



## SOUTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

### SCHOOL DISTRICT MEMORANDA

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May 12, 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 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 **18,098** [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 5/9/2021) DHEC has reported **456,971** [positive cases among all South Carolinians](#).

This means that positive cases among K-12 students and staff who attended school account for **4.0%** 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 5/9/2021)

[Recent Disease Activity, by County Report](#) (as of 5/5/2021)

## WEBINAR

### ESSER III Fund Technical Assistance Session

On May 19, 2021, the South Carolina Department of Education will hold a technical assistance session at 2:00 p.m. to discuss the Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund (ESSER III Fund). This technical assistance session will be recorded for those who are unable to attend.

#### Event address:

<https://southcarolinadepartmentofeducation.webex.com/southcarolinadepartmentofeducation/onstage/g.php?MTID=ef9fddb1dfe6be4bf955002fc3692f425>

Event number: 173 239 4229

**Event password:** esseriii

**Audio conference:** US Toll

+1-415-655-0001

Show all global call-in numbers

Access code: 173 239 4229

Please direct any questions regarding ESSER III to [scesser@ed.sc.gov](mailto:scesser@ed.sc.gov)

<https://ed.sc.gov/policy/federal-education-programs/esser-funding-information/esser-iii-funding-information/>

## ACCOUNTABILITY

### Comprehensive Health Education Requirements

**AUDIENCE:** District Superintendents, School Business Officials

**CONTACT:** Laura McNair, [lmcnair@ed.sc.gov](mailto:lmcnair@ed.sc.gov)

The purpose of this memo is to provide a reminder that Physical Education (PE) and Comprehensive Health Education (CHE) ([§59-32-30](#); [Regulation 43-238](#)) are required by law in order for a student to earn a South Carolina High School Diploma per Regulation 43-234. If CHE is not integrated into the PE course or another subject, a separate half credit of CHE is necessary. While students may earn their PE credit through VirtualSC, it is important to note that VirtualSC's PE course does not integrate the CHE requirements. Consequently, when utilizing the VirtualSC option for PE, the Health standards must be incorporated into an existing course or the student must take a half credit of Health.

On May 26, 2016, Superintendent Spearman issued a [memorandum](#) reminding districts of [Regulation 43-232](#). This regulation states that students in grades 7 and 8 cannot enroll in the VirtualSC high school PE course with the exception of rising 9th grade students whose districts consider them to be a 9th grade student at the start of the course.

[Comprehensive Health Education Requirements - Memo](#) PDF (136 KB)

## FINANCE

### 2020-21 Career Specialist Funding Information

**AUDIENCE:** District Superintendents, Principals, School Counseling Personnel Directors

**CONTACT:** Anna Duvall, [aduvall@ed.sc.gov](mailto:aduvall@ed.sc.gov)

As we approach the end of the 2020–21 academic year, the South Carolina Department of Education (SCDE) expects that districts will continue to receive funds from the Education and Economic Development Act (EEDA) to assist them in meeting the 300:1 student-to-guidance personnel ratio required by EEDA legislation. The 2021–22 Career Specialist Funding letters will be emailed directly to district superintendents during the week of May 17, 2021.

Before 2021–22 allocations are disbursed, however, districts must ensure that all students in grades eight through twelve in each middle and high school have completed an individual graduation plan (IGP) in accordance with S.C. Code Ann. § 59-59-140 during the current academic year and that the Career Specialist Accountability Report (CSAR) has been submitted to the SCDE for all schools that serve middle and high school students and for elementary schools that serve sixth-grade students.

[2021-22 Career Specialist Funding Information - Memo](#) PDF (143 KB)

# PROFESSIONAL LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

## Personalized Learning & Competency-Based Education Professional Learning Opportunities

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

**CONTACT:** [personalizedlearning@ed.sc.gov](mailto:personalizedlearning@ed.sc.gov)

The Office of Personalized Learning is offering free, blended professional learning opportunities designed to meet the diverse needs of educators in implementing personalized learning and competency-based education practices. Recognizing that educators are at different levels of readiness and implementation, we are offering multiple entry points for this professional development.

[Personalized Learning & Competency-Based Education Professional Learning Opportunities - Memo](#) PDF (156 KB)

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## Leadership Development Professional Learning Opportunities 2021-22

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

**CONTACT:** Tom Smith, [tsmith@ed.sc.gov](mailto:tsmith@ed.sc.gov)

The Office of Educator Effectiveness and Leadership Development is pleased to announce dates for instructional leadership development cohorts beginning fall 2021. All of our cohorts focus on growing highly-effective educators who are prepared to support all students to reach the Profile of the South Carolina Graduate. Each cohort is limited based on space; previous cohorts have filled quickly.

Both Instructional Leadership Academy (ILA) and Building Instructional Capacity (BIC) will be facilitated using a hybrid format. This change has come as a result of feedback received over the past three years and reflects our desire to support educators traveling from the furthest points in the state and to build on the success of our virtual offerings during the 2020–21 school year. The hybrid schedule includes a blend of both face-to-face and virtual facilitation. Please feel free to reach out with any questions about the hybrid schedule.

[Leadership Development Professional Learning Opportunities 2021-22 - Memo](#) PDF (160 KB)

# TECHNOLOGY

## District Technology Advisory Group (SC-DTAG) 2021 Election Results

**AUDIENCE:** District Superintendents, District Technology Leaders, District Instructional Leaders, District Information Security/Privacy Leaders, District PowerSchool Coordinators

The South Carolina Department of Education (SCDE) completed elections for its District Technology Advisory Group (SC-DTAG) on April 14, 2021. This election process was conducted to fill district representative seats within the SC-DTAG sub-advisory groups. The SC-DTAG initiative will continue to provide an opportunity for its district representatives to

collaborate with the SCDE on technology-related projects and district needs/requirements.

[District Technology Advisory Group \(SC-DTAG\) 2021 Election Results - Memo](#) PDF  
(167 KB)

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