



SOUTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

SCHOOL DISTRICT MEMORANDA

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May 4, 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 **17,756** [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 5/2/2021) DHEC has reported **452,985** [positive cases among all South Carolinians](#).

This means that positive cases among K-12 students and staff who attended school account for **3.9%** 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 5/2/2021)

[Recent Disease Activity, by County Report](#) (as of 4/28/2021)

COVID-19 GUIDANCE

DHEC has released new interim guidance as it relates to COVID-19 and school buses in addition to updated interim guidance for COVID-19 and school operations. Please review these important documents by clicking below.

[COVID-19 Interim Guidance for School Buses](#) - **NEW**

[COVID-19 Interim Guidance for School Operations](#) - **UPDATED**

DATA

District Data Governance Group Meeting

AUDIENCE: District Superintendents, Accountability Coordinators, Technology Coordinators, PowerSchool Coordinators

CONTACT: Dan Ralyea, dralyea@ed.sc.gov

As of April 23, 2021, sixteen school districts have joined the District Data Governance Group (DDGG). These districts represent approximately 160,000 or 20 percent of our state's students. Having achieved this critical mass, the group is prepared to move forward with hiring a director and engaging in its data governance activities. As explained in Superintendent Spearman's [February 23, 2021, memorandum](#), the DDGG will govern a district Ed-Fi operational data store, giving districts access to integrated, structured data. Districts are still encouraged to join by [signing the DDGG agreement](#). Any district may attend this first meeting, but only signed members may vote on DDGG actions.

[District Data Governance Group Meeting - Memo](#) PDF (137 KB)

[District Data Governance Group Meeting Agenda - Attachment](#) PDF (100 KB)

GRANTS

Fiscal Year 2021 Federal Grant Close Out

AUDIENCE: District Superintendents, School Business Officials

CONTACT: Sequoyah Williams, sburden@ed.sc.gov

Budgets

The due date for all budget amendments is Monday, **June 7, 2021**, for grant awards ending June 30 and/or any expenditures that will be incurred on or before June 30, 2021. Recipients are required to report deviations from budget and program plans and request prior approvals for budget and program plan revisions.

Expenditure Claims

Expenditure claims in GAPS for any expenditures from July 1, 2020, through June 30, 2021, received after Sunday, **August 15, 2021**, will not be paid. **This deadline will be strictly enforced.** Expenditure claims in GAPS must be in the status of "Submitted to SCDE Finance" by August 15, to meet the deadline. Please make sure your Finance Approver has approved your claims by August 15. If your grant has an **earlier** Final Report Date listed on your GAN, then that is the date you must have all your expenditure claims submitted to Finance at the SCDE in order to be paid. If your grant has a Final Report Date listed on your GAN later than August 15, then you still must submit your expenditure claims for all expenditures through June 30, 2021, by August 15. You may then submit any expenditure claims from July 1, 2021, through the end of your grant by the Final Report Date listed on your GAN.

[Fiscal Year 2021 Federal Grant Close Out - Memo](#) PDF (174 KB)

S.C. TEACHER OF THE YEAR GALA



The annual South Carolina Teacher of the Year Gala, popularly known as the "Academy Awards" of teaching, will take place in-person on **May 5, 2021** from 7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. Those not attending in-person can tune in to watch the event live by clicking the video above.

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