



# SOUTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

## SCHOOL DISTRICT MEMORANDA

ed.sc.gov



August 16, 2022

### Missed last week's memos?

All SCDE weekly memo communications are archived [here](#). Individual memos can be found on the [School District Memoranda Archive](#).

## IMPORTANT DUE DATES

[RBHS Contract Implementation Report](#) (8/12/2022)

[Expenditure Claims in GAPS](#) (8/15/2022)

[Website Legal Requirements Updates](#) (8/15/2022)

[Competency Based Education Informational Overview Sessions](#) (8/18-8/19/2022)

[Title IV, Part A Application](#) (8/31/2022)

[Trauma Informed Literacy Practices Webinar](#) (8/31/2022)

[Middle School Virtual Book Club](#) (9/15/2022)

[High School Virtual Book Club](#) (9/16/2022)

## COVID-19

### Updated COVID-19 Exclusion List Guidelines

DHEC has made some changes to the [Exclusion List](#) masking requirements for those isolating due to COVID-19 in response to [CDC's Aug. 11 update](#). As announced in June, DHEC will no longer require people who have come into close contact with someone who has COVID-19 to quarantine during non-outbreak periods. DHEC is recommending that schools and childcare centers follow CDC guidance for masking, vaccination, testing, etc. Those who have COVID-19 or test positive still must stay at home, regardless of the severity of their symptoms, and can only return to school if:

- It has been at least five days since symptoms started and 24 hours since the last fever (without using fever-reducing meds.);
- Symptoms are significantly improving, and;
- A mask must be worn days six to 10 unless the person tests negative on two rapid antigen tests performed on days six and eight, then they may remove the mask after the negative test on day eight;
  - If either test on day six or eight is positive, the mask must be worn through day 10 and no further testing is recommended.

- If a mask is not worn as instructed above, a 10-day isolation must be observed.

For more information, visit DHEC's updated school and childcare webpage. Visit the [DHEC schools website](#) or the [CDC website](#) for more about COVID-19.

### **COVID-19 Outbreaks and Testing**

Maintaining COVID-19 testing capacity continues to be an important prevention measure for disease spread and outbreaks. At-home tests for distribution to students and staff may be ordered with [this form](#). For additional testing information, please contact Kendra Neely at [COVID19SCschools@dhec.sc.gov](mailto:COVID19SCschools@dhec.sc.gov).

## ASSESSMENT AND STANDARDS

### Proviso 1.86

**AUDIENCE:** District Superintendents, Instructional Leaders, Accountability Leaders, Technology Coordinators, PowerSchool Coordinators

**CONTACT:** Muhammad Salaam, [mmsalaam@ed.sc.gov](mailto:mmsalaam@ed.sc.gov)

The South Carolina Department of Education (SCDE) has been directed under proviso 1.86 to create a report to the General Assembly on performance on interim assessments. The tests approved for interim assessment are STAR Reading and STAR Mathematics, MAP Growth and MAP for Primary Grades, i-Ready® Diagnostic, and CASE Benchmarks. Any changes to the approved interim list will be published [here](#). The guidelines for the approval process are available [here](#).

[Proviso 1.86 - Memo](#) PDF (63 KB)

## CERTIFICATION

### Initial Certificate Guidelines for Classroom Teaching Fields

**AUDIENCE:** District Superintendents, District Personnel Administrators, District Instructional Leaders, Principals

**CONTACT:** Mary Hipp, [mhipp@ed.sc.gov](mailto:mhipp@ed.sc.gov)

On Tuesday, August 9, 2022, the South Carolina State Board of Education approved Initial Certificate Guidelines for Classroom Teaching Fields pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. § 59-26-30 and Regulation 43-53, Credential Classification.

These guidelines establish two options for issuance of an initial certificate to an individual who has successfully completed a teacher preparation program at the undergraduate- or graduate-level, including student teaching.

[Initial Certificate Guidelines for Classroom Teaching Fields - Memo](#) PDF (167 KB)

[Initial Certificate Guidelines for Classroom Teaching Fields - Attachment](#) PDF (355 KB)

[Certificate Assessment Options Standard and Alternative Plans - Attachment](#) PDF (201 KB)

## PERSONALIZED LEARNING

# Proviso 1.116: Competency Based Education

**AUDIENCE:** District Superintendents, District Instructional Leaders

**CONTACT:** Stephanie DiStasio, [sdistasio@ed.sc.gov](mailto:sdistasio@ed.sc.gov)

The purpose of this memo is to provide additional information on implementation of the new 1.116 Competency Based Education proviso adopted by the General Assembly in the [2022-23 General Appropriations Bill](#).

[Proviso 1.116: Competency Based Education - Memo](#) PDF (211 KB)

## STUDENT INTERVENTION SERVICES

### 2022 Model Safe Schools Checklist and District Safety Plans Submission UPDATE

**AUDIENCE:** District Superintendents, District Safety Coordinators

**CONTACT:** Kimberly Smith, [kwsmith@ed.sc.gov](mailto:kwsmith@ed.sc.gov), Larry Huff, [lhuff@ed.sc.gov](mailto:lhuff@ed.sc.gov)

As a follow-up to the July 26, 2022, memo regarding school safety, [2022 Model Safe Schools Checklist and District Safety Plan Submission](#), districts may now complete and submit their respective safety checklists and safety plans via the SC School Safety Portal (SCSSP).

[2022 Model Safe Schools Checklist and District Safety Plans Submission UPDATE - Memo](#) PDF (146 KB)

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### FREE Student Mental Wellness and Safety Courses

**AUDIENCE:** District Superintendents, Principals, District Technology Coordinators, School Counseling Personnel Coordinators

**CONTACT:** [implementation.edu@vectorsolutions.com](mailto:implementation.edu@vectorsolutions.com)

The South Carolina Department of Education (SCDE) has partnered with Vector Solutions to provide all school districts in the state free access to Vector's library of Student Safety & Wellness Courses. Each course, which is broken into short, age-appropriate modules, includes discussion questions, lesson plans, activities, and assessments.

[FREE Student Mental Wellness and Safety Courses - Memo](#) PDF (172 KB)

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### Growing in Confidence Student Book Club

**AUDIENCE:** District Superintendents, Student Services Directors, Principals, Mental Health Professionals

**CONTACT:** Suzanne Snyder, [ssnyder@ed.sc.gov](mailto:ssnyder@ed.sc.gov)

The Office of Student Intervention Services will host a statewide book club to help middle and high school students gain confidence in themselves as they prepare for success. The virtual book club will be held for middle school students on September 15, 2022, and for high school students on September 16, 2022.

Using their book, *The Puzzle of You: Connecting Yourself a Piece at a Time During the*

Teen Years, as the focal point, authors Kasia Gutierrez and Christa Pruss will guide a discussion designed to help students better understand themselves as they take a more active role in their preparation for life beyond high school.

[Growing in Confidence Student Book Club - Memo](#) PDF (241 KB)

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## Helping Students Focus: Professional Development Opportunities

**AUDIENCE:** District Superintendents, Student Services Directors, Principals, Professional Development Coordinators

**CONTACT:** Suzanne Snyder, [ssnyder@ed.sc.gov](mailto:ssnyder@ed.sc.gov)

The Office of Student Intervention Services will host a series of professional development opportunities specifically designed to help educators and other school staff improve student outcomes related to behavior and academic performance.

Facilitated by Focused Minds Education Group, these interactive, hands-on opportunities will provide participants with asset-based, trauma-informed, and evidence-based recommendations for improving student outcomes. An emphasis will be placed on specific strategies for students with disabilities and those who have been exposed to trauma.

[Helping Students Focus: Professional Development Opportunities - Memo](#) PDF (201 KB)

South Carolina Department of Education  
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