



## *Math Forward*

### *S²TEM Centers SC Math Institute: Growing Teacher Leaders for Grades 3-5*

**July 1, 2024 - June 30, 2025**

#### **PROGRAM DESCRIPTION AND MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT**

Funding for this and other Math Forward special projects to promote student achievement in mathematics is provided by the SC Education Oversight Committee (EOC).

**Space in this program is limited.** Partnerships will be confirmed based on the order in which a commitment is received via submission of the MOA affirmation signatures page.

Submit your affirmation to South Carolina's Coalition for Mathematics & Science at Clemson University via email to Tracey Campbell, [tcampbell@s2temsc.org](mailto:tcampbell@s2temsc.org) by 5:00 pm on June 14, 2024.

For questions regarding this program, please contact **Tracey Campbell, Director of Special Projects, S²TEM Centers SC / SCCMS** at (843) 274-4087 or [tcampbell@s2temsc.org](mailto:tcampbell@s2temsc.org).

S²TEM Centers SC is an innovation partnership managed by South Carolina's Coalition for Mathematics & Science at Clemson University. Its purposes are to improve instruction and accelerate student learning in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics content areas through innovation, support and research.



## Program Description

### Program Overview

S<sup>2</sup>TEM Centers SC/SCCMS has designed a comprehensive system of scaffolded support for elementary teachers to support their understanding and application of evidence-based instructional strategies and pedagogical practices in the mathematics classroom to improve student learning. This partnership is designed to engage teachers of grades 3-5 in professional learning experiences with embedded instructional coaching support to increase their knowledge of and ability to implement evidence-based practices in mathematics instruction.

Participating teachers earn 24 contact hours of professional development and receive 20 hours of follow-up support from a S<sup>2</sup>TEM Centers SC Education Specialist.

*NOTE: A full program overview (including the purpose, theory of action, research, additional program model details, and program outcome details) is available at [www.s2temsc.org/mathsupport](http://www.s2temsc.org/mathsupport)*

### Eligible Schools

All South Carolina public schools serving students in grades 3, 4, and/or 5 are welcome to participate in the *S<sup>2</sup>TEM Centers SC Math Institute: Growing Teacher Leaders for Grades 3-5*.

Preference may be given to schools that meet the following criteria:

- Title I designation
- Diverse student population
- Data indicates the need for increased student achievement

### Cost

There is no direct per participant cost for partners committing to this program. S<sup>2</sup>TEM Centers SC / SCCMS will cover the cost of lodging and meals during sessions for overnight travel to the 4 days of professional development. EOC financial support is estimated at \$4,500 per participant.

Additionally, the district and/or school is responsible for providing release time and travel expenses not covered by S<sup>2</sup>TEM Centers SC / SCCMS (mileage and non-session meals) for staff attending the professional development sessions. The district and/or school is also responsible for any other release time mutually determined to be necessary for participants during the school year.

## **Individual School Team**

A school team may apply for this program as an individual school. A school is required to commit to forming a team that includes three to six participating teachers who teach mathematics to grades 3-5 and building administrator who will be a direct contact for support to teachers and partner communication. It is preferred that teacher team includes at least one teacher from each grade 3-5.

## **District Team**

A district may apply for this program on behalf of multiple schools. In addition to meeting the requirements for each school team (see above), there must be a district-level leader who will actively support the school teams with program advocacy and communication. While a district may submit multiple school teams, it is possible that all school teams will not be selected for participation during 2024-2025 due to limited space in the program.

## **Program Model**

A S<sup>2</sup>TEM Centers SC Specialist will work directly with the teachers to model, observe, assist and provide feedback in understanding and applying evidence-based mathematics instructional strategies in the classroom through facilitated professional development, classroom observations and coaching conversations. Specific components include:

- Statewide professional learning experiences (24 hours in total)
  - Summer Session – Program Launch (Tentative Location & Dates - Columbia, July 8-11, 2024)
- Coaching Support (20 hours in total)
  - Provided by a S<sup>2</sup>TEM Centers SC Specialist who is a trained Cognitive Coach.
  - Conducted in both on-site and virtual sessions on monthly basis.
- School / District Administrator Support
  - Program Orientation (online meeting)
  - Quarterly meetings with the S<sup>2</sup>TEM Centers SC Specialist
  - Observes participating teachers once/semester (with S<sup>2</sup>TEM Centers SC Specialist)
  - Offers regular support to teacher participants

## **Program Outcomes**

- Strong foundational teacher mathematical identity
- Positive teacher mathematical beliefs and perceptions of students learning math
- Engaged mathematics classroom learning environment, which includes:
  - 1) Teacher knowledge and use of evidence-based mathematics instructional strategies
  - 2) Teacher mathematical content knowledge
- Confident teacher mathematical self-efficacy

**Data Collection** (Required in exchange for EOC funded program cost reduction)

S<sup>2</sup>TEM Centers SC Specialists will collect data in collaboration with teacher and administrator team members. Data may include (but will not be limited to):

- Classroom observation data related to the use of mathematics instructional practices,
- Pre- and post-surveys related to changes in teacher beliefs and knowledge
- Anecdotal evidence of coaching
- Student achievement data (no student names or identifying information will be collected).

Data collected will be used in a formative way to enhance teacher growth with goal setting and coaching. In addition, data will be used to report on progress toward the program outcomes as noted above.

By this MOA, school and district administrators agree to assist in providing access to data as needed to assess the program's effectiveness.

**Signature Page**

**AFFIRMATION OF MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT**

*Math Forward*

***S<sup>2</sup>TEM Centers SC Math Institute:  
Growing Teacher Leaders for Grades 3-5***

*July 2024 – June 2025*

*I have read and agree to comply with the terms of this Memorandum.*

Signatures and Dates needed from:

District Instructional Leader	_____	_____
Title	_____	Date
School Principal	_____	_____
		Date
SCCMS Signature	_____	_____
		Date

This agreement constitutes the whole agreement between the parties, and no prior representatives, negotiation, or agreements by any party shall affect the construction and operation of this agreement. This agreement may be amended or terminated only by a written instrument signed by all parties.

This program is supported by state-appropriated funds. In the event that sufficient funds are not available, this agreement will be terminated.

**Submit the signed affirmation page by 5:00 p.m. FRIDAY, June 14, 2024, to South Carolina’s Coalition for Mathematics & Science via email to Tracey Campbell, [tcampbell@s2temsc.org](mailto:tcampbell@s2temsc.org)**

**Note: If applying as a district on behalf of multiple schools, each school requires a separate MOA page to be submitted with the application.**