

EIA and EAA Budget and Proviso Requests for FY 2025-26

Approved by Education Oversight Committee

December 9, 2024

Section 59-6-10 of the Education Accountability Act requires the Education Oversight Committee (EOC) “review and monitor the implementation and evaluation of the Education Accountability Act and the Education Improvement Act programs and funding” and to “make programmatic and funding recommendations to the General Assembly.” To meet this statutory requirement, the EOC required each EIA-funded program or entity to submit a program and budget report detailing the objectives and outcomes of each program for Fiscal Years 2023-24 and any additional requests for Fiscal Year 2025-26.

The EIA and Improvement Mechanism Subcommittee met on the following dates:

- November 4, 2024: Held public hearing for entities funded by or requesting EIA revenues.
- November 18, 2024: Held public hearing for entities funded by or requesting new EIA revenues and convened to discuss EIA budget priorities. Subcommittee requested EOC staff compile priorities of EIA budget from the discussion and present recommendation for consideration at the December 2, 2024 meeting.
- December 2, 2024: Two additional programs presented to EIA subcommittee; subcommittee approved recommendations.
- December 9: EOC approves subcommittee recommendations.

On November 19, 2024, the Board of Economic Advisors (BEA) issued updated revenue projections for FY 2025-26. The BEA identified \$44,638,000 increase in EIA funds for FY 2025-26. Nonrecurring funds are estimated at \$87,000,000. The total monies requested from EIA programs (excluding the SCDE’s requested presented on November 4, 2024, totaled \$131,707,920.)

The EOC's budget recommendations for the EIA are summarized as follows:

- An increase of \$30 million for the SC Department of Education to serve additional students in Summer Reading Camps
- An increase of \$5 million for Phase 2 of a Strategic Compensation Pilot, led by the SCDE.
- An increase of \$272,250 for a new Charter School Leadership Program led by the SCDE and an increase of \$4.6 million for a School Leadership Accelerator
- An increase of \$250,000 for Reach Out and Read to expand their program statewide.
- An increase of \$356,500 to Science P.L.U.S. in the upstate to train more teachers in the new science standards.
- A requested increase of \$150,000 to the SC Council on Economic Education.
- An increase of \$1.4 million to the Call Me MISTER program which corresponds to a \$1.4 million decrease in the SC State University (SCSU) BRIDGE program which appropriates that funding to SCSU and Claflin for the purpose of recruiting teachers into the profession. Since 2020, the SCSU BRIDGE program, has produced 8 certified teachers while Claflin University has produced 2 certified teachers. The committee recommended that the monies be transferred to Call Me MISTER, which has produced 140 certified teachers since 2020. The Call Me MISTER program operates programs at SCSU and Claflin.
- The EOC also recommends an appropriation of \$6 million for SC to join 10 states that have implemented the Dolly Parton Imagination Library statewide. The program would be implemented by an established agency or program.

The committee recommended the following decreases in recurring funding, citing failure of the mentioned programs to produce intended results:

- A recommended decrease for Teach for America from \$2 million to \$1 million. The committee stated the rationale for the cut was a significant decline in recruitment of teachers in hard-to-staff school districts.
- A recommended decrease for STEM Centers SC from \$2 million to \$1 million. The committee stated the decrease was due to a move away from purpose which is training SC teachers in the teaching of mathematics.

Budget details follows:

EIA Program Name	FY 2023-24 Appropriation	FY 2024-25 Appropriation	2025-26 requested change	2025-26 EOC EIA Subcommittee Recommended Increase/Decrease	Explanation
Education Economic and Development Act	\$8,413,832.00	\$8,413,832.00	\$0.00	No change	
State Aid to Classrooms	\$709,106,434.00	\$738,826,434.00	\$200,000,000	No change	
Industry Certifications/ Credentials	\$3,000,000.00	\$3,000,000.00	\$0.00	No Change	
Adult Education	\$17,073,736.00	\$17,073,736.00	\$0.00	No Change	
Arts Curricular Grants	\$1,487,571.00	\$1,487,571.00	\$0.00	No change	
Career and Technology Education	\$29,572,135.00	\$29,572,135.00	\$13,000,000	No change	
Computer Science Certification and Professional Learning	\$3,000,000.00	\$3,000,000.00	\$0.00	No change	
Instructional Support for Districts (iHub/LMS/AMS)	\$0.00	\$3,794,751.00	\$10,000,000	No change	
Summer Reading Camps	\$7,500,000.00	\$7,500,000.00	\$30,571,200	\$30,000,000	Original SCDE Request; more students will need to be served through changes in Read to Succeed law.
Reading Coaches	\$9,922,556.00	\$9,922,556.00	\$0.00	No change	
Assessment/ Testing	\$27,561,400.00	\$27,561,400.00	\$0.00	No change	
Instructional Materials	\$20,922,830.00	\$29,856,586.00	\$20,000,000	No change	
Math Resources & Support	\$1,500,000.00	\$1,500,000.00	\$0.00	No change	
Palmetto Math Project		\$10,000,000.00	\$0.00	No change	
Reading	\$3,271,026.00	\$3,271,026.00	\$0.00	No change	
EAA Technical Assistance	\$23,801,301.00	\$23,801,301.00	\$0.00	No change	

EIA Program Name	FY 2023-24 Appropriation	FY 2024-25 Appropriation	2025-26 requested change	2025-26 EOC EIA Subcommittee Recommended Increase/Decrease	Explanation
Power School/ Data Collection	\$7,500,000.00	\$7,500,000.00	\$0.00	No change	
School Value Added Instrument	\$1,400,000.00	\$1,400,000.00	\$0.00	No change	
Half-day 4K	\$11,513,846.00	\$8,513,846.00	\$0.00	No change	
CDEPP - SCDE	\$63,465,168.00	\$78,465,168.00	\$0.00	No change	
LETRS Training 4K	\$2,975,000.00	\$2,975,000.00	\$0.00	No change	
Pattison's Academy for Comprehensive Education	\$1,513,514.00	\$1,513,514.00	\$0.00	No change	
Meyer Center for Special Children	\$486,486.00	\$486,486.00	\$0.00	No change	
Palmetto Excel SC Public School Charter	\$1,300,000.00	\$1,300,000.00	\$0.00	No change	
Teacher of the Year	\$155,000.00	\$155,000.00	\$0.00	No change	
Teacher Quality Commission	\$372,724.00	\$372,724.00	\$0.00	No change	
Teacher Supplies	\$17,755,350.00	\$20,455,350.00	\$0.00	No change	
National Board Certification	\$44,500,000.00	\$34,500,000.00	\$0.00	No change	
TeachSC	ESSER Funded	\$727,650.00	\$0.00	No change	
ADEPT	\$873,909.00	\$873,909.00	\$0.00	No change	
Professional Development	\$2,771,758.00	\$2,771,758.00	\$0.00	No change	
Technology	\$12,271,826.00	\$12,271,826.00	\$0.00	No change	
Family Connection SC	\$300,000.00	\$600,000.00	\$0.00	No change	
SDE Grants Committee	\$2,004,313.00	\$9,004,313.00	\$0.00	No change	
Strategic Compensation Pilot: Phase 2	\$0	\$5,000,000	\$5,000,000	\$5,000,000	Phase 1 funded from Lottery 2024-25
Charter School Leadership Program	\$0	\$0	\$272,750	\$272,250	

EIA Program Name	FY 2023-24 Appropriation	FY 2024-25 Appropriation	2025-26 requested change	2025-26 EOC EIA Subcommittee Recommended Increase/Decrease	Explanation
School Leadership Accelerator	\$0	\$0	\$6,725,000	\$4,609,250	
Literacy & Distance Learning	\$415,000.00	\$415,000.00	\$0.00	No change	
Reach Out & Read	\$1,000,000.00	\$1,000,000.00	\$250,000.00	\$250,000.00	EIA subcommittee recommends approval of this increase of funds to Reach Out and Read.
Youth Challenge Academy	\$1,000,000.00	\$1,000,000.00	\$0.00	No change	
Arts Education (SC Arts Commission)	\$1,170,000.00	\$1,170,000.00	\$3,830,000.00	No change	
Education Oversight Committee Agency	\$1,293,242.00	\$1,687,264.00	\$0.00	No change	
South Carolina Autism Society	\$500,000.00	\$500,000.00	\$0.00	No change	
Science P.L.U.S.	\$563,406.00	\$563,406.00	\$16,594.00	\$356,500.00	EIA subcommittee recommends approval of this increase of funds to Science P.L.U.S. to train teacher in new science standards.
STEM Centers SC	\$2,000,000.00	\$2,000,000.00	\$850,000.00	-\$1,000,000	EIA subcommittee recommends reduction based on the Center moving away from original purpose of training teachers in math instruction.
Teach For America SC	\$2,000,000.00	\$2,000,000.00	\$750,000.00	-\$1,000,000	EIA subcommittee recommends reduction based TFA moving away from original purpose of recruiting teachers to hard-to-staff SC school districts.
SC Council on Economic Education	\$300,000.00	\$300,000.00	\$150,000.00	\$150,000.00	EIA subcommittee recommends approval of this increase of funds to SC Council in Economic Education.
Center for Educational Partnerships Agency (H270)	\$100,000.00	\$100,000.00	\$0.00	No change	
Center for Educational Partnerships (SCMGI)	\$75,000.00	\$75,000.00	\$0.00	No change	
Center for Educational Partnerships (SC-WIN)	\$182,500.00	\$182,500.00	\$0.00	No change	
Center for Educational Partnerships (SCEPC)	\$75,000.00	\$75,000.00	\$0.00	No change	

EIA Program Name	FY 2023-24 Appropriation	FY 2024-25 Appropriation	2025-26 requested change	2025-26 EOC EIA Subcommittee Recommended Increase/Decrease	Explanation
Center for Educational Partnerships (SC-SIC)	\$127,303.00	\$127,303.00	\$0.00	No change	
Center for Educational Partnerships (SCGA)	\$156,130.00	\$156,130.00	\$0.00	No change	
Centers for Excellence Agency CHE (H030)	\$1,137,526.00	\$1,137,526.00	\$0.00	No change	
Centers for Excellence (Citadel - Mathematical Literacy)	\$129,580.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	No change	
Centers for Excellence (CU-LEADERS)	\$128,596.00	\$128,129.00	\$0.00	No change	
Centers for Excellence (CC-APEC)	\$112,500.00	\$112,500.00	\$0.00	No change	
Centers for Excellence (FMU-TRIP)	\$129,768.00	\$80,449.67	\$0.00	No change	
Centers for Excellence (Lander- Science of Reading)	\$99,349.27	\$107,034.27	\$0.00	No change	
Centers for Excellence (Presbyterian- Science of Reading)	\$47,600.00	\$47,600.00	\$0.00	No change	
Centers for Excellence (Coker APEC- Alternative Certification)	\$120,000.00	\$112,500.00	\$0.00	No change	
Center of Excellence to Prepare Teachers of Children of Poverty - Francis Marion	\$350,000.00	\$350,000.00	\$0.00	No change	
Centers for Excellence (Converse- Leadership Development)	\$83,745	\$113,652.64	\$0.00	No change	
South Carolina Program for Recruitment & Retention of Minority Teachers	\$339,482.00	\$339,482.00	\$0.00	No change	
SC State University BRIDGE Program	\$1,000,000.00	\$1,000,000.00	\$0.00	-\$1,000,000	EIA Subcommittee recommended these funds be transferred to Call Me Mister. Rationale: Poor outcomes in preparing SC teachers. Since 2020, SCSU program has prepared 17 total graduates (certified teachers.) In contrast, the Call Me Mister program has produced 210 certified teachers since 2020 at a much lower cost to the State.

EIA Program Name	FY 2023-24 Appropriation	FY 2024-25 Appropriation	2025-26 requested change	2025-26 EOC EIA Subcommittee Recommended Increase/Decrease	Explanation
Clafin University	\$400,000.00	\$400,000.00	\$0.00	-\$400,000	EIA Subcommittee recommended these funds be transferred to Call Me Mister. Rationale: Poor outcomes in preparing SC teachers. Since 2020, the Clafin program has prepared 2 total graduates (certified teachers.) In contrast, the Call Me Mister program has produced 210 certified teachers since 2020 at a much lower cost to the State.
Teacher Loan Program	\$5,089,881.00	\$5,089,881.00	\$0.00	No change	
Babynet Autism Therapy	\$3,926,408.00	\$3,926,408.00	\$1,570,563.00	No change	
Call Me MISTER	\$500,000.00	\$500,000.00	\$250,000.00	\$1,400,000	EIA Subcommittee recommended funds from SC State University and Clafin be moved to Call Me Mister to recruit teachers.
Regional Education Centers	\$2,452,000.00	\$1,952,000.00	\$500,000.00	No change	
CERRA Agency (H470)	\$755,781.00	\$955,781.00	\$0.00	No change	
CERRA- Rural Teacher Recruitment	\$7,598,392.00	\$7,598,392.00	\$0.00	No change	
CERRA- Pre-collegiate	\$670,905.00	\$670,905.00	\$0.00	No change	
CERRA- Teaching Fellows	\$4,509,039.00	\$4,509,039.00	\$0.00	No change	
The Continuum	\$2,500,000.00	\$2,500,000.00	\$0.00	No change	
Carolina Collaborative for Alternative Preparation (USC CAP)	\$ 1,200,000	\$1,950,000.00	\$0.00	No change	
Education Data Dashboards	\$3,500,000.00	\$3,605,978 (revised)	\$0.00	No change	
SC Future Makers/Tallo	\$0.00	\$1,250,000.00	\$0.00	No change	

EIA Program Name	FY 2023-24 Appropriation	FY 2024-25 Appropriation	2025-26 requested change	2025-26 EOC EIA Subcommittee Recommended Increase/Decrease	Explanation
Jobs for America's Graduates (JAG-SC)	\$2,000,000.00	\$3,000,000.00	\$0.00	No change	
SC TEACHER	\$1,000,000.00	\$2,000,000.00	\$0.00	No change	
Save the Children	\$1,000,000.00	\$1,000,000.00	\$0.00	No change	
Project HYPE	\$750,000.00	\$950,000.00	\$0.00	No change	
Project Read	\$100,000.00	\$100,000.00	\$50,000.00	No change	
TransformSC	\$400,000.00	\$400,000.00	\$0.00	No change	
First Steps to School Readiness	\$40,007,554.00	\$47,267,334.00	\$0.00	No change	
Palmetto Partners	\$125,000.00	\$125,000.00	\$0.00	No change	
NEW Statewide implementation of Imagination Library (serve children ages 0-5)	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$6,000,000	EIA Subcommittee recommends \$4 million of new dollars and \$2 million from deduction of TFA and STEM Centers SC lines to support statewide implementation of program through the Office of SC First Steps.
Projected EIA Revenue Growth for FY 2025-26 (recurring				\$44,638,000	
EOC EIA Subcommittee 2025-26 Recommendation Increases/Decreases				\$48,068,000 -\$3,400,000.00	
TOTALS			\$ 303,786,107.00	\$44,638,000	

Projected EIA non-recurring funds: available \$87,000,000.

EIA Program Name	FY 2023-24 Allocation	FY 2024-25 Allocation	2025-26 requested change	2025-26 EIA Subcommittee Recommendation	Explanation
SCDE: Math Instructional Materials	\$0	\$0	\$95,000,000	\$87,000,000	EIA Subcommittee recommends that all non-recurring EIA funds be directed to Math Instructional Materials

EOC Proviso Revision Requests
FY 2025-26 (adopted by EOC 12/9/2024)

NEW DRAFT PROVISIO re: Use of revolving loan funds

1A. . (SDE-EIA Teacher Loan Program) Of the available funds in the Teacher Loan Program revolving account administered by the SC Student Loan Corporation, up to \$5,000,000 shall be made available to assist in refinancing student loan debt for all certified teachers employed in the public schools of the State. An additional \$5,000,000 from the revolving loan account will be made available to teachers for loan forgiveness patterned after the SC Teacher Loan in the following school districts based on the number of teacher vacancies and/or the number of teachers of record uncertified in the subject area in which they are teaching: Bamberg, Allendale, Calhoun, Jasper, Lee, and McCormick, school districts that show a vacancy rate of 10% or greater based on the 2024-25 Teacher Supply and Demand Report.

This proviso deletion was prompted by the EOC's adoption of the SC K-12 Military Readiness Task Force Report adopted in June 2024. This deletion was a recommendation.

DELETE 1.72. (SDE: Standards-Based Assessments Suspended) In the current fiscal year, the provisions of Section 59-18-325(C)(3) of the 1976 Code requiring science standards-based assessments of students in grade eight and social studies standards-based assessments of students in grades five and seven are suspended. Of the funds available due to the suspension of these assessments,

~~\$500,000 must be used by the Department of Education to fund educator professional development regarding the South Carolina Computer Science and Digital Literacy Standards. The remainder of the funds shall be used to pay for industry certification/credentials as approved to measure College/Career Readiness for purposes of the state accountability system.~~

This proviso amendment is a recommendation in a report on Rural Recruitment Incentive, due to the General Assembly on December 15, 2024.

AMEND PROVISIO 1A.45. (SDE-EIA: Rural Teacher Recruiting Incentive) (A) There is created a program within the South Carolina Center for Educator Recruitment, Retention, and Advancement (CERRA) to recruit and retain classroom educators in rural and underserved districts experiencing excessive turnover of classroom teachers on an annual basis.

(B) During the current fiscal year CERRA shall publish eligibility requirements and applications for individual educators, school districts, and institutions of higher education not inconsistent with existing licensure requirements for each, but also including:

(1) Eligible districts identified by CERRA as experiencing greater than eleven percent average annual teacher turnover, as reported on the districts five most recent district report cards issued by the South Carolina Department of Education and are not one of the fifteen wealthiest districts based on the index of taxpaying ability, may make application to participate in the program.

(2) Individuals eligible for incentives shall be willing to provide instructional services in an eligible district in exchange for participation in an incentive detailed in item (C) of this section, pursuant to the obligations and restrictions stated for each.

(3) Institutions of higher education eligible to receive education funding as a component of recruiting incentives created pursuant to item (C) of this section shall not be excluded from participation in Teaching Fellows Program.

(4) Any incentives requiring individuals to relocate into an eligible district to provide instructional services shall not be made available to individuals providing instructional services in other eligible districts.

(C) Pursuant to item (A), CERRA shall develop a set of incentives including, but not limited to, salary supplements, education subsidies, loan forgiveness, professional development, and mentorship to be provided to classroom educators that offer instructional services in eligible districts and shall provide incentive options for eligible individuals at all stages of their careers, including high school and college or university students interested in entering the teaching profession and including individuals entering the field through an alternative certification pathway to include, but not limited to, PACE, ABCTE, Teach for American, and CATE Work Based Certification. At a minimum, the incentives shall include: (1) Development of a program for forgiveness of undergraduate student loans, not to exceed \$5,000 per year, for up to 7 years, for teachers participating in this incentive that achieve certification through an alternative pathway or who have a loan from an institution other than the South Carolina Student Loan Corporation or program other than the South Carolina Teachers Loan Program. (2) Development of a forgivable loan program for individuals pursuing graduate coursework in furtherance of a teaching

career, including enrollment in graduate level coursework necessary to seek additional credentialing or certification relevant to the participants teaching practice, or individuals seeking an alternative pathway to certification as a teacher.

(3) Support for the establishment and maintenance of a teaching mentorship program, including salary supplements for teaching mentors not to exceed \$2,500 per year. (4) Other technical support and recruiting incentives as developed by CERRA in conjunction with the Department of Education and the Education Oversight Committee consistent with the objectives of this section. (D) In addition to eligibility and application requirements, CERRA shall develop a process for recovering an amount equal to the incentives given to individual participants who fail to comply with the obligations associated with a relevant incentive in which they participate including, but not limited to, failure to complete a prescribed course of study, failure to obtain a relevant 17 certification or licensure upon completion of a course of study, or failure to provide instructional services in an eligible district for a prescribed period of time. (E) CERRA shall report by July thirty-first of the current fiscal year to the Governor, President of the Senate, and Speaker of the House on the incentives developed pursuant to item (C) of this section and make recommendations for attracting and retaining high quality teachers in rural and underserved districts. The report shall contain at a minimum eligibility requirements and application processes for districts and individuals, descriptions of and proposed budgets for each incentive program and an analysis of the number and demographics of individuals potentially eligible for each.

(F) Funds appropriated or transferred for use in the Rural Teacher Recruiting Incentive may be carried forward from prior fiscal years and used for the same purpose. The Education Oversight Committee is required to complete an evaluation

of the impact of the funds and incentives related to the Rural Teacher Recruiting Incentive. A completed evaluation is due to the House Ways and Means Committee, the House Education Committee, the Senate Finance Committee, the Senate Education Committee and the Governor's Office ~~no later than December 15 of the current fiscal year~~ by June 30, 2026.

This proviso deletion is based on the EIA subcommittee's budget recommendations. The recommendation allocates funding to Call me Mister.

DELETE 1A.60. ~~(SDE: Bridge Program) Of the funds appropriated for Rural Teacher Recruitment in Fiscal Year 2024-25, \$1,400,000 shall be transferred to South Carolina State University for the implementation and enhancement of a BRIDGE program to recruit minority high school students along the I-95 corridor into the teaching profession by offering them, while still in high school, access to counseling, mentoring, on campus summer enrichment programs, and opportunities for dual enrollment credits at South Carolina State University for the purpose of preparing these students to major in education and to become future teachers along the I-95 corridor. South Carolina State University must utilize \$400,000 of these funds to partner with one or more institutions of higher education to establish a similar bridge program.~~