

MEMORANDUM

TO: District Superintendents
Principals
Public Information Officers
Food Service Directors

FROM: Vanesha Perrin
Director, Office of Health and Nutrition

DATE: January 21, 2026

RE: 2026 SC School Garden Education & Assistance Program- Grant Opportunity

The South Carolina Department of Education (SCDE) is pleased to announce that the SCDE's Office of Health and Nutrition is offering 12 selected schools the opportunity to receive a fully supported school garden this spring. Through partnerships with Clemson Extension School Gardening and the SC Farm to School initiative, participating schools will receive online training, school garden kits, and support to grow their gardens. The program introduces students to hands-on agriculture and nutrition education while encouraging schools to incorporate locally grown South Carolina produce into their menus. This initiative aims to enhance student health and promote economic opportunities for local farmers.

The grant application can be found at <https://qrco.de/gardengrant>. Information and instructions to complete the application can be found [here](#). The awards will be distributed on a competitive basis, and the deadline to apply is January 23, 2026.

If you have any questions regarding the application or process, please reach out to schoolgardens@clemson.edu.