

*The State Board of Education is established in Article XI § 1 of South Carolina Constitution. The Board consists of 17 members, one appointed from each of the state's 16 judicial circuits by the legislators representing the various circuits, and a 17th member appointed by the governor. Members are appointed for four-year terms.*

The board is the policy-making body for public elementary and secondary education in South Carolina. According to state law (SC.Code Ann. § 59-5-60), the South Carolina Board of Education has the power to:

- Adopt policies, rules and regulations for the governance of the state's public elementary and secondary schools.
- Annually approve a budget request to be submitted to the Budget and Control Board and to the General Assembly.
- Adopt standards for any phase of education considered necessary to aid in providing adequate educational opportunities and facilities.
- Prescribe and enforce rules for the examination and certification of teachers.
- Grant state teachers' certificates and revoke them for immoral or unprofessional conduct, or evident unfitness for teaching.
- Approve textbooks and other instructional materials.
- Appoint committees as needed to carry out the orderly function of the board.
- Cooperate with the State Superintendent at all times in efforts to constantly improve the state's public education system.
- Assume other responsibilities, exercise other powers and perform other duties as assigned by law or as the board may find necessary to aid in carrying out the purpose and objectives of the Constitution of the state.