



STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

MOLLY M. SPEARMAN
STATE SUPERINTENDENT OF EDUCATION

MEMORANDUM

TO: Superintendents
Districts Eligible to Apply for School Improvement Grant Funds
Principals
Federal Priority and Focus Schools

FROM: Molly M. Spearman
State Superintendent of Education

DATE: July 14, 2015

RE: School Improvement Grant Opportunity

The South Carolina Department of Education (SCDE) announces that the 2015–16 Request for Proposals for the School Improvement Grant (SIG) program is now available online. Up to \$13.6 million in funding will be distributed on a competitive basis and the deadline to apply is **August 13, 2015**.

For this funding round, the SCDE will fund eligible local education agencies (LEAs) that meet the criteria of having federal priority and/or federal focus schools that may be served with SIG funds. The purpose of the SIG program is to support LEAs that demonstrate the greatest need for the funds and the strongest commitment to use the funds to provide adequate resources in order to substantially raise the achievement of students in their lowest-performing schools.

The SCDE will offer a technical assistance webinar for grant applicants on **July 21, 2015, from 2:00 p.m.–4:00 p.m.**, via Blackboard Collaborate. Please use this [link](#) to participate. Participants may log-in up to 30 minutes in advance of the session to test their equipment and download handouts.

Visit the [SCDE Grant Opportunities page](#) for updated information on grants, eligibility, application deadlines, and technical assistance. For more information about the SIG program, contact David Long at (803) 734-0483, dlong@ed.sc.gov.