP) for either Algebra I or English I/II. Ordinarily an import of prior year test scores is provided to districts each year with instructions for importing into Student Performance Level fields in PowerSchool. ([2019-2020 Funding Manual](#) p.8) In a regular year that import translates to add-on weightings and WPUs.

Because of COVID-19, state summative assessment was suspended in spring 2020. The agency therefore does not have all of those assessment results for 2019-20, and cannot identify all of the specific individual students needing academic assistance. To continue to fund at levels to support academic assistance services, the SCDE will determine the percentage of students who were eligible for the add-on weight based on the 2018-19 school year and adjust the WPUs for 2020-21 by that percentage.

[Add-On Weightings - Memo](#) PDF (133 KB)