

## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** District Superintendents  
Instructional Leaders  
Principal Supervisors  
Human Resource Directors

**FROM:** Kimberly E. Mack  
Director, Office of Leadership Effectiveness

**DATE:** May 27, 2026

**RE:** Instructional Leadership Accelerator Pilot Fund Application (Due June 23)

The South Carolina Department of Education Office of Leadership Effectiveness is launching the **Instructional Leadership Accelerator Pilot Fund**, a new funding opportunity focused on strengthening leadership systems that directly impact teaching and learning. Selected participants will pilot approaches that deepen instructional leadership practices, strengthen leadership pipelines, and promote more consistent, systemwide development for current and aspiring leaders.

Eligible applicants include school districts, charter entities, or collaborative partnerships across systems. Awards may provide **up to \$300,000 per district**, depending on scope and participation.

At a high level, funds are intended to support:

- Development of instructional leadership capacity among school and district leaders
- Coaching and professional learning aligned to high-quality instruction
- Creation or strengthening of leadership pipelines, particularly for aspiring administrators

This opportunity is best suited for districts seeking to align leadership development with cohesive, sustainable systems for growing school leaders' instructional leadership capacity.

**Applications for the Instructional Leadership Accelerator Pilot Fund are due no later than June 23, 2026.** The application is attached and available here: [Application Form](#). For questions or additional information, please contact Kimberly Mack, [kemack@ed.sc.gov](mailto:kemack@ed.sc.gov),

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or Lilla Toal Mandsager, [lmandsager@ed.sc.gov](mailto:lmandsager@ed.sc.gov). An information session will be held June 1 at 3pm [via Microsoft Teams](#). A recording will be made available.