



## SOUTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

### SCHOOL DISTRICT MEMORANDA

ed.sc.gov



March 2, 2021

#### 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 VACCINE

Governor Henry McMaster and the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control (DHEC) announced today (March 2) that South Carolina will advance to Phase 1b of the state's COVID-19 vaccination plan beginning Monday, March 8.

Please refer to the communication linked below for additional information.

[South Carolina to Move to Phase 1b of COVID-19 Vaccination Plan on March 8, 2021](#)

[Schools and Community Partnership for COVID-19 Vaccination Toolkit](#)

## COVID-19 CASES

### COVID-19 Cases Associated with Staff and Students

DHEC began reporting positive COVID-19 cases in K-12 schools on September 4, 2020. Since that time, there have been **13,670** [positive cases among K-12 students and staff](#) who attended school face to face during their infectious period. During that same time period (9/4/2020 to 3/1/2021) DHEC has reported **445,523** [positive cases among all South Carolinians](#).

This means that positive cases among K-12 students and staff who attended school account for **3.1%** of South Carolina's total since K-12 positive case reporting began. Public and private K-12 students and staff make up approximately one fifth of South Carolina's total population.

[COVID-19 Cases Associated with Staff & Students](#) (as of 2/28/2021)

[Recent Disease Activity, by County Report](#) (as of 2/24/2021)

## TUBERCULOSIS TESTING

Regulation 61-22, "The Evaluation of Staff of Schools and Child Care Centers for Tuberculosis," requires Tuberculosis (TB) screening for all new hires with a single Tuberculin Skin Test (TST) or an Interferon-Gamma Release Assay (IGRA).

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) released a "Dear Colleague" letter on January 7, 2021. This letter provided recommendations on TB testing with the COVID-19 mRNA vaccine. The letter is attached for your reference, and additional guidance on how this impacts new hires within school districts is outlined below and in subsequent attachments.

New hires who have recently received the COVID-19 mRNA vaccine will need to delay TB testing until four weeks after the completion of their COVID-19 mRNA vaccine series. For such employees, it is recommended that a symptom screen for TB be completed as a prerequisite to employment. Employees who do not have symptoms of TB may be allowed to work as long as they have a documented negative symptom screen and evidence of their vaccination status while awaiting a TB test. A sample symptom screening tool is attached and can be modified to meet the district's needs.

[TB Symptom Screen](#)

[Guidance for TB Testing](#)

[Dear Colleague Letter](#)

[Letter to SCDE](#)

## ACCOUNTABILITY

### Title I, Part A, 15 Percent Carryover Limitation

**AUDIENCE:** District Superintendents, Chief Financial Officers, Title I, Part A Coordinators

**CONTACT:** Jennifer Rhodes, [jrhodes@ed.sc.gov](mailto:jrhodes@ed.sc.gov)

In April 2020, the US Department of Education (USED) granted the South Carolina Department of Education (SCDE) a waiver, pursuant to section 3511 of Division A of the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES Act), P.L. 116-136 (H.R. 748), 34 Stat. 281 (Mar. 27, 2020). Among other requirements, the 15 percent carryover limitation (pursuant to section 1127(b) of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (ESEA)) for the state fiscal year 2020 (FY20) Title I, Part A grant was waived. Normally, this requirement limits the SCDE's ability to grant to its local educational agencies (LEAs) a waiver of the 15 percent Title I, Part A carryover limitation more than once every three years.

[Title I, Part A, 15 Percent Carryover Limitation - Memo](#) PDF (132 KB)

## DATA

### P-EBT Request

**AUDIENCE:** District Superintendents

The Department of Social Services (DSS) and the South Carolina Department of Education (SCDE) are working to provide Pandemic EBT (P-EBT) benefits to qualifying children across South Carolina, and we need your help to ensure children attending your schools are able to receive them if they are eligible. All households with potentially eligible students are strongly encouraged to validate their address in the DSS P-EBT Address Portal **on or before March 19, 2021**. The P-EBT Address Portal is located on the DSS website at, <https://benefitsportal.dss.sc.gov/#/pebt/addressverification>. To locate a child in the Address Portal the parent must have: **Student Last Name, Date of Birth, Student ID,**

**School District, and School Name.** If a parent or guardian does not know the Student ID, they must obtain this information from the child's school.

[P-EBT Request - Memo](#) PDF (200 KB)

[P-EBT School Eligibility - Attachment](#) PDF (404 KB)

[P-EBT FAQs - Attachment](#) PDF (201 KB)

## EDUCATOR EFFECTIVENESS & LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

### Collective Leadership Initiative, Cohort Four, Request for Nominees

**AUDIENCE:** District Superintendents

**CONTACT:** Libby Ortmann, [loortmann@ed.sc.gov](mailto:loortmann@ed.sc.gov)

During the 2020–21 school year, the Office of Educator Effectiveness and Leadership Development (OEELD) has worked with administrators and teacher leaders from twenty-five schools to implement a cohesive vision for teacher leadership roles within South Carolina's schools. This work supports the *Profile of the South Carolina Graduate* by helping schools develop the collaborative culture and high-quality professional learning that promote student attainment of world-class knowledge, skills, and life characteristics. This work also supports a key component of teacher retention, creating meaningful opportunities for teachers to lead without leaving the classroom. The OEELD seeks school teams of principals and teachers to be a part of Cohort Four of the Collective Leadership Initiative (CLI). Selected school teams will learn and implement the collective leadership framework that focuses on teacher and administrative (collective) leadership to drive student mastery of all elements in the *Profile*.

[Collective Leadership Initiative, Cohort Four, Request for Nominees - Memo](#) PDF (196 KB)

---

### Leadership Development Professional Learning Opportunities 2021-22

**AUDIENCE:** District Superintendents, Human Resource Directors

**CONTACT:** Regina Thurmond, [rthurmond@ed.sc.gov](mailto:rthurmond@ed.sc.gov) or Walter Clark, [wclark@ed.sc.gov](mailto:wclark@ed.sc.gov)

The Office of Educator Effectiveness and Leadership Development is pleased to announce dates for instructional leadership development cohorts beginning spring 2021. Our mission is to support the growth of highly-effective educators who will then be better prepared to support all students to reach the *Profile of the South Carolina Graduate*. Participants in all cohorts learn about leadership in three focus areas: personalization, collective leadership, and equitable access to effective instruction. Each cohort is limited based on space; previous cohorts have filled quickly.

Given the current statewide measures regarding COVID-19, we will continue to monitor data and follow advice from the Department of Health and Environmental Control on group gatherings. Spring and summer sessions for each cohort will be virtual. We will reach out to registrants and districts directly if any additional changes in format are warranted.

[Leadership Development Professional Learning Opportunities 2021-22 - Memo](#) PDF (186 KB)

# GRANTS

## WIOA Adult Education and Family Literacy Act (AEFLA) Programs 2021-25 Competitive Subgrants

**AUDIENCE:** Adult Education Directors, District Superintendents, Public Information Officers  
**CONTACT:** [adulthoodgrants@ed.sc.gov](mailto:adulthoodgrants@ed.sc.gov)

The South Carolina Department of Education (SCDE) announces that the 2021–25 Request for Proposals (RFP) for the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) Adult Education and Family Literacy Act (AEFLA) Programs competitive subgrant is now available online. AEFLA funds will be awarded to eligible providers of Adult Education, Corrections Education, Family Literacy, and Integrated English Literacy/Civics Education (IEL/CE) subgrant programs for the development, implementation, and improvement of adult education and literacy activities within South Carolina.

Approximately \$7.3 million in funding will be distributed on a competitive basis; the deadline to apply is **April 16, 2021, at 5:00 p.m.** An email of intent to apply is due by **March 19, 2021.**

[WIOA AEFLA Programs 2021-25 Competitive Subgrants - Memo](#) PDF (238 KB)

# INSTRUCTION HUB

## Teacher Recommendations for Lesson Plan Development

**AUDIENCE:** District Superintendents, Instructional Leaders  
**CONTACT:** David Mathis, [dmathis@ed.sc.gov](mailto:dmathis@ed.sc.gov)

The South Carolina Department of Education (SCDE) is launching full implementation of the learning object repository referred to as the Instruction Hub. Lesson plans developed by South Carolina educators will be a key resource found in the Instruction Hub and will be available to teachers statewide.

The SCDE is accepting recommendations of educators in all content areas who can possibly join in developing high quality lessons. Your recommendation is important to ensure those who are selected have demonstrated evidence of developing quality lessons that align to the depth of content standards. Use the form linked [here](#) to submit recommendations by **March 19, 2021.**

[Teacher Recommendations for Lesson Plan Development - Memo](#) PDF (159 KB)

[National Institute for Excellence in Teaching Rubric - Attachment](#) PDF (230 KB)

# MULTILINGUAL LEARNERS

## Multilingual Learner Enrollment

**AUDIENCE:** District Superintendents, ESEA Title III EL Coordinators, Adult Education Directors, Principals  
**CONTACT:** Cathy Hazelwood, [chazelwood@ed.sc.gov](mailto:chazelwood@ed.sc.gov)

Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 requires local educational agencies (LEAs) to ensure

that enrollment procedures and policies do not negatively impact students based on their immigrant status or English language proficiency. To help ensure appropriate services and enrollment policies for multilingual learners (MLs), please review the below information.

Pursuant to S.C. Code of Law Ann. § 59-63-20 (Supp. 2020), students aged 3-21 enrolling in South Carolina public schools must be allowed to do so at all grade levels. Additionally, the United States Supreme Court held in the case of Plyler v. Doe, 457 U.S. 202 (1982), that a State may not deny access to a basic public education to any child residing in the State, whether present in the United States legally or otherwise.

[Multilingual Learner Enrollment - Memo](#) PDF (199 KB)

