



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

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

**MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** District Superintendents

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

**DATE:** July 12, 2016

**RE:** Act 155 (now Act 207) Diploma Procedures

Through the passage of Act 155 (now Act 207), the South Carolina General Assembly approved the removal of the exit exam as a requirement for graduation beginning with the graduating class of 2015. The elimination of the exit exam (BSAP, HSAP) requirement is retroactive to the graduating class of 1990. The Office of Federal and State Accountability at the South Carolina Department of Education has written procedures for districts and the Department to follow in order to meet the diploma petition process required by this legislation. For additional information or clarification, please contact Darlene Prevatt at [dprevatt@ed.sc.gov](mailto:dprevatt@ed.sc.gov) or (803) 734-3477. A copy of the legislation is also included.

**I am encouraging each district to allow students with a certificate who can petition for a diploma to participate in graduation ceremonies.**

cc: Secondary Principals

enclosures: Act 155 Diploma-Granting Procedures  
S.933/Act 207 Elimination of deadline to petition for S.C. high school diploma  
Act 155 and Act 207 Diploma FAQs  
Act 155 Graduates Template