

Understanding South Carolina's New Secondary-to-Postsecondary Electronic Transcript Solution: The e-Transcript System

The e-Transcript software solution will allow all K-12 districts in the state to send and receive electronically a student's complete educational record. The educational record will contain student contact information, course history and school information. The e-Transcript project also includes the electronic delivery of high school transcripts to colleges and universities throughout South Carolina and to the South Carolina Commission on Higher Education. Additionally, guidance counselors at K-12 schools choosing to participate will be provided with student diploma audits twice a year, which will provide feedback on how each student is progressing towards the state's graduation requirements.

With the student's record available electronically and in a technology standards-compliant format, schools and educators can electronically transfer records and properly assess a student's previous academic record while avoiding manual data entry. The electronic transcript capability of the e-Transcript project will provide students, parents, and staff at sending and receiving schools the ability to place on-line 24/7 requests and will allow delivery of admissions transcripts.

For students, the e-Transcript system will

- make academic records quickly accessible from previously attended South Carolina schools;
- provide notification when each transcript is sent and received;
- provide more precise information about where students are in the admissions process; and
- allow students to request transcripts at their convenience, 24/7 online.

For K-12 school districts, the e-Transcript system will

- reduce time, effort and expense in handling student records and transcript requests;
- allow staff at a receiving district to request student records online from other e-Transcript participants;
- allow a district to send the student record to another South Carolina district;
- enable complete tracking of each transcript and student record from request to delivery; and
- provide real-time, online status reports of where each student record and transcript is being sent.

For colleges and universities, the e-Transcript system will

- allow handling of transcripts in a much more efficient and timely manner;
- provide admissions counselors, academic advisors, scholarships committees, and others authorized users a legible and consistent transcript for easy review and distribution; .
- ease the review process by providing a standard appearance to the transcript;
- allow college admissions departments to inform students electronically when transcripts are received
- allow college admissions departments to track the status of any transcript, receive various online reports, and request mid-year and final transcripts for applicants.

With the participation of South Carolina K-12 school districts and the students they serve, the South Carolina Department of Education, the South Carolina Technical College System, all South Carolina public and independent institutions of higher education, and the South Carolina Commission on Higher Education, the e-Transcript solution will deliver reliable data and a new level of efficiency to all stakeholders of the system.