

MEMORANDUM

TO: District Superintendents
District Human Resource Directors
Assistant Superintendents
District Administrators

FROM: Kimberly Mack
Director, Office of Leadership Effectiveness

DATE: May 5, 2026

RE: Institute for District Administrators (IDA)

The Office of Leadership Effectiveness is pleased to announce new cohorts of the South Carolina Institute for District Administrators (IDA) for experienced district administrators beginning May and November 2026.

IDA is a statewide professional learning experience designed to prepare district-level leaders to support principals, fostering a sense of purpose and confidence that directly improves teaching and learning. IDA is grounded in research on central office transformation to improve student achievement. Participants engage in targeted leadership assessments to build self-awareness and leadership effectiveness. Coursework emphasizes how high-performing districts redesign central office work to support teaching and learning. Graduates of IDA will be equipped to elevate principal practice, strengthen instructional quality, and ultimately improve academic outcomes for students across South Carolina.

Registration forms and dates are attached. Contact Dr. Gerard Edwards, gedwards@ed.sc.gov, for more information.

IDA Cohort 30

Program Dates/locations:

- **May 21, 2026** (Virtual Orientation);
- **June 9 - 10, 2026** (Dr. Gilbert G. Woolard Technology Center, 70 Innovation Way, Camden, SC 29020);
- **September 3 - 4, 2026** (849 Learning Lane, West Columbia, SC 29172);
- **October 27 - 28, 2026** (Dr. Gilbert G. Woolard Technology Center, 70 Innovation Way, Camden, SC 29020);
- **January 21 - 22, 2027** (849 Learning Lane, West Columbia, SC 29172)

Application Deadline: May 12, 2026

Registration Link: <https://scde.formstack.com/forms/ida30cohort>

IDA Cohort 31

Program Dates/locations:

- **November 12, 2026** (Virtual Orientation);
- **December 8–9, 2026** (Dr. Gilbert G. Woolard Technology Center, 70 Innovation Way, Camden, SC 29020);
- **February 9–10, 2027** (Dr. Gilbert G. Woolard Technology Center, 70 Innovation Way, Camden, SC 29020);
- **April 8–9, 2027** (849 Learning Lane, West Columbia, SC 29172);
- **June 8–9, 2027** (Dr. Gilbert G. Woolard Technology Center, 70 Innovation Way, Camden, SC 29020)

Application Deadline: October 31, 2026

Registration Link: <https://scde.formstack.com/forms/ida31cohort>