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Office of Professional Development in Education

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As we bring this school year to a close, the Office of Professional Development in Education staff would again like to thank all our friends and colleagues for making it a triumph. Early indications are pointing to this having been one of our most successful enrollment periods in the past five years. The economic recession has impacted many of us in different ways and some of that has affected our homes and schools. Yet, our teachers have maintained their quest to develop their professional skills and best practice strategies so that our children will continue to be educated.

Money matters and during these hard economic times it matters even more. Again, in an effort to be a community partner in the state, our Board of Trustees allowed the Incentive Program to continue as a way of showing the state that we are partners in the education of South Carolina children.

The summer is moving quickly and as you begin to make plans for the coming school year know that we stand ready to assist you in meeting the professional development needs of your staff.

Student Enrollment Verification Process

The OPDE will begin using the below stated verification process fall 2009.

Section 17 of the South Carolina Illegal Immigration Reform Act (H. 4400, Act 280 of 2008), enacted June 4, 2008, and requires South Carolina public colleges/universities to verify the lawful presence in the U.S. of their students. To attend a public college or university in the state, a student must be a citizen or national of the U.S. or an alien lawfully present in the U.S. Students are required to provide proof of lawful presence in the U.S. before being allowed to enroll or continue enrollment at the College. Student enrollment verification process requires:

- “You to provide a legible copy of your South Carolina driver’s license or identification card if it was issued after January 1, 2002.” If you do not have a South Carolina driver’s license or identification, you must request a certified original Birth Certificate issued by the Bureau of Vital Statistics indicating you were born in the U.S. or a territory of the U.S., with your given name and surname, date and place of birth, date the birth record was filed, and the seal or other certification of the official custodian of the certificate.

Please note that the certificate will be retained by the College and photocopies are unacceptable. If your name has changed since birth, applicant must present all legal documents (i.e., adoption records, marriage certificate, certificate of naturalization, court ordered name change) supporting all name changes from the name which appears on the document presented as proof of lawful presence in the U.S.
The incentive plan approved by the College of Charleston’s Board of Trustees in July 2003 was revised, as shown in item (b) below, during summer 2008.

The incentive plan does not apply to catalog (EDFS/EDEE) courses facilitated by OPDE.

To take advantage of the incentive plan, school districts must be prepared to address the criteria stated below.

Teach three courses that are managed by the College of Charleston OPDE. A fourth course (to be offered immediately, if possible) will be facilitated without a per participant fee assessed if the following conditions are met:

a. All courses to be counted toward the incentive plan must be one for which the educational funding agency pays a per participant fee.

b. All courses to be credited in the incentive plan must have a minimum enrollment of 20 students or average 60 students over three fee payment courses.

c. If an instructor’s salary is assessed to the free course, the responsibility of the salary will rest with the contracting school, district, or agency. The College of Charleston will absorb the ($35.00, $70.00, or $105.00) per participant fee only. Maximum enrollment may not exceed 25 students per class in free incentive courses.

d. The school district or agency must use the incentive course(s) immediately (during that given session/semester) or within 18 months of having earned the free course.

**Professional Development (EDPD) Course Fees**

In addition to the tuition fee, all Non South Carolina residents taking EDPD courses will be assessed a Differential Fee as shown below.

a) 1 hour course = $50.00
b) 2 hour course = $100.00
c) 3 hour course = $150.00

**Frequently Asked Questions**

**Question:** What is needed to be officially enrolled in a course?

**Answer:** A SC Teaching Certificate or an official undergraduate transcript showing degree, meet verification requirements, and complete the online registration process.

**Question:** Why is it important to fill out the online registration form completely?

**Answer:** The form provides official documentation for registration, and is used to capture enrollment data.

**Question:** What is the difference between a PD course and a catalog course?

**Answer:** PD courses do not count towards completion of a graduate degree at the College of Charleston. Catalog courses have been approved as part of a graduate degree program.

“Experience is a good school, but the fees are high.” – Heinrich Heine
The College of Charleston welcomes e-Learning South Carolina as a new partner in our Professional Development offerings. e-Learning is an online education portal provided by the South Carolina Department of Education. e-Learning South Carolina is an expansion of the South Carolina Online Professional Development (SCOPD) program and is aimed at providing a wider variety of successful, sustainable professional development via the Internet for K-12 teachers, regardless of their location and school-year schedule. e-Learning South Carolina also includes the new South Carolina Virtual School!

**e-Learning for Teachers - Fast Facts**

**Who:** Only South Carolina Certified teachers are eligible to take e-Learning professional development courses.

**What:** Online courses are facilitated all online, participants have one week to complete each session's assignments and participate in an ongoing discussion board. Each course is structured that a final project is created to incorporate new skills and resources that effectively integrate technology into the K-12 curriculum.

**Where:** Courses are facilitated in an online course management system. Once registered, participants are provided with a login to access the course.

**When:** The courses are available 24/7 via the Internet.

**Why:** e-Learning SC provides quality online professional development awarding teacher recertification credit to teachers statewide. The course content is relevant and applicable to today's classroom instructional needs.

**Up-coming Fall 2009 e-Learning courses include:**

- 811-C60 “SCORE-SC Online Resources for Educators” starting Sept. 28
- 811-O60 “SMART Board Integration” starting Sept. 28

“*There might be new technology, but technological progress itself was nothing new - and over the years it had not destroyed jobs, but created them.*”—Margaret Thatcher
The CofC’s Department of Teacher Education (TEDU) and OPDE have developed new partnerships with school districts in its facilitation of catalog curriculum in ESOL and Gifted and Talented courses. Catalog offerings are courses that have been approved as part of a graduate degree program and can be used for recertification, credit renewal, completion of a Masters degree, and are transferable to other graduate programs. The ESOL program prepares individuals to teach English to non-native English speakers. The program is designed to attract both practicing teachers as well as individuals who need these types of courses to work in other areas such as non-profit organizations or those teaching or working abroad. The courses facilitated through OPDE can lead to an ESOL certificate upon completion of all requirements.

Abbreviated Course Directory-Summer I 2009

811-F: Designing Virtual Fieldtrips

This online course will enable participants to use Internet resources to design a “virtual field trip” for their students. Participants will become familiar with the strategies and resources that educators use to design these field trips, as well as tips and tricks to ensure their success. By the end of the workshop, participants will have designed an effective and engaging virtual fieldtrip that is aligned to their state’s standards. This course relates to the C of C conceptual framework and theme of making the teaching and learning connection by helping participants to become familiar with the Internet resources and become familiar with the strategies and resources educators can use to design virtual fieldtrips.

Initiator Highlight

Terry Hallman worked in the Orangeburg County Public School System for sixteen years where she taught high school biology and elementary physical education. In addition, she coached the basketball and volleyball teams and served as senior class advisor. Terry joined the Aiken County Public School system in 1996 as a physical educator and middle school science teacher. Since coming to Aiken County, she has acquired her Master’s Degree in Instructional Technology, was named the Aiken Middle School Teacher of the Year and served on a NSTA’s webwatcher committee evaluating effective educational science websites that are now a part of the SciLnks program. She currently works for staff development conducting technology-based classes, classroom workshops, and assisting teachers with classroom technology implementation.

When she is not out in schools, she works to develop new classes and workshops, helps maintain the Instructional and Accountability website, and assists in planning the yearly TechFest.

Terry takes guitar lessons and she enjoys gardening as well. Her daughter, Holli, is the light of her life and will finish USC-Aiken this year with a Bachelor of Science degree with an emphasis in Biology.
Professional Development Partnerships

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“Every economy is uncertain. Referring to this or any economy as ‘uncertain’ is an unnecessary and pessimistic redundancy.”
-Bo Bennett