KINDERGARTEN AND/OR CERDEP START DATES WAIVER RESPONSE
2026-2027 SCHOOL YEAR

The South Carolina Department of Education (SCDE) has received your request to waive the minimum one hundred eighty-day school attendance requirement for kindergarten and/or Child Early Reading and Development Education Program (CERDEP) students for the purpose of scheduling assessments per Act 114 of 2024. The law states: *A district superintendent or charter school authorizer may submit a request to the department to waive the minimum one hundred eighty-day school attendance requirement for kindergarten and South Carolina Child Early Reading Development and Education Program (CERDEP) students for the purpose of scheduling readiness assessments. Upon approval of the waiver request, the approved school may allow kindergarten and CERDEP students to be administered the assessments during a shortened school day within the first five days of the academic year.*

☒ The SCDE has approved your Start Dates waiver.

☐ The SCDE has denied your Start Dates waiver.

Schools should use the SC-KTST attendance code for participating students; this code indicates the student was enrolled, not present in school, but not charged as an absence. This code may be used for both CERDEP and kindergarten students.

Please contact the following individuals for questions:

- Dr. Tammy Graham**,** tgraham@ed.sc.gov, for questions related to this law;
- Meghan Walters-Branham, mgwalters@ed.sc.gov, for questions related to the administration of CERDEP assessments and the Kindergarten Readiness Assessment (KRA); and
- Wyatt Cothran, wcothran@ed.sc.gov, or powerschool@ed.sc.gov for questions about PowerSchool or school setups.