
2026
SOUTH CAROLINA
TRANSFER EXCELLENCE CONVENING
THEME:
REIGNITE –
Sparking Innovation,
Fueling Student Success
COMMUNITY COLLEGE
UNIVERSITY
EVENT DATE:
October 13, 2026
LOCATION:
Columbia Metropolitan Convention Center,
Columbia, South Carolina

South Carolina
Commission on Higher Education
Accessibility | Excellence | Accountability

SC Transfer Excellence Initiative Update

Amanda Shores (USC) and Jennifer Black (SCTCS)
Transfer Leadership Team Co-chairs

October 13, 2026

Historical and Current Context

Where we have been:

Proviso 117.135 generated 6 recommendations.

What we have done:

- Transfer Council and Convenings.
- Data, Dashboard, and Decision Support.
- Comprehensive statewide articulation.

Evidence of Engagement:

- Transfer portal traffic is up 12% year over year

Regrouping for the Next Phase

- **Situation**
  - Statewide momentum slowed
- **Need**
  - Reconnect and refocus
- **Direction**
  - Credits | Commumication | Costs

Reorganize for Action



Transfer Leadership Team

- **Guides the overall Transfer Excellence Initiative, maintaining alignment with the original six recommendations.**
  - ***Connects the work of the three working groups and convening statewide partners through the Transfer Excellence Convenings.***

Representative	Organization
Amanda Shores	USC Columbia
Jennifer Black	SC Technical College System
Brandon Diehl	Charleston Southern
Greg Dailey	Citadel
Kathryn Rice	Clemson
Casey Woodling	Coastal Carolina University
Aimee Pfiefer	College of Charleston
Jennifer Kunka	Francis Marion
Lloyd Willis	Lander University
Geoffrey Herzog	SC State
Gary Sutton	USC Beaufort
Trena Houp	USC Columbia
Ron Cox	USC Palmetto College
Kim Purdy	USC Upstate
Melinda Rodgers	Aiken Technical College
Rene Sawyer	Greenville Technical College
John McGill	York Technical College
Rock McCaskill	Clemson
Brad Dunmire	Anderson

SC CHE

Working Groups

- **Credits Working Group: Preserving Credits Earned by Learners**
  - ***Finishes and maintains the technical and policy backbone of the Action Plan (Recs 2, 3B–3E, 5), plus functional aspects of the portal (3A) that reduce credit loss.***

Representative	Organization
Rosline Sumpter	SC Technical College System
Jennifer Kunka	Francis Marion
Trena Houp	USC Columbia
April White Pugh	Tri-County Technical College
Laura Tyndall	College of Charleston
Aaron Huntley	Coker University
Heather Hoppe	Horry-Georgetown Technical College
Donna Foster	Piedmont Technical College
Leandra Arvazzetti	Piedmont Technical College
Dwayne Lee	Midlands Technical College
Leslie Barrett Brown	Coastal Carolina University
Brandon Diehl	Charleston Southern
LaToya Johnson	SC State
Celia Bauss	Spartanburg Community College
Gary Sutton	USC Beaufort
Rock McCaskill	Clemson
Jill Johnson	Spartanburg Methodist College
Victoria Anthony	Spartanburg Methodist College
Brad Dunmire	Anderson

Working Groups

- **Communication Working Group: Promoting Awareness of Transfer Options**
  - ***Leads Rec 4 and the awareness components of Recs 3A, 3E, and 6, making the system understandable and compelling for students and families.***

Representative	Organization
John McGill	York Technical College
Kathryn Rice	Clemson
Barbara Denson	Technical College of the Lowcountry
Alison Scheide	USC Columbia
Alyssa Collins	York Technical College
Natalie Mahaffey	Central Carolina Technical College
Leah Andrews	SC Technical College System

Working Groups

- **Costs Working Group: Proposing Financial Pathways for Affordability**
  - ***Designs, implements, and evaluates the financial-support strategies envisioned in Rec 6, and connects them to reverse-transfer and adult-completion opportunities (Rec 5).***

Representative	Organization
Casey Woodling	Coastal Carolina University
Michelle Futrell	College of Charleston
Melissa Pearson	Spartanburg Community College
Kala Hudson	Spartanburg Methodist College

From Structure to Action

- Launch replacement for SC TRAC
- Expand statewide engagement
- Advance reverse transfer
- Working groups develop actionable recommendations

2026 Transfer Excellence Council

How to get involved:

- Join us here in the Richland room right after lunch to learn more about ways you can contribute to the effort to elevate outcomes for students.




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