



SOUTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

SCHOOL DISTRICT MEMORANDA

ed.sc.gov



September 29, 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 9/24/2020)

Please note that the weekly DHEC Disease Activity by County Reports will now be released by DHEC every Thursday. This change was requested by the SCDE after feedback from school district leaders.

[COVID-19 Cases Associated with Staff & Students](#) (as of 9/29/2020)

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

ACCOUNTABILITY

Education and Economic Development Act Accountability Deadlines

AUDIENCE: District Superintendents, Finance Directors, Principals, School Counseling Directors

CONTACT: Sherrie Beaver, sabeaver@ed.sc.gov

For accountability purposes related to the Education and Economic Development Act (EEDA), the Office of Student Intervention Services (OSIS) collects two documents annually: the Employment Verification Form (EVF) and the Career Specialist Accountability Report (CSAR). Additionally, individual graduation plans must be developed or annually updated for

all students in grades 8–12.

The EVF is designed to ensure that the South Carolina Department of Education has provided funds directly to districts to assist schools in hiring adequate staff to meet the 300:1 student-to-guidance personnel ratio required by the EEDA. Therefore, an EVF must be completed by all school counseling personnel (counselors and career specialists) whose positions are either fully or partially funded by the EEDA. Please pass this information on to the appropriate school counselors and career specialists and require them to complete the [2020–21 Employment Verification Form](#) online as soon as possible but no later than Friday, October 30, 2020.

The CSAR is designed to ensure that school counseling personnel are coordinating or facilitating various career awareness, exploration, and preparation opportunities for students throughout the academic year. Therefore, a CSAR must be submitted twice each year—in January and May—for each middle, junior high, and high school, as well as each elementary school that serves sixth-grade students.

[Education and Economic Development Act Accountability Deadlines - Memo](#) PDF (166 KB)

MONTESSORI

Montessori School Survey

AUDIENCE: Chief Academic Officers, Montessori Programs Coordinator

CONTACT: Kristen Logan, klogan@ed.sc.gov

The South Carolina Department of Education (SCDE) Office of Personalized Learning is excited to highlight the Montessori opportunities offered across the state. South Carolina is one of the nation's leading states in Montessori programming. If you are a Chief Academic Officer who has Montessori programs, or are a Principal who has a Montessori program, please complete this [form](#) so that we can ensure we have accurate information for each respective Montessori program.

[Montessori School Survey - Memo](#) PDF (133 KB)

SCHOLARSHIPS

2021 U.S. Senate Youth Scholarship Program

AUDIENCE: District Superintendents, High School Principals

CONTACT: Wanda Davis, wdavis@ed.sc.gov

The United States Senate Youth Program (USSYP) Washington Week will be held online the week of March 15, 2021. Two students from each state will be selected to attend the online program and each student will receive a \$10,000 undergraduate college scholarship. Students may qualify to apply through leadership positions they currently hold per the USSYP official criteria for the current 2020-21 academic year. If students are unable to hold leadership positions this year due to the COVID-19 pandemic, they can submit the position they held during the 2019-2020 academic year.

[2021 US Senate Youth Scholarship Program - Memo](#) PDF (137 KB)

TECHNOLOGY

Hotspot Updates and Reminders; New Return Deadline September 30

AUDIENCE: District Superintendents, District Technology Leaders

CONTACT: hotspots@ed.sc.gov

The South Carolina Department of Education (SCDE) and the South Carolina Office of Regulatory Staff (ORS) would like to remind you of the following procedures related to the Act 142 Hotspot program. These include Multiple Hotspots in a Household, Extra Hotspots Return Deadline, Monthly Reporting, and District-Funded Hotspots.

[Hotspots Updates and Reminders; New Return Deadline September 30 - Memo](#) PDF
(144 KB)

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