



SOUTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

SCHOOL DISTRICT MEMORANDA

ed.sc.gov



January 21, 2020

Important Dates

JANUARY 24: Technical assistance webinar for Advanced Placement® Teacher Institutes grant applicants

JANUARY 27: Showcase of the approved Multi-Tiered System of Supports Universal Screener

FEBRUARY 7: Deadline for instructional material recommendations

FEBRUARY 10: Standards and Learning PLO and face-to-face information session registration deadline

FEBRUARY 14: Deadline to apply for Advanced Placement® (AP) Teacher Institutes Grant Opportunity

FEBRUARY 17: Standards and Learning virtual information session registration deadline

Accountability

Public Release of Value-Added Website

AUDIENCE: District Superintendents, Accountability Coordinators, Technology Coordinators, Principals, PowerSchool Coordinators

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

In June of 2019, the South Carolina Department of Education (SCDE) procured a new Value-Added System. The summary results of the system were included in the October 1st release of the school report cards. The SCDE has been working with Education Analytics to develop a website to display the value-added estimates in a user-friendly format to make the information actionable for stakeholder groups.

The SCDE provided a soft open on the public site to Accountability Coordinators mid-December and Education Analytics has responded to their feedback. The website uniform resource locator (URL) is <https://sc-growth.org> and is now live and available to be shared with the public. The website has an embedded explanation for the growth model calculation, a glossary of terms, and Frequently Asked Questions supports.

[Public Release of Value Added Website - Memo](#) PDF (151 KB)

Contracts

Educator Contracts for the 2020–2021 School Year

AUDIENCE: District Superintendents

CONTACT: Mary Hipp, mhipp@ed.sc.gov and Lilla Toal-Mandsager, lmandsager@ed.sc.gov

Pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. § 59-25-410, districts are required to give written notice to all currently employed teachers regarding the status of their employment for the upcoming school year before May 1 (i.e., by April 30). Failure to provide this written notice on or before April 30 will necessitate the issuance of a contract to that teacher.

Superintendents have until on or before August 15 to notify teachers of their tentative assignment for the next year. Pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. § 59-25-420, teachers who have been offered reemployment by the district must notify the district's board of trustees in writing of their acceptance of the contract before May 11 (i.e., by May 10). Other than these statutory deadlines, there is no prescribed amount of time that must, or cannot, pass between the issuance of an offer of employment and the acceptance of that offer by the teacher. Regardless of whether employment was offered to the teacher on February 1 or April 30, that teacher has until at least May 10 to give written notice to the district regarding his or her decision.

All districts are required to abide by these requirements as it is beneficial to the entire system to have a clearly delineated process by which contracting occurs.

[Educator Contracts for the 2020–21 School Year - Memo](#) PDF (145 KB)

SCHOOL SAFETY

Behavioral Threat Assessment Guidelines General Training and Training-of-Trainers

AUDIENCE: District Superintendents, Principals, Safety Coordinators

CONTACT: Sabrina Moore, smoore@ed.sc.gov

The Office of Student Intervention Services will host School-based Behavioral Threat Assessment and Management Guidelines regional trainings, beginning in February 2020, for school and district personnel.

The general training and training-of-trainers sessions will be facilitated by Dr. Melissa Reeves, Associate Professor in the School Psychology Program and Psychology Department at Winthrop University. The one-day general session is designed to provide guidance for establishing school-level threat assessment teams and protocols that are consistent with district-level protocols.

The two-day training-of-trainers (ToT) sessions are designed for individuals who will serve as trainers in their respective districts. Participation in the two-day ToT consists of attending the one day general training session, followed by a second day of training that will focus on how to deliver the one-day general training session. Educators who complete the full-day training and/or the ToT may earn 1–2 graduate credit(s) for licensure renewal through Winthrop University.

Participation requirements, dates, times, and locations are available by viewing the full memo.

[Behavioral Threat Assessment Guidelines General Training and Training-of-Trainers - Memo](#) PDF (268KB)

STANDARDS AND LEARNING

World Language Professional Learning Opportunities: Spring 2020

AUDIENCE: District Instructional Leaders

CONTACT: Wendy Stephens, wstephens@ed.sc.gov

The Office of Standards and Learning will offer free virtual and face-to-face information sessions designed to inform educators on the structure and purpose of the South Carolina College- and Career-Ready Standard for World Language Proficiency 2019.

In addition to the information sessions, the Office of Standards and Learning will also offer a free, hybrid professional learning opportunity for all world language and immersion educators designed to focus on teacher and learner actions that assist students in achieving functional goals in each mode of communication.

Registration information, dates, times, and locations can be found by viewing the corresponding memos.

Information Sessions:

[K–12 World Language Virtual Information Session on the South Carolina College- and Career-Ready Standard for World Language Proficiency 2019: Spring 2020](#) PDF (433 KB)

[K–12 World Language Face-to-Face Information Session on the South Carolina College- and Career-Ready Standard for World Language Proficiency 2019: Spring 2020](#) PDF (365 KB)

Professional Learning Opportunity:

[K–12 World Language and Immersion Professional Learning Opportunity Making Moves Toward Functional Language Proficiency: Spring 2020](#) PDF (467 KB)

