



**SOUTH CAROLINA COMMISSION ON HIGHER EDUCATION**

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**MEMORANDUM**

**To:** Mr. R. Austin Gilbert, Jr., Chairman, and Members,  
Commission on Higher Education

**From:** Ms. Dianne Chinnes, Chair *St. James*  
Committee on Academic Affairs and Licensing

**Informational Report on Actions Taken by the Committee on Academic Affairs  
on Behalf of the Commission on Higher Education Regarding  
Centers of Excellence and  
Dwight D. Eisenhower Professional Development Programs**

**Background**

Several years ago, the Commission delegated authority for the Committee on Academic Affairs and Licensing to make awards and recommend budgets for the Centers of Excellence program and the Dwight D. Eisenhower Professional Development Program. This report summarizes recent actions taken by the Committee with respect to such awards and budget requests.

♦ **Centers of Excellence Grant Awards FY 1999-2000 and Appropriations Request FY 2000-2001**

The Education Improvement Act of 1984 provides for the establishment of a contract program with public and private colleges in South Carolina to foster the development of "Centers of Excellence" in particular areas of need related to teacher education programs. State funding is provided for up to four years at a decreasing rate each year with the goal of establishing statewide resource centers that gradually will be

supported totally by institutional and external funding sources. There are currently thirteen Centers of Excellence, although only five will receive State funding during FY 1999-00. This year, seven new proposals were submitted for consideration for funding for the four-year cycle beginning in FY 1999-2000. Two of these, the Center of Excellence for the Study of Standards Based Education at Coastal Carolina University and the Center of Excellence in Earth Physics at the University of South Carolina (**Attachment 1**), were recommended for funding by the external review panel. They were approved by the Committee on Academic Affairs and Licensing in June. Total funding for the program for this year is \$526,850, which represents level funding from 1998-99.

In addition, each year a formal request for funding must be made to the general assembly. **Attachment 1** provides a summary of the budget requests for the "Centers of Excellence" program for FY 2000-2001. The Committee has approved a request for an increase in funding of \$74,191 (14 percent) for a total request of \$601,041 for FY 2000-01. This requested increase is necessary in order to fund the two new Centers of Excellence. Typically, only one Center has been funded, but because of the strength of the proposals submitted, the Committee approved funding for two new Centers.

♦ **Dwight D. Eisenhower Professional Development Program Grant Awards  
FY 1999-2000**

Since 1984, the Commission has been responsible for administering federal funds under this program, the original purpose of which was to provide funds to the states for improving instruction and teachers' skills in mathematics and science and to provide access to and participation in such instruction for all students. As part of its reauthorization in 1994, the program was renamed the Dwight D. Eisenhower Professional Development Program.

Ten continuation applications requesting a total of \$566,478 were submitted, reviewed, and approved by the Committee on Academic Affairs at its meeting on June 23, 1999. Those projects are listed on **Attachment 2**.

/jb

**Attachments:**

Centers of Excellence Summary  
Dwight D. Eisenhower Summary

**Awards for Centers of Excellence FY 1999-2000****Centers of Excellence (New)**

1. Coastal Carolina University: Center of Excellence for the Study of Standards Based Education	\$134,915
2. University of South Carolina – Columbia: Center of Excellence in Earth Physics	\$ 92, 500
Total	<u>\$227,415</u>

**Budget Requests for Centers of Excellence FY 2000-2001**

<b>Institution and Center</b>	<b>Amount to be Requested</b>
1. University of South Carolina – Aiken: Center of Excellence in Educational Technology	\$ 67,455
2. Clemson University: Center of Excellence in Instructional Technology	\$101,164
3. Coastal Carolina University: Center of Excellence for the Study of Standards	\$121,423
4. University of South Carolina – Columbia: Center of Excellence: Earth Physics Project	\$163,999
5. New Center to be awarded in FY 2000-01	\$135,000
6. CHE Expenses	<u>\$ 12,000</u>
Total	\$601,041

◆ **Dwight D. Eisenhower Professional Development Continuation Grants FY 1999-2000**

1. University of South Carolina – Columbia: Interactive Geography	\$ 46,730
2. Winthrop University : Anne Springs Close Greenway Institute	\$ 19,395
3. Winthrop University : MAY: Math and Youth	\$ 65,392
4. University of South Carolina – Columbia: Development, implementation and Evaluation of a High School Environmental Education Materials Development and Enhancement Program	\$ 60,650
5. University of South Carolina – Aiken: Integration of Calculator Based Laboratory (CBL) Technology into High School Science and Math Curricula	\$ 54,925
6. Coastal Carolina University: Interactive Geometry Using Technology in Area Public Schools	\$ 32,193
7. Clemson University: Distance Learning Delivery System for SC MAP Training	\$ 83,484
8. Clemson University: Elementary Quantitative Literacy	\$ 75,060
9. Presbyterian College: Upper Savannah Region Mobile Science Equipment System	\$ 46,252
10. College of Charleston: A Program to Improve Instructional Skills of Teachers of Science and Mathematics through Professional Development Activities – Phase IX	\$ 85,397
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$569,478</b>