

MEMORANDUM

TO: District Superintendents
District Human Resource Directors

FROM: Kimberly Mack
Director, Office of Leadership Effectiveness

DATE: October 6, 2026

RE: Institute for District Administrators

The Office of Leadership Effectiveness is pleased to announce that a new cohort of the South Carolina Institute for District Administrators (IDA) for new district leaders beginning in November 2026.

IDA is a statewide professional learning experience designed to prepare district-level leaders to support principals effectively, fostering purpose and confidence that directly improve teaching and learning. IDA is grounded in research on central office transformation, which shows that districtwide improvement requires central office leaders to actively support principals' instructional leadership. 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. IDA graduates will be equipped to elevate principal practice, strengthen instructional quality, and ultimately improve academic outcomes for students across South Carolina. Application deadline is October 31, 2026. Register [here](#). Contact Dr. Gerard Edwards for more information at gedwards@ed.sc.gov.

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 (SCDE, 849 Learning Lane, West Columbia, SC 29172);
June 8- 9, 2027 (Dr. Gilbert G. Woolard Technology Center, 70 Innovation Way, Camden, SC 29020)