



**STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA**  
**DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION**

**MOLLY M. SPEARMAN**  
*STATE SUPERINTENDENT OF EDUCATION*

**MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** Superintendents  
School Food Service Supervisors/Directors  
District Test Coordinators  
District PIOs

**FROM:** Molly M. Spearman  
State Superintendent of Education

**DATE:** April 17, 2015

**RE:** Lunch during testing on The ACT<sup>®</sup>

Students in the eleventh grade will be taking The ACT<sup>®</sup> test on Tuesday, April 28, 2015, with a makeup day of Tuesday, May 12, 2015. Specific requirements of ACT, Inc. may make it difficult for students to attend lunch services at their usual time during testing. Based on estimates from ACT, Inc., schools should plan for approximately four hours and forty-five minutes of test administration time. If the test administration begins at 9:00 a.m., testing will conclude at approximately 1:45 p.m. During testing, students are allowed a fifteen-minute break. However, per ACT, Inc., lunch is not allowed on this break. Serving lunch during this break may result in cancelled scores for all examinees. If school regulations permit, examinees may bring snacks and beverages into the testing room, but they may consume them only outside the test room during their break.

Students testing with accommodations may have additional options. For examinees with medical needs (e.g., diabetics), please consult the ACT test administration manuals (page 23 of *The ACT Administration Manual for State and District Testing*) or contact ACT, Inc. with further questions about the ACT, Inc. policy.

We are asking for your assistance with accommodating students and working with your local administration to provide meals to students. Per USDA guidelines, lunch must be served between the hours of 10:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. However, USDA will allow us to provide waivers to serve meals outside the regulated timeframe. We are issuing a blanket waiver to

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allow all school food authorities during the administration of The ACT test on April 28, 2015, and May 12, 2015, to serve lunch outside the allotted timeframe to ensure that we accommodate the needs of our students.

If you have any questions about this waiver, please contact Janice Oates at [joates@ed.sc.gov](mailto:joates@ed.sc.gov), (803) 734-8192 or Walter Caudle at [wcaudle@ed.sc.gov](mailto:wcaudle@ed.sc.gov), (803) 734-4586. Questions about The ACT should be directed to Kevin Fatica at [KJFatica@ed.sc.gov](mailto:KJFatica@ed.sc.gov), (803) 734-8282.