

South Carolina and The Southern Regional Education Board

This document details South Carolina's participation in SREB programs and services from June 2014 through May 2015. Each member state receives a number of general services, plus access to targeted programs funded by grants, contracts and fees. Appropriations from member states support SREB's core operations and general services. SREB leverages the long-standing commitment of member states to attract external funding for an array of targeted projects for educational improvement efforts in member states.

Leadership

SREB Board

Nikki Haley, Governor

Melanie Barton, Executive Director, Education Oversight Committee

Nikki G. Setzler, State Senator, West Columbia

Mitchell M. Zais, Former State Superintendent of Education

Vacancy (2019)

SREB Legislative Advisory Council

John W. Matthews Jr., State Senator, Bowman

Nikki G. Setzler, State Senator, West Columbia

Senator Matthews (1985) and Senator Setzler (1989) are the third and fourth longest-serving members on the Legislative Advisory Council.

Policy

Goals for education | Monitoring state policies

Monitoring, measuring and reporting through comparative and state-specific reports to assist education leaders and policymakers as they shape public policy in education. SREB tracks trends and analyzes the progress of all 16 SREB states in each area in the Challenge to Lead 2020 Goals for Education and provides Legislative Reports that detail legislative and budget actions in each state.

South Carolina information is included in all reports, as applicable, and several are targeted specifically for South Carolina.

Reports published in 2014-15:

South Carolina: Taking Stock and Moving Forward

2014 State Progress Report on the Challenge to Lead 2020 Goals for Education

High School to College and Careers, 2014

The ACT and SAT: No Longer Just College Admission Tests

SREB States Transform School Accountability with NCLB Waivers, 2014

Workforce Development in SREB States: The Role of Two-Year Colleges in Preparing Students for Middle-Skill Jobs

Focus on Compulsory Attendance Policies: About Age or Intervention?

Notes on School Finance: Selected Information on Funding for Low-Income Students in SREB States

Legislative Reports and Legislative Briefing

More information: Joan.Lord@SREB.org or Jeff.Gagne@SREB.org | (404) 875-9211

College and career readiness

Intensive work to help states implement essential components of SREB's recommendations for statewide college and career readiness.

1. Adopt statewide readiness standards for literacy and mathematics skills.
2. Assess high school juniors to determine their progress toward the standards.
3. Offer transitional readiness courses. Require juniors assessed as underprepared to take the courses in 11th or 12th grade.
4. Apply the standards in deciding whether students need learning support after admission to college.
5. Hold schools accountable for increasing postsecondary readiness.

More information: Dave.Spence@SREB.org | (404) 875-9211 | SREB.org/Readiness

Benchmarking State Implementation of College- and Career-Readiness Standards

Tracks and reports state progress on how states are implementing college- and career-readiness standards.

SREB launched a new phase of benchmarking in February 2015. In this work, SREB tracks and will report on implementation of standards and related reforms in **all 16 SREB** states.

Publications

In January 2015, SREB published ***Benchmarking State Implementation of College-and Career-Readiness Standards, Aligned Assessments and Related Reforms***. Six reports make up the set covering 14 states: a cross-state findings report that describes trends across the states— plus five reports with detailed state profiles by topic.

The reports note South Carolina as a ***leading state*** for teacher evaluation.

Support for States

In August 2014, SREB convened leaders from eight SREB states, including a team from South Carolina, and national experts in Atlanta to share information about and resources for implementation of college- and career-readiness standards.

SREB's benchmarking staff provided information and support to state leaders on the implementation of standards and related reforms during fall 2014 and winter 2015.

Benchmarking staff presented on implementation of college- and career-readiness standards to:

- SREB Board and Legislative Advisory Council members, including attendees from South Carolina, at SREB's 2014 Annual Meeting in June.
- Legislative and governors' staff, including attendees from South Carolina, in October 2014.

More information: Kim.Anderson@SREB.org | (404) 775-9366 | SREB.org/1600

English Learners

Conference on preparing English language learners for college and career, co-hosted in May 2014 by SREB, the National Council on La Raza and the Hunt Institute.

South Carolina sent a team to the conference, and a **fact sheet for South Carolina** includes population trends; state and federal policies; and programs, standards and assessments for English learners.

More information: Dave.Spence@SREB.org | (404) 875-9211 | SREB.org/1785

Educator effectiveness

Helps states create policies that support teacher effectiveness so students learn more in the classroom. SREB staff work with policymakers and state agencies in all member states to help them translate current research on what works into evaluation systems that create an environment where teaching improves.

SREB educator effectiveness staff met with representatives from the South Carolina Department of Education who attended the State Consortium on Educator Effectiveness meeting held by the Council of Chief State School Officers in Atlanta in April 2014.

Staff facilitated several breakout sessions during the March 2015 Advisory Meeting for the SREB Benchmarking State Implementation of College and Career Readiness Standards project.

A representative from the University of South Carolina attended **SREB's annual educator effectiveness convening** in Atlanta in February 2015.

Representatives from the South Carolina Department of Education attended a presentation given by SREB staff during the Equitable Access to Excellent Teachers and Leaders meeting in San Diego in February 2015.

The educator effectiveness team refreshed the **educator effectiveness Bill Tracker** in January 2015, which allows South Carolina policymakers to track bills across eight topics including teacher preparation, evaluation and professional learning.

Staff presented on educator evaluation at SREB's Legislative Advisory Council meeting in December 2014.

Staff provided general technical assistance at an Education Counsel event on state teacher equity plans in November 2014.

Staff presented to the South Carolina Select Committee on Teachers in October 2014. SREB staff followed up by providing support to legislative staff who requested information on teacher residencies, alternative certification and differentiated teacher pay.

Representatives from South Carolina attended the Meeting of Legislative and Governors' Staff in October 2014. SREB staff updated the 40 attendees on recent changes to **teacher evaluation systems** in SREB states. Staff also provided the **South Carolina Senate Education Committee** with information on teacher retention and compensation.

The team released the **Elements of Evaluation interactive database** in October 2014, which allows South Carolina policymakers to explore policies across 16 states on classroom observations, student growth measures and professional learning systems.

Staff provided expertise to the South Carolina officials who attended the Benchmarking State Implementation of College- and Career-Readiness Standards meeting in August 2014.

Throughout the year, staff provided technical assistance to **South Carolina Department of Education** staff who are leading the implementation of the state's new educator evaluation system.

More than 1,000 policymakers and practitioners across the 16 SREB states receive the bi-weekly educator effectiveness e-newsletter.

The SREB educator effectiveness team provided technical assistance, brokered expertise and provided policy and practice resources to South Carolina:

- SREB Board and LAC members
- State legislators and legislative staff
- Governor's staff
- State education agency staff
- District superintendents
- School principals
- Teachers

More information: Andy.Baxter@SREB.org | (704) 247-7497 | SREB.org/EE

Early childhood education

SREB Early Childhood Commission

Convenes leaders to recommend policies that will give more young children a solid start when they enter school. The Commission's focus is on access to high-quality programs and the importance of highly skilled teachers to young children's learning experiences. The Commission will present draft recommendations for the SREB Board to consider in summer 2015 and will publish its report later in 2015.

South Carolina members of the Commission:

Melanie Barton, Executive Director, Education Oversight Committee

Inez Tenenbaum, Attorney at Law, Nelson Mullins Riley & Scarborough

More information: Mark.Emblidge@SREB.org | (404) 875-9211 | SREB.org/EarlyLearning

Career and technical education

State Leaders' Forum

A forum for state education leaders and policymakers to consider policies and leadership to create and sustain quality career and technical education. Co-sponsored with the State Consortium for Improving High School Career and Technical Studies.

South Carolina attendees at the November 2014 Forum: **1**

More information: Gene.Bottoms@SREB.org | (404) 875-9211

SREB Commission on Career and Technical Education

Explored how optional career pathway programs of study can help more students acquire the academic and technical knowledge and skills needed to earn industry and postsecondary credentials and degrees to secure high-skill, high-wage, high-demand jobs.

The Commission's final report, *Credentials for All: An Imperative for SREB States*, offers states policies and practices to build high-quality career pathways that transform their educational systems, increase post-secondary credential and degree attainment, and ensure their future economic security.

South Carolina members of the Commission:

Donald Griffith, Director, Teacher Training Program, School of Engineering and Computer Science,
University of South Carolina

Phil Owens, Former State Representative

More information: Gene.Bottoms@SREB.org | (404) 875-9211

Postsecondary education

Two commissions carried SREB's completion initiative into the states in 2014 and 2015 with strong emphasis on readiness and pathways for community colleges and affordability for all students. Building on the success of 2011-14 regional working groups of legislators to vet issues and craft recommendations, both commissions included Board and Legislative Advisory Council members and other key policymakers in the states.

SREB Commission on College Affordability in the South

Charged with recommending postsecondary policies that lead with the need for affordability and adjust institutional appropriations, student aid and tuition policies accordingly.

South Carolina members of the Commission:

Melanie Barton, Executive Director, Education Oversight Committee

Julie Carullo, Interim Executive Director, South Carolina Commission on Higher Education

More information: Cheryl.Blanco@SREB.org | (404) 875-9211 | SREB.org/Affordability

State Services

Connects policymakers with custom information, presentations and assistance on education issues as they arise.

SREB staff visited South Carolina to meet with legislators and staff and attend committee meetings in January 2015.

Custom information by request of South Carolina policymakers and staff:

Legislative staff: charter school accreditation

Legislative staff: educator effectiveness policies

Board member: transitional courses

Legislative staff: higher education studies

Staff: tuition based on immigration status

Legislator: workforce investment boards in other states

Legislative Staff: college loan interest rates

Legislative Staff: pipeline of teaching jobs

Legislator: Advanced Career Program

Legislative staff: student grading scales

Legislative staff: school finance

Legislative staff: HBCU enrollment and other information

Legislative staff: sources of revenue for education

Legislative staff: teacher residency and induction programs

Legislative staff: differentiated teacher pay

Legislative staff: teacher compensation and certification

Legislative staff: higher education capital funding

More information: Gale.Gaines@SREB.org | (404) 879-5582 | SREB.org/StateServices

Professional Development for Teachers, Principals and Counselors

Literacy Design Collaborative

A teaching framework to help students learn the literacy skills of college- and career-readiness standards. Teachers learn to design assignments that engage students to learn subject content, while advancing reading and writing skills. SREB's innovative training starts with exemplary teachers, who then work with other teachers to help them adopt the strategies.

South Carolina's LDC participation with SREB in 2014-15:

Teacher experts trained by SREB: **52**

Number of statewide training sessions: **6**

Mathematics Design Collaborative

A teaching framework to help students understand basic mathematics concepts, become fluent with mathematics procedures, and develop the reasoning to apply them to solve problems. MDC teachers use formative assessment lessons — a hybrid of assessment and instruction — to help students master college- and career-readiness standards. SREB's innovative training builds the capacity of lead teachers to become trainers of other teachers.

South Carolina's MDC participation with SREB in 2014-15:

Teacher experts trained by SREB: **61**

Number of statewide training sessions: **6**

More information: Dan.Mollette@SREB.org | (404) 962-9623 | SREB.org/LDCMDC

High Schools That Work Staff Development Conference

Annual conference for thousands of school leaders, teachers and counselors from middle grades, high schools and technology centers across the country. The 2015 conference will be held in Atlanta July 15-18.

South Carolina attendees at the July 2014 conference: **788**

More information: Anna.Johnston@SREB.org | (404) 962-9629 | SREB.org/SummerConference

College- and Career-Readiness Standards Networking Conference

Conference on the proven strategies of the Literacy and Mathematics Design Collaborative frameworks. More than 1,200 teachers and leaders attend to collaborate and share effective instructional strategies. The 2015 conference will be held in Atlanta July 13-15.

South Carolina attendees at the July 2014 networking conference: **55**

More information: Anna.Johnston@SREB.org | (404) 962-9629 | SREB.org/1615

National Professional Development Workshops

Intensive two- to three-day workshops that address current priorities for school improvement. Attendees leave with a plan of action for their schools. During the 2014-15 school year, SREB offered the Aligning High Schools and Middle Grades With Emerging Priorities for College and Career Readiness workshop and the National Technology Centers That Work Leaders' Forum.

South Carolina teachers, counselors and leaders who participated: **49**

More information: Anna.Johnston@SREB.org | (404) 962-9629 | SREB.org/PD

Principals

Learning-Centered Leadership Program

Works with district, state and university partners to prepare aspiring principals and school leadership teams to lead school reform to ensure that students are ready for college and careers. This program offers training, guidance and technical assistance.

South Carolina attendees at the 2015 Annual Leadership Forum: **4**

South Carolina uses Learning-Centered Leadership Program online courses.

The South Carolina Department of Education has established a transitional **turnaround leadership academy** that uses SREB's online leadership modules and curriculum for principals, developed from SREB's turnaround leaders program in Florida. During 2014-15, participants completed the following 40-hour training modules:

- Assessing Academic Rigor in School and Classroom Practices
- Designing Assessment to Improve Student Learning
- Leading Schoolwide Literacy Initiatives

The first cohort includes **15 participants** from five districts. A second cohort of **29 participants** began in April 2015, and a third cohort is planned for next year.

More information: Jon.Schmidt-Davis@SREB.org | (404) 879-5591 | SREB.org/Leadership

Counselors

College and Career Counseling Initiative

Training to improve the effectiveness of teachers, counselors and college access program staff to prepare students from low-income families for postsecondary education. A 2014 survey of more than 500 enrollees found that 92 percent are changing their practice as a result of the training; 93 percent are implementing action plans developed in the program; and 95 percent would recommend the training to colleagues.

South Carolina is one of 14 participating states and was one of the six original states that formed the collaborative.

More information: AliceAnne.Bailey@SREB.org | (404) 879-5601 | SREB.org/1663

High School and Middle Grades Improvement

SREB Readiness Courses Math Ready and Literacy Ready

Ready for postsecondary study

SREB courses that teach the reading, writing and mathematics skills young adults must have to succeed in college study and the workplace after high school — how to think independently, read for information and solve problems. Developed by teams of educators and faculty from partner states around the nation, they are being field tested in several states and are available at no cost.

South Carolina state representatives and school districts have inquired about participation in the program. **Palmetto High School** is participating in the SREB field-test in the 2014-15 school year.

More information: John.Squires@SREB.org | (404) 875-9211 | SREB.org/Ready

Advanced Career

A new approach to career and technical education that combines college-readiness academic content with a sequence of four courses designed around hands-on, project-based assignments. The aim is to prepare more students for as many career options as possible in emerging high-demand, high-wage fields such as health informatics and energy and power.

As a member of the Advanced (AC) Career consortium, South Carolina is one of nine states that worked with SREB and local higher education and economic development leaders to develop the **clean energy technology pathway**, which includes **four courses**. Three South Carolina schools are adopting other AC curricula — health informatics, and global logistics & supply chain management — in fall 2015.

South Carolina's 2014-15 AC participation:

End-of-course assessment for clean energy technology: **3 schools**

Summer Teacher Training Institutes for AC pathways: **9 teachers**

South Carolina was represented at AC Steering Committee meetings in 2014-15.

A **clean energy technology classroom** at the **Center for Advanced Technical Studies in Chapin** is featured in an AC video (SREB.org/AC) and spotlighted in the March 2015 *Advanced Career News*.

More information: Gene.Bottoms@SREB.org | (404) 875-9211 | SREB.org/AC

Enhanced Project-Based Learning in CTE

Training model for existing career and technical education programs in high-demand, high-skill, high-wage fields. Teachers improve assignments and assessments by working with business and industry partners to develop projects that require students to apply technical, academic college- and career-readiness and technology skills.

South Carolina participation in 2014-15:

Teachers receiving training from SREB: **72**

Administrators trained by SREB: **15**

Schools involved in the training: **14**

More information: Gene.Bottoms@SREB.org | (404) 875-9211 | SREB.org/AC

High Schools That Work

Helps states transform public high schools into places where all students learn at high levels and complete at higher rates. Reforms create career pathway roadmaps for college and career readiness to meet regional and state workforce needs. HSTW serves more than 1,350 schools in 30 states. Schools receive services through membership in the HSTW state network or through contracts for intensive, customized support.

HSTW State Network

Member states select schools to receive services. The fee for state membership in the consortium covers several services and visits.

South Carolina is a member of the High Schools That Work state network; **192 schools** were active in the network in 2014-15. HSTW renewal workshops were attended by 115 educators from 28 high schools. SREB staff developers provided three HSTW data workshops in 2014 as well as additional statewide workshops in 2015.

More information: Gene.Bottoms@SREB.org | (404) 875-9211 | SREB.org/HSTW

Contracts for Direct Support

Schools, districts and states contract with SREB for targeted school improvement services, such as on-site coaching, technical assistance and professional development.

Susan Flanagan, Director, Office of Career and Technology Education, South Carolina Department of Education, serves on the HSTW Board.

In South Carolina in 2014-15, **11 schools** contracted for direct services through HSTW. SREB provided **54 days** of on-site coaching and **16 days** of on-site staff development. In addition, **over 200 educators from 40 schools** attended one of three six-day training sessions SREB offered in the state.

More information: Cindy.VanBuren@SREB.org | (803) 984-5986 | SREB.org/HSTW

HSTW Assessment

Subject tests, along with student and teacher surveys, to establish baseline data, track progress and identify areas for improvement.

In South Carolina, **88 schools** participated in the 2014 HSTW Assessment.

Special Board Meeting

SREB's HSTW initiative held a special board meeting in March devoted to strengthening the HSTW instructional design to build college and career pathways that link high schools, workplace learning, and community and technical colleges. The goal is to increase the percentage of young people who earn a credible credential by age 25.

South Carolina participants in the March 2015 HSTW board meeting:

Spartanburg County School District One: Ron Garner

South Carolina Department of Education: Tina Jamison

South Carolina Department of Education: Susan Flanagan

Making Middle Grades Work

Engages state, district and school leaders in partnerships with teachers, students, parents and the community to raise student achievement in the middle grades. The network includes 663 schools in 20 states.

In total, **137 South Carolina schools** were active in the network in 2014-15.

In South Carolina in 2014-15, **10 schools** contracted for direct services through MMGW. SREB provided 58 days of on-site coaching and 6 days of on-site staff development. In addition, **101 educators from 19 schools** attended one of three six-day training sessions SREB offered in the state.

Nineteen schools from districts across South Carolina, including nine middle grades schools, contracted with SREB for more than 40 hours of training in science, technology, engineering and mathematics in 2014-15.

MMGW Student Survey

During 2014, **72 South Carolina schools** participated in the MMGW Teacher Survey or the MMGW Student Survey. Both measure student perceptions of school and classroom practices.

More information: Deborah.Bass@SREB.org | (404) 788-1235 | SREB.org/MMGW

Technology Centers That Work

Helps shared-time centers produce high-demand, high-wage graduates. SREB provides staff development, technical assistance, publications and assessment services. The network includes almost 200 sites in 18 states.

In South Carolina in 2014-15, **20 centers** are members of TCTW. SREB staff conducted 18 days of on-site coaching and six days of on-site professional development. Four centers participated in the 2014 HSTW Assessment.

More information: Gene.Bottoms@SREB.org or Lynda.Jackson@SREB.org | SREB.org/TCTW

2014 Award-Winning Schools

HSTW Platinum High Achievement Schools participated in the 2014 HSTW Assessment and at least 85 percent of students met at least one readiness goal, one or more parts of the recommended curriculum, and at least one recommended concentration. Schools are classified as a high implementation sites and met state AYP or had a graduation rate of at least 85 percent. The following schools earned the award in 2014:

Academic Magnet High School, North Charleston
Academy for the Arts, Science and Technology, Myrtle Beach
Center for Advanced Technical Studies, Chapin
Indian Land High School, Fort Mill
Powersville High School, Greenville
Aynor High School (Honorable Mention), Aynor
West Ashley High School (Honorable Mention), Charleston

HSTW Gold Achievement Schools participated in the 2014 HSTW Assessment, at least 50 percent of students earned the HSTW Award of Educational Achievement, and at least 40 percent of career-technical students experienced a rigorous career-technical education. Schools also met AYP or had a graduation rate of at least 85 percent. The following school earned the award in 2014:

Nation Ford High School, Fort Mill

The MMGW Depth of Implementation Award is given to schools who participated in the 2014 MMGW Surveys, achieved MMGW deep implementation status, and had at least 50 percent of students experience one or more of the MMGW engaging academics indices and rigorous curriculum indices. The following schools earned the award in 2014:

Gold Hill Middle School, Fort Mill
Jackson Middle School, Jackson
St. James Middle School, Myrtle Beach

More information: Fran.Cowart@SREB.org | (404) 879-5611

Higher Education Programs and Services

Tuition savings, access to uncommon degrees

Academic Common Market

Provides in-state tuition access to degree programs not available in a student's home state. Approximately 2,500 new students participate each year in 1,900 programs at 150 institutions.

Participating South Carolina students, calendar year 2014: **88**

ACM State Representative:

Saundra E. Carr, Academic Common Market Coordinator, South Carolina Commission on Higher Education

Electronic Campus

Partners with colleges and universities to give students access to almost 37,000 online courses and more than 3,400 online degree programs.

Programs provided by South Carolina institutions as of April 2015: **52**

South Carolina EC Representatives:

Renea H. Eshleman, Associate Director, South Carolina Commission on Higher Education

Stephanie Frazier, Associate Vice President, South Carolina Technical College System

A South Carolina representative attended the 2014 Electronic Campus annual meeting.

Regional Contract Program

Gives students the opportunity to earn a professional health degree from participating institutions in other states through in-state tuition rates at public institutions or reduced tuition at private institutions. SREB is fiscal agent and handles administrative duties without additional fees to the state, institutions or students. More than 700 students participate each year.

Through the SREB Regional Contract Program, residents of South Carolina can enroll in **optometry** and **veterinary medicine** programs to which they otherwise may not have access. For the 2014-15 year, **121 South Carolina residents** participated in the program.

RCP State Representative:

Tanya Rogers, Contract Program Coordinator, South Carolina Commission on Higher Education

SREB Electronic Campus Regional Reciprocity Agreement

*Allows institutions to be authorized by their home state to eliminate the need for individual approvals in SREB states where they serve students online. SREB states opt in to SECRRRA. A new, nationwide system of reciprocity — **SARA, or the State Authorization Reciprocity Agreement** — will open more high-quality online offerings for students and ease regulatory burdens on institutions.*

South Carolina participates in SECRRRA.

More information: Mary.Larson@SREB.org | (404) 875-9211 | SREB.org/1083

Comparative data

SREB State Data Exchange

Collects, compiles and publishes data and descriptive statistics on postsecondary education. Data are updated annually on a wide range of policy topics: degree and certificate completion, student persistence and progression, time- and credits-to-degree, student credit hours (including those taken in high school), tuition and fee levels and policies, and faculty salaries. Postsecondary agencies in each SREB state participate and appoint coordinators.

Participating agency and its 2015-16 Data Exchange Coordinator:

South Carolina Commission on Higher Education: Camille Brown, Chief Information Officer and Associate Director of Finance, Facilities and MIS

SREB Fact Book on Higher Education

One of the nation's most comprehensive collections of comparative data. The Fact Book keeps policymakers informed with trend data for all 50 states on the population and the economy, college enrollment, degrees awarded, tuition and fees, student financial aid and cost of attendance, faculty and administrators, as well as revenue and expenditures including state appropriations. Fact Book tables are updated regularly at SREB.org/Data.

South Carolina leaders receive the annual ***SREB-State Data Exchange Indicators Report*** and the ***SREB Fact Book on Higher Education***, as well as ***South Carolina: Featured Facts from the SREB Fact Book on Higher Education, Fact Book Bulletins*** and special reports.

More information: Susan.Lounsbury@SREB.org | (404) 879-5546 | SREB.org/Data

Nursing education

Council on Collegiate Education for Nursing

Helps expand and strengthen schools of nursing to reduce the critical shortage of nurse educators needed to educate the nation's registered nurses. The Council surveys institutions for nursing education trends and shares online graduate nursing courses.

In South Carolina, **six institutions** participate in the Council.

Representatives from each institution:

Charleston Southern University: Andrea Toader, Interim Dean

Clemson University: Ann Wetsdel, Dean

Greenville Technical College: Lydia Dunaway, Director

Medical University of South Carolina: Gail W. Stuart, Dean

University of South Carolina Aiken: Thayer McGahee, Dean

University of South Carolina Columbia: Jeanette O. Andrews, Dean

More information: Eula.Aiken@SREB.org | (404) 879-5567 | SREB.org/Nursing

Minority Ph.D. scholars

SREB State Doctoral Scholars Program

*Supports minority students to help them earn their Ph.D.s and seek employment that helps colleges and universities diversify their faculties. The Doctoral Scholars Program hosts the annual *Institute on Teaching and Mentoring*, the nation's largest gathering of minority doctoral scholars — with more than 1,200 attendees.*

Scholars funded by South Carolina in 2014-15: **13**

2014 Institute attendees from South Carolina: **41**

Scholars South Carolina has supported since joining in 1993: **106**

Graduates since 1996: **64**

Graduates currently employed: **55**

Percent employed in education: **78**

South Carolina-supported students have attended these institutions since 1993:

University of South Carolina

University of Texas at Arlington

Clemson University

University of Virginia

Medical University of South Carolina

Regional Advisory Committee Representative:

Michael Brown, Director of Access and Equity, South Carolina Commission on Higher Education

More information: Ansley.Abraham@SREB.org | (404) 879-5573 | SREB.org/DoctoralScholars

Interstate Cooperatives

Educational Technology Cooperative

Membership group of state K-12 and higher education coordinating and governing boards representing more than 800 colleges and universities and 3,100 school districts in SREB states. The ETC focuses member agencies and state policymakers on using technology wisely, reports on educational technology topics and connects members.

South Carolina member agencies and representatives for the membership year 2014-15:

South Carolina State Department of Education: Bradley Mitchell, Director, Office of Virtual Education

South Carolina Commission on Higher Education: Trena Houpp, Associate Director

South Carolina sent attendees to the 2014 annual meeting. South Carolina's ETC representatives helped determine SREB's **10 Critical Issues in Educational Technology**. Trena Houpp serves on the ETC Executive Committee to guide the ETC in leveraging current and future technologies for the benefit of students, instructional staff and support staff across the K-20 continuum.

More information: Wanda.Barker@SREB.org | (404) 875-9211 | SREB.org/EdTech

Technology Purchasing Savings

Schools, universities and agencies in SREB states saved 3 percent to 18 percent on \$17 million in technology purchases during fiscal year 2014 through SREB's participation in MHECtech discount agreements. Organizations in each of the 16 SREB states participated.

South Carolina technology purchases, FY 2014: **\$309,849**

More information: Camille.Martin@SREB.org | (404) 875-9211 | SREB.org/1697

Go Alliance

An interstate cooperative to increase high school graduation rates, access to education beyond high school, and postsecondary degree completion — particularly for those who would be the first in their families to enroll. Go Alliance research, services and professional development focus on college access policy and communications strategies to motivate students to plan for and apply to college.

South Carolina participates in Go Alliance.

“Go Alliance introduces our team to a large network of colleagues who work in the college access field. We are able to collaborate on similar programs such as the counselor training series and College Application Month. We are also able to share promotional items and ideas to be successful in our marketing campaigns for these events.”

— Go Alliance representative: **Karen Woodfaulk, South Carolina Commission on Higher Education**

More information: AliceAnne.Bailey@SREB.org | (404) 879-5601 | SREB.org/GoAlliance

The Southern Regional Education Board was created in 1948 by Southern governors and legislators who recognized the link between education and economic vitality. To this day, the organization maintains its focus on critical issues that hold the promise of improving quality of life by advancing public education. The region’s track record shows that setting goals and maintaining the commitment to work toward them make a difference.