

MEMORANDUM

TO: Regional Gifted and Talented Coordinators
Regional Fiscal Agents
Regional Finance Officers

FROM: Kristi D. Austin, PhD
Director, Office of Assessment and Standards

DATE: January 27, 2026

RE: Professional Learning Allocations for Gifted and Talented and International Baccalaureate Program

The Office of Assessment and Standards is pleased to announce that a Professional Learning allocation of \$10,000 will be made available to Regional Fiscal Agents and paid through District Revenue Code 3597A. The funding is provided through the 2025–2026 Annual Appropriations Act Professional Development line item and Proviso 1A.22.

For accountability purposes, District Coordinators should present local needs and decide collectively how to maximize this funding for professional learning during Regional Gifted and Talented (GT) Coordinator meetings and affiliate board meetings. Regional GT Coordinators and affiliate group leaders are also required to submit a Final Performance and Fiscal report to the South Carolina Department of Education (SCDE). This report must include both programmatic and fiscal components. Programmatic final reporting must include an agenda of each meeting, a roster of attendees, and a narrative that includes the professional development activity description, the cost of the activity, and the number of educators impacted. The final fiscal report must include a final financial report itemizing the purchases during the funding cycle and any documentation of expenditures. All final reports should be submitted using the linked [online form](#) by July 15, 2026.

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Each region and affiliate group will receive the same amount as outlined in the tables below.

Region	Fiscal Agent	GT Regional Leader	Districts to be Served	Allocation	Program
1	Pickens	Paula Alexander	Anderson 1 Anderson 2 Anderson 3 Anderson 4 Anderson 5 Oconee Pickens	\$10,000	Gifted and Talented
2	Newberry	Beth Brooks	Abbeville Edgefield Greenwood 50 Greenwood 51 Greenwood 52 Laurens 55 Laurens 56 McCormick Newberry Saluda Charter Institute at Erskine	\$10,000	Gifted and Talented
3	Lexington 1	Erin Fitzgerald	Aiken Calhoun Kershaw Lexington 1 Lexington 2 Lexington 3 Lexington 4 Lexington/Richland 5 Richland 1 Richland 2 Sumter SC Public Charters	\$10,000	Gifted and Talented
4	Dorchester 2	Scarlet Mooney	Allendale Bamberg Beaufort Colleton Hampton Jasper	\$10,000	Gifted and Talented

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Region	Fiscal Agent	GT Regional Leader	Districts to be Served	Allocation	Program
5	Dorchester 2	Rick Blanchard	Berkeley Charleston Dorchester 2 Dorchester 4 Georgetown Horry Orangeburg	\$10,000	Gifted and Talented
6	Williamsburg	Marisa Johnson	Clarendon Darlington Dillon 3 Dillon 4 Florence 1 Florence 2 Florence 3 Florence 5 Lee Marion Marlboro Williamsburg	\$10,000	Gifted and Talented
7	Cherokee	Erin Fox	Cherokee Chester Chesterfield Fairfield Lancaster Union York 1 York 2 (Clover) York 3 (Rock Hill) York 4 (Fort Mill) Limestone Charter Association	\$10,000	Gifted and Talented
8	Spartanburg 6	Jill Morris	Greenville Spartanburg 1 Spartanburg 2 Spartanburg 3 Spartanburg 4 Spartanburg 5 Spartanburg 6 Spartanburg 7	\$10,000	Gifted and Talented

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In addition to regional allocations, the SCDE will allocate funds to Beaufort School District for the South Carolina International Baccalaureate Schools (SCIBS) organization. This affiliate organization is instrumental in hosting statewide conferences for South Carolina teachers related to International Baccalaureate programs. Beaufort County School District will function as the fiscal agent for the SCIBS organization. Professional learning funds will be allocated as outlined in the table below. The SCIBS organization will also be required to submit the Final Performance and Fiscal Report.

Region	Fiscal Agent	GT Regional Leader	Districts to be Served	Allocation	Program
Statewide	Beaufort	Karen Perdue	Statewide	\$10,000	International Baccalaureate

The SCDE will also allocate funds to Newberry for the South Carolina Consortium for Gifted Education (SCCGE) organization. This affiliate organization is instrumental in hosting statewide conferences for South Carolina teachers related to GT programs. Newberry will function as the fiscal agent for the SCCGE organization. Professional Learning funds will be allocated as outlined in the table below. The SCCGE organization will also be required to submit the Final Performance and Fiscal Report.

Region	Fiscal Agent	GT Regional Leader	Districts to be Served	Allocation	Program
Statewide	Spartanburg 6	Jill Morris	Statewide	\$10,000	Gifted and Talented

Final Performance and Fiscal Report Requirements:

This report must include both programmatic and fiscal components.

Programmatic Requirements

- an agenda of each meeting,
- a roster of attendees, and
- a narrative that includes the professional development activity description, the cost of the activity, and the number of educators impacted.

Fiscal Requirements

- a final financial report itemizing the purchases during the funding cycle,
- all documentation of expenditures, and
- final reports should be submitted using the linked online form by July 15, 2026.

For information or questions, please contact Jennifer Holliday at jnholliday@ed.sc.gov.