

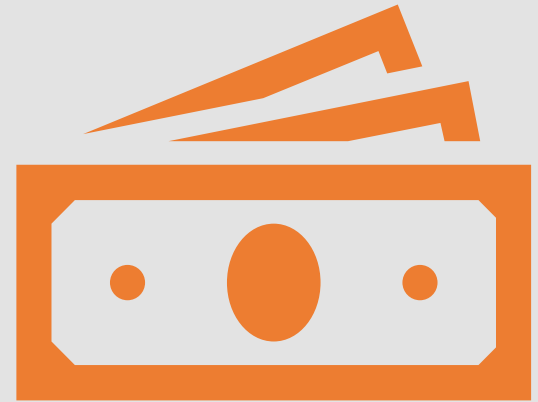


SOUTH CAROLINA COMMISSION ON HIGHER EDUCATION

South Carolina State Scholarships and
Grant Programs
2023-2024

State Scholarship and Grant Programs

- SC Need-based Grant
- Lottery Tuition Assistance Program (LTAP)
- SC HOPE Scholarship
- LIFE Scholarship
- Palmetto Fellows Scholarship



General Eligibility Requirements

SC HOPE, LIFE, and Palmetto Fellows Scholarship, SC Need-based Grant, and Lottery Tuition Assistance Program

- US citizen/legal permanent resident*
- South Carolina resident*
- No felony convictions **
- No second or subsequent alcohol/drug misdemeanors
- Not in default of any state or federal loans
- Enroll in a degree-seeking program at an eligible SC institution

**This must be determined by the institutions at the time of high school graduation and college enrollment.*

*** Excluding Lottery Tuition Assistance Program*

2024-25 FAFSA DELAYED UNTIL DECEMBER 2023

- FAFSA Simplification Act was passed in Dec. 2020
- Federal Department of Education has not released the FAFSA live date, only Dec. 2023
- Significant FAFSA changes for 2024-25
- Recommend students and parents set-up their FSA IDs now in preparation for FAFSA going live in Dec. 2023.



S.C. Need-based Grant



- Student must complete the FAFSA each year and be determined to have 'financial need' based on Title IV
- Generally awarded on a "first-come-first serve" basis
- Can be used at any 2-year or 4-year public institution*
- Must be considered a degree seeking student
- Up to \$3,500 / yr for full-time or \$1,750 / yr for part-time

** SC Tuition Grant at private SC institutions*

S.C. Need-based Grant:

Additional Programs

Foster Care Youth

Up to the maximum \$3,500 / yr NBG award **PLUS** up to an **additional \$2,000 / yr**

**Student needs to work with the Financial Aid Office, DSS, and CHE*

College Transition Program

Programs at 5 eligible S.C. institutions for students with intellectual disabilities:

- College of Charleston
- Clemson University
- University of South Carolina- Columbia
- Winthrop University
- Coastal Carolina University
- Scholarship: Up to \$10,000
- Grant: Up to \$10,000*

** Student must demonstrate 'financial need' by Title IV guidelines*

Lottery Tuition Assistance Program (LTAP)



** Award amount may vary each term depending on availability of funding*

SC HOPE Scholarship

Eligibility:

No application Process. Institution reviews final high school transcript.

3.0 Cumulative GPA

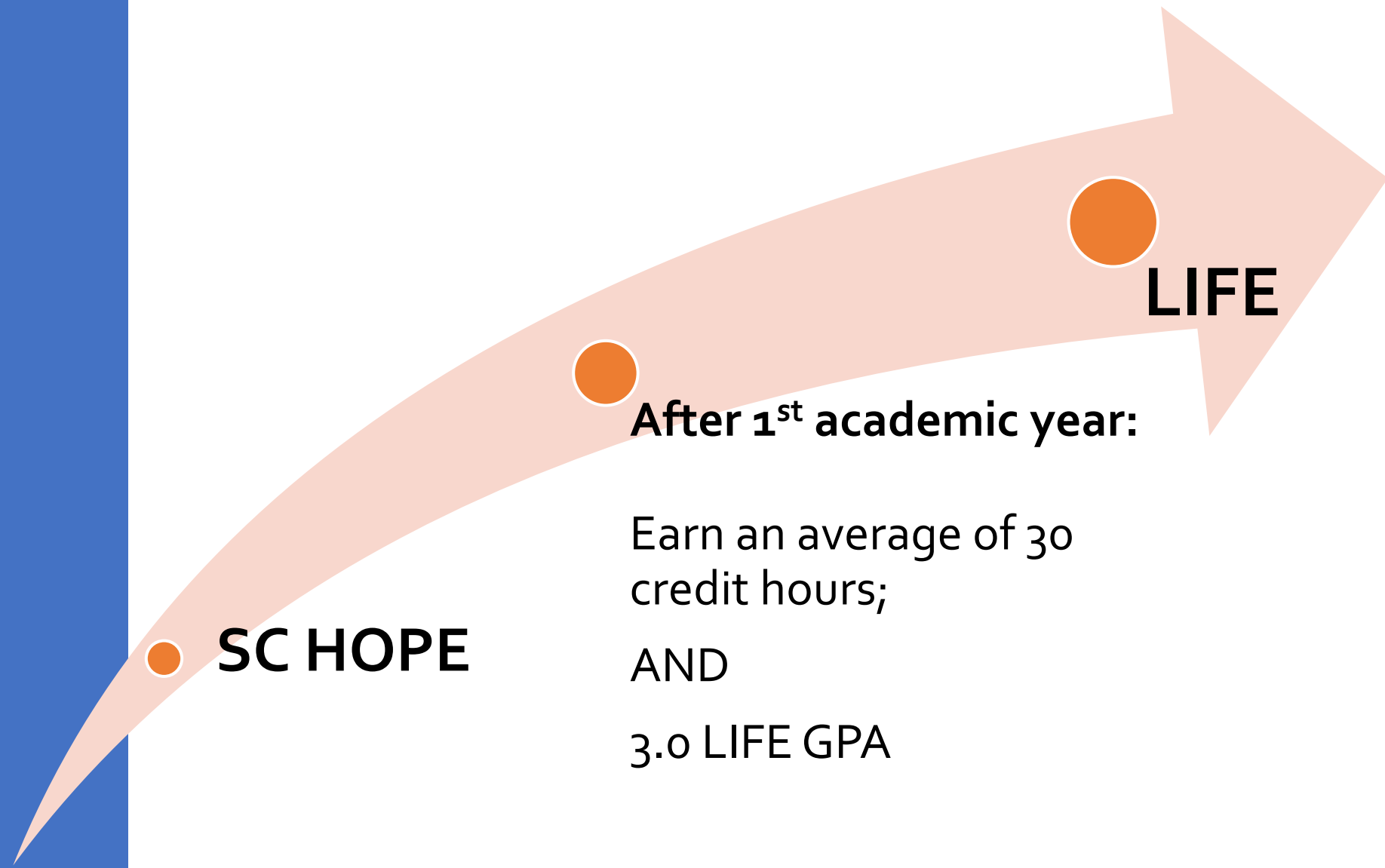
Must attend an eligible SC 4-year institution

(based on the SC UGP
upon high school
graduation)

Up to **\$2,800** (for the year)

For the 1st academic year only
(2 terms)

SC HOPE to LIFE



LIFE Scholarship

Eligibility at a 2-year institution

- **3.0 Cumulative GPA** (based on the SC UGP) upon high school graduation

Eligibility at a 4-year institution

- **Earn 2 of the following 3 requirements:**
 - 3.0 Cumulative GPA (based on the SC UGP) upon high school graduation
 - 1100/SAT or **22/ACT**
 - Rank in the top 30% of the graduating class (if applicable)

LIFE Scholarship Basics

- **NO** application process
- Not required to begin college immediately after high school*
- Can *earn* eligibility after 1st, 2nd, or 3rd academic year
- Student has until the end of an academic year (end of summer term) to earn the required GPA / credit hours

LIFE Terms & Award Amount

Terms of Eligibility

- **2-year Institution**
 - 4 semesters for a two-year degree program
 - 6 semesters for a three-year degree program
- **4-year Institution**
 - 8 semesters for a four-year degree program
 - 10 semesters for a five-year degree program

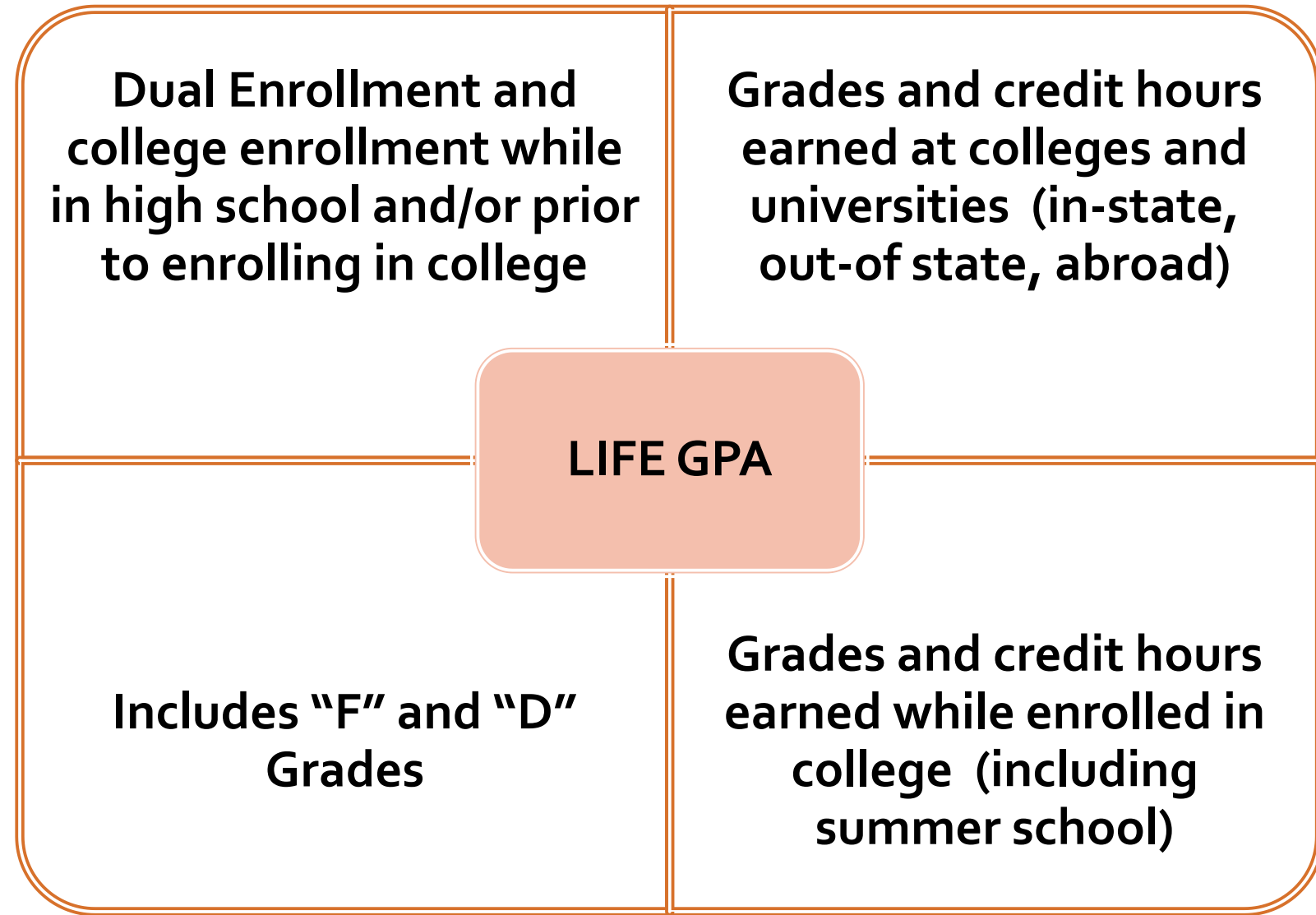
Up to \$5,000 per academic year

- Not to exceed to the Cost of Attendance
- Must attend an eligible SC institution

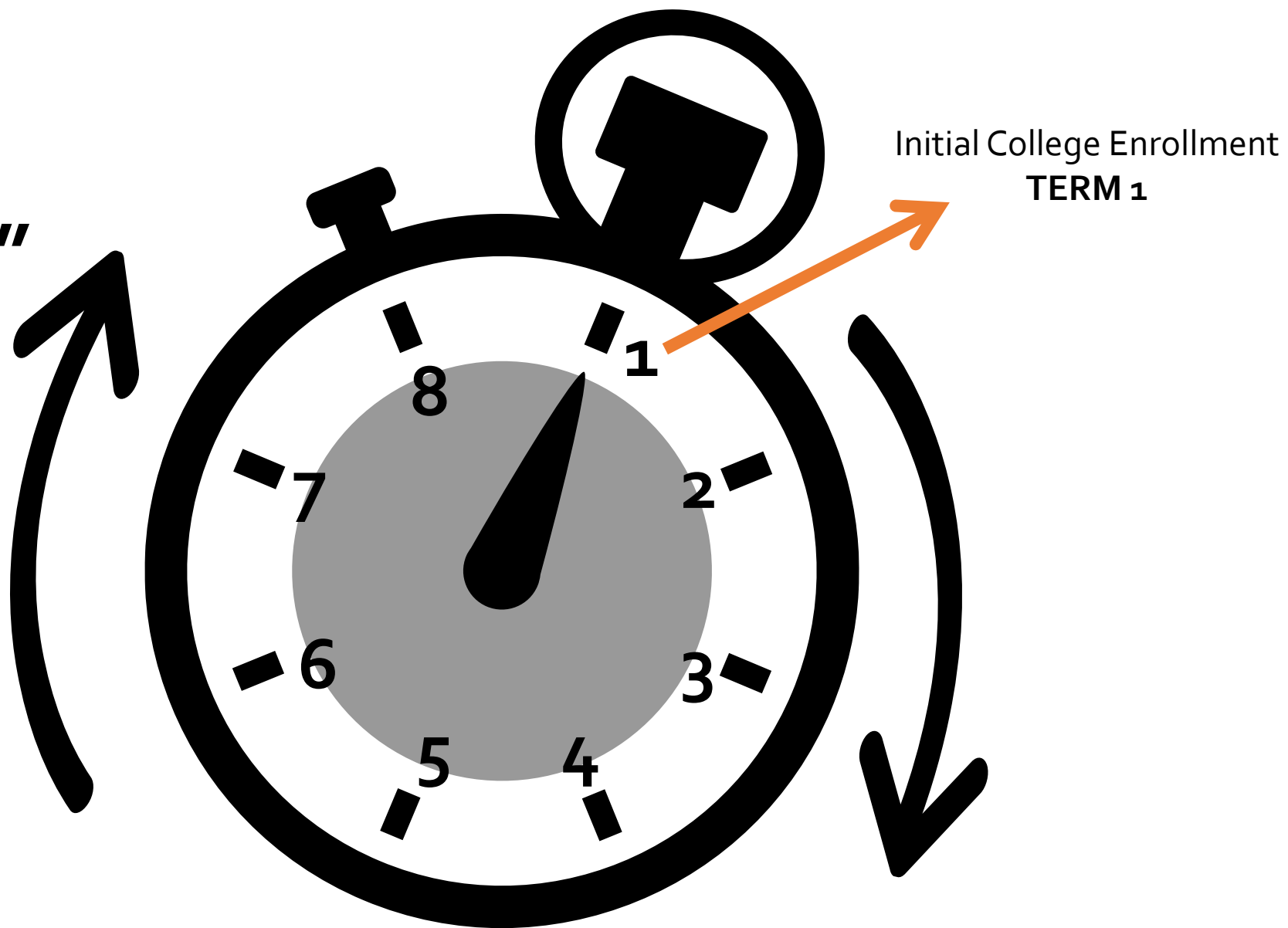
** Student must be in an approved degree program*

*** Scholarship is still operating on a continuous clock*

LIFE GPA



Terms of Eligibility "LIFE Clock"



LIFE Continued Eligibility

End of 1st
Academic
Year

Earn a 3.0
Cumulative
LIFE GPA

Earn at
least 30
credit
hours

End of 2nd
Academic
Year

Earn a 3.0
Cumulative
LIFE GPA

Earn at
least 60
credit
hours

End of 3rd
Academic
Year

Earn a 3.0
Cumulative
LIFE GPA

Earn at
least 90
credit
hours

Palmetto Fellows Scholarship Application Periods

- School Counselor driven application process
- Any eligible student will need to be part of the Early or Late Award application process during their year of graduation

TWO opportunities to apply:

- **Early Award:** May 1 – April 15 (*end of 3rd year in HS*)
- **Late Award:** May 15 – June 30 (*end of 4th year in HS*)

a student cannot use Early Award documentation for the Late Award

a student cannot apply or earn the PFS once they have graduated high school

Palmetto Fellows Scholarship

General Eligibility Requirements

- Rank in the top 6% at the end of the 10th, or the 11th, or the 12th grade academic year*; **and**
- Earn a 1200 on the SAT/**25** on the ACT (through the June test administration of the graduating year); **and**
- Earn a 3.5 cumulative GPA (based on the SC UGP)

**Schools must have an official policy on rank that has been reviewed by Commission staff for compliance with the established Regulations in order for students to utilize the standard eligibility criteria.*

OR

Alternate Criteria (without regard to rank)

- Earn a 1400 on the SAT/**31** on the ACT (through the June test administration of the graduating year); **and**
- Earn a 4.0 Cumulative GPA (based on the SC UGP)

Student Notifications



- For the student to receive scholarship funds they **MUST** complete the DESIGNATION FORM
 - This is the SOLE responsibility of the student
 - The student is provided this form via email to the email listed on the electronic application*
- Early Award: Late-January - ongoing
- Late Award: Mid-August
 - Student tuition bill **WILL** be due prior to being awarded the Palmetto Fellow Scholarship.
 - Students **CAN** accept the LIFE Scholarship and use it towards their bill.
- Deadline to submit Designation Form: August 31st

**Please make sure students are checking their spam/junk email folders.*

1st Year

- Up to \$6,700

2nd , 3rd , and 4th Years

- Up to \$7,500

Palmetto Fellows Scholarship Award Amounts

- The student **MUST** attend an eligible 2 or 4-year institution no later than one year after high school graduation. Student needs to notify CHE that they are utilizing a 'Gap Semester/Year.'
- A student **CANNOT** earn credit hours during the 'gap' period
- Not enrolling within one year immediately following high school graduation forfeits the student's PFS eligibility.
- A "gap year" may ONLY be taken between high school graduation and prior to initial enrollment
 - A break in continuous enrollment will result in a loss of eligibility.
- A student who attends an out-of-state institution can use any remaining terms of the PFS should they transfer to an eligible SC institution and meet the PFS renewal requirements

Important Palmetto Fellows Facts

Palmetto Fellows

Continued Eligibility Requirements

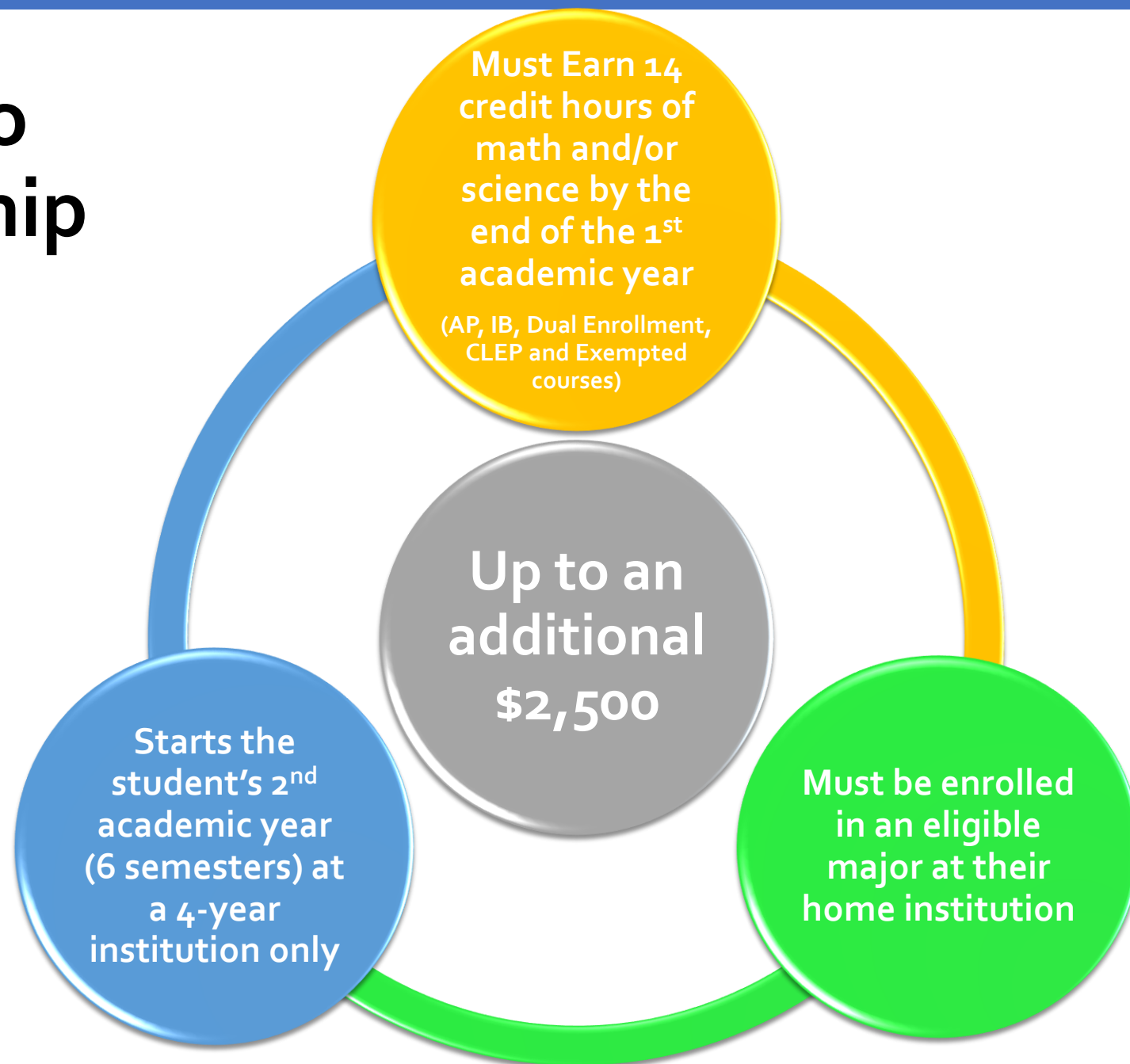
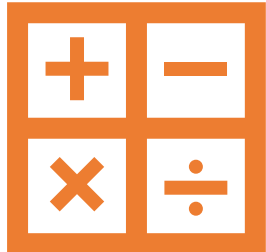
3.0 cumulative
institutional GPA

(Cannot transfer grades
from other colleges)

Earn 30 credit hours **each**
academic year

Does **NOT** include AP, IB,
Dual Enrollment, CLEP or
exempted credit hours

LIFE & Palmetto Fellows Scholarship STEM Enhancements



LIFE Scholarship

1st Year

- Up to \$5,000

2nd, 3rd, & 4th
Years

- Up to \$7,500 with Enhancement

Palmetto Fellows Scholarship

1st Year

- Up to \$6,700

2nd, 3rd, & 4th
Years

- Up to \$7,500
- Up to \$10,000 with Enhancement

Enhancements

Students with Documented Disabilities

Register with the Office of
Disability/Accessibility
Services



May be eligible for
accommodations



May be eligible for a
reduced course load

General State Scholarship & Grant Information

No South Carolina State Scholarships or grants may be used at an out-of-state institution at any time.

- **Academic Common Market**

Allows for South Carolina residents who are enrolled in specific programs at out-of-state institutions to be charged only the applicable in-State tuition by the institution in which the student is enrolled

<https://che.sc.gov/academic-common-market>

- **S.C. Tuition Grants Commission**

Provides Need-based Grant assistance to eligible South Carolina students obtaining an initial undergraduate degree who are attending, on a full-time basis, eligible independent non-profit in-state colleges.

<https://sctuitiongrants.org/>



Rank & State Scholarship Eligibility



- For the purposes of the LIFE and Palmetto Fellows Scholarship (PFS) programs two students may not occupy the same rank.
 - **LIFE Scholarship:** Top 30% of the graduating class (NOT rounded up to the next whole number)
 - **PFS:** Top 6% (rounded up to the next whole number)



Early Graduate vs. Graduating Early

Early Graduate

(Senior graduating mid-year > not during the Spring Cohort)

LIFE Scholarship

- For scholarship eligibility the student **CANNOT** use rank as an eligibility criterion.

Palmetto Fellows Scholarship

- Student can qualify with class rank from the end of the 10th or 11th grade year.
- *Palmetto Fellows: can only apply during the Early Award Period **prior to** completing their high school graduation requirements.*

Graduating Early

(Student graduates academic year(s) early > graduates with Spring Cohort)

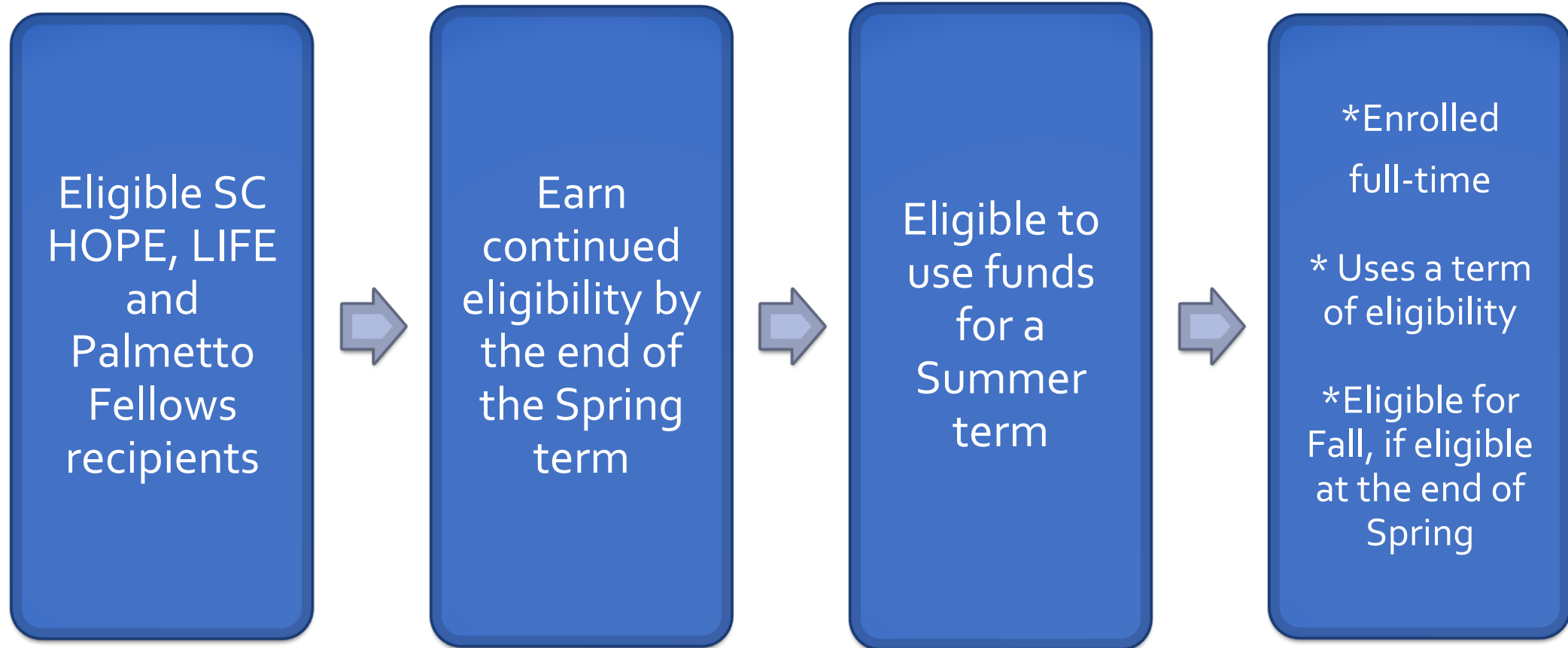
SC HOPE / LIFE Scholarship

- Eligibility is based on the end of the academic year with the student's "new" graduating class

Palmetto Fellows Scholarship

- Early Award Application Period can use the end of 10th or 11th grade rank, must use end of 11th grade GPA
- Late Award Application Period can use the end of 10th or 12th grade rank, must use end of 12th grade GPA

Year-Round Scholarships





QUESTIONS

CHE Contact Information

Dr. Karen Woodfaulk

Director of Student Affairs
(803) 856-0578
kwoodfaulk@che.sc.gov

Dr. Gerrick Hampton

Associate Director and Program Manager
(803) 856-0609
ghampton@che.sc.gov

Ms. Kathryn (Katie) Harris

Scholarships and Grants Program Manager
(803) 856-0738
kharris@che.sc.gov

Ms. Tanya Weigold

Scholarships and Grants Program Coordinator
(803) 856-0672
tweigold@che.sc.gov

Ms. Alfie Mincy

SCNG CAP Program Coordinator
(803) 856-0579
amincy@che.sc.gov

Ms. Morgan Clinton

College Access Program Manager
(803) 856-0660
mclinton@che.sc.gov

Websites

www.che.sc.gov
www.sccango.org
www.getsmartsc.com