

TOGETHER. A STRONGER VOICE.

Together were stronger.
Together were heard.

Being an educator is one of the hardest jobs in the world and its never been harder than right now. With more members like you, we'll have a stronger collective voice that can help educators live better lives, so our students get the best education possible.

Who is The SCEA?

The SCEA is South Carolinas leading advocate for public education with the collective power of over 3.2 million members nationwide. We work together to ensure that educators like you have a stronger voice.

Together we are stronger!

What does that mean?

We advocate at the state and local levels for higher salaries and improved working conditions for all education professionals.

We meet with lawmakers from both political parties to improve our daily lives as educators.

We work hand in hand with school administrators and school boards to make sure our voices are being heard and respected.

We make sure that educators have the resources you need to give students your best.



For more information, reach out to:

The South Carolina Education Association
2999 Sunset Blvd, West Columbia, SC 29169
803-551-4141 | www.thescea.org



The SCEA Works With Educators to Deliver Real Change.

STATE

1. Unanimous passage of 30 minutes duty-free unencumbered time for elementary & special education educators.
2. Defeated Private School Vouchers. Won after a 6-month long battle.
3. Defeated anti-truth censorship bills and anti-truth censorship amendments. Members of The SCEA and coalition partners across SC joined to fight for honesty in education and won.
4. Defeated open enrollment bill that would have deepened inequities and created fiscal uncertainty.
5. Increased the Teacher Supply checks to \$300.
6. Increased the minimum teacher starting salary to \$40,000.
7. Bus Driver salary raised 3%.
8. PEBA (retirement pension) exemption from earning limitations for retirees.
9. Dangerous insulin administration bill halted.
10. Unanimous passage of a bill that ended lunch-shaming and the practice of sending students and families to collections over school lunch debt.

NATIONAL

1. Due to the advocacy of NEA members, the broken **Public Service Loan Forgiveness (PSLF) was overhauled** to help more workers get forgiveness, including previously denied applicants.
 - a. **Double-Dip PSLF & TLF Payments:** The new temporary PSLF waiver will enable teachers to use the same period of employment service for PSLF as they used for Teacher Loan Forgiveness (TLF), as well as any payments made during those years. Teachers must apply before October 31, 2022.
 - b. [NEA members get free help with this process!](#)
 - c. **Historic Numbers of Workers Helped:** The changes to PSLF will mean 550,000 borrowers will move significantly closer to student debt forgiveness, including 22,000 who are immediately eligible.
2. The SCEA is the only organization in South Carolina that advocates for members at the national level!

TOP 10 REASONS TO BELONG



Support and Relationships



Influence and Power



Protection and Advocacy

1

A voice at the table

There is power in numbers. Belonging to The SCEA amplifies your voice and gives you significant influence over the decisions that affect you, your students, and your community. Whether you advocate for changes at your school or worksite, speak at school board meetings, support increased pay and secure public school funding, or lobby your locally-elected officials, The SCEA is there to support you.

2

Increased pay and benefits

The SCEA prepares its members to professionally and effectively advocate for professional pay, health care, and retirement security, so a career in education remains a viable profession.

3

Improved professional practice

The SCEA helps you advocate for high-quality professional development and increased collaboration time so you can improve your practice. Elevate your career with our online and in-person professional learning opportunities open to all members, both certified and classified, to sharpen your skills and help you do what you love.

4

Nationwide community of educators

As a member of The SCEA's 3.2 million member network, you belong to your local association, state association (The SCEA), and national association (National Education Association). The SCEA is your way to connect with like-minded colleagues across the district, state, and nation who network together to better students' lives.

5

Improved working and student learning conditions at your work site

The SCEA empowers educators to advocate for smaller class sizes, less standardized testing, input into the curriculum, and safe buildings, to name a few. Improved working conditions mean a better learning environment for your students.

6

Positive change at your work site

The SCEA can help you work with administrators as a partner and collaborate with parents and community organizations to resolve issues at your school. As an education professional who works with students, you can work with administrators to solve problems together.

7

Enhanced rights

Each member of The SCEA receives \$3 million in professional liability insurance for work-related issues, and our attorneys handle these issues at NO COST to members! Members also have access to our member advocacy professionals to get doorstep assistance regarding current education laws, school board policies, contracts, and more.

8

Commitment to social justice

Membership means joining forces with fellow educators to make a difference in students' social justice and equity issues. The SCEA offers the training and strategies needed to help achieve equity in your schools and your communities.

9

Free college benefit

The SCEA offers members and their families the opportunity to earn their Associates and/or Bachelors degree online with no out-of-pocket cost. The program is open to active and retired members of The SCEA, their spouses, children, financial dependents, siblings, parents and grandchildren.

10

Member benefits

Save money and earn cash back with NEA's Member Benefits program that offers extensive member-only benefits and discounts. Members of The SCEA have saved hundreds to thousands of dollars each year!



Reach out today to learn more and join online:

membership@thescea.org | 803.551.4141

thescea.org



JOIN TODAY