

MEMORANDUM

TO: District Superintendents
District Instructional Leaders

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

DATE: November 18, 2025

RE: Selection of the Social Studies Standards Writing Team

The South Carolina Department of Education (SCDE) is organizing a State Standards Writing Committee for the revision of the *2019 South Carolina Social Studies College- and Career-Ready Standards*. The role of the committee in the cyclical review process is to develop a draft of revised academic standards aligned with research and best practices in the field to be approved for adoption by the South Carolina Board of Education.

We are asking for your assistance in identifying members for the State Standards Writing Committee by sharing the following information with district Social Studies education coordinators, principals, department chairs, coaches, and the greater Social Studies education community. To be considered for the State Standards Writing Committee, individuals must meet the following requirements:

- State Standards Writing Committee members must be recognized as master teachers, leaders, and/or experts in the field of Social Studies (taught or supervised for at least three years).
- Applicants must complete the [linked application](#).

Selected applicants will receive an email of invitation to serve on the State Standards Social Studies Writing Committee in March 2026. The State Social Studies Standards Writing Committee will hold its first meeting before the end of May 2026. Most of the meetings will take place during the summer of 2026. Writing members will receive an honorarium and be reimbursed for travel, hotel accommodations, and substitute teachers for meetings according to state guidelines. Lunch will also be provided. Every effort will be made to ensure demographic and geographic areas of the state are represented.

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The application will open on November 18, 2025. Candidates must apply via the application link no later than Thursday, December 18, 2025, at 5:00 p.m.

Thank you for assisting the SCDE in this task. If you have questions regarding this process, please contact Sandra Ammons at sammons@ed.sc.gov.