

ABOUT OUR SCHOOL

Our History

South Carolina Connections Academy (SCCA) is an accredited, public school serving students in grades K–12 from across the state. Our students come from urban, suburban, and rural communities. The school was founded during the 2008–09 school year as a K–12 school. South Carolina Connections Academy graduated its first 12th grade class in June 2009. The Class of 2017 included 398 graduates.

Our Mission

SCCA provides a personalized education for students to master the knowledge and problem solving skills needed to achieve their college and career goals.

OUR PROGRAM

South Carolina Connections Academy offers a K-12 comprehensive school program with an enrollment of approximately 5,000 students school-wide, and 2,500 students in grades 9-12. Here are some important facts about the school:

- The school is fully accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS) through AdvancED.
- South Carolina Connections Academy has 54 General Education (+ 8 SpEd) certified/ licensed professional high school teachers. Of those, 66% have earned advanced degrees.
- School is in session 180 days between the months of August and June.



SCHOOL ADMINISTRATION:

Superintendent: Elliot Smalley

Executive Director: Amanda Ebel

Director of Student Accountability: Jennifer Selix

Director of Special Education: Courtney Boyd

Asst. Director of Special Education: Ashley Jordan

8-12th Grade Principal: Joshua Kitchens

K-7th Grade Principal: Kelly McNally

Assistant Principals: Casey Ahmed, Alicia Hughes, Jorden Sweeney, Tracey Williams

Manager of Counseling: Shea Crass

High School Counseling Staff: Lisa Aglietti, Megan Cannon, Anna Coward, Jennifer Prince, Sharon Smith, Jacquelyn Yoast, Aleta Zeiler

Middle & Elementary School Counseling Staff: LeighAnn Oliger & Mary Reihner

SAMPLING OF UNIVERSITY ACCEPTANCES

Students in the Class of 2017 earned total college scholarship awards in the amount of \$3,380,000 and were accepted to the following colleges:

Brevard College, Carnegie Mellon University, Charleston Southern University, Claflin University, College of Charleston, Erskine College, Florida State University, Savannah College of Art and Design, The Citadel, United States Naval Academy, University of Massachusetts Lowell, and Wofford College

Notable scholarship awards include:

- South Carolina Palmetto Fellows Scholarship: 11
- Barbara J. Dreyer Cares Scholarship awards: 3
- Chick-Fil-A Leadership Scholarship

COURSE OFFERINGS

South Carolina Connections Academy’s core curriculum is geared toward preparing students for college and beyond. Students have access to AP, Honors, College Preparatory, and Foundation programs. Students also have the opportunity to participate in the Postsecondary Enrollment Options (PSEO) program, where they can earn dual high school and college credit by attending postsecondary institutions.

AP course offerings include: Art History, Biology, Calculus, Computer Science, English Language, English Literature, Environmental Science, French, Macroeconomics, Microeconomics, Psychology, Spanish, Statistics, U.S. Government, and U.S. History.

Honors course offerings include: Algebra I and II, American Government, Biology, Chemistry, Earth Science, English 9-12, Geometry, Physical Science, Pre-Calculus, U.S. History, and World History.

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

South Carolina Connections Academy operates on a semester system utilizing Carnegie units. One semester class equals one-half of a high school credit. Students who have taken high school level courses while in middle school may have been granted high school credit. The typical course load is six classes per semester. 24 Carnegie units of credit are required for graduation. Specific requirements include:

Area/Subjects	# Units for Graduation
Language Arts	4
Math	4
Science	3
Social Studies	3
Health	0.5
Physical Education	1
Technology	1
Foreign Language or Career and Technical Education (CATE)	1
Other Electives	6.5
Total	24

TESTING STATISTICS

2016-17 School average scores for our 11th and 12th grade students.

ACT school averages for 2016–17:

English	22
Math	21
Reading.....	24
Science	23
Composite	23

SAT school averages for 2015–16:

Math	580
Reading & Writing.....	552
Combined.....	1061

AP participation 2016–17:

103 students enrolled in AP courses (13%)

[Please view all of our high school courses](#)

GRADING SCALE

South Carolina Connections Academy uses the South Carolina Uniform Grading Scale. A student's transcripts reflect weighted grades if the student took Honors or Advanced Placement courses. No credit is awarded for grades of 59% or less.

The numerical grading scale is as follows:

Grade	Numerical Percentage	College Prep Weighting	Honors Weighting	AP/IB/ Dual Credit Weighting
A	90–100	4.0-5.0	4.5-5.5	5.0-6.0
B	80-89	3.0-3.9	3.5-4.4	4.0-4.9
C	70-79	2.0-2.9	2.5-3.4	3.0-3.9
D	60-69	1.0-1.9	1.5-2.4	2.0-2.9
F	57-59	0.7-0.9	1.2-1.4	1.7-1.9

Class rank is calculated twice each year, at the conclusion of each semester. Class rank is based upon the student's cumulative weighted GPA for all high school courses (excluding Pass/Fail and Incomplete), including transfer courses.

HIGH SCHOOL VIRTUAL VISITATION

College representatives are invited to connect with our students through web conferencing technology. Two weeks' notice is greatly appreciated so that we have time to notify students. For more information about setting up a web conference session, please contact Caroline O'Neill, Lead Counseling Specialist, at ceoneill@scca.connectionsacademy.org

PLANS FOR THE CLASS OF 2017

Plan	%
Two-year college	26
Four-year college	23
Employment	36
Vocational Training	10
Military	4
Gap Year	1
Total	100



Transcript Abbreviations

- CO** Course completed
- EN** Scheduled in section
- IP** Active in section
- PC** Student has completed course and teacher is finishing grading
- WF** Failing grade at time of withdrawal from course
- WP** Passing grade at time of withdrawal from course