

ABOUT OUR SCHOOL

OUR MISSION: "Learning for All"

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

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 2023 included 570 graduates.

OUR PROGRAM

South Carolina Connections Academy offers a K-12 comprehensive school program with an enrollment of approximately 6,300 students school-wide, and 2,900 students in grades 9-12. Here are some important facts about the school:

- The school is accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges & Schools Council on Accreditation and School Improvement (SACS CASI), an accrediting division of Cognia.
- School is in session 180 days between the months of August and May.

Students in the Class of 2023 earned total college scholarship awards in the amount of \$6,091,726 and were accepted to the following colleges: American University, Anderson University, Auburn University, August State University, Berry College, Bob Jones University, Charleston Southern University, Claflin University, Clemson University, Coastal Carolina University, Coker College, College of Charleston, Columbia college, Columbia International University, Converse College, Dartmouth College, DePaul University, East Carolina University, Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University, Emory & Henry College, Francis Marion University, Frostburg State University, George Mason University, Jacksonville State University, Johnson & Wales University, Lander University, Lees-McRae College, Liberty University, Merrimack College, Morehouse College, Morris College, Newberry College, Pace University, Presbyterian College, Radford University, Savannah College of Art and Design, South Carolina State University, St Andrews University, University of Alabama at Birmingham, University of Nebraska, UNC Charlotte, University of Oregon, University of South Carolina, University of Southern California, Western Carolina University, Winthrop University, Wofford College.

Notable scholarship awards include South Carolina Palmetto Fellows Scholarship: 23, National Merit Scholarship, Jairy C. Hunter, Jr. Scholarship, University of Southern California School of The Arts Full Scholarship, USC Dean's Scholarship, Newberry College Music Excellence Scholarship, Embry Riddle Provost Scholarship, Radford College Honors College. Athletic Scholarships: Frostburg State (Tennis), Clemson University (Soccer), Wingate University (Tumbling), Auburn University (Equestrian), Columbia International University (Softball).

CONTACT INFORMATION

ConnectionsAcademy.com
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Columbia, SC 29210
FAX: 803-814-1283
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SCHOOL ADMINISTRATION

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR: Alicia Hughes
CHIEF ACADEMIC OFFICER: Amanda Crum
MANAGERS OF ASSESSMENT: K-8: Nicole Retsos, High School: Michele Klein, Special Populations: Lauren Jennings
SPECIAL SERVICES: Director: Courtney Boyd, Assistant Directors: Heather Evans and Jill Patrick

HIGH SCHOOL ADMINISTRATION:

Principal: Catayah Clark, Assistant Principals: Keesha Carter and Jenny Dean

MIDDLE SCHOOL ADMINISTRATION:

Principal: Erin Hynum, Assistant Principals: Jennifer Crosby and Jennifer Bailey

ELEMENTARY ADMINISTRATION:

Principal: Casey Ahmed, Assistant Principals: Jamie Gordon and Brandy Smith

COUNSELING: Director: Shea Heller, Assistant Director: Caroline O'Neill

HIGH SCHOOL COUNSELING STAFF:

Lisa Aglietti, Sydney Brown, Julie Cannon, January Diamond, Danielle Green, Marla McKenzie, Carly Passante, Kat Robinson, Jane Salo, Tracie Scarborough, Hannah Tripp, Mary Whitman

MIDDLE SCHOOL COUNSELING STAFF:

Sierra Barnes, Sallie Bowers, Stephanie Canter, Malika Mills

ELEMENTARY COUNSELING STAFF:

Kristy Cisneros, LeighAnn Olinger, Kim Messervy

COUNSELING SERVICES:

Haley Cannon, Caroline Sullivan

SCHOOL DISTRICT

Charter Institute at Erskine
SUPERINTENDENT: Cameron Runyan

ADVANCED COURSE OPTIONS

AP Course Offerings Include: Biology, Calculus AB, Computer Science Principles, English Language, English Literature, Human Geography, Macroeconomics, Microeconomics, Psychology, Statistics, and U.S. History.

Honors Course Offerings Include: Algebra I and II, American Government, Biology, Chemistry, Earth Science, Economics, English 1-4, Geometry, Physics, Pre-Calculus, U.S. History, and World History. Please feel free to view all our high school courses at <http://www.connectionsacademy.com/south-carolina-virtual-school/curriculum/high-school/courses>

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

In the 2022-23 School Year and prior, South Carolina Connections Academy operated on a semester system utilizing Carnegie units. One semester class equaled 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:

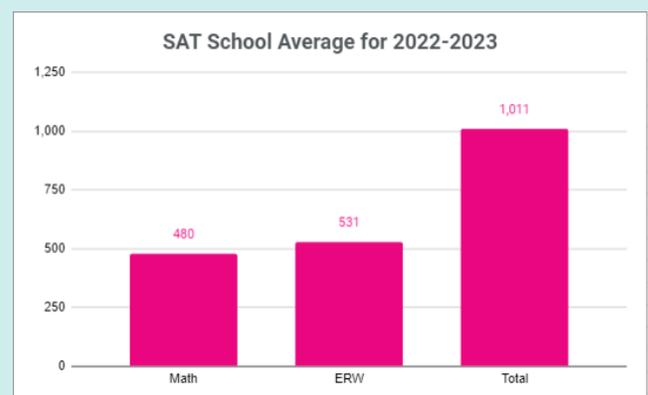
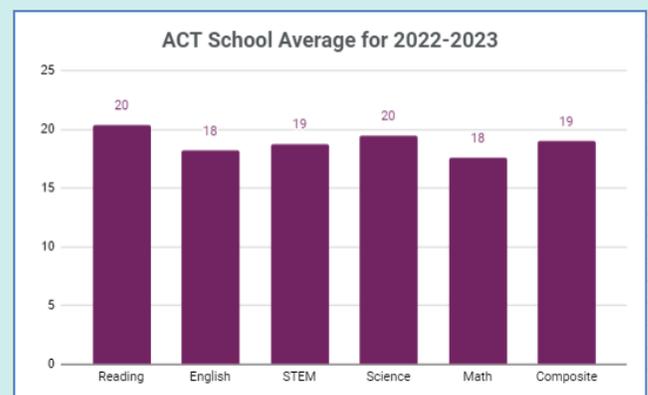
Area/Subjects	#Units for Graduation
Language Arts	4
Math	4
Science	3
Social Studies	3
Health	0.5
Physical Education	1
Computer Science	1
World Language or CATE	1
Electives	6.5
Total	24

PLANS FOR THE CLASS OF 2023

Plan	%
Two-Year College	24
Four-Year College	23
Employment	20
Technical/Vocational Training	14
Military	2
Gap Year	9
Other Plans	8
Total	100

Average Test Scores

- AP Participation 2022-2023
 - 83 Exams Taken



GRADE SCALE

South Carolina Connections Academy uses the South Carolina Uniform Grading Scale. A student's transcript reflects 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:

10 Point Grading Scale South Carolina Uniform Grading Scale Conversions

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	51-59	0.1-0.9	0.6-1.4	1.1-1.9
F	0-50	0.00	0.00	0.00

WF = Withdraw Fail and FA = Failure due to Absences. WF and FA will factor into the student's GPA as a 50. NP = Not Passing and AU = Audit. NP and AU will not affect the GPA and will not earn credit. P = Passing. P will not affect the GPA and will earn credit.

In the 2022-23 School Year and prior, class rank was calculated twice each year, at the conclusion of each semester. In the 2022-23 School Year, SCCA courses will be year-long for one full credit, and class rank will be calculated at the conclusion of the spring semester.

Class rank is based upon the student's cumulative weighted G.P.A. for all high school courses (excluding Pass/Fail and Incomplete), including transfer courses. Senior class rank is calculated for enrolled 12th Grade students at the end of the academic year.

ACCREDITATION



As a public school, SCCA is held accountable to meeting the 95% participation rate requirement in accordance with the Elementary and Secondary Education Act. In addition, by the time students graduate high school, they must satisfy the college and career readiness requirement demonstrating their preparedness for college or a career upon graduation. In order to demonstrate this, students are required to earn a minimum on the ACT, SAT, AP exam, or National Career Readiness Assessment or meet dual enrollment requirements or earn a minimum score on the ASVAB.