

1981 WL 157994 (S.C.A.G.)

Office of the Attorney General

State of South Carolina

September 30, 1981

*1 Richard S. Campbell, P.E.
South Carolina State Fire Marshall
Budget and Control Board
1109 Belleview Street
Columbia, South Carolina 29201

Dear Mr. Campbell:

You have asked whether [§ 59-63-910 of the Code of Laws of South Carolina \(1976\)](#) requires colleges and universities to conduct fire drills when they are either fully funded publicly or when they are private but have students which receive state aid. The section provides in part, as follows: '[a]ll teachers and superintendents in charge of the schools of the State which are supported in whole or in part by taxation shall conduct fire drills at least once each month.'

[Section 59-63-910](#) does not apply to any institution of higher education in this state. See § 59-103-51, as amended. It is contained in that part of Title 59 of the South Carolina Code of Laws which is designated as the South Carolina School [Code. § 59-1-10](#). Although [§ 59-63-910](#) does not define its terms, a reading of the words 'schools' and 'teachers' in that law with reference to the general definitions for the School Code (§ 59-1-110, et seq.) makes clear that the only schools to which [§ 59-63-910](#) is intended to apply are the secondary and lower level schools of this state.

If we may be of further assistance, please let us know.

Yours very truly,

J. Emory Smith, Jr.
Assistant Attorney General

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