

EMPLOYABILITY CREDENTIAL

Code **IKFC** Adopted **10/18**

The employability course of study is a career-based educational program providing opportunities for students with disabilities to acquire employability skills thereby increasing a student's ability to obtain gainful employment after high school. Upon completion of the course of study, students will receive a uniform, state-recognized, high school credential.

The employability course of study is intended for students with disabilities who have an individualized education program (IEP) and who may be unable to successfully complete all requirements for the state high school diploma. A student's IEP team must agree, in writing, that the employability course of study is appropriate for the student.

The IEP team's decision to identify the South Carolina High School Credential as the student's expected high school outcome will be based on data which may include, but is not limited to, any information gathered during the most recent evaluation, longitudinal information of grades, standardized achievement assessments, informal and formal transition assessments, adaptive behavior assessments, and work readiness assessments resulting in evidence of skills necessary for independent, competitive employment. The decision will be made only after the IEP team considers a variety of program options that may allow the student to pursue a high school diploma.

Students may earn the state-recognized South Carolina High School Credential by meeting the requirements outlined in administrative rule IKFC-R.

Annual Notification

The district will provide an annual notification to the parent/legal guardian of each student in the program, or directly to each adult student, that the state high school credential is not a state high school diploma. The credential alone may not be sufficient to enter a college, university, or technical school without the student meeting other requirements. This determination is made by the institution of higher education.

Adopted 10/1/18

Legal References:

A. Federal Law:

1. Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), 20 U.S.C.A. Section 1400.

B. S.C. Code, 1976, as amended:

1. Section 59-39-100 - Issuance of uniform diplomas by accredited high school; units required.

C. State Board of Education Regulations:

1. R43-235 - South Carolina employability credential for students with disabilities.