



SOUTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

SCHOOL DISTRICT MEMORANDA

ed.sc.gov



May 25, 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 **18,440** [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 5/23/2021) DHEC has reported **462,823** [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 5/19/2021)

[Recent Disease Activity, by County Report](#) (as of 5/19/2021)

COVID-19 VACCINE

School Based COVID-19 Vaccination Clinics

SC DHEC would like to provide assistance and coordination of **OPTIONAL** school vaccine clinics for students and their family members 12 and older and staff before the end of the school year. DHEC understands that this is a hectic time of year, and the time frame for planning is very limited, so participation is **COMPLETELY OPTIONAL**. This is meant only to be a service to school districts that wish to plan vaccine events in this time frame. We will continue to coordinate with the SCDE and school districts to plan summer and back-to-school vaccination events as well.

Certain retail pharmacies are interested in partnering with schools to coordinate end-of-year clinics. Additionally, DHEC compiled a list of Pfizer vaccine providers that are able to coordinate with school districts and schools. DHEC will aid in coordination and may be able to

provide some clinics. Please be aware that DHEC and its partners wish to provide as many end of year clinics as possible and as dosage allocations allow. DHEC will need the information provided in this survey in order to help with coordinating any end of year events. Please review the attached information and answer the survey below so that DHEC can provide coordination assistance in these efforts.

[School Partnership Youth and Family Vaccination Toolkit](#)

[Pfizer Providers for School Partnerships](#)

[School District Survey](#)

[Charter School Survey](#)

ESSER III

ESSER III Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Services Plan

CONTACT: scesser@ed.sc.gov

Local Education Agencies (LEAs) must develop and publish online a plan for the safe return to in-person instruction and continuity of services within 30 days of receiving their ESSER III Grant Award Notification (June 24, 2021). The SCDE has developed a template for LEAs to use that meets the requirements of the American Rescue Plan Act (ARP) and a document with instructions on how to complete the template and submit it to the SCDE. Please find these documents linked below.

Individual schools, including charter schools, are not LEAs and thus do not have to complete individual return to in-person and continuity of services plans under the ARP. Charter authorizers, including traditional public school districts, the S.C. Public Charter School District, and the Charter Institute at Erskine are LEAs and must complete and post these plans as part of receipt of these federal funds.

Please note:

1. The Return to In-Person Plan must be posted on the District's website by **June 24, 2021**.
2. The district must get public input in developing the plan.
3. If a district has already completed and posted a plan that meets all the requirements in this template, the district should email a copy of the existing plan, along with a link to the posted plan, to scesser@ed.sc.gov.
4. For all other plans, the district should email a copy of the plan, along with a link to the posted plan, to scesser@ed.sc.gov by **June 24, 2021**.

[Safe Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Service Plan Template](#)

[Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Services Plan Instructions](#)

GT AND IB

Professional Learning Allocations for Gifted and Talented and International Baccalaureate Programs

AUDIENCE: Regional Gifted and Talented Coordinators, Fiscal Agents, Finance Officers
CONTACT: Melanie Cooper (Allocations), mcooper@ed.sc.gov, Josie Stratton (Programmatic), jstratton@ed.sc.gov

Each Regional Fiscal Agent will receive a Professional Learning allocation of \$10,000 to be paid through District Revenue Code: 3597A. The funding is provided through the 2020-21 Annual Appropriations Act Professional Development line item and Proviso 1A.25. Payments will arrive within 30 days of processing.

[Professional Learning Allocations for Gifted and Talented and International Baccalaureate Programs - Memo](#) PDF (190 KB)

MILITARY HONOR CORD CEREMONY



The 2021 South Carolina Department of Education Virtual Military Honor Cord Ceremony will stream live on the agency's [Facebook page](#) and [YouTube channel](#) on Thursday, May 27 at 5:30 p.m.

SAFETY

Model Policy for Fire and Safety Guidelines Update

AUDIENCE: District Superintendents, District Safety Coordinators

CONTACT: Katie Nilges, knilges@ed.sc.gov

The purpose of this memo is to provide an extension for the submission of school district fire and safety policies.

Based on the authority granted to the State Superintendent pursuant to [Act 135](#), the submission date of July 1, 2021, for school districts to submit fire and safety policies has been extended until July 1, 2022. However, districts will be required to complete the Model Safe Schools Checklist by September 1, 2021. Additional guidance on the checklist is forthcoming.

[Model Policy for Fire and Safety Guidelines Updated - Memo](#) PDF (135 KB)

SPECIAL EDUCATION

Multilingual Learners with Disabilities

AUDIENCE: Special Education Directors, ESEA Title III EL Coordinators

CONTACT: Susan Murphy, smurphy@ed.sc.gov, Elizabeth Supan, esupan@ed.sc.gov, Sara Garrett, sgarrett@ed.sc.gov, Lisa McCliment, lmcccliment@ed.sc.gov

The number of multilingual learners (MLs) continues to increase in South Carolina. Some of these students may also be identified as students with disabilities. Federal guidelines and timelines need to be met when a parent or school personnel has reason to suspect that an ML may have a disability.

[Multilingual Learners with Disabilities - Memo](#) PDF (197 KB)

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