

**R. Wes Hayes, Jr.**

*Chairman*

**L. Jeffrey Perez, Ph.D.**

*President & Executive Director*



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## MEMORANDUM

To: Presidents, Chancellors, and Deans, Public Colleges and Universities and President, South Carolina Technical College System  
From: L. Jeffrey Perez, Ph.D., President and Executive Director  
Date: September 12, 2025  
Subject: 2025-26 Sister-State Agreements

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Section 59-112-70(B) of the SC Code of Laws authorizes the Boards of Trustees of public institutions to provide fee waivers for students participating in an international Sister-State agreement program which the Governor and General Assembly have entered to promote the economic development of South Carolina. Per the statute, the Commission on Higher Education, through coordination with the State Fiscal Accountability Authority, is required to notify institutions annually of the current Sister-State agreements that provide eligible students with the non-resident fee waiver. CHE has also coordinated in recent years with the SC Department of Commerce regarding the annual affirmation of the Sister-State relationships eligible per 59-112-70(B).

Accordingly, this memorandum serves as the Commission's annual notification for academic year 2025-26 of the continuation of the Sister-State agreements honored in prior academic years.

The recognized Sister-States include:

- State of Rhineland-Palatinate/Rhineland Pfalz, Germany
- State of Thuringen, Germany
- State of Brandenburg, Germany
- State of Queensland, Australia
- Province of Taiwan, Republic of China

Please contact Elizabeth Robinson at [erobinson@che.sc.gov](mailto:erobinson@che.sc.gov) or (803) 856-2991 if you have any questions or if you need additional information.

cc: College and University Business Officers  
Mr. Thomas Limehouse, Chief Legal Counsel, Office of the Governor  
Ms. Marcia Adams, Executive Director, S.C. Department of Administration  
Mr. Grant Gillespie, State Fiscal Accountability Authority  
Mr. Clarke Thompson, Chief Protocol Officer/International Relations, Global Business Development, S.C. Department of Commerce



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