



# SC EDUCATION OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE

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PO Box 11867 | 227 Blatt Building  
Columbia SC 29211 | WWW.SCEOC.ORG

TO: District Superintendents  
District Instructional Leaders District  
Public Information Officers  
DATE: April 28, 2020  
RE: eLearning Plans for 2020-2021

Many challenges are ahead, but we have an opportunity to work collaboratively to reimagine what is possible for students in South Carolina. Recently, the Education Oversight Committee (EOC) completed and presented a review of the second year of eLearning, a pilot program for alternative methods of instruction for make-up days pursuant to Proviso 1A.83 of the 2019-20 General Appropriation Act. Fifteen school districts have been involved in the pilot project covering two school years. The EOC will work collaboratively with the South Carolina Department of Education (SCDE) in an effort to bring resources (both financial and human) together to support the delivery of instruction via technology across the state in 2020-21 for Cohort 3 should the approved state budget for 2020-21 include this directive.

The application process for Year 3 of eLearning will be as follows:

- Beginning on May 11, 2020, a district may submit its application via [bit.ly/eLearning2020Cohort3](https://bit.ly/eLearning2020Cohort3) to be considered for Cohort 3 of eLearning. **The application process for Cohort 3 of eLearning will close on May 22, 2020. Districts will be notified of any decision by May 29, 2020.**
- In addition to the eLearning Cohort 3, a **Readiness Cohort** will also be established. The Readiness Cohort is intended to support districts who are interested in harnessing the potential of instructional technology but who may lack some foundational or technical requirements for full implementation of eLearning. Districts accepted into the Readiness Cohort will not be able to use eLearning to make-up days in the Fall 2020 semester, but if capability is adequately addressed as determined by EOC and SCDE, the district may petition to be included in the eLearning Cohorts in the Spring of 2021. **The application for the Readiness Cohort will open on May 11, 2020 via the link above and close on May 22, 2020. Districts will be notified of any decision by May 29, 2020.**
- In addition to those selected by application in the process described above, Cohort 3 will include districts from eLearning Cohorts 1 and 2 as well as those selected through a collaborative review by EOC and SCDE staff of district applications for remote learning via technology in response to COVID-19 school closure. **The list of these districts who are automatically cleared for inclusion in Cohort 3 is included at the end of this letter.**

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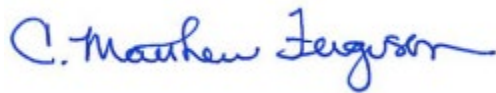
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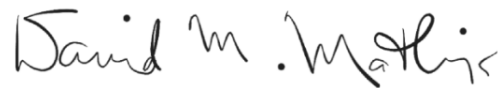
COVID-19 profoundly affected education in 2020 and required us to transform how we delivered instruction overnight. Its impact on the 2020-2021 school year remains unknown, but the need for collaborative preparation at the state level is essential. As we navigate this new path of learning via instructional technology, critical factors in our success remain consistent: ensuring the safety and quality of each student's learning experience, promoting equity in education for all students and supporting the continued professional development of teachers.

We look forward to this project and working with each of you. Though many challenges are ahead, we will no doubt discover lessons of innovation to raise the expectations for what all children in our state can achieve.

Sincerely,



C. Matthew Ferguson, Esquire  
Executive Director  
SC Education Oversight Committee



David Mathis, Ed.D  
Deputy Superintendent  
South Carolina Department of Education

Attachments: Current List of 24 districts in Cohort 3; eLearning Time Line for Cohort 3

*Draft* Timeline for eLearning Cohort 3, Readiness Cohort and Digital Learning Funding Plans Support

Spring 2020 and School Year 2020-2021

Action Items and Timeline

- May 11- 22
  - Receive applications, review, and identify additional districts for Cohort 3 (plus 24 identified to this point)
  - Receive requests to engage in the Readiness Cohort
  
- May 29
  - Notify *all* districts regarding status in Cohort 3, Readiness Cohort, and regional groups
  - Share sample IT bundles, LMS implementation suggestions, share PD schedule for teachers (include multiple resources SCETV, State Library, SREB, other districts, SDE)
  
- June
  - Continuum to communicate with districts; share suggestions/models
  - Offer site visits to lead districts for Regional Geographical Clusters (pending coronavirus situation)
  - Continue to share sample IT bundles, LMS implementation suggestions, share PD schedule for teachers (include multiple resources SCETV, State Library, SREB, other districts, SDE)
  - Survey Needs Groups identified, and professional development sessions coordinated
  
- July (tentatively Thursday, July 30)
  - Host one statewide meeting for all 3 Cohorts (SDE and EOC) (10-12:30)
  - Meet with Cohort Readiness (SDE and EOC reps facilitate) (10-12:30)
  - Break-out to Region groups and Cohort Readiness (1:30-3:00)
  
- August - November
  - Regional groups meet with selected Regional Leads (Cohort 3 required Cohort Readiness as optional)
  - Meet with Cohort Readiness (SCSDE and EOC reps facilitate)
  - Site visits to Regional group meetings
  - Site visits to each district in Readiness Cohort
  
- February EOC Meeting
  - Preliminary Report on Cohort 3 and Regional Cohort eLearning Model submitted to SBE and EOC (require per Proviso)
  - Preliminary Report on Cohort Readiness submitted
  - Continue to collect data on eLearning days used

- April EOC Meeting
  - Final report on Cohort 3, the Regional Cohort eLearning Model; Readiness Cohort
  - SDE submits recommendations for continuation and its facilitation of eLearning

**List of eLearning Cohort 3 District**

Anderson 1	Prior eLearning District
Anderson 2	Prior eLearning District
Anderson 3	Prior eLearning District
Anderson 5	Prior eLearning District
Berkeley	Prior eLearning District
Florence 1	Prior eLearning District
Georgetown	Prior eLearning District
Kershaw	Prior eLearning District
Lexington 2	Prior eLearning District
Lexington 3	Prior eLearning District
Pickens	Prior eLearning District
Spartanburg 1	Prior eLearning District
Spartanburg 7	Prior eLearning District
York 2	Prior eLearning District
York 3	Prior eLearning District
<b>Anderson 4</b>	Added to eLearning after review of SCDE Distant Learning application
<b>Beaufort</b>	Added to eLearning after review of SCDE Distant Learning application
<b>Calhoun</b>	Added to eLearning after review of SCDE Distant Learning application
<b>Chester</b>	Added to eLearning after review of SCDE Distant Learning application
<b>Darlington</b>	Added to eLearning after review of SCDE Distant Learning application
<b>Greenville</b>	Added to eLearning after review of SCDE Distant Learning application
<b>Richland 1</b>	Added to eLearning after review of SCDE Distant Learning application
<b>Richland 2</b>	Added to eLearning after review of SCDE Distant Learning application
<b>Spartanburg 3</b>	Added to eLearning after review of SCDE Distant Learning application

\* All other districts wanting to apply for Cohort 3 or Readiness Cohort of eLearning will need to update their application in the SCDE form. **The application process for eLearning will open on May 11, 2020 and close on May 22, 2020. Districts will be notified of any decision by May 29, 2020.**