



SOUTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

SCHOOL DISTRICT MEMORANDA

ed.sc.gov



December 8, 2020

Missed last week's memos?

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

COVID-19

DHEC Guidance Documents

The South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control (DHEC) continues to update their school based guidance documents with the latest public health information related to COVID-19. Please take a moment to review this important information.

[School & Childcare Centers \(COVID-19\)](#)

[Recent Disease Activity by County Report](#) (as of 12/2/2020)

[COVID-19 Cases Associated with Staff & Students](#) (as of 12/8/2020)

[Celebrating the Holidays Safely](#)

COVID-19 SCHOOL BASED TESTING

Abbott BinaxNOW Rapid Result COVID-19 Test Kits

AUDIENCE: District Superintendents, School Principals in the Charter Institute at Erskine and S.C. Public Charter School District

CONTACT: Ryan Brown, rybrown@ed.sc.gov

Distribution Logistics

The initial allotment of test kits have been determined based on 10% of student and staff counts by district.

Those districts and charter schools who have chosen to participate in the testing program by filling out the participation survey linked below, can make arrangements for pickup or delivery of test kits by emailing DHEC's warehouse at PHPWarehouse@dhec.sc.gov. Test kits are located at DHEC's warehouse in Columbia and can be picked up Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Consent Forms

Once a test administrator (school nurse - RN or LPN) or athletic trainer determines an Abbott BinaxNOW rapid antigen test is recommended, the test administrator must obtain informed consent prior to testing. The school nurse or athletic trainer should review the information provided on the appropriate Consent Form for COVID-19 Testing, staff or student, and obtain written consent on the form.

[Guidance for Obtaining Consent for Voluntary COVID-19 Testing](#)

[DHEC Student Consent Form for COVID-19 Testing](#)

[DHEC Staff Consent Form for COVID-19 Testing](#)

Criteria for Testing

Currently, Abbott BinaxNOW rapid antigen tests are not recommended for the purposes of screening or surveillance testing. These tests are most accurate when used for symptomatic individuals. These tests should not be used to test individuals in quarantine for the purposes of determining if they may return to school or work. BinaxNOW tests might be used to test individuals in quarantine if symptoms develop to determine if the individual should begin isolation or should seek further medical attention.

Participation and Additional Guidance

[COVID-19 School Based Testing Participation Survey](#)

[Charter Institute at Erskine and S.C. Public Charter School District COVID-19 Participation Survey](#)

[PreK-12 Schools Abbott BinaxNow Testing Guidance Resource Appendix](#) PDF (4 MB)

[Abbott BinaxNow Rapid Antigen School Testing Overview](#) PDF (165 KB)

[Abbott BinaxNow Rapid Testing in Schools Checklist](#) PDF (147 KB)

[School Nurse Abbott BinaxNow Testing Standing Order](#) PDF (2 MB)

ATTENDANCE

Frequently Asked Questions Related to Attendance

AUDIENCE: District Superintendents, Principals

CONTACT: Aveene Coleman, acoleman@ed.sc.gov

In response to questions related to tracking and coding attendance, the Office of Student Intervention Services, with input from representatives from other offices within the South Carolina Department of Education, has developed the attached Frequently Asked Questions document.

[Frequently Asked Questions Related to Attendance - Memo](#) (130 KB)

[Frequently Asked Questions Related to Attendance - Attachment](#) (216 KB)

CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION

Project Lead the Way Dual Credit

AUDIENCE: District Superintendents, CTE Directors, Instructional Leaders

CONTACT: Andrew Cook (Computer Science) acook@ed.sc.gov, BT Martin (Engineering) btmartin@ed.sc.gov, Angel Clark (Biomedical Sciences) aclark@ed.sc.gov

School districts may offer dual credit course weighting to the PLTW courses identified in the memo below if a student meets the qualifying achievement level of “Accomplished” on the end-of-course assessment as determined by the PLTW and has a passing grade for the course. The local district also reserves the right to determine a higher course grade for a student to receive the dual credit weighting beyond the minimum of a passing score.

[Project Lead the Way Dual Credit - Memo](#) PDF (170 KB)

SREB 2021 Student and Teacher Surveys

AUDIENCE: District Superintendents, CTE Directors, Instructional Leaders

CONTACT: Dr. Eleanor Glover Gladney, eglover@ed.sc.gov

The Southern Regional Education Board (SREB) registration for 2021 Student and Teacher Surveys registration is open! The online, anonymous surveys are a powerful tool for capturing student and teacher perception related to SREB's [Making Schools Work Improvement process](#).

This year's surveys now collect feedback on the impact of COVID-19 on students and teachers. Sign up now to gather powerful data that supports your school improvement process.

[SREB 2021 Student and Teacher Surveys - Memo](#) PDF (205 KB)

GRANTS

Charter Schools Program - Planning and Implementation Subgrant Opportunity - Round Two

AUDIENCE: District Superintendents, Public Information Officers

CONTACT: Natasha Anderson, charterschoolgrant@ed.sc.gov

The South Carolina Department of Education (SCDE) announces that Round Two of the 2020–21 Request for Proposals for the Charter Schools Program Planning and Implementation subgrant is now available online. Approximately \$10 million in funding will be distributed on a competitive basis and the deadline to apply is **December 29, 2020**.

The SCDE will award funds to expand the number of high-quality charter schools available to students across the state and to evaluate the effects of charter schools on students, student achievement, staff, and parents. For charter schools opening during the 2021–22 or 2022–23 school year, this is a multi-year project with a combined performance period of up to 36 months. A charter school that meets the federal definition of a charter school and is in the first year of operation may apply for an implementation-only subgrant for up to 24 months. As public schools, charter schools are nonreligious, non-home-based, nonprofit, and nondiscriminatory.

[Charter Schools Program - Planning and Implementation Subgrant Opportunity - Round Two - Memo](#) PDF (136 KB)