Orangeburg County School District

COLLEGE & CAREER READINESS HANDBOOK

2026-2027 School Year



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Individual Graduation Plan

IGP CONFERENCE CHECKLIST

Correct Legal Name:

Postsecondary Plans:

- 2 Year College
- 4 Year College
- Military
- Workforce Career Interest:

Primary Plan

Secondary Plan

Reminder to Review:

- Current Schedule
- Class Rank
- Transcript

- GPA
- End of Course (EOC) Exams

Graduation Requirements: South Carolina Diploma (Credit Requirements)

"Every Course Counts"

SC High School Credential:

- ❑ CTE Opportunities
- ❑ WBL/College and Career Readiness
- ❑ WIN/ASVAB

Additional Course Options:

- VirtualSC Courses
- Credit Recovery
- Edgenuity

- Summer School
- Other information in the eIGP

ACT & SAT - You may qualify for a "fee waiver" based on qualifications. Ask your School Counselor for more information)

Reminder to Review:

- PSAT
  - ❑ 2-year Colleges & Certificates:
- ACCUPLACER: https://accuplacer.collegeboard.org
  - ❑ 4-Year College:

- ACT: www.actstudent.org
- SAT: www.collegeboard.com
  - ❑ Workforce:
- WIN Assessment: https://www.winlearning.com
  - ❑ Military: •-ASVAB: www.asvabprogram.com

Lottery Tuition Assistance Program

South Carolina Scholarship Programs:

- Hope
- Life
- Palmetto Fellows

- LTAP
- SC Needs-Based Grant Program •-SC Commission on Higher Education •-PACE Scholarship www.che.sc.gov

Financial Aid, Athletic and Military Information:

- Introduce FAFSA/Financial Aid - www.fafsa.ed.gov
- NCAA Eligibility Center – Student-Athletes t DI, DII or DIII Colleges www.eligibilitycenter.org Or www.2point3.org

- NAIA Eligibility Center -Student planning to play collegiate sports at https://www.naia.org/landing/index
- Military Academy Application Process & Nominations - https://www.usa.gov/military
- ROTC Scholarships: www.military.com

Financial Aid, Athletic and Military Information:

❑ SC Uniform Grading Policy
❑ SC Graduation Requirements – SC 4 Year College Entrance Requirements
❑ South Carolina Scholarship Programs – Importance of 3.0+

❑ NCAA/NAIA Eligibility Center
❑ Extended Learning Opportunities
❑ Resume Writing
❑ Interviewing
❑ Soft Skills



HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

Remember that College AdmissionRequirements and High School Graduation Requirements are not always the same!

***Beginning with the freshman class of 2025 – 2026 (Personal Finance Update)**
https://ed.sc.gov/newsroom/school-district-memoranda-archive/personal-finance/personal-finance memo/#:~:text=In%20November%202022%2C%20the%20State,South%20Carolina%20High%20School%20Diploma

***Science** - Two units must be taken in two different fields of the physical or life sciences and selected from among biology, chemistry, or physics. The third unit may be from the same field as one of the first two units (biology, chemistry, or physics) or from any laboratory science for which biology and/or chemistry is a prerequisite. Courses in earth science, general physical science, or introductory or general environmental science for which biology and/or chemistry is not a prerequisite will not meet this requirement. It is strongly recommended that students take physical science (taught as a laboratory science) as a prerequisite to the three required units of laboratory science outlined in this section.

***EOC** - Gateway courses in English/language arts, mathematics, science, and social studies will be defined by the State Board of Education. EOCEP examination scores count 20 percent in the calculation of the student's final grade in gateway courses. Defined gateway courses currently include Algebra 1, Intermediate Algebra, Biology 1, English 2, and United States History and the Constitution, or courses with other names and activity codes in which the academic standards corresponding to these subjects are taught.

SOUTH CAROLINA
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
ed.sc.gov

Credit Requirements	Entering Freshman Class 23-24 and Later
English Language Arts	4
Mathematics	4
Science	3
U.S. History and Constitution	1
Economics and Personal Finance	0.5
American Government	0.5
Other Social Studies	1
Physical Education or Junior ROTC or Marching Band with PE	1
Computer Science	1
World Language or Career and Technical Education	1
Personal Finance	0.5
Electives	6.5
Total	24

COLLEGE AND CAREER READINESS INDICATORS

Purpose of Indicator

To determine if students who are graduating from a high school are prepared for college or careers after graduating.

What This Means

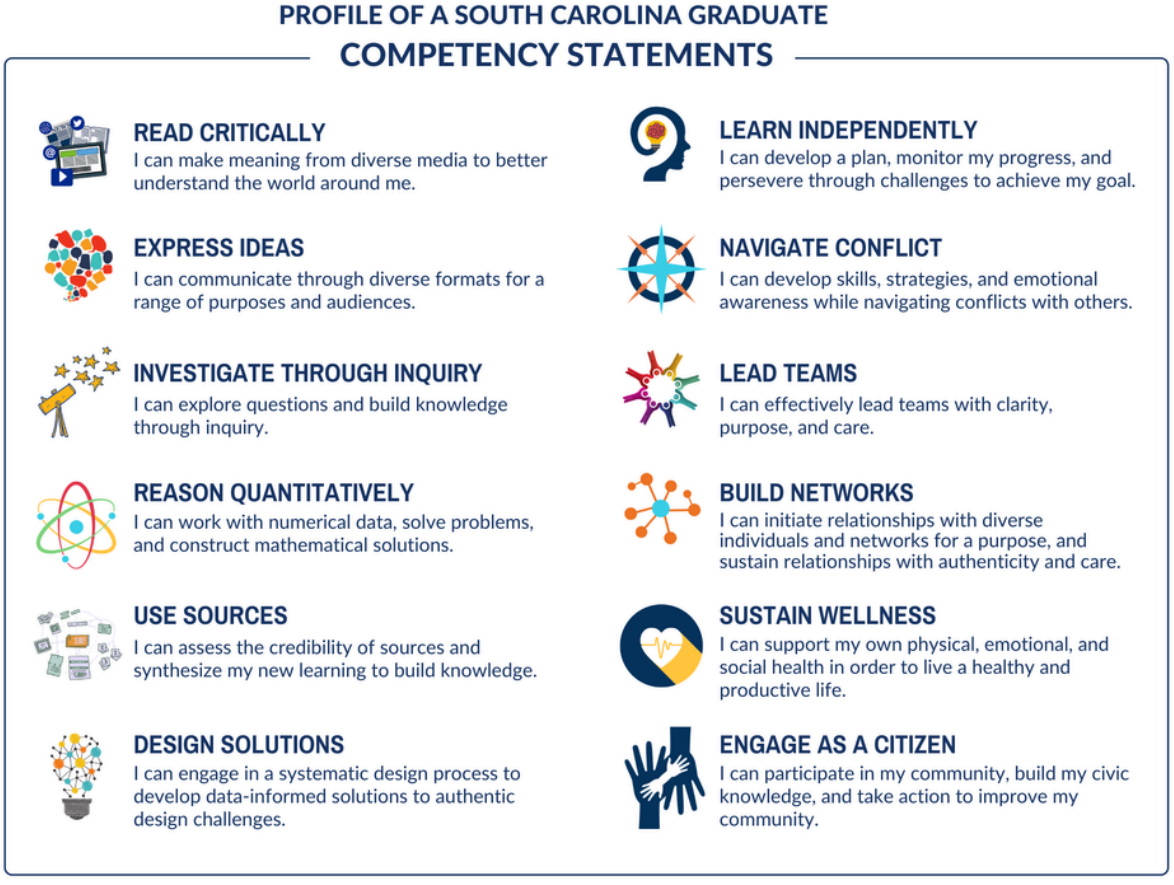
If students graduating from a high school are prepared for college or a career.

College Ready

Scores a composite score of 20 or higher on the ACT;
Scores a composite score of 1020 or higher on the SAT;
Scores a 3 or higher on an Advanced Placement (AP) exam;
Scores a 4 or higher on an International Baccalaureate (IB) assessment Only higher learning (HL) exams may count; or
Completes at least six (6) credit hours in dual enrollment courses with a grade of C or higher.

Career Ready

Is a CTE completer and earns a national or state industry credential as determined by the business community; or
Earns a Silver, Gold or Platinum National Career Readiness Certificate on the state-approved career readiness assessment; or
Earns a scale score of 31 or higher on the ASVAB; or
Successfully completes a state-approved work-based learning program



WORK BASED LEARNING

Information Provided by the South Carolina Department of Education Office of Career and Technical Education - September 2026

Overview

Education in South Carolina must be relevant, rigorous, and designed to provide every student with opportunities to transition successfully into future careers and lifelong learning. Work-based learning (WBL) connects classroom instruction to real-world application, enabling students to build academic knowledge, technical expertise, and employability skills while preparing to compete in a global economy.

The Education and Economic Development Act of 2005 (EEDA) requires that all South Carolina students in grades K–12 be afforded the opportunity to participate in a WBL experience. Federal legislation—including the Strengthening Career and Technical Education for the 21st Century Act (Perkins V), the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA, 2015), and the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA)—further supports WBL as a program quality measure and allowable investment in student success.

South Carolina's WBL system is built on collaboration among schools, districts, post-secondary institutions, employers, Regional Career Specialists (RCS), community organizations, and statewide partners. Together, these partnerships expand opportunities that prepare students for high-skill, high-wage, and high-demand careers.

Building Quality Work-Based Learning Experience

WBL is a school-coordinated, structured, and sustained interaction between students (K–12) and business or industry partners in authentic worksite environments. These experiences provide students with firsthand exposure to workplace expectations while applying academic knowledge and exploring career goals and interests.

Partnership and advocacy from the business and industry community represent a vital investment in the state's next generation of leaders and innovators.

State Approved Work-Based Learning Definitions

South Carolina recognizes multiple forms of WBL experiences, each designed to provide students with authentic, structured opportunities to apply academic knowledge, develop employability skills, and explore career pathways.

In addition, South Carolina has designated career-ready WBL qualifiers—registered apprenticeships, youth apprenticeships, cooperative education, and internships—that meet the state's "career ready" accountability indicators.

Apprenticeship (Career Ready Qualifier)

An earn-while-you-learn training model that combines on-the-job training, job-related education, and a scalable wage progression. Apprenticeship programs are typically administered in partnership with a technical college through dual enrollment courses and articulation agreements with participating districts.

- **Registered Youth Apprenticeship (Career Ready Qualifier)**
  A registered program with the U.S. Department of Labor Employment and Training Administration that combines education with hands-on training.

- **Youth Apprenticeship (Career Ready Qualifier)**
  A structured program for students age 16 or older that combines classroom instruction with one to two years of paid, on-the-job training. Unlike Registered Youth Apprenticeships, these programs are not overseen by the U.S. Department of Labor ETA.

WORK BASED LEARNING

Cooperative Education (Co-Op) (Career Ready Qualifier)

A multi-term placement model in which students alternate between school and full-time work with a single employer. Co-Ops are traditionally postsecondary experiences but may qualify for high school students enrolled in dual enrollment coursework with a sponsoring postsecondary institution.

Internship (Career Ready Qualifier)

A progressive, school-sponsored experience that places students in real worksites to practice job-related skills and gain exposure to industry functions.

- Guided by a training agreement and evaluation plan between the school and worksite supervisor.
- Duration is typically 3–6 months; may or may not include compensation.
- Students may receive course credit depending on district policies; compensation and activities also vary.

Job Shadowing (On-site)

A short-term, school-coordinated career exploration experience in which a student observes an employee in a workplace setting.

- Typically lasts a few hours.
- Does not provide course credit.
- Distinct from classroom speakers or career fairs.
- Requires preparation, appropriate conduct, and post-activity reflection.

Job Shadowing (Virtual)

A virtual career exploration experience that provides access to students across the state, especially in rural areas. Quality indicators include:

- Virtual tours, interactive Q&A opportunities, and student reflection.
- Preparation, engagement, and reflection must be included.
- **MicroCareerBursts** is South Carolina's approved virtual job shadowing program, available free of charge to students and educators (see pg. 12 for access information). Districts can email info@microburstlearning.com for free setup.

Mentoring

A long-term professional relationship between a student and an experienced business/industry employee who guides, instructs, and challenges the student.

- Typically lasts one year, with continued contact for an additional one to two years.
- Focuses on personal, interpersonal, and workplace skill development.
- Does not provide course credit.

School-Based Enterprise

A student-run simulated business created, managed, and operated within a school setting. Students plan, market, manage, and deliver products or services under teacher supervision.

- Provides experience in entrepreneurship and applied academics.
- May occur on or off school grounds.
- Examples: school coffee shop, catering service, printing business.

WORK BASED LEARNING

Service Learning

A community-based learning experience where students contribute to solving local problems while developing academic, workplace, and citizenship skills.

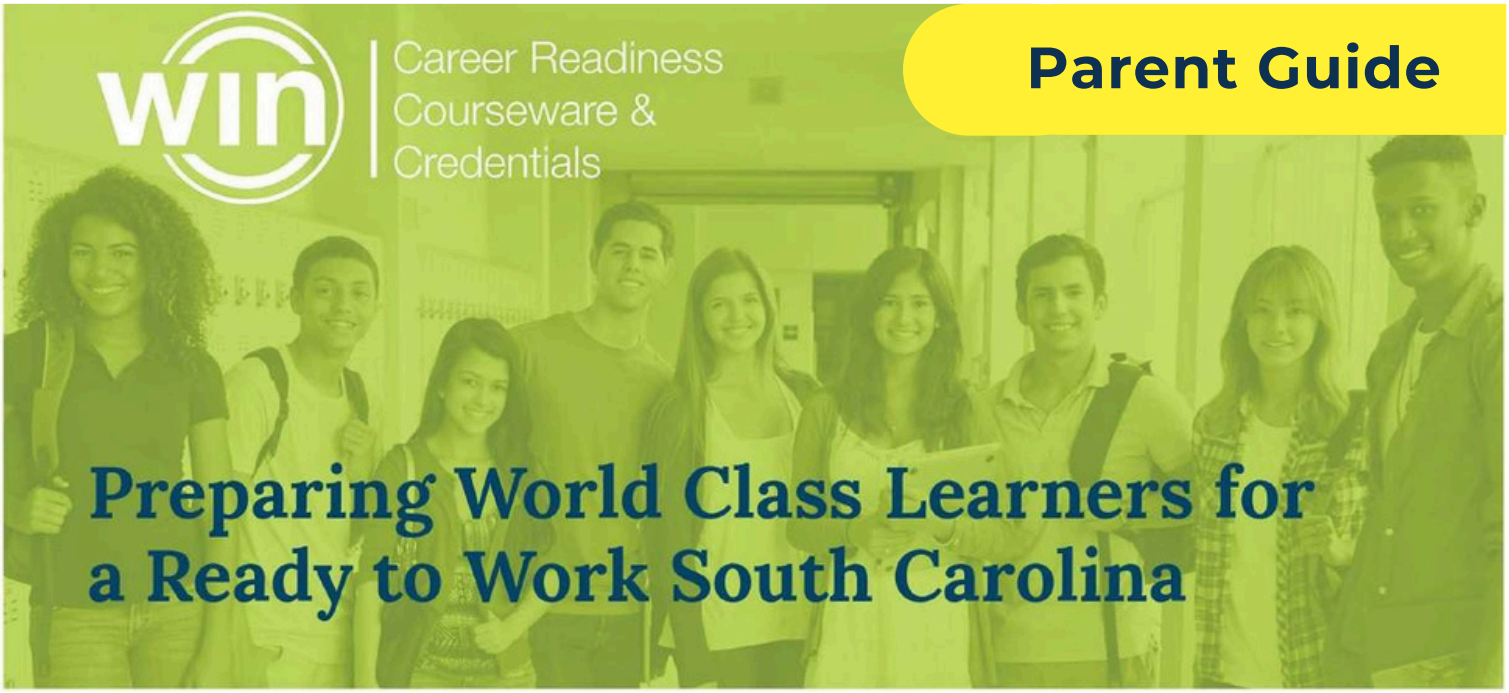
- Must follow the National and Community Service Trust Act (NACSTA) stages: Preparation, Action, Reflection, Celebration.
- Ongoing and structured (not one-time community service events).
- Typically non-credit, unless offered as a Service-Learning course.

Structured Field Study

A short-term, school-sponsored workplace visit designed for exploration and observation.

- Students observe job roles, ask questions, and learn about workplace expectations.
- Requires pre-visit preparation and post-visit debrief/reflection activities.





Whether their path leads to the workplace, college, trade school, or military, WIN provides your child with the tools to prepare them for the road ahead.

In spring 2018, the South Carolina Department of Education announced a partnership with WIN Learning to prepare South Carolina public high school students with the "knowledge, skills, and opportunity to be college ready, career ready, and life ready for success." (South Carolina Code of Laws, Title 59, Chapter 18)

By partnering with WIN, the South Carolina Department of Education has implemented the instructional courseware for students to determine achievement in foundational readiness and essential life and career skills including creativity and innovation, critical thinking and problem solving, and collaboration and teamwork, which are part of the "Profile of a South Carolina Graduate" framework. By focusing on building the foundational skills and work habits or employability skills needed to be successful, your child will understand the need for these important skills in the workplace.

The South Carolina Ready to Work Credentials have been administered statewide, online and in paper form, to approxi mately 70,000 students and adults annually since the spring of 2018. Learn about the Ready to Work and Essential Soft Skills resources at https://tinyurl.com/sc-courseware.

ready to work credential

essential softskills credential

Ready to Work and Essential Soft Skills Assessments

The South Carolina Ready to Work Credentials includes a combination of four valid and reliable assessments that are aligned to state/national standards for career and college readiness and workforce development system objectives.

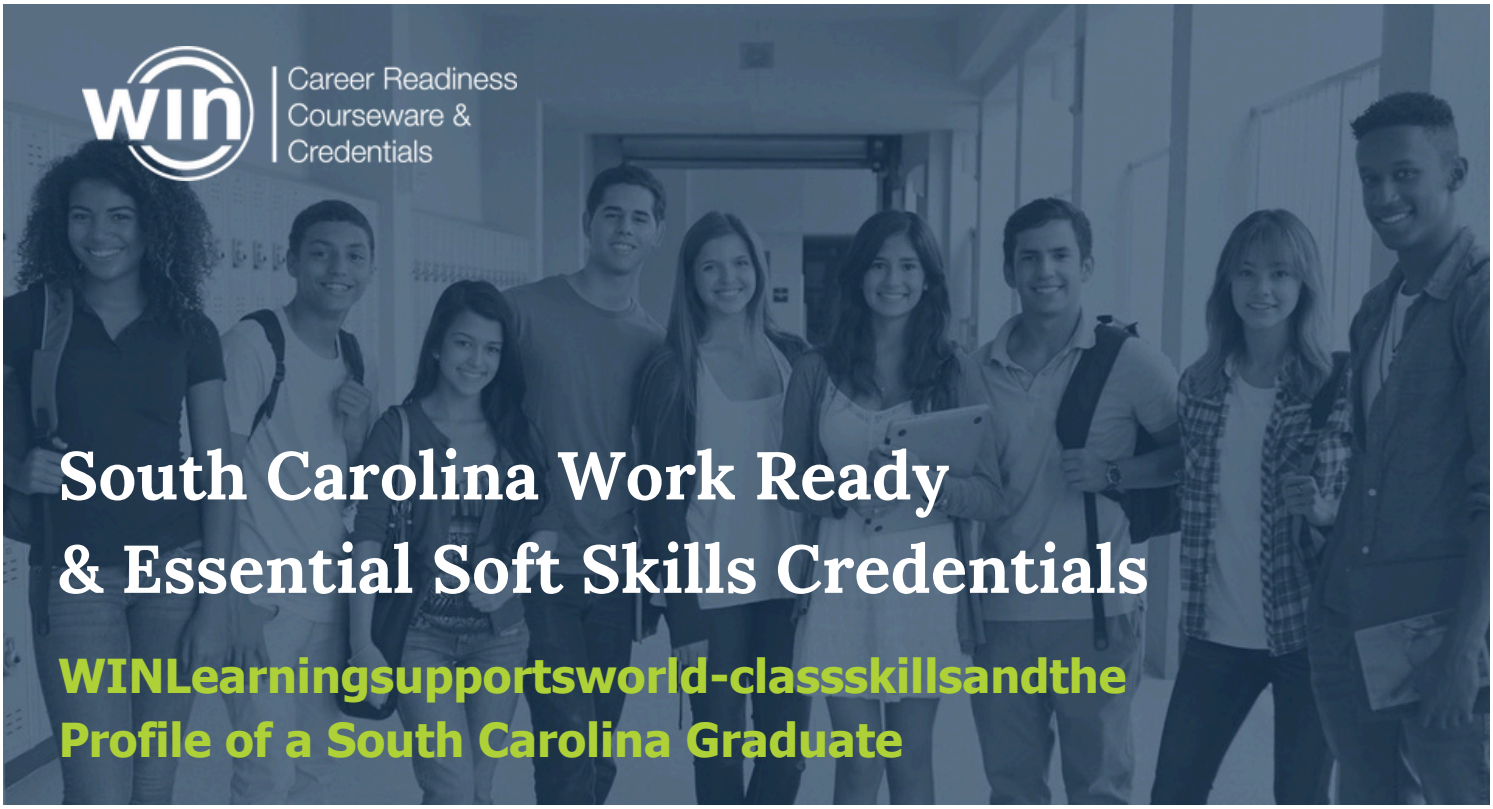
WINReady toWorkAppliedMathematics
Assessment measures foundational workplace mathematical reasoning and problem-solving skills.

WINReady toWorkLocatingInformation
Assessment measures comprehension and appli- cation of workplace graphics such as charts, graphs, tables, forms, flowcharts, diagrams, maps, and instrument gauges.

WINReady toWorkReadingforInformation Assessment measures comprehension and critical thinking using written text including emails, web sites, letters, contracts, signs, notices, policies, and regulations.

WIN Essential Soft Skills Assessment measures foundational work habits and employability skills that employers nationwide commonly define as essential to gain and maintain employment. including cooperating with others, resolving conflicts and negotiating, observing critically, and taking responsibility for learning.

South Carolina Graduate Standards		WIN Essential Soft Skills Credential
World-Class Skills	Creativity and Innovation	✓
	Critical Thinking and Problem Solving	✓
	Collaboration and Teamwork	✓
	Communicating Information	✓
	Media and Technology	✓
	Knowing How to Learn	✓
Life and Career Characteristics	Integrity	✓
	Self-Direction	✓
	Global Perspective	✓
	Perseverance	✓
	Work Ethic	✓
	Interpersonal Skills	✓



South Carolina Work Ready & Essential Soft Skills Credentials

WINLearningsupportsworld-classskillsandthe Profile of a South Carolina Graduate

Whether their path leads to the workplace, college, trade school, or the military, WIN provides learners with the tools to prepare them for the road ahead.
South Carolina profile standards call for learners to achieve world-class knowledge and skills that include rigorous academics,

South Carolina high school students can now access the WIN Learning Work Ready and Essential Soft Skills assessments to earn their South Carolina Work Ready Credential and South Carolina Essential Soft Skills Credential.

To date, the state has implemented and administered career readiness assessments to more than 200,000 eleventh-grade students to determine achievement in foundational readiness and essential life and career skills including creativity and innovation, critical thinking and problem solving, and collaboration and teamwork, which are part of the "Profile of a South Carolina Graduate" framework.


The South Carolina Work Ready
ESSENTIAL SOFT SKILLS CREDENTIAL
has been earned by
Sample Student
for demonstrating mastery of the following essential soft skills:
Communicating Effectively
Conveying Professionalism
Promoting Teamwork and Collaboration
Thinking Critically and Solving Problems
1/26/2023
Date
Henry McMaster, Governor
Endorsed by the National Work Readiness Council


The South Carolina Work Ready Credential
ACHIEVEMENT LEVEL 3
has been earned by
Sample Student
for demonstrating mastery of academic and employability skills.
1/26/2023
Date
Henry McMaster, Governor
Endorsed by the National Work Readiness Council

work ready credential

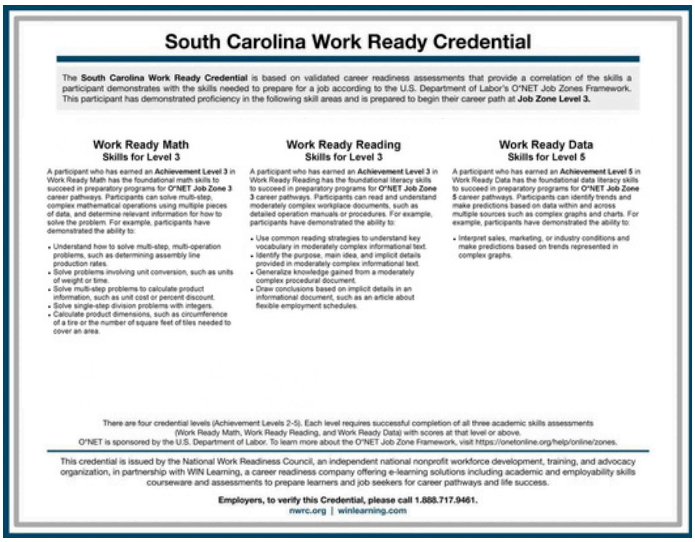
essential softskills credential

Skills Measured in the Work Ready Assessment:

Work Ready Math measures students' ability to use mathematical reasoning skills to solve real-life workplace problems, including calculating sizes, quantities, and costs; and evaluating information and results to determine the best solution.

Work Ready Reading measures students' reading skills including obtaining information and applying new knowledge; following instructions in procedural documents; and understanding regulations, policies, and procedures.

Work Ready Data measures students' data analysis skills including identifying trends and relationships among variables; interpreting research and operational data; and reviewing technical drawings and specifications.



South Carolina Work Ready Credential

The **South Carolina Work Ready Credential** is based on validated career readiness assessments that provide a correlation of the skills a participant demonstrates with the skills needed to prepare for a job according to the U.S. Department of Labor's O'NET Job Zones Framework. This participant has demonstrated proficiency in the following skill areas and is prepared to begin their career path at **Job Zone Level 3.**

Work Ready Math
Skills for Level 3

A participant who has earned an **Achievement Level 3** in Work Ready Math has the foundational math skills to succeed in preparatory programs for **O'NET Job Zone 3** career pathways. Participants can solve multi-step, complex mathematical operations using multiple pieces of data, and determine relevant information for how to solve the problem. For example, participants have demonstrated the ability to:

- Understand how to solve multi-step, multi-operation problems, such as determining assembly line production rates.
- Solve problems involving unit conversion, such as units of weight or time.
- Solve multi-step problems to calculate product information, such as unit cost or percent discount.
- Solve single-step division problems with integers.
- Calculate product dimensions, such as circumference of a tire or the number of square feet of tiles needed to cover an area.

Work Ready Reading
Skills for Level 3

A participant who has earned an **Achievement Level 3** in Work Ready Reading has the foundational literacy skills to succeed in preparatory programs for **O'NET Job Zone 3** career pathways. Participants can read and understand moderately complex workplace documents, such as detailed operation manuals or procedures. For example, participants have demonstrated the ability to:

- Use common reading strategies to understand key vocabulary in moderately complex informational text.
- Identify the purpose, main idea, and implicit details provided in moderately complex informational text.
- Generalize knowledge gained from a moderately complex procedural document.
- Draw conclusions based on implicit details in an informational document, such as an article about flexible employment schedules.

Work Ready Data
Skills for Level 5

A participant who has earned an **Achievement Level 5** in Work Ready Data has the foundational data literacy skills to succeed in preparatory programs for **O'NET Job Zone 5** career pathways. Participants can identify trends and make predictions based on data within and across multiple sources such as complex graphs and charts. For example, participants have demonstrated the ability to:

- Interpret sales, marketing, or industry conditions and make predictions based on trends represented in complex graphs.

There are four credential levels (Achievement Levels 2-5). Each level requires successful completion of all three academic skills assessments (Work Ready Math, Work Ready Reading, and Work Ready Data) with scores at that level or above.
O'NET is sponsored by the U.S. Department of Labor. To learn more about the O'NET Job Zone Framework, visit https://onetonline.org/help/online/zones.

This credential is issued by the National Work Readiness Council, an independent national nonprofit workforce development, training, and advocacy organization, in partnership with WIN Learning, a career readiness company offering e-learning solutions including academic and employability skills courseware and assessments to prepare learners and job seekers for career pathways and life success.

Employers, to verify this Credential, please call 1.888.717.9461.
nwrc.org | winlearning.com

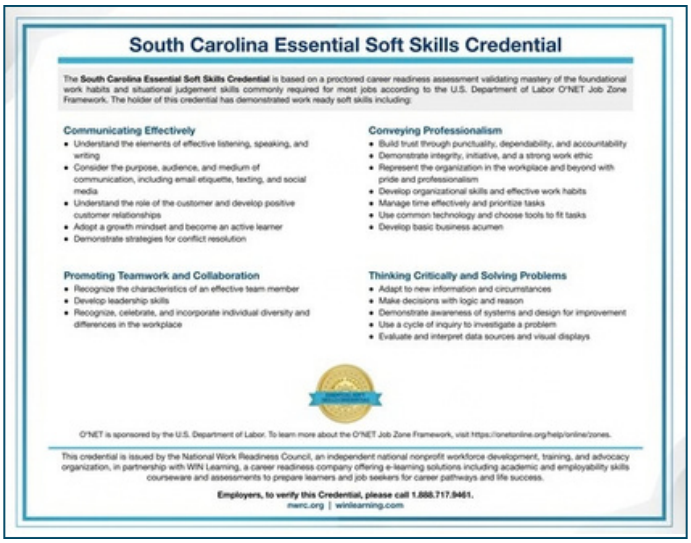
Skills Measured in the Essential Soft Skills Assessment:

Communicating Effectively measures students' communication and listening skills, and their ability to resolve conflicts in a respectful manner.

Conveying Professionalism measures students' understanding of the importance of a strong work ethic and a positive attitude, as well as the value of dependability and motivation in the workplace.

Promoting Teamwork and Collaboration measures students' ability to work with others to achieve goals and their understanding of the positive impact of diversity in the workplace and the importance of sensitivity to individual differences.

Thinking Critically and Solving Problems measures students' critical thinking, reasoning, and problem solving skills.



South Carolina Essential Soft Skills Credential

The **South Carolina Essential Soft Skills Credential** is based on a proctored career readiness assessment validating mastery of the foundational work habits and situational judgement skills commonly required for most jobs according to the U.S. Department of Labor O'NET Job Zone Framework. The holder of this credential has demonstrated work ready soft skills including:

Communicating Effectively
- Understand the elements of effective listening, speaking, and writing
- Consider the purpose, audience, and medium of communication, including email etiquette, texting, and social media
- Understand the role of the customer and develop positive customer relationships
- Adopt a growth mindset and become an active learner
- Demonstrate strategies for conflict resolution

Conveying Professionalism
- Build trust through punctuality, dependability, and accountability
- Demonstrate integrity, initiative, and a strong work ethic
- Represent the organization in the workplace and beyond with pride and professionalism
- Develop organizational skills and effective work habits
- Manage time effectively and prioritize tasks
- Use common technology and choose tools to fit tasks
- Develop basic business acumen

Promoting Teamwork and Collaboration
- Recognize the characteristics of an effective team member
- Develop leadership skills
- Recognize, celebrate, and incorporate individual diversity and differences in the workplace

Thinking Critically and Solving Problems
- Adapt to new information and circumstances
- Make decisions with logic and reason
- Demonstrate awareness of systems and design for improvement
- Use a cycle of inquiry to investigate a problem
- Evaluate and interpret data sources and visual displays

O'NET is sponsored by the U.S. Department of Labor. To learn more about the O'NET Job Zone Framework, visit https://onetonline.org/help/online/zones.

This credential is issued by the National Work Readiness Council, an independent national nonprofit workforce development, training, and advocacy organization, in partnership with WIN Learning, a career readiness company offering e-learning solutions including academic and employability skills courseware and assessments to prepare learners and job seekers for career pathways and life success.

Employers, to verify this Credential, please call 1.888.717.9461.
nwrc.org | winlearning.com

About WIN Learning

Since 1996, WIN's integrated approach to career readiness has given more than 10 million learners worldwide the tools, confidence, and skills necessary to excel. Our e-learning solutions include academic and employability skills courseware, assessments, and credentials as an important foundation for creating a more effective and efficient system to prepare learners and job seekers for career and life success.

Contact Us

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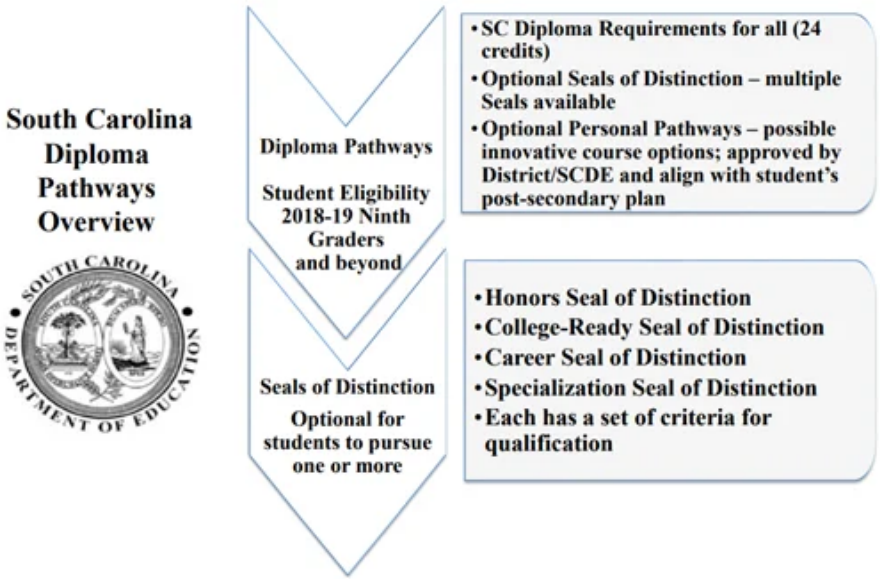
linkedin.com/company/winlearning

SC UNIFORM GRADING

The Uniform Grading Scale and policy governs courses that students take to earn high school diplomas. The Uniform Grading Scale requires that grades be recorded numerically and outlines the calculation to be used to ascertain a student's grade point ratio. A student may also receive WF for "withdrawn after deadline", or FA for "failure due to excessive absences.

South Carolina Uniform Grading Scale Conversions				
Numerical Average	Letter Grade	College Prep Weighting	Honors Weighting	AP/IB/Dual Credit Weighting
100	A	5.000	5.500	6.000
99	A	4.900	5.400	5.900
98	A	4.800	5.300	5.800
97	A	4.700	5.200	5.700
96	A	4.600	5.100	5.600
95	A	4.500	5.000	5.500
94	A	4.400	4.900	5.400
93	A	4.300	4.800	5.300
92	A	4.200	4.700	5.200
91	A	4.100	4.600	5.100
90	A	4.000	4.500	5.000
89	B	3.900	4.400	4.900
88	B	3.800	4.300	4.800
87	B	3.700	4.200	4.700
86	B	3.600	4.100	4.600
85	B	3.500	4.000	4.500
84	B	3.400	3.900	4.400
83	B	3.300	3.800	4.300
82	B	3.200	3.700	4.200
81	B	3.100	3.600	4.100
80	B	3.000	3.500	4.000
79	C	2.900	3.400	3.900
78	C	2.800	3.300	3.800
77	C	2.700	3.200	3.700
76	C	2.600	3.100	3.600
75	C	2.500	3.000	3.500
74	C	2.400	2.900	3.400
73	C	2.300	2.800	3.300
72	C	2.200	2.700	3.200
71	C	2.100	2.600	3.100
70	C	2.000	2.500	3.000
69	D	1.900	2.400	2.900
68	D	1.800	2.300	2.800
67	D	1.700	2.200	2.700
66	D	1.600	2.100	2.600
65	D	1.500	2.000	2.500
64	D	1.400	1.900	2.400
63	D	1.300	1.800	2.300
62	D	1.200	1.700	2.200
61	D	1.100	1.600	2.100
60	D	1.000	1.500	2.000
59	F	0.900	1.400	1.900
58	F	0.800	1.300	1.800
57	F	0.700	1.200	1.700
56	F	0.600	1.100	1.600
55	F	0.500	1.000	1.500
54	F	0.400	0.900	1.400
53	F	0.300	0.800	1.300
52	F	0.200	0.700	1.200
51	F	0.100	0.600	1.100

SC DIPLOMA PATHWAYS

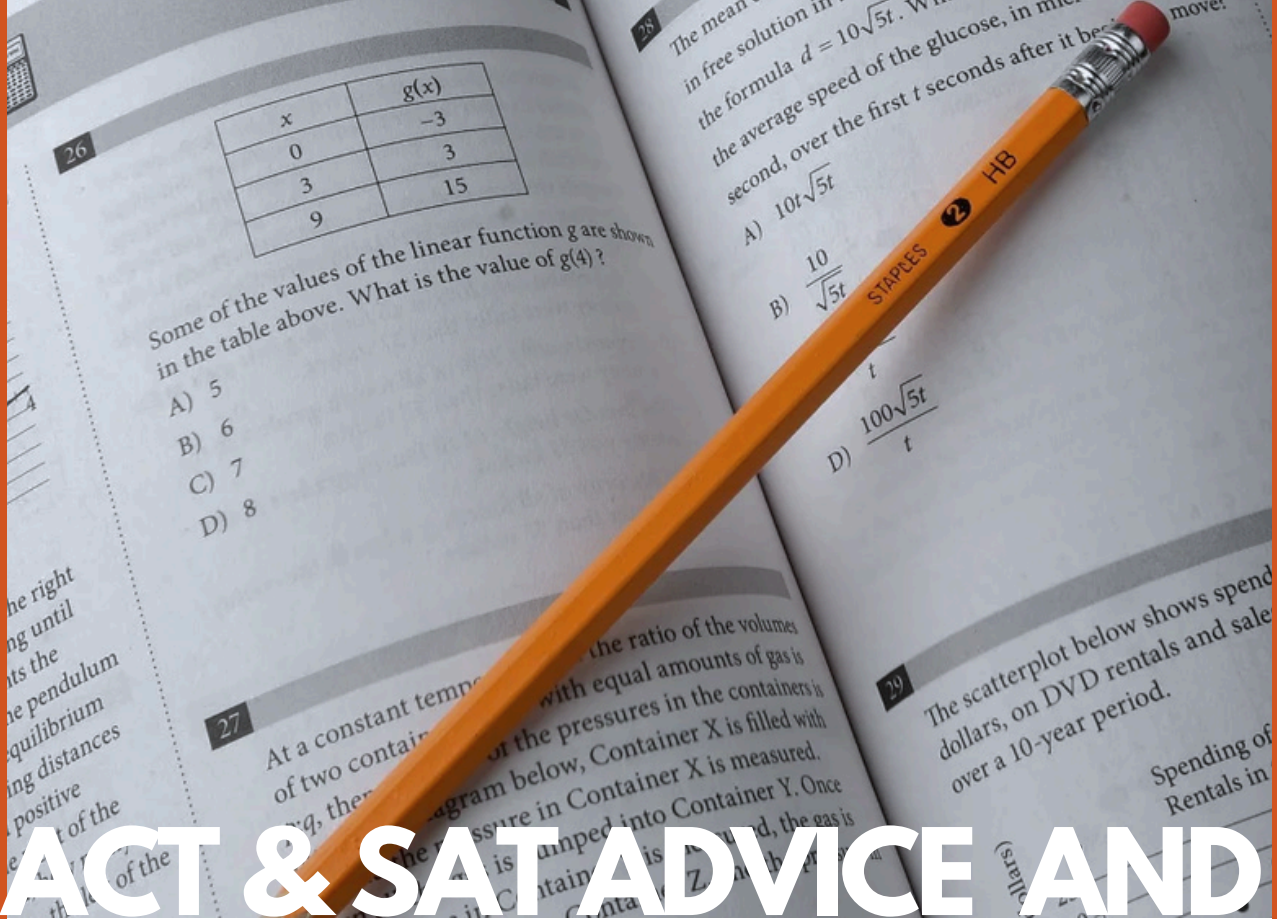


DIPLOMA PATHWAYS SEALS OF DISTINCTION TEMPLATE

Students shall meet all requirements for earning a South Carolina high school diploma to be eligible to earn any Seal of Distinction.
One or more Seals may be earned.
Consult District or School Curriculum Guides for more information regarding curriculum choices and requirements.

Honors Seal of Distinction	College Ready Seal of Distinction	Career Ready Seal of Distinction	Arts Specialization Seal of Distinction
UGP GPA 3.5 or higher	**UGP GPA 3.0 or higher** or **ACT 20 or higher** or **SAT 1020 or higher** Tests may be superscored	**UGP GPA 3.0 or higher**	**UGP GPA 3.0 or higher**
English - 4 credits 2 at honors or higher level **Math -** Algebra 1, Algebra 2, Geometry, and a 4th higher level math requiring Algebra 2 as a prerequisite 3 at honors or higher level **Lab Science -** 3 credits 2 at honors or higher level **Social Studies -** 3 credits 2 at honors or higher level **World Languages -** 2 credits of the same language for students entering 9th grade in 2018–2019 3 credits of the same language for students entering 9th grade in 2019–2020 and beyond **Advanced Coursework -** 4 additional credits of honors or higher completed during the Junior/Senior years (the last 2 years prior to graduation)	**English -** 4 credits **Math -** Algebra 1 (or the equivalent of Algebra 1), Algebra 2, Geometry, and another higher level math **Lab Science -** 3 credits **Social Studies -** 3 credits **World Language -** 2 credits in the same language **Fine Arts -** 1 credit	Career and Technical Education (CTE) Completer with an industry recognized credential **OR** Silver or higher certificate on ACT WorkKeys or Level 3 Credential or higher on WIN SC Career Ready Test **OR** Completion of Career Ready Work-Based Learning (WBL) placement	4 credits in a single or multiple arts areas, 2 at the honors or higher level* **AND** Mastery on externally evaluated exam or performance task *If honors credit is not available for arts courses, student must complete four courses in a single art area
	Military Specialization Seal of Distinction	**STEM Specialization Seal of Distinction**	**World Language Specialization Seal of Distinction**
	UGP GPA 3.0 or higher	**UGP GPA 3.0 or higher**	**UGP GPA 3.0 or higher**
	4 credits in JROTC and an ASVAB score of 31 or higher	4 credits beyond required graduation courses in math, science, technology, and engineering; at least 2 at honors or higher level Courses may be in 1 area of STEM or across all 4 areas	4 credits in the same language **OR** a nationally normed proficiency-based language assessment score of "Intermediate Low" **OR** AP exam score of 3 or higher **OR** IB exam score of 4 or higher **OR** Cambridge AICE Language exam score of E or better before the senior year

Updated September, 2023



ACT & SAT ADVICE AND

The Basics of Preparing for the ACT or SAT

The Importance of Course work in Preparing for the Tests:

- The best way for a student to prepare for success on the ACT or SAT is to take academically rigorous and challenging courses in middle and high school.
- **ACT vs. SAT:** The best test for the specific student is the one on which he or she performs the best. Colleges treat the ACT and SAT equally. Students and parents should review testing results from the Pre-ACT, PSAT and ACT/SAT with a school counselor to determine which assessment may be the better choice.
- **Who Should Take the ACT or SAT?** All students DO NOT need to take the ACT or SAT. Students that are planning to apply to a two-year college can save time and money by taking one of the FREE college admissions assessments given at those schools.
- F**requency of Testing:** Students should make a minimum of two attempts on the ACT and/or SAT in order to achieve the best score possible.
- **Timing of Testing:** Students should make their first attempt on the ACT or SAT no later than the spring of the11th grade and be mindful of the deadlines for scholarships and college admissions.

Before You Take the ACT or SAT You Should:

- Successfully Complete or Be Enrolled in the Following Classes:
  - English 1, 2, and 3
  - Algebra 1, Geometry, Algebra 2, Algebra 3 or Pre-Calculus
  - Biology and Chemistry for the ACT as the SAT does not test on Science
- **Take Practice Tests** to become familiar with the test structure, content, and directions.(See web resource page for free practice test sites)
- **Enroll in ACT or SAT Preparation Courses or Workshops** either online or at your high school
- Use the pre-test tools and register for the tests at their websites
- **ACT** www.actstudent.org
- **SAT** www.collegeboard.com



What Can the ACT® Test Do for You?

The ACT is designed for your success. With a shortertest that gives you more time to think, and more ways to test, you can maximize your score and get into your dream school.

Show Colleges That You Are Ready To Succeed

More and more selective schools are realizing the value of test scores and again requiring them for admissions. An ACT score can show schools that you are prepared to tackle their curriculum from day one.

Test Less With Less Pressure

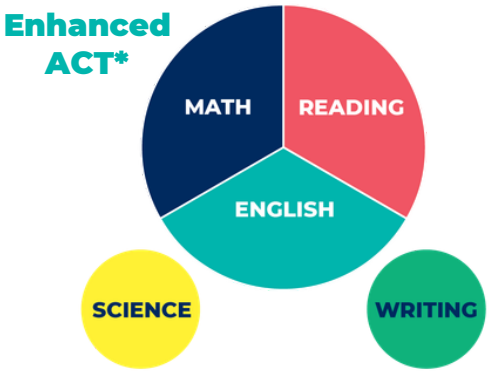
With fewer questions and shorter test times, you'll spend less time testing. You also get more time per question, so you'll feel less pressure to answer every question quickly.

Wish You Could See Your Answers Alongside the Correct Answers After Taking a Test?

You can order your ACT My Answer Key for three test dates a year. See exactly what you got right and wrong so you can learn, improve, and do better next time. Find out more at act.org/actmyanswerkey.

Connect With Colleges and Scholarship Programs via ACT Recruit Me

ACT Recruit Me helps match you with colleges and other career-related resources aligned with your background and interests , with personalized information sent right to your inbox.



Choose Your Best Test Experience

Based on your needs and preferences, you can **focus on what matters** for your future, and don't stress about the rest. With the ACT, you can choose whether you want to show off your strengths in science and writing, or stick with English, math, and reading.
The ACT also gives you the choice to **test on paper or on a computer**. Boost your confidence and test the way you find most comfortable. The choice is yours!

* Available for all ACT National testers September 2025, and Spring 2026 for ACT State & District testing.

How to prepare for the ACT

- Take challenging high school courses.
- Study hard using ACT test prep.
- Stay positive - ***you've got this!***

Visit act.org/prep to explore test prep options.

Go to actstudent.org for free resources:

- ACT practice questions.
- Testing tips for each subject.
- *Preparing for the ACT* downloadable test prep booklet.
- Test day checklist.

The ACT Can Help Save Money on Tuition

Your ACT score can increase your chances of earning scholarships that can fuel your future and help with college costs. Even schools that are test optional may still require or recommend an ACT score to qualify for merit awards.

Give Your Application an Extra Boost With the Optional Writing Test

Demonstrating your writing skills and ability to understand and explore ideas can help you stand out for competitive programs.

Sketch Out Your Educational and Career Plans in MyACT

Narrow down college majors and career options that align with your interests., and take the ACT Interest Inventory on MyACT.

Interested in a STEM program?

The ACT is the only test where you can get a unique **STEM score**. If you choose to take the science section, you will receive a STEM score to measure your readiness for STEM-related majors.

Put Your Best Score Forward With an ACT Superscore

If you take the ACT more than once, your best subject score from each test will be used to create an official Superscore to showcase your best performance.

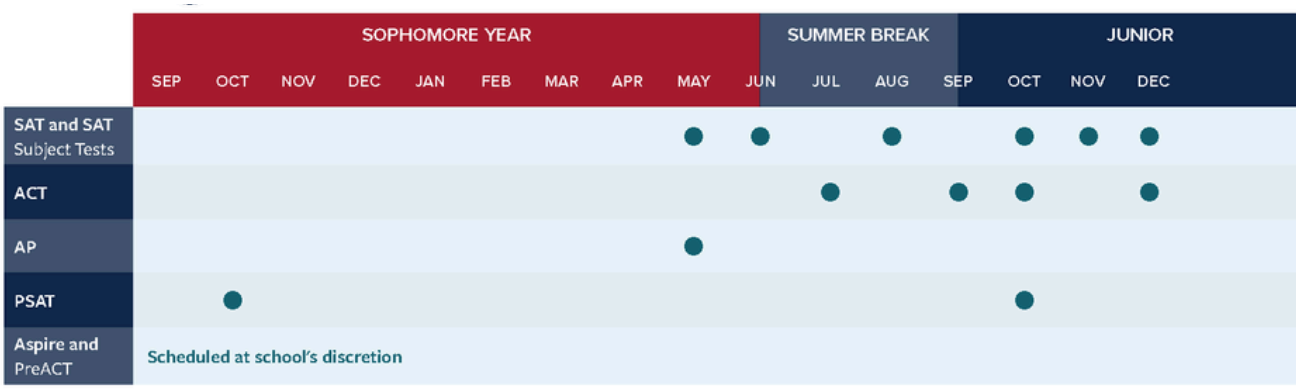
Only the ACT Offers Support for English Language Learners

If you are enrolled in your school's English Learners (EL) program, you may qualify for additional support when taking the ACT. Work with your school counselor to request EL accommodations after you register.

The ACT Offers Fee Waivers for Eligible Students

Every student deserves the chance to chart their own course for success. If you have trouble paying for the ACT test, the ACT Fee Waiver Program can help with registration fees, test prep, and more. Check with your school counselor to find out if you are eligible to apply.

TESTING CALENDAR

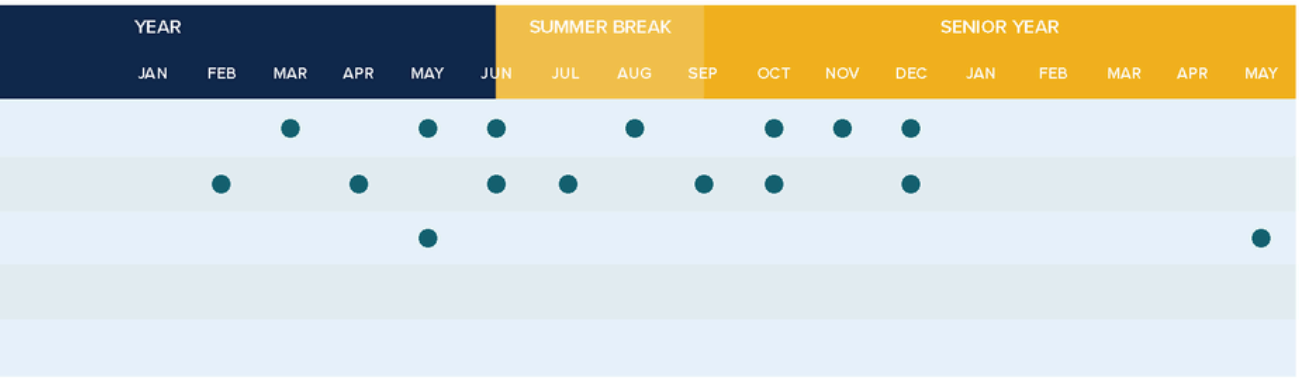


3 Common Timelines for Testing & Prep

Early

Students on this timeline take maximum advantage of the summer before 11th grade. Goals typically include a peak performance on the PSAT, closing out the SAT or ACT by spring of 11th grade, and banking 3–4 strong Subject Test scores. The goal of these students is to be completely done with testing by June of 11th grade.

	May/June of 10th Grade	Summer between 10th and 11th Grades	Fall of 11th Grade
Early	Take Subject Tests as appropriate. Take diagnostic SAT and ACT to plan for preparation.	Begin preparation geared toward the October PSAT and fall ACT or SAT.	Take October PSAT. Take ACT or SAT.
Traditional	Take Subject Tests as appropriate.	Begin foundational preparation in the summer with the ultimate goal of a winter or spring ACT or SAT.	Take October PSAT. Foundational work allows additional preparation to fit into a busy junior calendar.
Deferred	Take Subject Tests as appropriate.		Take October PSAT. Take diagnostic SAT and ACT to decide on a course of preparation. Junior PSAT results can provide a guideline but are not available until December. Map out a schedule to prepare for the February or April ACT or the March or May SAT. Preparation typically begins in October or November.



Traditional

Prep in the summer before 11th grade is moderately paced and foundational, designed to lighten the intensity of prep during the school year. This steadfast approach to prep culminates in the spring and leaves room for the competing priorities of junior year.

Deferred

This timeline intentionally allows students to defer the testing process in favor of other summer activities and a focus on getting 11th grade classwork off to a great start. Rigorous prep for the SAT or ACT falls in winter/spring of 11th grade and may continue into the following summer prior to final testing in fall of 12th grade.

	Early Spring of 11th Grade	May/June of 11th Grade	Summer/Fall of 12th Grade
	Consider repeating ACT or SAT and having admission testing completed prior to APs, finals, and Subject Tests.	Take Subject Tests as appropriate.	Focus on college applications. Additional preparation and testing only as needed.
	Take the ACT or SAT for the first time.	Take Subject Tests as appropriate. Consider repeating ACT or SAT and having admission testing completed prior to the summer and college applications.	Focus on college applications. Additional preparation and testing only as needed.
	Take the ACT or SAT for the first time.	Take Subject Tests as appropriate. Consider repeating ACT or SAT and having admission testing completed prior to the summer and college applications.	Focus on college applications. Additional preparation and testing only as needed.

ACT VS. SAT TESTING

	ACT	SAT
Type of Test	Standardized college admissions test	Standardized college admissions test
Sections	The ACT Test includes sections in: -English -Math -Reading ***Optional Writing section** ***Optional Science section**	**The digital SAT** is composed of two sections: -Reading and Writing -Math (Calculator allowed)
Length	English: 35 minutes Math: 50 minutes Reading: 40 minutes Writing (optional): 40 minutes Science (optional) 40 minutes	Reading and Writing: 64 minutes Math (with or without Calculator): 70 minutes
Penalty for wrong answers?	No, you won't lose points for wrong answers, so don't leave any blank. Your scores will be based on the number of questions answered correctly.	No, you won't lose points for wrong answers, so don't leave any blank. Your scores will be based on the number of questions answered correctly.
Scoring Method	1 - 36 for each subject, which is averaged. The highest possible score is 36.	400 – 1600 with 1600 the highest possible score. The total score can range from 400-1600.
Cost	**The basic ACT test costs $70**, which includes sending scores to four colleges. **The ACT with the writing section is $25 additional. Some students may be eligible for fee waiver.**	**The SAT reasoning test costs $68**, which includes sending scores to four colleges. **Some students may be eligible for fee waiver.**
Saturday Test Dates	**October 17, 2026** *(Regular deadline: September 11, 2026)* **December 12, 2026** *(Regular deadline: November 6, 2026)* **February 27, 2027** *(Regular deadline: January 22, 2027)* **April 10, 2027** *(Regular deadline: March 5, 2027)* **June 12, 2027** *(Regular deadline: May 7, 2027)*	**October 3, 2026** *(Regular deadline: September 18, 2026)* **November 7, 2026** *(Regular deadline: October 23, 2026)* **December 5, 2026** *(Regular deadline: November 20, 2026)* **March 6, 2027** *(Regular deadline: February 19, 2027)* **May 1, 2027** *(Regular deadline: April 16, 2027)*
Are you required to submit scores to colleges?	No. Students can choose which schools will receive their scores and which scores the schools will see.	No. Students can choose which schools will receive their scores and which scores the schools will see.
How can I prepare?	www.act.org https://www.princetonreview.com/college/free-act-practice-test https://www.kaptest.com/act/free/act-free-practice-test https://www.prepscholar.com/	www.collegeboard.com https://satsuite.collegeboard.org/practice https://www.khanacademy.org/digital-sat https://www.prepscholar.com/ https://www.princetonreview.com/college/free- sat-practice-test
Website	www.act.org	www.sat.org

COLLEGE ENTRANCE EXAMS

ACT®

The ACT is an achievement test with four core sections (english, math, reading and science) and an optional writing section. ACT test questions are directly related to what students learn in most of their high school courses.

SAT®

The SAT covers core content areas deemed essential for success in college — reading, mathematics, writing and language. The SAT is connected to the College Board's earlier grade college-readiness assessments, such as the PSAT, which work together to provide an ongoing grade-level picture of a student's progress.

WHAT TO KNOW ABOUT APPLYING EARLY

If you find a college that you're sure is right for you, consider applying early. Early Decision and Early Action plans allow you to apply early (usually in November) and get an admission decision early (usually by Dec. 15).

Early Decision plans are binding

You agree to attend the college if it accepts you and offers an adequate financial aid package. You can apply to only one college for Early Decision. You may also apply to other colleges through the regular admission process, but if you're accepted by your first-choice college early, you must withdraw all other applications.

Early Action plans are non-binding

While the college will tell you whether or not you're accepted by early January, you have the right to wait until May 1 before responding. This gives you time to compare colleges, including their financial aid offers, before making a decision. You can also apply Early Action to more than one college.

Single-Choice Early Action is another option offered by a few colleges

This plan works the same way as other Early Action plans, but candidates may not apply early (either Early Action or Early Decision) to any other school. You can still apply for regular admission to other schools and are not required to give your final answer of acceptance until the regular decision deadline.

If you need financial aid, Early Decision might not be a good idea

You shouldn't apply under an Early Decision plan if you think you'll be better off weighing financial aid packages from several colleges later in the spring. While you can turn down an early acceptance if the college is unable to meet your need for financial aid, "need" in this context is determined by formulas, not by your family.

Single-Choice Early Action is another option offered by a few colleges

More than 400 colleges offer an Early Decision plan, an Early Action plan, or both; but that is less than 20 percent of all colleges.

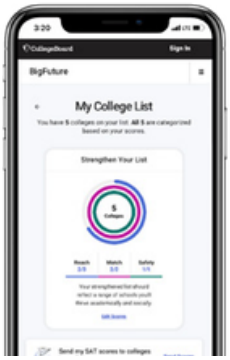
Get advice from your school counselor before applying Early Decision. While it may seem appealing to get the process over with early, it might be too soon to know that you've made the right college choice.

PLAN FOR COLLEGE

3 Steps for Students to Plan for College on BigFuture

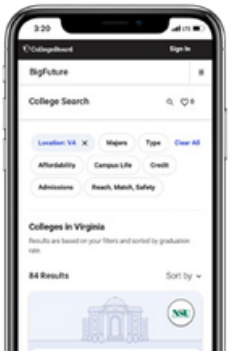


Powered by College Board, BigFuture® is the free online planning guide that helps all students take the right first step after high school. Informed by student and educator feedback and with detailed information provided by thousands of colleges, BigFuture simplifies the college and career planning process.



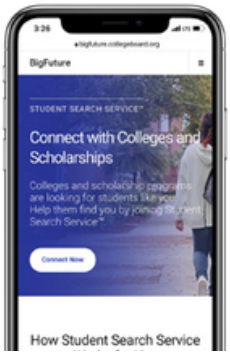
1. Take a Quiz. Get Personalized Options.

Students answer a series of questions about college preferences (e.g., GPA range, intended major, institution type, and college setting) and get a personalized list of recommended colleges.



2. Explore Over 3,600 College Profiles With Credible Information.

Students can search and filter profiles with rich content about campus life and admissions provided by the colleges themselves. They can save schools to their college list and sort by reach, match, or safety based on SAT® score.1



3. Connect with Colleges Through Student Search Service.

Student Search Service™ is the way thousands of colleges and scholarships connect with more than five million students. On average, students contacted by colleges through Student Search receive 29% more college admission offers than similar students who aren't in Student Search.2

Khan Academy

PREPARE STUDENTS TO SUBMIT THEIR COLLEGE APPLICATIONS

- Checkout the **Ultimate Guide to Writing Your College Essay** with videos and articles provided in partnership with Khan Academy®.

[1] The categorization is based on the average score range (25th to 75th percentile of test scores) of last year's first-year class. As students build balanced lists of colleges, it's important to consider a range of factors, including location, cost, size, and majors offered. Together, these help students determine which colleges are an overall good social, financial, and academic fit.

[2] All Access. (2021). New Research Links Student Search Service Participation to More College Admission Offers. Retrieved March 13, 2023, from https://allaccess.collegeboard.org/new-research-links-student-search-service-participation-more-college-admission-offers

Learn more at bigfuture.org.

BigFuture

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CollegeBoard

BigFuture™ College Search Worksheet

The collegesearchisaboutexploringwhoyouare and whatyou wantandthen finding colleges that will match your interests. This worksheet matches the categories on BigFuture College Search. Explore these criteria and enter them on BigFuture to help you find colleges that are fit for you.

Location

Iaminterestedin colleges in the following states/territories:

_____

_____

I want to be within this distance from zip code _____

- ☐ 2 miles (walking distance)
- ☐ 20 miles (short drive)
- ☐ 50 miles (moderate drive)
- ☐ 200 miles (long drive)
- ☐ 500 miles (short flight)
- ☐ 2000 miles (long flight)

I am interested in colleges outside the U.S. in the following countries: _____

_____

Major

Iaminterested in the following major(s):

_____

_____

Type

CollegeLevel

- ☐ 4-Year (Bachelor's degree)
- ☐ 2-Year (Associate's degree, Certificates)

College Type

- ☐ Public
- ☐ Private

Special Mission

- ☐ Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs)
- ☐ Hispanic Serving Institutions (HSIs)
- ☐ Tribal Colleges and Universities (TCUs)
- ☐ All-Women
- ☐ All-Men

StudyOptions

- ☐ Distance learning
- ☐ Double major
- ☐ English as a Second Language
- ☐ Honors Program
- ☐ Weekend college

Religious Affiliation

I am interested in colleges with the following religious affiliation(s):

_____

Campus Life

Size

- ☐ Less than 3,000 students
- ☐ 3,000 to 8,999 students
- ☐ 9,000 to 14,999 students
- ☐ More than 15,000 students

Setting

- ☐ Urban (located in cities)
- ☐ Suburban (in small cities, large towns, residential areas)
- ☐ Rural (near farms, wilderness areas, in small town)

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Sports

I am interested in colleges with the following sport(s):

_____

_____

Activities

I am interested in colleges with the following activities:

_____

_____

Campus Services

- ☐ Alcohol/substance abuse counseling
- ☐ On campus day care
- ☐ Services for low-income students
- ☐ Services for minority students

Disability Support Services

- ☐ Blind/visually impaired
- ☐ Deaf/hard of hearing
- ☐ Learning disorders
- ☐ Speech or communication disorders
- ☐ Wheelchair accessibility

Affordability

Financial Need Met

- ☐ 65% or more
- ☐ 75% or more
- ☐ 90% or more
- ☐ 100%

Application Fees

- ☐ Applicationfee waivers offered
- ☐ Free to apply

Aid for International Students

- ☐ I am interested in colleges that offer aid for international students.

Credit

- ☐ I am interested in colleges that offer placement or credit for AP exams.
- ☐ I am interested in colleges that offer credit for CLEP exams.
- ☐ I am interested in colleges that accept transfer credits from a 2-year college.

Admissions

SAT Range (from 400 to 1600)

_____

GPA Range (0 to 4.0)

_____

Acceptance Rate

- ☐ Most selective (0 to 10% accepted)
- ☐ Very selective (10 to 25% accepted)
- ☐ Selective (25 to 50% accepted) Less
- ☐ selective (50 to 90% accepted) Not
- ☐ selective (90 to 100% accepted)

Open Admissions

- ☐ Iaminterestedin colleges with open admissions.

Application Deadline

- ☐ More than a month
- ☐ Less than a month
- ☐ Less than a week

Application Types Accepted

- ☐ Common App
- ☐ Coalition App
- ☐ Universal College App

GED

- ☐ I am interested in colleges that accept a GED.

Reach, Match, Safety

SAT score _____ GPA _____ ACT score _____

Show me:

☐ Reach schools ☐ Match schools ☐ Safety schools

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🎓 Senior Year Success Guide

Senior year is exciting—but it's also one of the busiest times of your life! Between schoolwork, activities, and special events, it's easy to feel overwhelmed. The key to success is **staying organized, meeting your deadlines, and not waiting until the last minute**.

💡 **Tip:** Your **School Counselor** and **Career Specialists** are here to help. Meet with them often and check the Scholarship Booklet (posted on your school and district websites) so you don't miss opportunities.

✅ Before the New Year

- 🎯 Pick your intended major (or narrow it down)
- 🏫 Create your list of potential colleges
- ⏳ Prepare for early admission (if applying)
- 💰 Begin scholarship searches
- ✍️ Write and submit scholarship essays & applications
- 📄 Draft college admission essays (if needed)
- 📝 Take or retake SAT/ACT
- 📣 Request letters of recommendation
- 📑 Submit college applications
- 🏦 Get FAFSA info ready to file

📌 After the New Year

- 🏦 File FAFSA & other financial aid forms
- 📬 Follow up with your colleges
- 📊 Send fall semester grades
- 💵 Compare financial aid offers
- 🎯 Keep applying for scholarships
- 🎓 Make your college decision
- 📚 Keep grades strong—colleges still check!

⚡ **Remember:** Deadlines are EVERYTHING. Missing one can cost you scholarships, admissions, or financial aid.

🚨 Important for Senior Males (Ages 17–18)

When you turn 18, the law requires you to register with the **Selective Service**. Failing to register may prevent you from getting student loans, job training, government jobs, and even a driver's license in many states.

👉 Register at your local post office or online: https://www.usa.gov/selective-service

✨ **Bottom Line:** Senior year is packed—but YOU'VE GOT THIS! Stay organized, meet your deadlines, and take every step toward building the future you've worked for.

SC Colleges & Universities Freshman Class Profiles

College/University	Location	Average GPA/Scale	SAT (Mid 50%)	ACT (Mid 50%)	Public/Private
Allen University	Columbia	2.0	not reported	not reported	Private
Anderson University	Anderson	3.73	1038	24	Private
Benedict College	Columbia	2.0	Min. 850	Min. 17	Private
Bob Jones University	Greenville	3.46	1050	21-24	Private
Charleston Southern	Charleston	4.0	1150	23	Private
Citadel	Charleston	3.0	950-1160	20-25	Public
Claflin	Orangeburg	3.28	880	17	Private
Clemson	Clemson	4.4-4.7	1230-1390	26-32	Public
Coastal Carolina	Conway	3.6	1100	21	Public
Coker University	Hartsville	3.2	970	16-22	Private
College of Charleston	Charleston	4.1-4.8	1150-1300	23-30	Public
Columbia College	Columbia	3.2	950	16	Private
Columbia International	Columbia	3.5	1060	21	Private
Converse	Spartanburg	3.8	1020	23	Private
Erskine	Due West	3.4	1010	20	Private
Francis Marion	Florence	3.3	920	19	Public
Furman	Greenville	3.5	1230-1400	28-32	Private
Lander	Greenwood	3.6	1090	20	Private
Limestone	Gaffney	3.1	1020	21	Private
Morris	Sumter	2.0	800	18	Private
Newberry	Newberry	3.1	940	20	Private
North Greenville	Greenville	3.8	1110	25	Private
Presbyterian College	Clinton	3.6	1140	24	Private
South Carolina State	Orangeburg	3.16	780	15-18	Public
Spartanburg Methodist	Spartanburg	3.0	850	17	Private
USC - Aiken	Aiken	3.4	870-1060	18-24	Public
USC - Beaufort	Beaufort	2.0 Core	840-1030	17-22	Public
USC - Columbia	Columbia	4.1-4.8	1140-1330	23-30	Public
USC - Salkehatchie	Allendale	Min. 2.0	710-920	14-18	Public
USC - Upstate	Spartanburg	3.5/weighted	1000-1170	19-25	Public
Voorhees	Denmark	2.5/4.0	not reported	not reported	Private
Winthrop	Rock Hill	4.06	1096	23	Public
Wofford College	Spartanburg	3.73/4.0	1180-1330	27-31	Private



*Based on 2025 information available through http://nces.ed.gov/collegenavigator, Naviance, CollegeBoard and individual college websites. Information may vary according to sources and depend upon the competitiveness of the application year.

SOUTH CAROLINA HIGH SCHOOL CREDENTIAL

The S.C. High School Credential will provide a course of study designed to equip students with the skills, knowledge and work ethic needed to succeed in today's job market.

South Carolina has roughly 100,000 students with disabilities serviced under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), of which the majority are able to earn a state high school diploma. Given the varying levels of student achievement, some students are unable to complete this required high school coursework. As a result, there is a need to provide an alternative option for students with disabilities to demonstrate their ability to transition into the work community.

The Credential helps to ensure that we are working to prepare the entirety of the S.C. workforce by equipping students with adequate skills. Since the fall of 2018, this option has been available for students entering high school.

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

The student must be able to meet the following requirements:

- 24 units of coursework aligned with the S.C. College and Career-Ready Standards:

COURSE	UNITS
English / Language Arts	4
Mathematics	4
Natural Science	2
Social Studies	2
Employability Education	4
Physical Education /Health	1
Technology	1
Electives	6

- Career Portfolio that includes a multimedia presentation project
- Work readiness assessment results that demonstrate the student is ready for competitive employment
- Work-based learning/training that totals at least 360 hours

QUICK FACTS

Section 59-39-100 was amended to include:

- Flexibility in identifying and creating personalized diploma pathway options for all students
- An employability credential for applicable students with disabilities

The S.C. High School Credential:

- Is **NOT** a S.C. High School Diploma
- Is **NOT** for all students with disabilities
- Is a career-based educational program
- Is aligned with the Profile of the S.C. Graduate

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

South Carolina High School Credential
thesccredential.org

Transition Alliance of South Carolina
transitionalliancesc.org

Hire Me SC
hiremesc.org

PROFILE OF THE SOUTH CAROLINA GRADUATE

WORLD-CLASS KNOWLEDGE

Rigorous standards in language arts and math for career and college readiness

Multiple languages, science, technology, engineering, mathematics (STEM), arts and social sciences



WORLD-CLASS SKILLS

Creativity and Innovation

Critical Thinking and Problem Solving

Collaboration and Teamwork

Communication, Information, Media and Technology

Knowing How to Learn

LIFE AND CAREER CHARACTERISTICS

Integrity | Self Direction | Global Perspective | Perseverance | Work Ethic | Interpersonal Skills

© SCASA Superintendents' Roundtable

Adopted by: SC Arts in Basic Curriculum Steering Committee, SC-ASCD, SC Chamber of Commerce, SC Council on Competitiveness, SC Education Oversight Committee, SC State Board of Education, SC State Department of Education, Transform SC Schools and Districts

transformSC
tomorrow won't wait for our students

An Initiative of

South Carolina Council On Competitiveness

State-Funded Scholarship & Grant Programs

South Carolina Commission on Higher Education

General Eligibility requirements for all programs:

- US Citizen/Legal Permanent Resident*
- SC Resident*
- No felony convictions**
- No second or subsequent alcohol/drug misdemeanors
- Not in default on any state or federal loans
- Enroll in a degree-seeking program at an eligible SC institution

*This must be determined at the time of high school graduation & college enrollment.
**Excluding Lottery Tuition Assistance.

	QUALIFYING CRITERIA	CONTINUED ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA
SC HOPE $2,600	• Attend an eligible four-year institution • 3.0 SC UGP GPA	• 3.0 LIFE GPA; and • Earn an average of 30 credit hours by the end of the first academic year* If a SC HOPE recipient satisfies the above criteria, they move into the LIFE scholarship program beginning in their 2nd academic year
LIFE $5,000	Two-Year Institution • 3.0 SC UGP GPA Four-year Institution (Meet 2 out of 3) • 3.0 SC UGP GPA • 1100 SAT or 22 ACT • Rank in top 30% of graduating class* *Cannot use rank if graduating mid-year	• 3.0 LIFE GPA; and • Earn an average of 30 credit hours by the end of the first academic year* Up to eight terms of eligibility towards first Bachelors degree *Academic year: Fall, Spring, Summer ** Can use AP, IB, Dual Enrollment, and CLEP hours towards credit hour requirement
Palmetto Fellows $6,700 year 1 $7,500 year 2-4	• 3.5 SC UGP GPA; and • 1200 SAT or 25 ACT; and • Top 6% rank in either 10, 11, 12 Without regard to rank (Alternative Criteria) • 4.0 SC UGP GPA; and • 1400 SAT or 31 ACT *Mid-year graduates MUST apply prior to mid-year graduation date	• 3.0 Institutional GPA; and • Earn 30 credit hours each academic year Up to eight terms of eligibility towards first Bachelors degree *Academic year: Fall, Spring, Summer **Cannot use AP, IB, Dual Enrollment, or CLEP hours towards credit hour requirement
Lottery Tuition Assistance	2-Year Institutions only • Complete the FAFSA or FAFSA waiver; • Enroll in at least six credit hours	• Maintain Satisfactory Academic Progress • After attempting 24 hours, earn a minimum 2.0 GPA; and • Complete the FAFSA annually Students are not eligible to receive Lottery Tuition Assistance for more than one certificate, diploma, or degree earned within any five-year period unless the additional certificate, diploma, or degree constitutes progress in the same field of study.
SC Need-based Grant $3,500 (Full-time)	• Determined 'in need' by completing the FAFSA	• 2.0 GPA; and • Earn 24 credit hours; and • Complete the FAFSA annually, so 'in need' status can be confirmed.

www.che.sc.gov | 803-737-2260

FAFSA

FederalStudentAid
An office of the U.S. Department of Education

FREE APPLICATION FOR FEDERAL STUDENT AID

The FAFSA is the Free Application for Federal Student Aid and is the only way to apply for federal student aid. The schools you list on your application will use FAFSA information to evaluate your financial need and determine how much federal aid you are eligible to receive. Many states and colleges also use information from your FAFSA to provide their own financial aid.

Each October, the FAFSA is available for the next school year. It is best to fill it out as early as you can because some aid is first come, first serve.

When you complete the FAFSA, you'll need to provide personal and tax information. You may be able to automatically retrieve your tax information from the IRS.

MAKE SURE TO FILL OUT AND SUBMIT THE FAFSA EACH YEAR YOU ARE IN COLLEGE.

After you submit your FAFSA, you'll receive your Student Aid Report (SAR). Your SAR summarizes the information in your FAFSA. Review it and make corrections if needed.

Complete the FAFSA online at **fafsa.ed.gov**

As the largest provider of financial aid, the U.S. Department of Education's Office of Federal Student Aid provides grants, loans and work-study funds.

Your FAFSA helps your school determine the types of federal student aid you are eligible to receive. Do not assume you do not qualify – lots of students do.

TYPES OF FEDERAL STUDENT AID

GRANTS

Grants are free money that do not have to be repaid.

LOANS

Student loans are real loans (like a car or home loan) that need to be repaid with interest.

WORK-STUDY

A work-study job gives you the opportunity to earn money to help pay your educational expenses.

AWARD LETTER

Your award letter explains the combination of federal grants, loans and work-study a college is offering you. The offer might also contain state and institutional aid. If you receive award letters from multiple colleges or career schools, you should compare them and decide which school works best.

COLLEGE

Every year, millions of new students attend college or career school for the first time. Your college or career school has a financial aid office to help guide you along the way.

BEYOND EDUCATION

WORKFORCE

When you take the time to plan for your education and let Federal Student Aid help you along the way, you'll be setting the foundation for a bright future and success in the workforce.

REPAYMENT

Once you leave school, you will need to repay your student loans. Contact your loan servicer to discuss your repayment options.

Federal Student Aid | An Office of the U.S. Department of Education | Proud Sponsor of the American Mind™
studentaid.gov

ASSOCIATE DEGREE
DIPLOMA
CERTIFICATE

Academic PROGRAMS

ASSOCIATE OF ARTS AND SCIENCE TRANSFER

Associate of Arts
Associate of Science
Business Administration (The Citadel)
Food Science (Clemson)
Healthcare
Hospitality and Tourism (USC Beaufort)
RN to BSN (USC Upstate)
Teacher Education (Claflin, SCSU, USC)
– Early Childhood Education
– Elementary Education
– Mid-Level Education
Certificate in Arts
Certificate in Science
General Studies

BUSINESS

Business Administration
– Accounting
– Enterprise Management
– Office Management
Business Administration (Transfer)
Hospitality and Tourism (Transfer)
Administrative Support
Basic Accounting
Logistics
Small Business

COMPUTER TECHNOLOGY

Computer Technology
– Computer Programming
– Network Security and Information Assurance
Database
Internetworking CISCO
Network Engineering MCSE
Network Specialist

CRIMINAL JUSTICE

Criminal Justice
Fire Science/Criminal Justice/EMT
Forensics
Pre-Police Academy
Security

EDUCATION

Early Care and Education
Teacher Education (Transfer)
– Early Childhood Education
– Elementary Education
– Mid-Level Education
Early Childhood Development
Early Childhood Development

HEALTH SCIENCE

Healthcare (Transfer)
Healthcare Preparation and Clinical Studies
EMT/Forensics
Medical Assisting/Administrative Support
Medical Assisting/Clinical Support
Patient Care Technician/Biological Science
Physical Therapist Assistant
Radiologic Technology
Medical Assisting
Certified Nursing Assistant
Emergency Medical Technician
Advanced EMT
Patient Care Technician
Pre-Physical Therapist Assistant
Pre-Radiology
General Radiologic Technology
Magnetic Resonance Imaging
Mammography

NURSING

Nursing Preparation and Clinical Studies
Associate Degree Nursing
RN to BSN (Transfer)
Practical Nursing
Certified Nursing Assistant
Pre-Nursing/Practical Nursing
Pre-Nursing/Registered Nursing

ADVANCED MANUFACTURING

Industrial Electronics Technology
Machine Tool Technology
Mechatronics Technology
Welding/Industrial Maintenance
Basic Electrician
Industrial Electrician
Basic Industrial Maintenance
Industrial Maintenance-Mechanical and Electrical I, II
CNC Programmer
Production Machine Operator
Quality Control
Mechatronics I, II, III
Basic Welding
Intermediate Welding
Advanced Welding

ENGINEERING TECHNOLOGY

Electronics Engineering Technology
– Electronic Instrumentation Technology
Engineering Design Technology
Computer Aided Design I, II
Introduction to Engineering

TRANSPORTATION AND LOGISTICS

Automotive Technology
Basic Diesel Maintenance
Professional Truck Driving
Undercar Specialist

MAKE YOUR DREAM A REALITY

5/24

OCtech
Orangeburg-Calhoun Technical College

Initial-Eligibility Standards

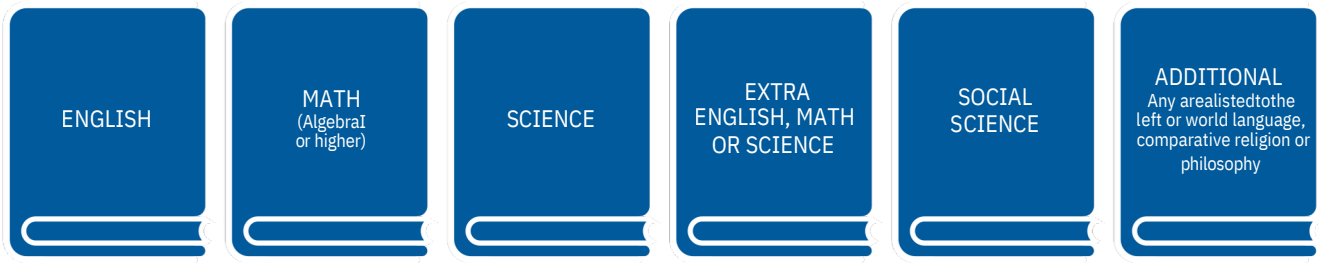
Want to compete in NCAA sports? Register with the Eligibility Center before the ninth grade. For more registration information, refer to the **NCAA Eligibility Center's Registration Page**.

Academic Standards

Division I and II schools require you to meet academic standards. To be eligible to practice, compete and receive an athletics scholarship in your first year of full-time enrollment, you must meet the following requirements:

Division I

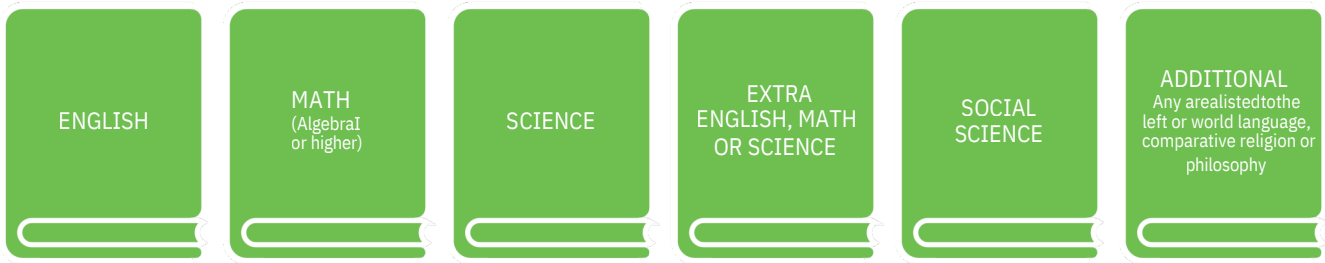
1. Earn 16 NCAA-approved core-course credits in the following areas:



2. Complete your 16 NCAA-approved core-course credits in eight semesters from your initial start of ninth grade. If you graduate from high school early, you still must meet core-course requirements.
3. Meet the **10/7 requirement** by completing 10 of your 16 NCAA-approved core-course credits, including seven in English, math or science, before the start of your seventh semester.
4. Earn a minimum 2.3 core-course GPA.
5. Ask your high school counselor to upload your **final official transcript** with **proof of graduation** to your Eligibility Center account.
6. Receive academic and athletics eligibility certifications from the Eligibility Center.

Division II

1. Earn 16 NCAA-approved core-course credits in the following areas:



2. Earn a minimum 2.2 core-course GPA.
3. Ask your high school counselor to upload your **final official transcript** with **proof of graduation** to your Eligibility Center account.
4. Receive academic and athletics eligibility certifications from the Eligibility Center.

Division III

While **Division III schools** set their own academic standards on campus, the Eligibility Center certifies the amateur status of Division III **international student-athletes** (first-year enrollees and transfers). All other Division III student-athletes are certified on campus. Contact the Division III school you plan to attend for information about its academic requirements.

GRADE 9 REGISTER

» If you haven't yet, **register** for an NCAA Profile Page account.

» Use NCAA Research's **interactive map** to help locate NCAA schools you're interested in attending.

» Check your high school's list of **NCAA-approved core courses** to ensure you're taking the right courses, and earn the best grades possible!

GRADE 10 PLAN

» If you're being actively recruited by an NCAA Division I or II school, **transition** your Profile Page account to the right **certification account**.

» Monitor your email and the task list in your **Eligibility Center account** for next steps. »

Research the admission requirements for NCAA schools you're interested in attending. »

At the end of the school year, ask your high school counselor from each school you attended to upload your **official transcript** via the High School Portal.

» If you fall behind academically, ask your high school counselor for help finding **approved courses** you can take.

GRADE 11 STUDY

» Ensure your sports participation information is correct in your Eligibility Center account.

» Check with your high school counselor to make sure you're on track to complete the required number of NCAA-approved **core courses** and graduate on time with your class.

» Share your NCAA ID with NCAA schools recruiting you so each school can place you on its institutional request list.

» Take **unofficial and official visits** to NCAA schools you're interested in attending and start applying early.

» At the end of the school year, ask your high school counselor from each school you attended to upload your **official transcript** via the High School Portal.

GRADE 12 GRADUATE

» Be accepted to the NCAA school you plan to attend.

» Ensure your sports participation information is correct and request your final athletics certification beginning April 1 (fall enrollees) or Oct. 1 (winter/spring enrollees) in your Eligibility Center account.

» Complete your final NCAA-approved **core courses** as you prepare for graduation.

» After you graduate, ask your high school counselor to upload your **final official transcript** with proof of graduation via the High School Portal.



Example Schedule

How to Plan Your High School Courses to Meet the 16 Core-Course Requirement

4 x 4 = 16

9th GRADE	10th GRADE	11th GRADE	12th GRADE
(1) English	(1) English	(1) English	(1) English
(1) Math	(1) Math	(1) Math	(1) Math
(1) Science	(1) Science	(1) Science	(1) Science
(1) Social science and/or additional	(1) Social science and/or additional	(1) Social science and/or additional	(1) Social science and/or additional
4 CORE COURSES	4 CORE COURSES	4 CORE COURSES	4 CORE COURSES

CONTACT THENCAAELIGIBILITYCENTER

U.S. and Canada (except Quebec):
877-262-1492, Monday-Friday
9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Eastern time

@ncaaec @ncaaec @ncaaec @playcollegesports

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NCAA Clearinghouse Basics
FAQs about the NCAA Initial-Eligibility Clearinghouse

Student-athletes must register with the NCAA Initial-Eligibility Clearinghouse to be eligible to play NCAA Division I or Division II sports in college. (Athletes playing in NCAA Division III do not have to register.)

What is the NCAA Initial-Eligibility Clearinghouse?

The NCAA Initial-Eligibility Clearinghouse is the organization that determines whether prospective college athletes are eligible to play sports at NCAA Division I or Division II institutions. It does this by reviewing the student athlete's academic record, SAT or ACT scores, and amateur status to ensure conformity with NCAA rules.

What are NCAA Divisions I, II, and III?

The NCAA is the governing body of many intercollegiate sports. Each college and university regulated by the NCAA has established rules on eligibility, recruiting, and financial aid, and falls into one of the three membership divisions (Divisions I, II, and III). Divisions are based on school size and the scope of their athletic programs and scholarships.

When should students register?

The NCAA recommends that student-athletes register with the clearinghouse at the **beginning of their junior year** in high school, but many students register after their junior year. There is no registration deadline, but students must be cleared by the clearinghouse before they receive athletic scholarships or compete at a Division I or Division II institution.

How do students register?

Students can register online at the NCAA Clearinghouse website on the Home Page (*Eligibility Center*). They will have to enter personal information, answer questions about their athletic participation, and pay a registration fee. The website will then prompt them to have their high school transcript and ACT or SAT scores sent to the clearinghouse.

Already registered with the NCAA Clearinghouse and in 12th grade?

Attention seniors who are planning on playing college athletics:

- Be sure you are registered with the NCAA Eligibility Center ~ ncaa.org
- Be sure you send an official transcript to NCAA by using www.docufide.com and choosing the NCAA Eligibility Center as the destination
- Send your official SAT and ACT scores from the testing agencies (http://www.collegeboard.org) and (http://www.actstudent.org) to the NCAA Eligibility Center using code 9999

Can students have the registration fee waived?

Students who have received a waiver for the SAT or ACT are eligible for a waiver of the clearinghouse registration fee. The student's counselor must submit confirmation of the student's test fee waiver. Go to the NCAA Clearinghouse's High School Administration page for more information.

What records does the NCAA Clearinghouse require?

Student-athletes should arrange to have their high school transcript to the Clearinghouse as soon as they have completed at least six semesters of high school. The transcript must be mailed directly San Clemente High School. They must also arrange to have their ACT or SAT test scores reported directly by the testing company to the Clearinghouse. Students can arrange this when they register for the ACT or SAT.

You are responsible for sending in students' final transcripts and proof of graduation at the end of their senior year.

How often can students update their athletics participation information?

Students can update the information on the athletics participation section online as often as they want (and should update it regularly), up to the time when they request a final certification of their status. At that point (usually three to four months before enrolling in college), students must finalize their information.

What are the NCAA academic eligibility requirements?

To play sports at an NCAA Division I or Division II institution, the student must:

- Complete a certain number of high school core courses (defined below)
- Earn a certain minimum grade point average in these core courses
- Earn a certain minimum score on the SAT or ACT (for Division I, this is scaled according to the student's core-course GPA)
- Graduate from high school

For more information, see the NCAA's *Guide for the College-Bound Student-Athlete*, available at the Publications section of the NCAA website.

What are core courses?

"Core courses" is the name that the NCAA gives to high school courses that meet certain academic criteria specified by the association. Students must complete a certain number of core courses for NCAA Division I and II eligibility.

How are high school courses classified as core courses?

All participating high schools submit lists of the courses that they offer thatmeet NCAA core-course criteria. If approved, the courses are added to a database that the NCAA Initial-Eligibility Clearinghouse maintains. You can check this database, or view a list of approved core courses on the High School Administration page to see whether your high school's courses will count toward NCAA eligibility.

What are the NCAA amateurism eligibility requirements?

To play sports at an NCAA Division I or Division II institution, the student-athlete must follow NCAA amateurism rules as regards receiving a salary or prize money for athletic participation, playing with a professional team, and other areas. For more information, see the *Guide for the College-Bound Student-Athlete* linked above.

Remember!!

The best way to prepare for a future in college athletics is to complete the approved core courses and earn appropriate grades in them. Indeed, more students fail to qualify to play NCAA sports because of lack of appropriate course work than for low test scores.

Enroll in the proper core courses and know the eligibility requirements on the NCAA Clearinghouse website.

DIVISION I WORKSHEET

This worksheet is provided to assist you in monitoring your progress in meeting NCAA initial-eligibility standards. The NCAA Eligibility Center will determine your academic status after you graduate.Remember to check **your high school's list** of NCAA-approved core courses for the classes you have taken or plan to take.

Usethefollowingscale:A= 4 quality points; B = 3 quality points; C = 2 quality points; D = 1 quality point.

ENGLISH (4 YEARS REQUIRED)

10/7	NCAA-APPROVED COURSETITLE	CREDIT	X	GRADE	=	QUALITY POINTS (MULTIPLY CREDIT BY GRADE)
☐	Example: English 9	.50		4		(.5 x 4) = 2
						0.000
						0.000
						0.000
						0.000
						0.000
	TOTAL ENGLISH UNITS	0.00				TOTAL QUALITY POINTS 0.000

MATH (3 YEARS REQUIRED)

10/7	NCAA-APPROVED COURSE TITLE	CREDIT	X	GRADE	=	QUALITY POINTS (MULTIPLY CREDIT BY GRADE)
☐	Example: Algebra I	1.0		3		(1.0 x 3) = 3
						0.000
						0.000
						0.000
						0.000
	TOTALMATHUNITS	0.00				TOTAL QUALITY POINTS 0.000

SCIENCE (2 YEARS REQUIRED)

10/7	NCAA-APPROVED COURSE TITLE	CREDIT	X	GRADE	=	QUALITY POINTS (MULTIPLY CREDIT BY GRADE)
						0.000
						0.000
						0.000
	TOTAL SCIENCE UNITS	0.00				TOTAL QUALITY POINTS 0.000

EXTRA YEAR IN ENGLISH, MATH OR SCIENCE (1 YEAR REQUIRED)

10/7	NCAA-APPROVED COURSE TITLE	CREDIT	X	GRADE	=	QUALITY POINTS (MULTIPLY CREDIT BY GRADE)
						0.000
						0.000
	TOTALADDITIONALUNITS	0.00				TOTAL QUALITY POINTS 0.000

SOCIAL SCIENCE (2 YEARS REQUIRED)

10/7	NCAA-APPROVED COURSE TITLE	CREDIT	X	GRADE	=	QUALITY POINTS (MULTIPLY CREDIT BY GRADE)
						0.000
						0.000
						0.000
	TOTAL SOCIAL SCIENCE UNITS	0.00				TOTAL QUALITY POINTS 0.000

OTHER ACADEMIC COURSES (4 YEARS REQUIRED)

10/7	NCAA-APPROVED COURSE TITLE	CREDIT	X	GRADE	=	QUALITY POINTS (MULTIPLY CREDIT BY GRADE)
						0.000
						0.000
						0.000
						0.000
						0.000
	TOTAL ADDITIONAL ACADEMIC UNITS	0.00				TOTAL QUALITY POINTS 0.000

	QUALITY POINTS	/	CREDITS	=	CORE-COURSE GPA
TOTAL QUALITY POINTS FROM EACH SUBJECT AREA / TOTAL CREDITS = CORE-COURSE GPA	0.00	/	0.00	=	

Sixteen core courses are required for your core-course GPA. Ten of your 16 NCAA-approved core-course credits must be completed before the start of your seventh semester, including seven in English, math or science. The information presented on or through this worksheet is made available solely for general information purposes. Given the manual data entry required, the NCAA does not warrant the accuracy or completeness of this information. Any reliance placed on this information is strictly at your own risk. We disclaim all liability and responsibility arising from any reliance placed on this worksheet, and any information included therein, by you or any other individual or entity who may be informed of its contents.

DIVISION II WORKSHEET

This worksheet is provided to assist you in monitoring your progress in meeting NCAA initial-eligibility standards. The NCAA Eligibility Center will determine your academic status after you graduate. Remember to check **your high school's list** of NCAA-approved core courses for the classes you have taken or plan to take.

Use the following scale: A= 4 quality points; B = 3 quality points; C = 2 quality points; D = 1 quality point.

ENGLISH (3 YEARS REQUIRED)					
NCAA-APPROVED COURSE TITLE	CREDIT	X	GRADE	=	QUALITY POINTS (MULTIPLY CREDIT BY GRADE)
Example: English 9	.50		4		(.5 x 4) = 2
					0.000
					0.000
					0.000
					0.000
					0.000
TOTAL ENGLISH UNITS	0.00				TOTAL QUALITY POINTS 0.00
MATH (2 YEARS REQUIRED)					
NCAA-APPROVED COURSE TITLE	CREDIT	X	GRADE	=	QUALITY POINTS (MULTIPLY CREDIT BY GRADE)
Example: Algebra I	1.0		3		(1.0 x 3) = 3
					0.000
					0.000
					0.000
					0.000
TOTAL MATH UNITS	0.00				TOTAL QUALITY POINTS 0.00
SCIENCE (2 YEARS REQUIRED)					
NCAA-APPROVED COURSE TITLE	CREDIT	X	GRADE	=	QUALITY POINTS (MULTIPLY CREDIT BY GRADE)
					0.000
					0.000
					0.000
TOTAL SCIENCE UNITS	0.00				TOTAL QUALITY POINTS 0.00
EXTRA YEARS IN ENGLISH, MATH OR SCIENCE (3 YEARS REQUIRED)					
NCAA-APPROVED COURSE TITLE	CREDIT	X	GRADE	=	QUALITY POINTS (MULTIPLY CREDIT BY GRADE)
					0.000
					0.000
					0.000
TOTALADDITIONALUNITS	0.00				TOTAL QUALITY POINTS 0.00
SOCIAL SCIENCE (2 YEARS REQUIRED)					
NCAA-APPROVED COURSE TITLE	CREDIT	X	GRADE	=	QUALITY POINTS (MULTIPLY CREDIT BY GRADE)
					0.000
					0.000
					0.000
TOTAL SOCIAL SCIENCE UNITS	0.00				TOTAL QUALITY POINTS 0.00
OTHER ACADEMIC COURSES (4 YEARS REQUIRED)					
NCAA-APPROVED COURSE TITLE	CREDIT	X	GRADE	=	QUALITY POINTS (MULTIPLY CREDIT BY GRADE)
					0.000
					0.000
					0.000
					0.000
					0.000
TOTAL ADDITIONAL ACADEMIC UNITS	0.00				TOTAL QUALITY POINTS 0.00
QUALITY POINTS		/	CREDITS	=	CORE-COURSE GPA
TOTAL QUALITY POINTS FROM EACH SUBJECT AREA / TOTAL CREDITS = CORE-COURSE GPA	0.00	/	0.00	=	

The information presented on or through this worksheet is made available solely for general information purposes. Given the manual data entry required, the NCAA does not warrant the accuracy or completeness of this information. Any reliance placed on this information is strictly at your own risk. We disclaim all liability and responsibility arising from any reliance placed on this worksheet, and any information included therein, by you or any other individual or entity who may be informed of its contents.

MILITARY INFORMATION

Air Force: www.airforce.com
2390 Prince of Orange Street
Orangeburg, SC 29115
803-536-1456
Coast Guard (CG)/CG Reserve:
www.gocoastguard.com
10136 Two Notch Road Suite 7-B
Columbia, SC
803-736-7119
Army: www.goarmy.com
Army National Guard: www.nartionalguard.com
2390 Prince of Orange Street
Army Reserve: www.goarmyreserve.com
Orangeburg, SC 29115
843-295-0377

Air Force Reserve: www.afreserve.com
Air National Guard: www.goang.com
1-800-464-8273
Marine Corps: www.marines.com
Marine Corps Reserve:
www.marforres.marines.mil/
2390 Prince of Orange Street
Orangeburg, SC 29115
803-516-9683
Navy: www.navy.com
2390 Prince of Orange Street
Orangeburg, SC 29115
843-356-0495
Navy Reserve: www.navyreserve.com

The ASVAB is a test given by military proctors that serves not only as a military enlistment tool but also a valuable career explorations tool.

Military careers require ASVAB test scores with 31 being the minimum score possible to enlist.

For more information please visit: **http://official-asvab.com/** or contact your local recruiter.



CHECKLISTS

9th / 10th Grade

☐ CREATE A FOUR-YEAR HIGH SCHOOL PLAN DURING YOUR IGP MEETING.

- Think about what you'd like to accomplish in the next four years.
- Ask your counselor which high school courses are required by colleges, and make sure that you're taking the right classes as early as the ninth grade.
- Get to know the levels and types of courses offered by your school.

☐ START THINKING ABOUT YOUR LIFE AFTER SCHOOL, INCLUDING THE TYPES OF CAREERS THAT MIGHT INTEREST YOU.

- Identify your interests, likes and dislikes, not just in classes but in every area.
- Talk to other people, such as your school counselor, teachers, recent college graduates who are working, professionals in the community, etc., about careers you might find interesting.

☐ MEET WITH YOUR HIGH SCHOOL COUNSELOR. YOUR COUNSELOR KNOWS HOW TO HELP YOU GET THE MOST OUT OF HIGH SCHOOL.

- Discuss post-high school plans with your counselor.
- Research potential internship and job shadow sites that align with your goals and share the information with your counselor.
- Discuss taking Honors courses, Advanced Placement courses or dual-credit courses. Find out which courses will prepare you for your post-high school plans.

☐ PARTICIPATE IN EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES. ACADEMICS IS JUST THE STARTING POINT.

- Explore your interest in a sport, school club, music or drama group or community volunteer activity.
- Remember that colleges/employers would rather see real involvement in one activity instead of a loose connection to several.
- If you're interested in playing sports in college, research the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) eligibility requirements. The NCAA requires completion of certain core courses; you can find the specifics at ncaaclearinghouse.net.

☐ PLANNING TO ATTEND A TWO-YEAR OR FOUR-YEAR COLLEGE? IT'S NOT TOO LATE TO PUT MONEY ASIDE FOR COLLEGE. EVERY LITTLE BIT HELPS!

- Learning about financial aid early on can also help you down the road.

☐ EXPLORE LOCAL OPPORTUNITIES.

- Look for a job, internship or volunteer position that will help you learn about a field of interest.
- Research Youth Apprenticeship programs and internship opportunities.
- Discuss work-based learning opportunities with your counselor.
- Update your resume or online portfolio with your accomplishments.

☐ GET FAMILIAR WITH ANY ASSESSMENTS YOU MAY NEED FOR YOUR POST-HIGH SCHOOL PLANS.

- Most four-year colleges consider applicants' scores on college admission tests as part of a deciding factor for admission.
- Take the PRE-ACT and/or the PSAT to get an understanding of the testing format before taking entrance tests in 11th grade.
- Download free practice tests for needed assessments.
- Review PSAT scores to see what Advanced Placement courses might be good for you to take.

☐ RESEARCH COLLEGES AND CAREER OPPORTUNITIES.

- Attend college and career fairs. Participate in any learning opportunity available to explore career fields.
- Tour college campuses. Take advantage of vacation or travel time to visit colleges. Even if you have no interest in attending the college you are visiting, it will help you learn what to look for in a college.

11TH GRADE

SUMMER

☐ Get the facts about what college costs. You may be surprised by how affordable higher education can be. Research options at the local two-year or technical college.

Explore financial aid options. These include grants and scholarships, loans and work-study programs that can help pay for college costs.

☐ Explore employment opportunities in your local area. Research industry trends.

☐ Research training programs, apprenticeship programs and certificate opportunities if college is not in your immediate plans.

☐

FALL

- [ ] Make sure you and your parent meet with your school counselor. This meeting is especially important this year to learn about the college application process.
- [ ] Stay organized! Make weekly or monthly to-do lists to keep on top of the tasks required to get ready for applying to colleges and explore work-based learning or apprenticeship opportunities.
- [ ] Get ready for the PSAT/NMSQT in October. This is a preliminary test that helps you practice for the SAT and assess your academic skills. Juniors who score well on the test are also eligible for scholarship opportunities.
- [ ] Set goals for the school year. Working toward specific goals helps you stay motivated and focused.

WINTER

- [ ] Register and prepare for the ACT and the SAT. Take both tests during the winter of your junior year. Check with your school counselor on the registration process and testing dates or go to collegeboard.org.
- [ ] Discuss other testing opportunities with your school counselor, such as NCRC, ACCUPLACER and ASVAB. These standardized tests will give insight into your career-ready skills.

SPRING

- [ ] Search for colleges that meet your goals. Once you have an idea of the colleges you may be interested in, create a list and research application deadlines, campus tours and programs.
- [ ] Research scholarships! Search your college websites for specific school-based scholarships. Make note of all deadlines!
- [ ] Attend college fairs, financial aid events and career opportunities. These events allow you to meet with college representatives and get answers to questions.
- [ ] Make summer plans. Summer is a great time to explore interests and learn new skills. Look into summer learning programs or find a job or internship.
- [ ] Visit your top college choices.

12TH GRADE

SUMMER

- [ ] Visit colleges. Make plans to check out the campuses of colleges on your list.
- [ ] Find out your top colleges' actual cost. Research the potential for financial aid and the true out-of-pocket cost, or net price, of each college.
- [ ] Start on your applications. Get the easy stuff out of the way now by filling in as much required information on college applications as possible.
- [ ] Ask your parents to gather necessary financial documents. To apply for most financial aid you will need to complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA).

FALL

- [ ] Meet with your school counselor early in your senior year. Your counselor will work with you on college scholarship and job applications.
- [ ] Create a calendar with deadlines and important dates, including application deadlines.
- [ ] Apply for scholarships. Find out about scholarship opportunities from your school counselor.
- [ ] Ask your counselor, parent and a teacher to review all applications and essays before submitting.
- [ ] Work with your parents to complete the FAFSA. Contact the financial aid offices at the colleges to find out what forms you must submit to apply for aid. Make sure you apply for aid by or before any stated deadlines. Funds are limited, so the earlier you apply, the better.

WINTER

- [ ] Contact potential employers. Research opportunities for internships and apprenticeship programs.
- [ ] Ask for letters of recommendation from teachers, club sponsors, coaches and other adults who can highlight your skills and attest to your character.

SPRING

- [ ] Process your college responses. Once you start hearing back from colleges about admission and financial aid, work with your parents on which college to attend. Complete the paperwork to accept a college's offer of admittance. Practice interview skills.
- [ ] Review financial aid offers together. You will need help reading through financial aid award letters and figuring out which package works best. Be sure to pay attention to and meet any deadlines for acceptance.
- [ ] Finish your senior year strong.



WEB RESOURCES

ACADEMIC COMMON MARKET

che.sc.gov

The 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.

BIG FUTURE

bigfuture.collegeboard.org

Big Future by The College Board is a college planning tool to generate a list of colleges that match your preferences.

CAREER AISLE

knowitall.org

With Know It All, career exploration resources are provided to assist with career awareness, career exploration and career preparation of students with the objective of facilitating a successful transition into post-secondary opportunities and the 21st century global workplace.

CAREER ONE STOP

careeronestop.org

U.S. Department of Labor sponsored site offers sections where students can explore careers (self-assessments, look at general information, check out employment trends, look at videos, see skills and occupations), look at salary and benefits, review education and training and more!

COLLEGE SCORECARD

collegescorecard.ed.gov

Information provided by the U.S. Department of Education such as average tuition costs, graduation rates, typical total debt and typical monthly loan payments.

ECAMPUSTOURS.COM

ecampustours.com

A revolutionary college planning website featuring 360º x 360º virtual campus tours of over 1,300 college campuses.

FINANCIAL AID

FAFSA

fafsa.ed.gov

Free Application for Federal Student Aid.

APPLYING FOR A PIN

in.ed.gov

FASTWEB

fastweb.com

Fastweb members are matched to relevant scholarship opportunities completely free of charge.

HIGH SCHOOL PROGRAMS AT OCTECH

octech.edu/academics/early-college/

Get a smart start on college with Orangeburg-Calhoun Technical College's Orangeburg Advanced College and Early College Programs. OCTech offers eligible high school students the opportunity to earn college credit before graduating from high school and possibly graduate high school with an associates degree.

LEXILE / QUANTILE

lexile.com
quantiles.com
Lexile and Quantile measures provide an actionable tool for helping students engage in learning, comprehend their reading materials and succeed in math class.

MAPPING YOUR FUTURE

mappingyourfuture.org
Mapping Your Future is a national collaborative, public-service, non-profit organization providing career, college, financial aid and financial literacy services for students, families and schools.

MICROBURST LEARNING EMPLOYABILITY SKILLS

microburstlearning.com
Explore interactive career profiles that contain important career information to help you make educated decisions about your future.

MYFUTURE.COM

myfuture.com
Myfuture.com helps young adults plan their next steps in life by bringing together the most recently available information about colleges, careers and military service opportunities from the U.S. Departments of Commerce, Defense, Education and Labor.

MY NEXT MOVE

mynextmove.org
An easy-to-use online career search to research over 900 different careers and see important information including skills, tasks, technologies, salaries and employment outlook. Includes the 60-item, web-based O*NET Interest Profiler Short Form, a tool that offers career suggestions based on a person's interests and level of work experience.

NCAA ELIGIBILITY CENTER

web3.ncaa.org/ecwr3
A website specifically dedicated to educating students and parents about new NCAA Division 1 standards for 2016 and beyond.

PACE

pacescholarshipacademy.com
PACE Scholarship Academy provides middle and high school, college, and graduate students with useful information and resources to pursue their higher education goals without the fear of financial barriers.

PETERSON'S GUIDE

petersons.com
Guides you through the college planning process with personalized resources.

PRACTICE TEST RESOURCES

ACT Student Web Page (**actstudent.org**)
CollegeBoard - SAT (**collegeboard.com**)
(**4tests.com**)
(**Military.com**)

PRINCETON REVIEW

princetonreview.com
Helps students, parents and educators achieve the best results at every stage of their educational careers.

OCCUPATIONAL INFORMATION NETWORK O*NET ONLINE

online.onetcenter.org
The nation's primary source of occupational information; this is an interactive site with occupational search, tools and technology section, skills section and more!

SCHOLARSHIPS.COM

scholarships.com
Scholarships.com is a free college scholarship search platform that matches you to college scholarships you qualify for.

SC CAN - South Carolina Can Go to College

SCCANGO.org
SC CAN GO facilitates three major programs throughout the school year including College Application Month in the fall, College Goal SC to support Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) completion in the winter and spring, and College and Career Decision Day to celebrate our graduating seniors each May.

SC TRAC

sctrac.org
SC TRAC provides students, advisors and administrators with easy access to information they need pertaining to college transfer.

SC Works

scworks.org
The state's SC Works system offers services to help employers screen and match, hire, train and retain workers.

SCIWAY

sciway.net/jobs/
SCIWAY, the South Carolina Information Highway, is the largest directory of South Carolina information on the Internet. It's also fast and easy to use.

USA Jobs

usajobs.gov
USAJOBS connects job seekers with federal employment opportunities across the United States and around the world.

Scholarship Guide

PAYING FOR COLLEGE



(Info Taken from SC Commission on Higher Education – www.che.sc.gov)

Funding higher education can be a complex process, but there are a number of resources available to assist. Understanding the different types of financial assistance and how to access them can minimize out-of-pocket expenses by taking advantage of grants and scholarships. The Consumer Financial Protection Bureau also offers a highly useful Student Financial Guide to help explain the basics of aid offers, loans and student banking.

Following the steps below will make your pursuit of college in South Carolina as affordable as possible:

Step 1 – Determine Your Residency

To determine if you will pay tuition at the in-state rate, verify that you meet residency requirements in the state of South Carolina. Residency is an essential part of tuition and fee determination, admission regulations, scholarship eligibility, and other relevant policies. Once you have determined residence eligibility, visit your prospective institution's website to find your estimated cost.

Step 2 – Explore Scholarships and Grants

Explore the different types of scholarships and grants that may be available to you. Scholarships and grants are forms of financial assistance that do not have to be repaid:

1) Federal financial aid information (External link to www.studentaid.gov)
2) South Carolina-funded scholarships and grants (HOPE, LIFE, Palmetto Fellows, Lottery Tuition Assistance, Need-based Grants, WINS, National Guard Tuition Assistance)
3) External scholarship and grant resources
4) Minority and multicultural financial aid resources





Step 3 – Complete the FAFSA

Complete the U.S. Department of Education's Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). This is a critical step toward maximizing your financial aid, as colleges use FAFSA data to determine financial aid eligibility and award amounts for both Federal and State financial assistance.

Student aid eligibility depends on the Expected Family Contribution, year in school, enrollment status, and the cost of attendance at the school. The financial aid office at a college or career school will determine how much financial aid a student is eligible to receive.

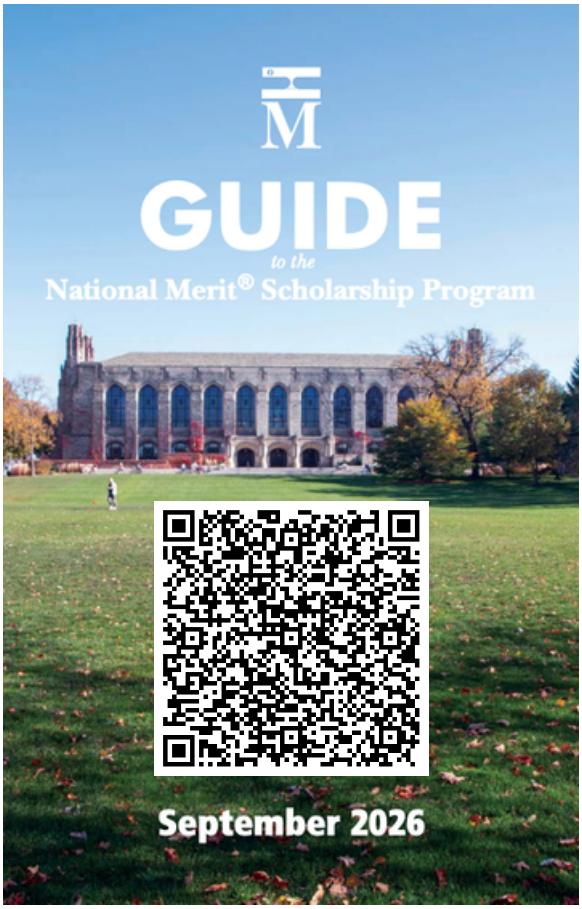
Use the FAFSA Toolkit Provided by the SC Commission on Higher Education to help you with completing the FAFSA

FAFSA Completion Links and Tools

- CHE FSAID Worksheets:
  - For Students
  - For Parents
  - For Anyone
- Whose Income Do I Report?
- Is My Parent a Contributor When I Fill Out My FAFSA Form? (FSA)
- Federal Financial Aid Estimator Tool (FSA)



MERIT SCHOLAR PROGRAM



The National Merit Scholarship Program is an annual academic competition among high school students for recognition and college undergraduate scholarships that began in 1955. The program is conducted by National Merit Scholarship Corporation (NMSC®), a not-for-profit organization that operates without government assistance. United States high school students enter the National Merit Scholarship Program by taking the Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test (PSAT/NMSQT®), which serves as an initial screen of over 1.2 million entrants each year, and by meeting published program entry and participation requirements.

National Merit Scholarship Program Eligibility Summary

Students must take the PSAT/NMSQT in the appropriate year of high school to qualify for National Merit Scholarship consideration. Students may participate in only one competition year.

- **Traditional four-year students:** Take the PSAT/NMSQT in **11th grade (junior year)**. Sophomores testing in 2026 must test again as juniors in 2027 to qualify.
- **Early graduates:** Students completing high school in three years or less may qualify by testing in their **next-to-last or final year** of high school.
- **Dual-enrolled students:** Must test during their **third year of high school (11th grade)**, regardless of college enrollment.
- **Five-year students:** Should test in both their **third and fourth years.** National Merit Scholarship Corporation (NMSC) approval is required, and recognition is based primarily on the third-year qualifying score.

Key takeaway: For most students, junior year is the qualifying PSAT/NMSQT testing year.

PALMETTO FELLOWS

The Palmetto Fellows Scholarship is a merit-based program recognizing the most academically talented high school seniors and encouraging these students to attend college in the state. Palmetto Fellows may receive up to $6,700 their freshman year and up to $7,500 for their sophomore, junior and senior years. Half of the scholarship is awarded in the fall term and half in the spring term.

The scholarship must be applied directly toward the cost of attendance, less any other gift aid received. Eligible Palmetto Fellows may receive scholarship funding for a maximum of eight full-time terms of study toward their first bachelor's degree at an eligible four-year institution in South Carolina.

The Palmetto Fellows Scholarship Enhancement was established in 2007 to increase the number of students who **major in mathematics and science** in South Carolina.

For enhancement eligibility, Palmetto Fellows must declare a major in an approved math or science program and must also successfully complete at least 14 credit hours of instruction in mathematics **or** life and physical science **or** a combination of both by the end of the first academic year. Eligible students may receive **up to $10,000** (combined funds from the Palmetto Fellows Scholarship and the Scholarship Enhancement) per year beginning with their second/sophomore year of college enrollment. Students may receive enhancement funding for a maximum of six full-time terms of study toward their first bachelor's degree at an eligible four-year institution in South Carolina.

https://che.sc.gov/sites/che/files/Documents/Counselors%20Page/PFS_Info_Packet_Student_2027.pdf



Important Information for Palmetto Fellows Scholarship Applicants

Class of 2027: **Early Application Deadline: MAY 1**
Late Application Deadline: JULY 15

(All application must be submitted electronically by the student prior to 11:59pm on the established deadline date. If the deadline falls on a Saturday, Sunday or holiday, the deadline is the preceding Friday)

This info packet is for the student/parent/guardian to retain.

The purpose of the Palmetto Fellows Scholarship Program is to recognize the most academically talented high school seniors in South Carolina and to encourage them to attend college in the State. Students must meet both general and academic requirements to be eligible for the Scholarship.

Initial Eligibility Requirements for the Program:

- **Graduate from high school** or complete an approved home school program as prescribed by law;
- **Attend** and be enrolled as a **full-time** degree-seeking student at an eligible South Carolina **two or four year** public or private college or university the fall term **IMMEDIATELY** following high school graduation, unless the student completes the requirements to utilize a Gap Year/Term;
- **Be a U.S. citizen or permanent resident** (green card holder) at the time of high school graduation and be a legal resident of South Carolina as defined in applicable State statutes governing the determination of residency for tuition and fee purposes at the time of high school graduation;
- **Have not been convicted of any felonies or been convicted of any second or subsequent alcohol or drug-related misdemeanor offenses** within the past academic year by submitting a signed affidavit to the Financial Aid Office at the institution at which the student is enrolled.

Out-of-State institutions, private schools, home school associations, and home schools must contact the Commission on Higher Education to determine if your school is able to use rank as a criteria or if the Alternate Criteria must be used for students from the out-of-state school. **A rank report for the school year being used for eligibility is required to be submitted for ALL SCHOOLS.**

Federal Privacy Act Information
Public Law 93-579, referred to as the Federal Privacy Act, became effective September 27, 1975. Section 7b of this law requires any Federal, State, or local agency that requests an individual to disclose his/her social security number to inform the individual whether that disclosure is mandatory or voluntary, by which statutory or other authority the number is solicited, and what uses could be made of it. The Commission requests that each applicant for its student aid programs submit a social security number.

This Commission uses a student's social security number for the following purposes:
- To serve as a unique number for applicant and recipient identification in processing forms used in the application and in collating resulting data;
- To report awards to educational institutions on enrollment rosters; and;
- To report the number of awards to the comptroller who issues checks.

Description of South Carolina Residency for Tuition and Fee Purposes*:
Generally, to be a resident of South Carolina, one must reside in South Carolina with the intention of remaining in the State indefinitely. One cannot be a resident of South Carolina if one resides in the State solely for securing an education or if one recognizes some other state or foreign jurisdiction as one's true home.

*Please Note: While the verification of academic eligibility for the Palmetto Fellows Scholarship is completed by CHE, each eligible applicant is subject to verification of SC Residency at the institution they choose to attend. The determination of resident status made at the institution may impact eligibility for the Palmetto Fellows Scholarship.

For more information regarding the Palmetto Fellows Scholarship go to http://che.sc.gov/

Academic Eligibility Criteria of the Program:

For high schools that rank and use the SC Uniform Grading Policy:
High School Counselors will notify the student to submit an **electronic application** by **the established deadline**. Students must meet one of the following sets of academic criteria in order to be eligible to apply for Palmetto Fellows Scholarship.

Early Award
Deadline: May 1

- ☐ Score at least 1200 on the SAT (math and evidenced-based reading & writing) or 25 on the ACT through the April national test administration of year of graduation. To calculate your superscore, use the the following instructions: SAT: Use the highest combined Math and Evidence-Based Reading & Writing scores. Enhanced ACT (Science optional): "superscore" by summing the highest Math, English, and Reading subject scores and dividing by 3 - round up for .6 or higher. Legacy ACT Score: Students can use their Science subject score to qualify - sum of the highest Math, English, Reading, and Science scores, then divide by 4 - round up for .5 or higher.
- ☐ Earn a cumulative 3.50 GPA on the SC UGP at the end of the junior year. Grade point averages must be reported with at least two decimal places and may not be rounded; and
- ☐ Rank in the top six percent of either the end of the sophomore or junior year based on the SC UGP. The number eligible may be rounded up to a whole number if the top six percent does not yield a whole number of students. *Two students may not occupy the same rank. In the event of a tie, the high school/home school association is responsible for determining the legitimate rank for each eligible applicant.*

Late Award
Deadline: July 15

- ☐ Score at least 1200 on the SAT (math and evidenced-based reading & writing) or 25 on the ACT through the June national test administration of the year of graduation. To calculate your superscore, use the following instructions: SAT: Use the highest combined Math and Evidence-Based Reading & Writing scores. Enhanced ACT (Science optional): "Superscore" by summing the highest Math, English, and Reading subject scores and dividing by 3. Round up for .6 or higher. Legacy ACT Score: Students can use their Science subject score to qualify - sum of the highest Math, English, Reading, and Science scores, then divide by 4 - round up for .5 or higher. Commission on Higher Education (CHE) Codes: SAT 4313 and ACT 6326. *Students who are registered for the June SAT/ACT test administration MUST have their scores sent directly to CHE using the above codes. Score reports must be received by CHE by July 15.*
- ☐ Earn a cumulative 3.50 GPA on the SC UGP at the end of the senior year. Grade point averages must be reported with at least two decimal places and may not be rounded; and
- ☐ Rank in the top six percent of either the end of the sophomore, junior, or senior year based on the SC UGP. The number eligible may be rounded up to a whole number if the top six percent does not yield a whole number of students. *Two students may not occupy the same rank. In the event of a tie, the high school/home school association is responsible for determining the legitimate rank for each eligible applicant.*

***SUBMITTED TRANSCRIPTS & RANK REPORTS (if Rank Report is required), REGARDLESS OF ACADEMIC YEAR, MUST DISPLAY A JUNE 15TH DATE CALCULATED OR EARLIER.
Any date after June 15th will NOT be accepted. ***

Alternative Criteria

For schools that DO NOT RANK as a policy AND for students qualifying without regard to rank:

- Score at least 1400 on the SAT or 31 on the ACT through the April (EARLY AWARD) or June (LATE AWARD) national test administration of their year of graduation. In order to determine the highest combined score, the score on the SAT must be calculated by using the highest Math score combined with the highest Evidenced-Based Reading & Writing Score. To calculate the ACT superscore, Enhanced ACT (Science optional): "superscore" by summing the highest Math, English, and Reading subject scores and dividing by 3 - round up for .6 or higher. Legacy ACT Score: Students can use their Science subject score to qualify - sum of the highest Math, English, Reading, and Science scores, then divide by 4 - round up for .5 or higher. CHE Codes: SAT 4313 and ACT 6326.
  **Students who are registered for the June SAT/ACT test administration MUST have their scores sent directly to CHE using the above codes. Score reports for the LATE AWARD must be received by CHE by July 15;* AND
- Earn a cumulative 4.00 GPA on the UGP at the end of the Junior (EARLY AWARD) or Senior (LATE AWARD) year. Grade point averages must be reported with at least two decimal places and may not be rounded.

Scholarship Notification AND Next Steps

The Commission on Higher Education makes the determination of academic eligibility for the Palmetto Fellows Scholarship.

For the EARLY AWARD and LATE AWARD processes, applications will be reviewed on a continuous basis. *Students will be notified of their application status through their e-mail and their Palmetto Fellows dashboard.* *Please make sure students are checking their application dashboard and email.*

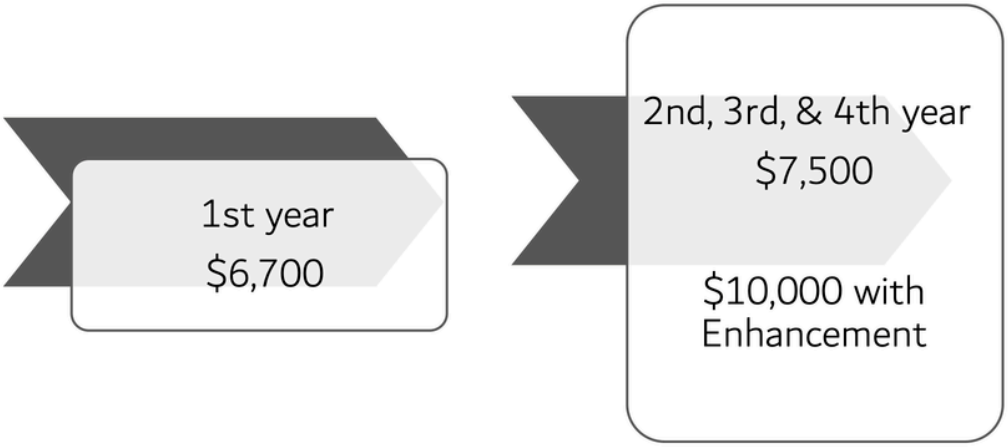
MANDATORY: If you are notified as meeting the academic requirements as a Palmetto Fellow, you must complete the Designation Form indicating the institution you plan to attend in Fall. Submit the College Designation Form from the left-side menu on your Palmetto Fellows dashboard. **This form is required to be submitted even if the student is attending an out-of-state institution.**

A list of eligible institutions can be found on our website: http://che.sc.gov/sites/che/files/Documents/General%20Public/PFS_Participating_Institutions_2021.pdf

Failure to return the form MAY affect the timing of your award disbursement.

Annual Award Amount

Under current Palmetto Fellow Scholarship Regulation



Up to four terms of full-time study at a two-year institution, or up to eight terms of full-time study at a four-year institution leading to the first bachelor's degree. In order to determine the exact award amount, all other sources of gift aid must be applied toward the cost-of-attendance before calculating the scholarship amount. Renewal decisions will be made annually.

Scholarship recipients may be eligible to receive an additional $2,500 Enhancement beginning their sophomore year. To do so,
1) recipients must earn 14 credit hours in an approved enhancement courses by the end of the first year of college enrollment;

2) declare an approved enhancement eligible major. For eligible majors, courses and institutions, visit the Commission's website at:
http://che.sc.gov/life-and-palmetto-fellows-math-and-science-scholarship-enhancements

Requirements for Renewing the Palmetto Fellows Scholarship Each Year

At the end of each academic year, the financial aid office at the home institution is responsible for determining a Palmetto Fellows Scholarship recipient's eligibility status and determining their scholarship award. Each year a recipient is required to:

1. Earn at least a cumulative 3.0 institutional grade point average (GPA) for graduation purposes each academic year (includes fall, spring and summer terms);

2. Take and earn a minimum of 30 credit hours for graduation purposes at the end of each academic year (includes fall, spring and summer terms). *Any exempted credits (i.e., AP, CLEP), credit hours earned before high school graduation (i.e., dual enrollment credit hours), and credit hours earned the summer term immediately following high school graduation cannot be used toward the required annual credit hours;*

3. Maintain residency for tuition and fee purposes under residency statutes of South Carolina; and

4. Complete a Scholarship Affidavit/ Certification form each year at your institution.

5. Be a continuously enrolled full-time student at an eligible two or four year institution (excluding summer).

LIFE SCHOLARSHIP

The Legislative Incentive for Future Excellence (LIFE) Scholarship is a merit-based scholarship program administered by the financial aid office at each eligible public and independent college and university in South Carolina.

The LIFE Scholarship may be used towards the cost of attendance for up to eight terms based on the student's initial college enrollment date. Students must be enrolled in their first one-year program, first associate's degree, first two-year program leading to a baccalaureate degree, first baccalaureate degree, or first professional degree.

https://www.che.sc.gov/sites/che/files/Documents/Students%2C%20Families%2C%20Military/Scholarships/FAQ-LIFE-3_2023.pdf



LIFE Scholarship
Frequently asked Questions

What is the LIFE Scholarship?

The Legislative Incentive for Future Excellence (LIFE) Scholarship is a merit-based scholarship program administered by the financial aid office at each eligible public and independent institution in South Carolina. The LIFE Scholarship may be used towards the cost-of-attendance for up to eight terms based on the students' initial college enrollment date. Student's must be enrolled in their first one-year program, first associate's degree, first two-year program leading to a baccalaureate degree, first baccalaureate degree, or first professional degree.

What is the LIFE Scholarship Enhancement?

The General Assembly established the LIFE Scholarship Enhancement in order to increase the number of students in the State majoring in mathematics and science and to increase the access to higher education, improve the employability of South Carolina's students so as to attract business to the State, provide incentives for students to be better prepared for college, and to encourage students to graduate from college on time. Students enrolled at two-year institutions are not eligible to receive a LIFE Scholarship Enhancement. Students can receive the LIFE Scholarship Enhancement beginning their second/sophomore year in college (based on initial date of college enrollment).

The Purpose:

- Increase ACCESS to higher education
- Improve EMPLOYABILITY of South Carolina students
- Provide INCENTIVES for students to be better prepared for college
- Encourage students to GRADUATE from college on time
- LIFE Scholarship Enhancement's purpose is to increase the number of students in the State majoring in mathematics and science

Award Amount:

Eligible Institutions	*Award Amount**
Four-year Public	Up to the cost-of-attendance, not to exceed $4,700, plus a $300 book allowance
Four-year Independent	Up to $4,700 plus a $300 book allowance
Two-year Public and Independent	Up to the cost-of-tuition at USC Regional campuses to include a $300 book allowance, not to exceed $5,000
Technical	Up to the cost-of-tuition to include a $300 book allowance, not to exceed $5,000
LIFE Scholarship Enhancement (Four-year Institutions Only)	Up to the cost of attendance, not to exceed $2,500

****Award amounts are awarded half in the fall and half in the spring. Cost-of-tuition shall mean the award amount charged for registering for credit hours of instruction and mandatory fees assessed to all students. (The LIFE Scholarship in combination with all other scholarships and grants shall not exceed the cost- of- attendance as defined in Title IV regulations for any academic year.)***

To qualify for a LIFE Scholarship, a student must meet ALL of the following requirements in addition to the initial eligibility requirements, if you are a first-time entering freshman, listed on page two of this handout. To qualify for a LIFE

****Please be aware that the information provided in this handout is subject to change during the Legislative Session. The Commission staff will update this information as necessary.*

Scholarship Enhancement, a student must meet ALL of the eligibility requirements for a LIFE Scholarship and be a recipient of LIFE Scholarship funds. In addition, to receive a LIFE Scholarship Enhancement the student must be a math or science major and have successfully completed a total of at least fourteen credit hours of instruction in mathematics and life and physical science courses (including AP, IB and dual enrollment courses taken during high school) by the end of the student's first year of enrollment in college (based on initial date of college enrollment).

General Eligibility Requirements:

- Graduate from high school or complete a home school program as prescribed by law;
- Attend an eligible South Carolina public or private college or university;
- Be a U.S. citizen or permanent resident (green card holder) at the time of high school graduation ***and*** be a legal resident of South Carolina as defined in applicable State statutes governing the determination of residency for tuition and fee purposes at the time of high school graduation;
- Be enrolled as a full-time degree-seeking student;
- Certify that he or she has never been convicted of any felonies and has not been convicted of any second of subsequent alcohol or other drug-related misdemeanor convictions within the past academic year;
- Verify that he or she is not in default and does not owe a refund or repayment on any Federal or State financial aid;
- Must not be a SC HOPE Scholarship, Palmetto Fellows Scholarship or Lottery Tuition Assistance recipient.
- For a LIFE Scholarship Enhancement, students must attend an eligible four-year South Carolina public or private college or university.

Initial Eligibility Requirements for a LIFE Scholarship:

In order to qualify for the LIFE Scholarship, first-time entering freshman attending an eligible four-year institution must meet two of three of the following criteria:

1. ***Earn a cumulative 3.0 grade point average (GPA) based on the SC Uniform Grading Scale upon high school graduation***
    a. The grade point average must be reported to two decimal places (minimum) and cannot be rounded. The GPR must be calculated after official completion of courses required for graduation.
2. ***Score an 1100 on the SAT or an equivalent* of 22 *on the ACT***
    a. SAT/ACT scores will be accepted through the June national test administration of the high school graduation year.
    b. It is permissible to select the highest SAT Evidence-based Reading score combined with the highest SAT Evidenced-based Math score from different test administrations.
    c. The ACT composite score may be based on multiple test sittings.
3. ***Rank in the top 30% of the graduating class***
    a. The ranking percentages must be reported in two decimal places (minimum) and cannot be rounded. The class rank must be based on the SC Uniform Grading Scale.
    b. The rank must be based on all students who received their diploma during the traditional graduation ceremony typically in May/June. The graduating class cannot include any students who graduated during the summer.

First-time entering freshmen attending an eligible two-year or technical institution must earn a cumulative 3.0 GPA based on the UGP as described in (1a) above. The standardized test score and class rank requirements are waived.

Initial Eligibility Requirements for a LIFE Scholarship Enhancement:

A student must meet ALL of the eligibility requirements for a LIFE Scholarship and be a recipient of LIFE Scholarship funds. In addition, all to receive a LIFE Scholarship Enhancement the student must be a declared math or science major by the beginning of the second academic year of college enrollment. Approved lists of eligible majors and eligible courses to meet the fourteen credit hour course requirement for the LIFE Scholarship Enhancement are provided on the Commission's website at ***www.che.sc.gov***.

To Regain or Earn the LIFE Scholarship or LIFE Scholarship Enhancement:

After completion of the first academic year of college or to earn the scholarship while in college, students must:

- Meet all general eligibility criteria;
- Earn an average of 30 credit hours* by the end of each academic year (fall, spring, summer) equaling a minimum of 30 credit hours consistent with the policies and procedures of the institution if a rising second year student, 60 credit hours if a rising third year student consistent with the policies and procedures of the institution, or 90 credit hours consistent with the policies and procedures of the institution if a rising fourth year student; and
- Earn a minimum 3.0 LIFE grade point average (GPA) based on grades earned at ALL institutions attended excluding remedial, continuing education, and non-degree credit courses by the end of each academic year (fall, spring, summer). Please note that the new LIFE GPA includes any dual enrollment grades earned while in high school.
- To receive the LIFE Scholarship Enhancement, the student must be a recipient of the LIFE Scholarship in his/her second, third, or fourth year of enrollment at an eligible four-year institution in SC. In addition the student must have a declared major in a math or science field and have successfully completed a total of at least fourteen credit hours of instruction in mathematics and life and physical science courses (including AP, IB and dual enrollment courses taken during high school) by the end of the student's first year of enrollment in college (based on initial date of college enrollment).

Credit hours include any college credits earned during an academic year, as well as any AP, IB, DualEnrollment, CLEP, and exempted credit hours

If You Plan to Transfer, Read This!

- Students who receive the LIFE Scholarship and transfer mid-year to another institution may be eligible to receive the Scholarship or LIFE Scholarship Enhancement for the spring term if they met the eligibility requirements at the end of the previous academic year for both the LIFE Scholarship and the LIFE Scholarship Enhancement.

- If you are a freshman, mid-year transferring student, transferring to the same type of institution two-year to two-year or four-year to four-year the same requirements apply (eligibility at time of enrollment).
- If you are a freshman transferring mid-year from a two-year to a four-year institution then you must meet the eligibility requirements of a first time entering freshman enrolling at a four year institution.

If transferring to another eligible institution, to receive the LIFE Scholarship INITIALLY, students must:

- Have earned a cumulative 3.0 LIFE GPA at eligible institutions; and
- Have earned a minimum of 30 credit hours (second year transfer), 60 credit hours (third year transfer), or 90 credit hours (fourth year transfer) at all prior institutions or an annual equivalent for a student who begins mid-year at the participating institution.
- To receive the LIFE Scholarship Enhancement, the student must be a LIFE Scholarship recipient in their second, third, or fourth year of college enrollment (based on initial date of college enrollment). In addition, the student must declare a major in math or science and successfully completed a total of at least fourteen credit hours of instruction in mathematics and life and physical science courses (including AP, IB and dual enrollment courses taken during high school) by the end of the student's first year of enrollment in college (based on initial date of college enrollment).

For scholarship eligibility after the initial year of transfer, students must:

Earn a cumulative 3.0 LIFE GPA based on grades earned at all eligible institutions attended excluding remedial, continuing education, and non-degree credit courses by the end of the academic year (fall, spring, summer); and Meet one of the following:

- Earn 30 credit hours* if entering the second year of college based on initial enrollment; or
- Earn 60 credit hours if entering the third year of college based on initial enrollment; or
- Earn 90 credit hours if entering the fourth year of college based on initial enrollment; or
- Earn 120 credit hours if entering the fifth year of an approved five-year bachelor's degree program based on initial enrollment.

Credit hours include any college credits earned during an academic year, as well as any AP, IB, Dual Enrollment, CLEP, and exempted credit hours

For the LIFE Scholarship Enhancement, students must meet all eligibility requirements for the LIFE Scholarship and be a recipient of LIFE Scholarship funds. In addition, the students the student must be a math or science major who has successfully completed a total of at least fourteen credit hours of instruction in mathematics and life and physical science courses (including AP, IB and dual enrollment courses taken during high school) by the end of the student's first year of enrollment in college (based on initial date of college enrollment).

Frequently Asked Questions

How do I apply for the LIFE Scholarship or LIFE Scholarship Enhancement?
There is no application for the LIFE Scholarship or LIFE Scholarship Enhancement. The college or university will automatically determine eligibility and will notify students if eligible for the LIFE Scholarship or LIFE Scholarship Enhancement. If you believe that you are eligible, but have not received notification from the institution, please contact the financial aid office at the college or university for additional information.

How long can I receive the LIFE Scholarship or LIFE Scholarship Enhancement?
The LIFE Scholarship is limited to ten (10) consecutive terms for the first approved five-year baccalaureate degree program, eight (8) consecutive terms for the first four-year degree program, four (4) consecutive terms for the first associate's degree program or a two-year program that is acceptable for full credit toward a baccalaureate degree or two (2) consecutive terms for the first one-year certificate or diploma program. The available number of terms for scholarship funding is based on the time of initial college enrollment.

Students may receive a LIFE Scholarship Enhancement for a maximum of six consecutive terms (i.e., three academic years) for a an approved associate's degree program that exceeds 68 credit hours, a first bachelor's degree in an eligible program or an eligible program of study that is structured so as not to require a bachelor's degree for acceptance into the program and leads to a graduate degree program, and eight consecutive terms (i.e., four academic years) towards an approved five-year bachelor's degree program and six consecutive terms towards a 3 plus 2 program.

A list of approved five-year programs can be found here:
http://www.che.sc.gov/CHE_Docs/StudentServices/LIFE/Directives/ApprovedFive-YearBachelorsDegrees.pdf

Can I qualify for the LIFE Scholarship or LIFE Scholarship Enhancement if I graduated from a high school out-of-state or completed an approved home school program as prescribed by law?
Yes, as long as you can provide verification to the college that you were a dependent of a South Carolina resident and a U.S. Citizen/Legal permanent resident at the time of high school graduation and at the time of college enrollment and you met all other eligibility criteria. In order to qualify for the LIFE Scholarship, the GPA and class rank requirements must be based on the UGP. Therefore, as a high school senior enrolled in an approved home school program or an out-of-state high school, you must request to have your grade point average and rank reported based upon on the UGP.

Should you feel that you meet the LIFE Scholarship eligibility requirements, please contact the admission office at your planned institution of attendance or the SC Commission on Higher Education to discuss the appropriate documentation that will need to be submitted on the student's behalf. Additional information may be required in order to make a determination of LIFE Scholarship eligibility.

May I receive the LIFE Scholarship or LIFE Scholarship Enhancement if I am required to take remedial courses?
First-time entering freshmen attending an eligible two-year or technical college who enroll in remedial courses during the first term(s) of enrollment will not be eligible for scholarship funds during this period unless the student is enrolled in at least twelve credit hours of non-remedial courses. Credit hours earned during the term(s) of remedial enrollment will not be used to determine remaining scholarship eligibility at the completion of remediation unless the student has completed at least twelve hours of non-remedial coursework each term of enrollment. The student will be eligible for the LIFE Scholarship for the term following completion of remediation if the student was eligible to receive the LIFE Scholarship upon high school graduation. Upon meeting all of the eligibility requirements for the LIFE Scholarship and the LIFE Scholarship Enhancement, students can receive a LIFE Scholarship Enhancement during their second, third or fourth year of undergraduate study in a math or science related major.

What do I need to do to keep the LIFE Scholarship or LIFE Scholarship Enhancement once it is awarded?
To keep the LIFE Scholarship, students must earn a cumulative 3.0 LIFE grade point average (GPA) and an average of 30 credit hours each academic year. In addition, any credit hours attempted or earned before high school graduation, hours exempted by examination, or advanced placement credit accepted by the institution as academic credit, will be reflected in the total number of cumulative hours earned. Also, remember that the academic year is considered fall, spring and summer. Therefore, you can use the summer to bring up a GPA or earn credit hours. For the LIFE Scholarship Enhancement, the student must continue to be enrolled full-time as a math or science major at a four-year SC institution and be a recipient of the LIFE Scholarship at the time of LIFE Scholarship Enhancement disbursement.

How do I get the LIFE Scholarship or LIFE Scholarship Enhancement to transfer institutions?
If you transfer institutions you will need to contact the financial aid office at the new institution concerning your eligibility for the LIFE Scholarship and LIFE Scholarship Enhancement.

What happens if I fall below the minimum credit hour or GPA requirement?
Students who fail to earn a cumulative 3.0 LIFE GPA at the end of the academic year or the requisite number of hours required, may regain eligibility the next academic year if their cumulative LIFE GPA is a 3.0 at the end of the academic year and they have earned a minimum of 30 credit hours if a rising sophomore, 60 credit hours if a rising junior, or 90 credit hours if a rising senior. The academic year is considered fall, spring and summer. Therefore, you can use the summer to bring up a GPA or earn credit hours. Please consult your college or university financial aid office to verify that credit hours earned during the summer at another institution will be accepted. Students who do not meet the annual credit hour requirement at the end of each academic year (based on initial date of college enrollment) cannot receive a LIFE Scholarship or LIFE Scholarship Enhancement.

What happens if an extenuating circumstance has caused me to fall below the required number of credit hours or grade point average?
If a truly extenuating circumstance resulted in the loss of LIFE Scholarship eligibility, you may submit an appeal to the Commission on Higher Education. Applications for appeal may be obtained after June 1 from the institution's Financial Aid Office, the Commission on Higher Education, or http://www.che.sc.gov/Students,FamiliesMilitary/Appeals.aspx. Applications are reviewed annually. The deadline for receipt of appeal applications is in late September. Please check the CHE website for specific appeals deadlines. ***Students cannot submit an appeal to the Commission for the LIFE Scholarship Enhancement. Students can only appeal the loss of a LIFE Scholarship.***

May I use credit hours earned through AP, CLEP or collegiate hours earned prior to high school graduation toward the credit hour requirement?
Any credit hours earned before high school graduation, hours exempted by examination, or advanced placement credit hours do not count against the semester limits and may be used towards the credit hour requirement if accepted by the institution for the LIFE Scholarship and towards the fourteen credit hour requirement for the LIFE Scholarship Enhancement.

Can I use my LIFE Scholarship for a summer term?
Yes. A student would need to demonstrate meeting the continued eligibility requirements as stated above by the end of the spring term. Additional enrollment requirements for a summer term must be met in order for a student to receive the Scholarship.

Please contact the LIFE Scholarship coordinator at your home institution to discuss your specific summer term Scholarship eligibility.

Can I use the LIFE Scholarship or LIFE Scholarship Enhancement to study abroad, co-op, or go on an internship? Yes, you can use the LIFE Scholarship and LIFE Scholarship Enhancement, but the home institution must approve the internship, cooperative work program, travel study program, or National or International Student Exchange program and accept full-time transfer credit hours. In addition, you must continue to meet eligibility requirements. Please see LIFE Regulation for the LIFE Scholarship and LIFE Scholarship Enhancement for further details.

Can I use the LIFE Scholarship to attend an out-of-state school?
No. In compliance with the established LIFE Scholarship Law and Regulations, a student must be enrolled at an eligible South Carolina institution in order to participate in the LIFE Scholarship program.

A student may be eligible to participate in the Academic Common Market. The 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. Participation in this program still does not allow for the LIFE Scholarship to be used at an out-of-state institution.

More information on the Academic Common Market can be found here: http://www.che.sc.gov/Students,FamiliesMilitary/LearningAboutCollege/AcademicCommonMarketInformation.aspx

What happens to my LIFE Scholarship or LIFE Scholarship Enhancement if I get deployed with the military overseas?
The semesters you are deployed will not count against the maximum terms of eligibility for the LIFE Scholarship or LIFE Scholarship Enhancement.

What happens if I drop out of school and re-start the next semester?
The LIFE Scholarship and the LIFE Scholarship Enhancement are continuous programs. Therefore, if you drop out or take a leave of absence from the institution, the "clock is still ticking" so to speak. You will still have to adhere to the yearly credit hour requirements just like you would if you were still in school. During your time off, terms of eligibility are being used even if you are not enrolled or receiving any LIFE Scholarship funds. The total terms of eligibility a student has is based upon the initial term of enrollment.

If I need to drop a class one quarter or semester will I lose the LIFE Scholarship or LIFE Scholarship Enhancement? No, you will not automatically lose the Scholarship or Enhancement. Scholarships and Enhancements are awarded to full-time students annually. However, you must meet the credit hour requirement by the end of the academic year to maintain eligibility. Therefore, you must have a total of 30 credit hours after your first year, a total of 60 credit hours after your second year, and a total of 90 credit hours after your third year of college. Any credit hours attempted or earned before high school graduation, hours exempted by examination, or advanced placement credit accepted by the institution as academic credit will be reflected in the total number of cumulative credit hours earned. Students must meet all eligibility requirements to receive a LIFE

Scholarship or LIFE Scholarship Enhancement.

What happens if I have been convicted of an alcohol or other drug misdemeanor offense?
Students who have been adjudicated delinquent or have been convicted or pled guilty or ***nolo contendere*** to ***any second or subsequent*** alcohol or other drug-related misdemeanor offense are ineligible for the LIFE Scholarship and/or LIFE Scholarship Enhancement for one academic year after the adjudication, conviction, or plea occurred. The student will lose eligibility the next academic year immediately following conviction and will lose the Scholarship and Enhancement for the fall and spring terms.

May I qualify for the LIFE Scholarship if I complete my high school graduation requirements a semester early? Students who complete their high school graduation requirements prior to the official graduation date reported on the final high school transcript may be eligible to receive the LIFE Scholarship pending the approval of their college or university. An Early Graduation Application Form can be obtained from your institution's financial aid office.

May I qualify for the LIFE Scholarship or LIFE Scholarship Enhancement if I qualify under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973?
Students who qualify under ADA can receive the LIFE Scholarship and the LIFE Scholarship Enhancement upon meeting all eligibility requirements (see, regulations). Students who qualify under the ADA must register with the institution's Disability Services Office. The Institutional Disability Services Provider must provide written documentation to the Office of Financial Aid each academic year verifying that the student is approved to be enrolled in less than full time status or earn less than the required annual credit hours. In order to renew the Scholarship each academic year, the student must complete the required number of hours approved by the institutional Disability Services Provider and earn a cumulative 3.0 LIFE grade point average. Students must meet all requirements as stipulated by state law and regulation to receive a LIFE Scholarship and/or LIFE Scholarship Enhancement.

If I am a LIFE Scholarship/LIFE Scholarship Enhancement Recipient, am I eligible to receive Lottery Tuition Assistance during the summer of the same academic year?
No, according to the law, if you received the LIFE Scholarship or LIFE Scholarship Enhancement, you cannot receive Lottery Tuition Assistance during the same academic year. For example, if you are awarded the LIFE Scholarship during the fall and spring terms, then you are not eligible to receive Lottery Tuition Assistance during the summer term. However, if you transfer mid-year from an eligible four-year institution to an eligible two-year institution and you received the LIFE Scholarship at the four-year institution, you may be eligible to receive Lottery Tuition Assistance.

If I am enrolled in the Bachelor of Arts in Interdisciplinary Studies Program at one of the USC Regional Campuses can I receive the LIFE Scholarship or LIFE Scholarship Enhancement for my 3rd and 4th years of study?
In order for you to receive the LIFE Scholarship and/or LIFE Scholarship Enhancement your 3rd and 4th years of study you will need to transfer to USC-Columbia.

For more information about the LIFE Scholarship Program or the LIFE Scholarship Enhancement, contact:

Dr. Gerrick Hampton, Program Manager
ghampton@che.sc.gov
803-856-0609

******Please be aware that the information provided in this handout is subject to change during the Legislative Session. The Commission staff will update this information as necessary.***

SC HOPE SCHOLARSHIP

The SC HOPE Scholarship Program is a merit-based scholarship created for students attending a four-year institution who do not qualify for the LIFE or Palmetto Fellows Scholarship. The scholarship is awarded during the freshman year of attendance only.

https://www.che.sc.gov/sites/che/files/Documents/General%20Public/FAQ_HOPE_2021.pdf



SC HOPE Scholarship
Frequently Asked Questions

Whatis the SC HOPE Scholarship Program?

The SC HOPE Scholarship Program was established under the SC Education Lottery Act and was implemented beginning with the 2002-03 academic year. It is a one-year merit-based scholarship created for first-time entering freshmen attending a four-year institution who do not qualify for the LIFE or Palmetto Fellows Scholarships, but graduate from high school with at least a B average. Funding for the program is dependent upon the annual proceeds generated by the SC Education Lottery.

Award Amount:

Students attending an eligible four-year public or private college or university will receive up to $2,800* (including a $300 book allowance) towards the cost-of-attendance during the first-year of attendance only.

*Funding is awarded half in the fall term and half in the spring term. The HOPE Scholarship in combination with all other scholarships and grants shall not exceed the cost-of-attendance as defined in Title IV regulations for any academic year.

In order to qualify for the SC HOPE Scholarship, a student MUST meet the following general and initial eligibility requirements:

General Eligibility Requirements

- Graduate from high school or complete an approved home school program as prescribed by law;
- Attend an eligible South Carolina public or private college or university;
- Be a U.S. citizen or permanent resident (green card holder) at the time of high school graduation ***and*** be a legal resident of South Carolina as defined in applicable State statutes governing the determination of residency for tuition and fee purposes at the time of high school graduation;
- Be enrolled as a full-time degree-seeking student;
- Certify that he or she has never been convicted of any felonies and has not been convicted of any second alcohol or other drug-related misdemeanor convictions within the past academic year;
- Verify that he or she is not in default and does not owe a refund or repayment on any Federal or State financial aid; and
- Must not be a recipient of a LIFE Scholarship, Palmetto Fellows Scholarship, or Lottery Tuition Assistance.

Initial Eligibility Requirements:

In order to qualify for the SC HOPE Scholarship, first-time entering freshmen must meet the following criteria:

- ***Earn a cumulative 3.0 grade point ratio (GPR) based on the Uniform Grading Policy (UGP) upon high school graduation***

****Please be aware that the information provided in this handout is subject to change during the Legislative Session. The Commission staff will update this information as necessary.*

If You Plan to Transfer, Read This!

- First-time entering freshman who were eligible to receive the scholarship and transferred mid-year (spring term) to another institution may be eligible to receive the scholarship for the spring term if transferring to the same type of institution (four-year to four-year). Eligibility at the transferring institution will be based on whether or not the student met the initial eligibility requirements at the beginning of the academic year prior to transfer.

- A student who transfers from a two-year college or university to an eligible four-year college or university who enrolled in remedial courses during the freshman year may be eligible to receive the SC HOPE Scholarship. The terms of eligibility to receive scholarship funds must not include the period of time the student was enrolled in remedial courses at a two-year college or university, unless the student completed at least twelve credit hours of non-remedial course work during the first term(s) during the freshman year. The student will be eligible to receive the scholarship for the maximum terms of eligibility following completion of remediation if the student was eligible to receive the SC HOPE Scholarship upon high school graduation.

Frequently Asked Questions

How do I apply for the SC HOPE Scholarship?

There is no application required for the SC HOPE Scholarship. The college or university will determine eligibility based upon the final official high school transcript and will notify students if eligible to receive the scholarship. If you believe that you are eligible, but have not received information from the college or university, please contact the financial aid office at the college to inquire about your eligibility.

How long can I receive the HOPE Scholarship?

Students are eligible to receive the HOPE Scholarship for no more than two terms (or its equivalent) during the first year of attendance only. The maximum number of terms of eligibility is based on the student's initial college enrollment date with the exception of credit hours earned during the summer session immediately prior to the student's initial college enrollment. For example, if a student enrolls in college in Fall 2005, the last term of eligibility to receive the HOPE Scholarship will be Spring 2006.

Can I qualify for the HOPE Scholarship if I graduated from a high school out-of-state or completed an approved home school program as prescribed by law?

Yes, as long as you can provide verification to the college that you were a dependent of a South Carolina resident at the time of high school graduation and at the time of college enrollment and you met all other eligibility criteria.

If you were home schooled, this information must be provided by the approved home school association or the parent. If you attended an out-of-state high school, then the information must be provided by the public high school you would have attended if you did not attend an out-of-state high school. An official letter on the public high school's letterhead must be submitted to the eligible college or university you are planning to attend in South Carolina.

What happens if I drop out of school and re-start the next semester?

The HOPE Scholarship is a continuous program. Therefore, if you drop out or take a leave of absence from the institution, the "clock is still ticking" so to speak. The term(s) you are out will count against your two terms of eligibility.

Will I lose the HOPE Scholarship if I need to drop a class one quarter or term?

No, you will not automatically lose the scholarship. Scholarships are awarded annually and refunds are based on the policies and procedures of the institution. However, a student must be enrolled full-time to receive the scholarship.

What happens if I have been convicted of an alcohol or other drug-related misdemeanor offense?

Students who have been adjudicated delinquent or have been convicted or pled guilty or ***nolo contendere*** to any second alcohol or other drug-related misdemeanor offense are ineligible for the scholarship for one academic year after the adjudication, conviction, or plea occurred. The student will lose eligibility the next academic year (fall and spring terms) immediately following conviction.

What happens if an extenuating circumstance prevented me from being eligible toreceivethe HOPE Scholarship forthemaximumterms of eligibility?

If an extenuating circumstance prevented you from receiving the maximum terms for the HOPE Scholarship, you may submit an appeal. Appeal applications can be obtained from the Financial Aid Office at the college or university, the Commission on Higher Education or http://www.che.sc.gov. Applications are reviewed annually and the deadline for receipt of appeal applications is in late September. Please check the CHE website for official appeals deadlines.

May I qualify for the HOPE Scholarship if I complete my high school graduation requirements a semester early?

Students who complete their high school graduation requirements prior to the official graduation date reported on the final high school transcript may be eligible to receive the HOPE Scholarship pending the approval of the Commission on Higher Education. An Early Graduation Application Form can be obtained from your institution's financial aid office.

For more information about the SC HOPE Scholarship Program, contact:

Dr. Gerrick Hampton, Program Manager
ghampton@che.sc.gov
Phone: (803) 734-4397

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SC NEED BASED GRANT

The South Carolina Need-based Grant provides additional aid to South Carolina's students with the greatest financial need. A student may receive up to $3,500 annually if enrolled full-time or up to $1,750 annually if enrolled part-time as a degree-seeking student at an eligible public institution. The grant can be applied in any semester of the academic year (i.e. fall, spring, or summer), assuming continued eligibility.

To apply, students must complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). The financial aid office on each eligible state public college campus administers the South Carolina Need Based Grant program, determines the students' eligibility to receive grant funding, and the exact amount. All gift aid and scholarships must be applied first before awarding the grant. The grant must be applied directly towards the cost-of-attendance. Students may receive up to a maximum of eight full-time equivalent terms. The South Carolina Higher Education Tuition Grants Commission administers the Need-Based Grant Program for students attending an independent college or university.

Students must be enrolled in a degree-seeking program in their first one-year program, first associate's degree, first two year program leading to a baccalaureate degree, first baccalaureate degree, or first pre-professional undergraduate degree, to include those pre-professional degree programs that may not require a baccalaureate degree at an eligible public state institution.

https://www.che.sc.gov/sites/che/files/Documents/Students%2C%20Families%2C%20Military/Scholarships/NBG_Q%26A_May_2025_Kathryn%20Harris.pdf



South Carolina Need-Based Grant

What is the S.C. Need-Based Grant Program?

The financial aid office on each public college campus administers the SC Need-based Grant Program. A student may receive up to $3,500 annually, if enrolled full-time at a public institution and up to $1,750 annually, if enrolled part-time at a public institution. Students may receive up to three terms of the Need-based Grant in any combination of the fall, spring or summer terms. No more than 50% of the grant may be awarded in one term. The college at which the student is enrolled determines the exact amount, less any other gift aid received. The grant must be applied directly towards the cost-of-attendance at the college for a maximum of eight full-time equivalent terms. Students must be enrolled in their first one-year program, first associate's degree, first two-year program leading to a baccalaureate degree, first baccalaureate degree, or first professional degree.

The Purpose:

- Provide additional financial aid to South Carolina's neediest students.

General Eligibility Requirements:

In order to qualify for consideration for a SC Need-based Grant, a student must meet **ALL** of the following minimum requirements each academic year:

- Be a needy student as defined by Title IV Federal Student Aid Programs for determining eligibility for federal student financial aid. The student must complete a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) form;
- Be a U.S. citizen or a legal permanent resident who meets the definition of an eligible non-citizen under State residency statutes;
- Be a legal resident of South Carolina as defined in applicable State statutes governing the determination of residency for tuition and fee purposes;
- Be enrolled at the time of the grant disbursement in a minimum of twelve credit hours if full-time or six credit hours if part-time for the term at an eligible public institution;
- Have not been convicted of any felonies or been convicted of any second or subsequent alcohol or drug-related misdemeanor offenses within the past academic year by submitting a signed affidavit to the financial aid office at the institution at which the student is enrolled;
- Does not owe a refund or repayment on a State Grant, Pell Grant, or a Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant and not be in default on a loan under the Federal Perkins Loan or Federal Stafford Loan program; and
- Complete any other documentation required by the financial aid office at the institution at which the student is enrolled.

Frequently Asked Questions

How do I apply for a Need-based Grant?

The first step to apply for a SC Need-based Grant is to complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) form online at https://studentaid.gov/h/apply-for-aid/fafsa. Applicants should complete the FAFSA as soon as possible after October 1st of each academic year. Students should contact the financial aid office at the eligible public institution, they can advise the student of any additional steps that are necessary to be considered for a SC Need-based Grant.

Are there specific criteria I must meet in order to retain eligibility to participate in the program?

- Earn at least a cumulative 2.0 grade point average on a 4.0 scale for graduation purposesby the endofeach academic year and maintain satisfactory academic performance according to Title IV Regulations;
- For graduation purposes, earn at least 24 credit hours each regular academic year if awarded a Need-based Grant as a full-time student for two terms or earn at least twelve credit hours each regular academic year if awarded a Need-based Grant as a part-time student for two terms. If a student is awarded a Need-based Grant for one semester of the academic year as a part-time student and the other semester as a full-time student, the student must earn at least eighteen credit hours each regular academic year. If a student is awarded a Need-based Grant for only one semester of the academic year, the student must earn at least twelve credit hours each academic year if a full-time student or earn at least six credit hours each academic year if a part-time student; and
- Complete a FAFSA form and continueto meet all initial eligibility requirements annually.

Once a student completes a one-year program or an associate's degree or two-year program leading to a baccalaureate degree, is he or she still eligible for a Need-based Grant?

Students who have obtained a recognized credential in a program less than a baccalaureate degree are initially eligible to apply for the SC Need-based Grant upon enrollment in a higher level degree program, such as an associate's degree program, a two-year program leading to a baccalaureate degree, or a baccalaureate degree program. Students cannot receive SC Need-based Grant funding beyond the first baccalaureate degree or beyond eight full-time equivalent terms (whichever comes first).

Am I eligible to receive the Need-based Grant if I am taking remedial coursework?

Students enrolled in an eligible program of study may include remedial courses aspart of the minimum number of required credit hours for part-time or full-time status, as long as such courses carry credit hours and meet Title IV limitations on remedial coursework.

Am I eligible for the Need-based Grant if I qualify under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973?

Students who qualify under the ADA must register with the institution's Disability Services Office. The institutional Disability Services Provider must provide written documentation to the Office of Financial Aid each academic year verifying that the student is approved to be enrolled in less than part-time status or earn less than the required annual credit hours. In order to renew the grant each academic year, the student must complete the required number of hours approved by the institutional Disability Services Provider and earn a cumulative 2.0 grade point average on a 4.0 scale for graduation purposes.

What happens if I want to transfer my Need-based Grant from one institution to another?

TheSC Need-based Grant is not automatically transferable. Once you enroll at your new institution, you will be compared with all other students at that institution who have submitted the FAFSA for the current academic year. Based on those results, each Financial Aid Office will determine if you are eligible at their institution. If you are transferring mid-year, you should be aware that you may be placed on a waiting list since the SC Need-based Grant is awarded on a "first-come, first-serve" basis. To find out if you qualify for the SC Need-based Grant, you must check with the institution's financial aid office that you will be transferring.

I am a foster youth. Am I eligible for additional funding? If so, is there anything additional required of me?

For the current academic year, youth in the custody of and/or receiving aftercare services through the Department of Social Services (DSS) and attending a higher education in South Carolina are entitled to the maximum SC Need-based Grant of $3,500 if the student self-identifies by June 1st. Students who have aged out of the DSS system and are living independently may qualify. In addition, youth are eligible for additional funding of up to $2,000 above the $3,500 maximum.

To be eligible to receive the maximum award and additional funding, foster youth must self-identify their foster care status to either the institution's Financial Aid Office, the Commission on Higher Education, or the Department of Social Services and must complete a Foster Care Waiver Form. The form must be submitted to the institution's Financial Aid Office, the Commission on Higher Education, and to the Department of Social Services. The form can be downloaded from the Commission on Higher Education's website at https://che.sc.gov/sites/che/files/Documents/General%20Public/Foster%20Care%20Waiver-Form-2020.pdf.

Where do I submit an appeal if I do not agree with the institution's decision to award me a Need-based Grant?

Students wishing to appeal any award decision must submit a written request to the institution's Director of Financial Aid. This request will be handled in accordance with the institution's financial aid appeal procedures. The institution's decision on appeals shall be final.

For more information about the Need-based Grant, contact:

Ms. Kathryn Harris
kharris@che.sc.gov
803-856-0738

Please note that the information provided is subject to change.



LOTTERY TUITION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (LTAP)

The South Carolina Lottery Tuition Assistance Program provides a supplemental resource to South Carolina residents at two-year public or independent institutions.

For the current academic year (fall, spring, and summer terms), eligible students may receive $80 per credit hour to be used toward the cost-of-tuition. In calculating the amount a student is eligible to receive in Lottery Tuition Assistance, all federal grants and the South Carolina Need-Based Grant must be awarded first. The institution at which the student is enrolled will notify each student of the exact award amount.

Award amounts are subject to change each term based upon the number of eligible recipients and available funding.

In order to qualify for Lottery Tuition Assistance, a student must meet ALL of the following minimum requirements before being awarded:

- File the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) form and complete the process to determine eligibility for federal student aid each academic year;
- Be a U.S. citizen or a permanent resident that meets the definition of an eligible non-citizen under State residency statutes;
- Be a legal resident of South Carolina as defined in applicable State statutes governing the determination of residency for tuition and fee purposes;
- Be enrolled at the time of the grant disbursement as a degree-seeking student in a minimum of six credit hours for the term and be making satisfactory academic progress;
- Verify that he or she does not owe a refund or repayment on a State Grant, Pell Grant or a Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant and is not in default on a loan under the Federal Perkins Loan or Federal Stafford Loan program;
- Not be a recipient of the HOPE, LIFE or Palmetto Fellows Scholarships.

Eligible Institutions

- Technical Colleges (All)
- USC-Lancaster - Lancaster, SC 2972
- USC-Salkehatchie - Allendale, SC 29810
- USC-Sumter - Sumter, SC 29150
- USC-Union - Union, SC 29379
- Spartanburg Methodist College - Spartanburg, SC 29301 (Private)

Additional Information

- **LTAP FAQ (PDF)**
- **FAFSA Application**
- **Lottery Tuition Assistance Program Regulations (PDF)**
- **Lottery Tuition Assistance Program Legislation (PDF)**

SOUTH CAROLINA NATIONAL GUARD
COLLEGE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (SCNG CAP)

The South Carolina National Guard College Assistance Program (SCNG CAP) offers financial assistance to members of the South Carolina Army and Air National Guard by and is administered by the CHE in partnership with the South Carolina National Guard.

Effective Academic Year 2025-26, South Carolina Army National Guard and Air National Guard CAP recipients may receive up to a maximum of $12,000 per academic year (maximum of $4,000 per semester for full-time students) if enrolled in a two-year or four-year program at eligible South Carolina institutions.

The cumulative total of all SCNG CAP benefits is set annually through proviso by the South Carolina General Assembly. The funds are temporary and awarded for one year only: as of FY 2025-26 SCNG CAP the lifetime maximum amount shall not exceed $25,000.

Visit our SCNG CAP page for additional program details.

SC WINS
SCHOLARSHIP

The SC•WINS Scholarship is a statewide technical college scholarship program designed to address workforce shortages in South Carolina. The Scholarship supplements Lottery Tuition Assistance (LTAP) to help cover any tuition and mandatory fees left after applying all other scholarships or grants.

FREE TUITION FOR RESIDENTS
WHO ARE OVER 60

South Carolina residents who are at least 60 years old are eligible for the state's free tuition program.
South Carolina state law (59-111-320) authorizes public colleges to permit residents at least 60 years of age to attend classes without the payment of tuition, on a space-available basis, provided that such persons meet admission and other standards deemed appropriate by the university.

NURSING EDUCATOR
TUITION REIMBURSEMENT

The BOLD (Better Outcomes, Less Debt) Career Pathways Nursing Faculty Loan Program provides **up to $90,000** in tuition reimbursement ($30,000 per academic year over a maximum of three academic years).

Participating students must enroll in in regionally accredited, not-for-profit, South Carolina based, public and private institutions graduate-level Master of Science (MSN) programs, Doctor of Nursing Practice, Ph.D., or other like programs appropriate to prepare individuals for faculty roles and agree to assume a faculty role in a public nursing education program after graduation, for a minimum of two years for each year they receive financial support.

Current nursing faculty with existing student loans are also eligible to refinance under the program and receive loan reimbursement following the completion of a designated amount of service - visit: **https://www.scstudentloan.org/career-pathways/bold-nursing-faculty-program** for additional terms and details.

GENERAL SCHOLARSHIP WEBSITES & COLLEGE RESOURCES

Never pay to apply for a scholarship. If a company promises you a scholarship or grant in exchange for a “processing cost,” “redemption fee,” or other upfront payment, walk away. Remember that legitimate companies never guarantee or promise scholarships or grants.
https://consumer.ftc.gov/articles/how-avoid-scholarship-and-financial-aid-scams

www.niche.com
www.fastweb.com
www.scholarships.com
www.bigfuture.collegeboard.org
www.goingmerry.com
www.scholarshipowl.com www.bold.org
www.appily.com
www.myscholly.com
https://www.commonapp.org/
https://commonblackcollegeapp.com/



SC COLLEGES, UNIVERSITIES, TECHNICAL SCHOOLS AND IVY LEAGUE UNIVERSITIES + FALL/WINTER 2026 OPEN HOUSE DATES

The Citadel

171 Moultrie Street
Charleston, SC 29409 – Open House Dates - https://www.citadel.edu/corps/campus-visit-admissions/inside-the-gates/

Clemson University

101 Sikes Avenue
Clemson, SC 29634 – Open House Dates - https://www.clemson.edu/admissions/visit/choose-your-tour.html

Coastal Carolina University

PO Box 261954
Conway, SC 29528-6054 – Open House Dates - https://www.coastal.edu/admissions/visits/

College of Charleston

66 George Street
Charleston, SC 29424 – Open House Dates - https://charleston.edu/admission/visit/index.php

Francis Marion University

P. O. Box 100547
Florence, SC 29501-0547 – Open House Dates - https://www.fmarion.edu/openhouse/

Lander University

320 Stanley Avenue
Greenwood, SC 29649-2099 – Open House Dates - https://www.lander.edu/admissions/campus-visits/open-house.html

Medical University of South Carolina

PO Box 250001
179 Ashley Avenue, Colcock Hall
Charleston, SC 29425 – Open House Dates - https://chp.musc.edu/prospective-students/visit

South Carolina State University

300 College Street NE
Orangeburg, SC 29117 – Open House Dates - https://apply.scsu.edu/portal/visit

USC Columbia

816 Bull Street
Columbia, SC 29208 – Open House Dates - https://sc.edu/m/carolina-preview/

USC Aiken

471 University Parkway
Aiken, SC 29801 – Open House Dates - https://www.usca.edu/admissions/visit/

SC COLLEGES, UNIVERSITIES, TECHNICAL SCHOOLS AND IVY LEAGUE UNIVERSITIES + FALL/WINTER 2026 OPEN HOUSE DATES

USC Beaufort

One University Boulevard
Bluffton, SC 29909 – Open House Dates - https://www.uscb.edu/admissions/visit-campus/admissions-events/index.html

USC Upstate

800 University Way
Spartanburg, SC 29303 – Open House Dates - https://uscupstate.edu/admissions/visit-campus/open-house/

Winthrop University

701 Oakland Avenue
Rock Hill, SC 29733 – Open House Dates - https://www.winthrop.edu/admissions/visit-the-campus.aspx

Regional Educational Coalitions

University Center of Greenville - https://greenville.org/

225 S. Pleasantburg Drive
Greenville, SC 29607

Lowcountry Graduate Center - https://www.northcharleston.org/business_detail_T4_R127.php

5300 International Boulevard, Building B, Suite 100
North Charleston, SC 29418

Two-year Regional Campuses (USC)

USC Lancaster

476 Hubbard Drive
Lancaster, SC 29728 – Open House Dates
https://sc.edu/about/system_and_campuses/lancaster/

USC Salkehatchie

PO Box 617
Allendale, SC 29810 – Open House Dates
https://sc.edu/about/system_and_campuses/salkehatchie/apply/visit_campus/index.php

USC Sumter

200 Miller Road
Sumter, SC 29150-2498 – Open House Dates - https://sc.edu/m/carolina-preview/

USC Union

PO Drawer 729
Union, SC 29379 – Open House Dates - https://sc.edu/m/carolina-preview/

SC COLLEGES, UNIVERSITIES, TECHNICAL SCHOOLS AND IVY LEAGUE UNIVERSITIES
+ FALL/WINTER 2026 OPEN HOUSE DATES

Technical Colleges

State Board for Technical and Comprehensive Education (SBTCE)

111 Executive Center Drive
Columbia, SC 29210
https://www.sctechsystem.edu/

Aiken Technical College

PO Drawer 696
Aiken, SC 29802-0696
https://www.atc.edu/

Central Carolina Technical College

506 North Guignard Drive
Sumter, SC 29150-2499
https://www.cctech.edu/

Denmark Technical College

PO Box 327
Denmark, SC 29042-0327
https://www.denmarktech.edu/

Florence-Darlington Technical College

PO Box 100548
Florence, SC 29501-0548 – Open House Dates - https://www.fdtc.edu/open-house/

Greenville Technical College

PO Box 5616
Station B, Greenville, SC 29606-5616 – Open House Dates - https://www.gvltec.edu/why_GTC/open_house.html

Horry-Georgetown Technical College

PO Box 261966
Conway, SC 29528-6066 – Open House Dates - https://www.hgtc.edu/admissions/openhouse.html

Midlands Technical College

PO Box 2408316 Beltline Boulevard
Columbia, SC 29202-2408 – Open House Dates - https://www.midlandstech.edu/calendar/mtc-open-house-events

SC COLLEGES, UNIVERSITIES, TECHNICAL SCHOOLS AND IVY LEAGUE UNIVERSITIES
+ FALL/WINTER 2026 OPEN HOUSE DATES

Northeastern Technical College

PO Drawer 1007
Cheraw, SC 29150-1007 – Open House Dates -
http://www.netc.edu/news_article.php?NETC-to-Showcase-New-Programs-and-Equipment-at-Pageland-Open-House-470

Orangeburg-Calhoun Technical College

3250 St. Matthews Road
Orangeburg, SC 29118 – Open House Dates - https://www.octech.edu/

Piedmont Technical College

PO Drawer 1467
Greenwood, SC 29648-1467 – Open House Dates - https://www.ptc.edu/admissions/visit

Spartanburg Community College

PO Drawer 4386
Spartanburg, SC 29305-4386 – Open House Dates - https://www.sccsc.edu/admissions-aid/campus-tours/index.php

Technical College of the Lowcountry

PO Box 1288921 S. Ribaut Road
Beaufort, SC 29901-1288 – Open House Dates - https://www.tcl.edu/about-tcl/request-a-tour/

Tri-County Technical College

PO Box 587
Pendleton, SC 29670-0587 – Open House Dates - https://www.tctc.edu/admissions/tour-tctc/

Trident Technical College

PO Box 1180677118 Rivers Avenue
Charleston, SC 29423-8067 – Open House Dates - https://www.tridenttech.edu/start/before/ad_visit.htm

Williamsburg Technical College

601 MLK Jr. Avenue
Kingstree, SC 29556-4197 - https://www.wiltech.edu/

York Technical College

452 S. Anderson Road
Rock Hill, SC 29730-3395 – Open House Dates - https://www.yorktech.edu/admissions/visit-campus/

SC COLLEGES, UNIVERSITIES, TECHNICAL SCHOOLS AND IVY LEAGUE UNIVERSITIES
+ FALL/WINTER 2026 OPEN HOUSE DATES

South Carolina Private Colleges and Universities

College include – Claflin, Wofford, Voorhees, Furman, Presbyterian, Morris and many more! Click the link below for more information: **https://scicu.org/**

Ivy League Universities

Ivy League Schools – See the list of Ivy League Schools and their requirements.
https://acrobat.adobe.com/id/urn:aaid:sc:VA6C2:9e25081a-c818-45d9-8172-51d2f0081711





FALL/WINTER SCHOLARSHIP LIST

Scholarship Name	Deadline	Amount	Criteria
Call Me MISTER	**Varies**	**Varies**	Call Me MISTER is building the next generation of Black male teachers. Check the website below for partner institutions and scholarship information. https://scsu.edu/academics/college-of-education-humanities-and-social-sciences/call-me-mister.php
Chic Fil A Remarkable Futures Scholarship	**Varies**	**Varies**	Remarkable Futures Scholarship program, scholarship awards ranging $1,000, $2,500, and $25,000 are awarded to Team Members who work at a franchised, company-owned and/or affiliated restaurant. Check website for updates. https://www.chick-fil-a.com/remarkable-futures-scholarships
College Board Opportunity Scholarship	**Varies**	**Varies**	Earn money for college for each "action step" you complete! Build your college list ($500), practice for the SAT ($1,000), Improve your SAT score ($2,000), Strengthen your college list ($500), Complete the FAFSA ($1,000), Apply to Colleges ($1,000). Complete all 6 steps to be eligible for a $40,000 scholarship!
Garden Club of South Carolina	**Varies**	**Varies**	Various Scholarships available. https://gardenclubofsc.org/Scholarships
Go Transcript	**Varies**	**$5000**	Check the website to complete the application. https://gotranscript.com/scholarship-program

Golden Doors Scholarship	**Varies**	**Varies**	Golden Door Scholars provides students with the support and financial aid necessary to invest in their education and shape their futures. More than scholarships, GDS is a vibrant and determined community that offers comprehensive support, including career readiness programs, mentorship, and intentional programming, going beyond financial assistance. **https://gotranscript.com/scholarship-program**
Path to Pro Scholarship	**Varies**	**$2500**	Visit the website for more information **https://webportalapp.com/sp/login/skillpointefoundation_homedepot-pathtopro**
Palmetto Boys State Participants Scholarship	**Varies**	**Varies**	Several colleges and universities in South Carolina have agreed to provide scholarships for graduates of Palmetto Boys' State. See the list for specific institutions, descriptions, and deadlines. **https://palmettoboysstate.com/scholarships/**
PlayStation Career Pathways	**Varies**	**$30,000 total**	PlayStation Career Pathways is a multi-year career readiness program that elevates the next generation of business, creative and technical talent, bridges the opportunity gap, and removes financial barriers to higher education. Pathways Scholars get access to scholarships, mentorships and insider gaming industry expertise. **https://www.playstation.com/en-us/corporate/playstation-careers/playstation-career-pathways/**
Starbucks – Free Bachelor's Degree Arizona State University	**Varies**	**See website for information**	The Starbucks College Achievement Plan (SCAP) is a first of its kind partnership with Starbucks and Arizona State University (ASU) that creates an opportunity for all eligible U.S. Starbucks partners (employees) to earn their first-time bachelor's degree through ASU's top-ranked online degree program. See website for more information. Check website for more information. **https://starbucks.asu.edu/**

Thiel Fellowship	**Varies**	**$100,000**	See website for scholarship qualification and information. https://thielfellowship.org/
Thurgood Marshall Scholarship	**Varies**	**Varies**	The Thurgood Marshall College Fund (TMCF) and McDonald's are proud to offer financial assistance to outstanding students attending Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs). Check website for updates. https://tmcf.org/scholarships/
UNCF Scholarships – United Negro College Fund	**Varies**	**Varies**	Multiple scholarship opportunities available. Visit website and create an account. https://uncf.org/scholarships
Wells Fargo Scholarship for Disable Students	**Fall**	**Varies**	This scholarship is designed for students with disabilities. Check website for updates. https://scholarshipamerica.org/scholarship/pwdscholarship/
Coca Cola Scholars	**Sep. 30**	**$20,000**	The Coca-Cola Scholars Program scholarship is an achievement-based scholarship awarded to students in their final year of high school. Students are recognized for their capacity to lead and serve, as well as their commitment to making a significant impact on their schools and communities. 150 Coca-Cola Scholars are selected each year to receive this $20,000 scholarship. https://www.coca-colascholarsfoundation.org/
Dr. Pepper Scholarship	**Sep. 30**	**Varies Up to $100,000**	Visit website for more information. https://www.drpepper.com/tuition/closed

The Gates Scholarship	**Sep. 30**	**Full Ride**	The Gates Scholarship (TGS) is a highly selective, last-dollar scholarship for outstanding, minority, high school seniors from low-income households. Each year, the scholarship is awarded to exceptional student leaders, with the intent of helping them realize their maximum potential. Basic Eligibility: high school senior, from at least one of the following ethnicities (African-American, American Indian/Alaska native, Asian & Pacific Islander American, and/or Hispanic American), Pell-eligible, US citizen national or permanent resident, weighted GPA 3.3 on 4.0 scale (or equivalent). See the scholarship website for further qualifications. **https://www.thegatesscholarship.org/**
Courage to Grow Scholarship	**Sep. 30**	**$500**	General; high school juniors/seniors or college students; 2.5+ GPA; U.S. citizens. Monthly program; verify each month. **Courage to Grow Scholarship**
Be Bold Scholarship	**Oct. 1**	**$25,000**	The "Be Bold" Scholarship is a no-essay scholarship that will be awarded to the applicant with the boldest profile. It takes less than 2 minutes to apply. **https://scholarshipguidance.com/scholarships/34919/be-bold-scholarship**
JMJ Phillip Group Scholarship	**Oct. 1**	**$1000**	At JMJ Phillip Group, as an executive search firm specializing in the manufacturing, supply chain, and technology sectors, we know how valuable a STEM-based college education is to helping close the skill gap in the current American job market. We are thrilled to offer one annual $1,000 scholarship for graduating high school students and students looking to contribute to the US economy in the near future. **https://jmjphillip.com/jmj-phillip-stem-scholarship/**
QuestBridge National College Match	**Oct. 1**	**Full Four-Year Scholarship**	High-achieving, low-income high school seniors applying to QuestBridge college partners. Source list date should be confirmed on the current application page. **QuestBridge National College Match**
Sports Gear Swag Scholarship	**Oct. 1**	**$1,000**	General; one-time award for education expenses; no GPA requirement stated by sponsor. Confirm current cycle before applying. **Sports Gear Swag Scholarship**

Young Arts Scholarship	**Oct. 8**	**Varies**	YoungArts identifies exceptional young artists, amplifies their potential, and invests in their lifelong creative freedom. Check website for more information. **https://youngarts.org/apply/**
National Strength and Conditioning Foundation Scholarship	**Oct. 15**	**Varies**	The NSCA Foundation awards hundreds of thousands in scholarship funding each year to outstanding individuals within the strength and conditioning community. See the website for specific qualifications, including pursuing a degree in a strength and conditioning-related field. **https://www.nsca.com/about-us/nsca-foundation/scholarships/?srsltid=AfmBOornsviFrpt3ipzmzuaqBalANyq6-H3ZcP03JWYqhjcV-ecL9drg**
UNC Charlotte Levine Scholars Program	**Oct. 15**	**$172,000 for out of state for 4 years.**	Levine Scholars with full tuition, room, board, a grant to implement a service or outreach project in partnership with a local nonprofit, and four distinctive summer experiences that will develop leadership skills, social awareness and a global perspective. **https://levinescholars.charlotte.edu/scholar-experience/**
United States Senate Youth Program	**Oct. 27**	**$10,000**	Leadership and public service; outstanding high school juniors and seniors. South Carolina selection rules and deadline apply. **United States Senate Youth Program**
Chic-Fil-A Community Scholars	**Oct. 28**	**$25,000**	Chick-fil-A has established a scholarship program to assist students who plan to continue their education in college, vocational, or graduate school programs. **https://www.chick-fil-a.com/community-scholars**
Adventist Women Scholarship	**Oct. 31**	**Varies**	See website for requirements and scholarship information. **https://women.adventist.org/scholarship**

Able Flight Scholarships	**Oct. 31**	**Varies**	The Able Flight Training Scholarship is designed for people who wish top earn a Sport Pilot certificate. It covers ground and flight training, testing, travel and lodging expenses as required. **Applicants for a full scholarship must be available to travel for training for a six-to-eight week period without a break.** https://ableflight.org/scholarships
VFW – Voice of Democracy Contest	**Oct. 31**	**Up to $35,000**	Voice of Democracy Contests is an audio-essay program that provides high school students with the unique opportunity to express themselves in regards to a democratic and patriotic-themed recorded essay. Click on the link below to access the application. https://vfwar.org/di/vfw/v2/default.asp?pid=79991
Dr. Juan Andrade Jr. Scholarship for Young Hispanic Leaders	**Nov. 1**	**$1,000 nonconference or $500 conference-supported**	Hispanic heritage and leadership; full-time students at accredited two- or four-year U.S. institutions. Confirm the current deadline on the sponsor page. Dr. Juan Andrade Jr. Scholarship for Young Hispanic Leaders
George Jenkins Scholarship – University of Miami	**Nov. 1**	**Varies**	The George W. Jenkins Scholarship is one of the premier scholarships available to students at the University of Miami. This scholarship is awarded to high school seniors with strong academic credentials, significant financial need, and a history of overcoming adversity. https://admissions.miami.edu/undergraduate/financial-aid/scholarships/george-w-jenkins/index.html
NC State Park Scholarship	**Nov. 1**	**Full Ride**	THE PARK SCHOLARSHIPS PROGRAM is a four-year scholarship valued at $236,000 and covers: • Tuition, fees, and room and board • Books and personal expenses • $2,000 computer stipend • Enrichment grants to fund study abroad, research projects, service activities, conferences and more. https://park.ncsu.edu/about/

Hispanic Heritage Foundation	**Nov. 3**	**Varies**	The Youth Awards were founded in 1998 by the Hispanic Heritage Foundation. Now entering their 26th year, the Youth Awards honor Latinx high school seniors who excel in the classroom and community and for their excellence in various categories including: Community Service, Education, Engineering, Entrepreneurship & Business, Green Sustainability, Healthcare & Science, Media & Entertainment, Public Service & Social Justice and Technology. Gold, Silver and Bronze recipients are selected in each category and receive a one-time grant to fund their college education or to fund a community service effort that tackles a social issue. **https://hispanicheritage.org/**
Regeneron Science Talent Search	**Nov. 6**	**Varies**	Regeneron STS is the nation's oldest and most prestigious science research competition for high school students. Each year, around 2,000 students enter the Regeneron STS, submitting original research in critically important scientific fields of study and full application for holistic review. Unique among high school competitions, the Regeneron STS focuses on identifying, inspiring, and engaging the nation's most promising future leaders in STEM. **https://www.societyforscience.org/regeneron-sts/**
Kanoski Bresney 'Stand Up to Distracted Driving' Scholarship	**Nov. 9**	**$1,000/5 Recipients**	See website for more scholarship information. **https://www.kanoski.com/community-involvement/distracted-driving-scholarship**
10 Words or Less Scholarship	**Nov. 15**	**$1000**	See website for more scholarship for information. **https://studentscholarships.org/easy.php**
Eisenhower Scholarship	**Nov. 15**	**$44,000 per year for four years**	The Eisenhower Scholarship is Gettysburg College's most selective scholarship. But it's more than just money – it's a four-year investment to turn outstanding young leaders into tomorrow's changemakers. **https://www.gettysburg.edu/admissions-aid/financial-aid-options/eisenhower-scholarship?utm_source=Listrak&utm_medium=Email&utm_term=https%3a%2f%2fwww.gettysburg.edu%2fadmissions-aid%2ffinancial-aid-options%2feisenhower-scholarship&utm_campaign=Merit+Scholarships+at+Gettysburg+College**

GreenPal Business Scholarship	**Nov. 15**	**Varies**	The purpose of The GreenPal Small Business Scholarship is to assist a motivated, driven student and future business leader. If you currently run a small business or have a small business idea to start while you plan to attend college, review the qualifications and criteria in the link for applying. https://www.yourgreenpal.com/scholarship
James Alan Cox Scholarship	**Nov. 15**	**$2500**	High school students applying for these scholarships must have completed one year at an accredited high school (student must therefore be a sophomore or older) and should have taken at least one photography or related art class. **https://www.jamesalancoxfoundation.org/apply/**
Marines Concerto Competition	**Nov. 15**	**Varies**	"The President's Own" United States Marine Band, in conjunction with the Marine Corps Heritage Foundation, is pleased to announce its Concerto Competition for High School Musicians is now open. The winner will appear as a guest soloist with the Marine Band during the 2025 concert season and receive a $2,500 scholarship from the Marine Corps Heritage Foundation. Second and third-place winners will receive $1,000 and $500 scholarships respectively. This competition is open to high school musicians (grades 9-12) enrolled during the 2024-2025 academic year. Woodwind, brass, and percussion players are eligible to apply. Previous competition winners and immediate family members of current/former U.S. Marine Band members are not eligible. All applicants must be U.S. citizens. **https://www.marineband.marines.mil/educational/concerto-competition/**
Robertson Scholars – Duke/ UNC Chapel Hill	**Nov. 15**	**Full Ride – Four Years	8 semesters**	The Robertson Scholars Leadership Program seeks students who have demonstrated outstanding potential to become great leaders in college and beyond. **https://robertsonscholars.org/applying/**
National Space Club and Foundation Scholarship	**Nov. 17**	**$20,000**	Provided to a high school senior, undergraduate or graduate student with definite plans to pursue a career in the Science, Technology, Engineering or Mathematics (STEM) fields. **https://www.spaceclub.org/scholarship/**

National Honor Society Scholarship	**Nov. 24**	**Awards Vary**	The National Honor Society Scholarship is open to all NHS active members in good standing of the local NHS chapter meeting all membership and obligations of the local chapter. **https://www.nhs.us/students/the-nhs-scholarship**
AWS Welder Scholarship	**Nov. 30**	**Varies**	The AWS Welder Training Scholarship is for students seek welder training in a certificate program less than two years in length through a trade school, community college or other facility providing welder training. **https://www.aws.org/Career-Resources/Students/Scholarships/Welder-Training-Scholarship/**
The James F. Byrnes Scholarship Program	**Dec.**	**$4,500 renewable for four years**	Established to assist young SC students who have lost one or both parents to obtain a college education. Annual award of $4500 is renewed each year of a 4-year bachelor's degree contingent upon the maintenance of satisfactory academic standing, need for assistance, and participation in Byrnes Scholar activities. **http://www.byrnesscholars.org**
Amazon Future Engineer Scholarship	**Dec. 1**	**$10,000 for four years.**	The Amazon Future Engineer Scholarship is designed for students who are currently enrolled in or who has completed a high school or dual degree course where computer science or engineering is the subject. Check website for updates. **https://www.amazonfutureengineer.com/scholarships**
Charleston Chapter of Les Dames d'Escoffier Charleston Scholarship	**Dec. 1**	**$3,000**	The Charleston Chapter of Les Dames d'Escoffier Charleston Scholarship is awarded to qualified female applicants who are pursuing careers in culinary arts. Application opens December 1, 2024 **https://ldeicharleston.com/scholarships**
CERRA Teaching Fellows	**Dec. 1**	**Up to $24,000 for four years**	The SC Teaching Fellows application is hosted by Kaleidoscope and serves as the first step in the rigorous identification process for Teaching Fellows. **https://www.cerra.org/page/teaching-fellows-application**

Chuck Hall Star of Tomorrow Scholarship	**Dec. 1**	**$6000**	See website for scholarship qualification and information. https://ibc.smapply.net/
Common App Scholarship	**Dec. 1**	**$2000**	Check the website for scholarship application. https://scholarshipguidance.com/common-app-scholarship-application/?utm_source=salliemae
Converse College Scholarship	**Dec. 1**	**Varies**	Converse College offers scholarships in Music, Art, Theater, and Dance. A portfolio and teacher recommendation is required. https://www.converse.edu/admissions/undergraduate/soa-auditions-and-portfolios/
Coolidge Scholarship	**Dec. 1**	**Full Ride**	The Coolidge Scholarship is an annually awarded full-ride, presidential scholarship that covers a student's tuition, room, board and expenses for four years. https://coolidgescholars.org/
Drug Rehab USA Mental Health Scholarship	**Dec. 1**	**$2,000**	Mental health careers; current U.S. university student in a mental-health degree program; .edu email required. Drug Rehab USA Mental Health Scholarship
Hagan Scholarship	**Dec. 1**	**Up to $100,000**	The Hagan Scholarship is a nationwide need-based merit scholarship, providing recipients "regardless of nationality" with the opportunity to achieve their goals and graduate college debt-free. https://haganscholarships.org/
McDonald's HACER Scholarship	**Dec. 1**	**Amounts vary**	The McDonald's HACER® National Scholarship Program offers scholarships up to 30 outstanding Hispanic students from all over the country, and continues to provide educational opportunities to help narrow the gap that exists for Hispanic college-bound students, further reinforcing McDonald's long-standing commitment to feeding and fostering the diverse communities it serves. https://www.mcdonalds.com/us/en-us/community/hacer.html

Ron Brown Scholarship	**Dec. 1**	**$40,000 over 4 years**	The Ron Brown Scholarship honors the legacy of Ronald H. Brown through a selective scholarship program that advances higher education for community-minded and intellectually gifted African Americans. **https://ronbrown.my.site.com/s/**
Shelley Leake Scholarship	**Dec. 1**	**$2500**	Application now open. **https://www.leekelaw.com/scholarship/**
South Carolina Teaching Fellows	**Dec. 1**	**Up to $24,000**	Education; South Carolina high school seniors pursuing teaching at a participating institution. Confirm the 2027 cohort deadline with CERRA. **South Carolina Teaching Fellows**
Sheri Usher Memorial Scholarship	**Dec. 5**	**$500**	Outdoor interests; middle school students in grades 6-8. Confirm annual deadline and geographic requirements on the sponsor page. **Sheri Usher Memorial Scholarship**
Clemson Lyceum Scholars	**Dec. 7**	**$10,000**	Open to incoming freshmen of any major. **https://www.clemson.edu/centers-institutes/capitalism/lyceum/scholars.html**
Allied Van Lines Scholarship	**Dec. 15**	**$1000**	Check website for application. **https://www.allied.com/scholarship**
Dell Scholars	**Dec. 15**	**Varies**	The Dell Scholars program requires that all applicants have completed in an approved college readiness program in grades 11 and 12. Check website for updates. **https://www.dellscholars.org/students/#keydates**
Overachiever Student Grant	**Dec. 15**	**$15,000**	Pilot will award a $15,000 G2 Overachievers student grant. Fill out the form and submit 1,000 to 2,000 handwritten words explaining how you go above and beyond to improve the lives of others and positively impact the larger world. **https://powertothepen.com/apply/**

USDA 1890 Scholarships	**Dec. 15**	**Full Ride**	The USDA/1890 National Scholars Program is a partnership between USDA and the 1890 historically black land-grant colleges and universities (PDF, 1.2 MB). The program provides full tuition, fees, books, room and board to students pursuing degrees in agriculture, food, natural resource sciences, or related academic disciplines. **https://www.nfc.usda.gov/careers/apply/1890.php**
Doodle for Google	**Dec. 17**	**Scholarship and school technology award; varies**	Creative arts; K-12 students create an original Google Doodle. The 2026-2027 cycle details should be confirmed when posted. **Doodle for Google**
Aya's Future Travel Nurse Scholarship	**Dec. 31**	**$1000**	Each year, up to ten (10) $1,000 scholarships will be awarded to nursing students chosen by Aya's selection committed comprised of seasoned nurse leaders on Aya's clinical services team. **https://www.ayahealthcare.com/travel-nursing/future-travel-nurse-scholarship/**
Arthur M. & Berdena King Eagle Scout Contest	**Dec. 31**	**Varies**	The National Society of the Sons of the American Revolution (SAR) invites all Eagle Scouts interested in the American Revolution to participate in the Arthur M. & Berdena King Eagle Scout Contest. The contest is open to all Eagle Scouts who are currently registered in an active unit and, except as provided in the paragraph below, have not reached their nineteenth birthday during the year of application. The year that the Eagle rank was awarded is not restricted. Awards are as follows: National First Place Winner receives $10,000; 2nd Place – $6,000; 3rd Place – $4,000; 4th Place – $2,000; 5th Place – $1000; 6th thru 10th – $500; and 11th thru 15th – $200. **https://www.sar.org/arthur-m-berdena-king-eagle-scout-contest/**
Kids Chance for South Carolina	**Dec. 31**	**$500-$3,000 typical annual range**	South Carolina students whose parent was killed, seriously injured, or became severely ill in a work-related incident. Scholarships may be requested each eligible semester. **Kids Chance of South Carolina**

SCABSE Scholarship	**Spring**	**$1000**	To qualify for the SCABSE Scholarship you must: Be a citizen of the US, be an African American high school senior, graduating from an accredited public or private school by June 30, 2025, GPA of 3.0 or higher, plan to attend either a four-year university or two-year community college, completed a minimum of 100 hours of community service. Visit the website for scholarship updates. **https://scabse.net/scholarships/**
UCB Foundation	**Spring**	**$5000**	UCB will award 33 one-time scholarships to people living with epilepsy, their family members, and caregivers who are pursuing higher education. See website for application information. **https://www.ucbepilepsyscholarship.com/**
GE Reagan Scholarship	**Jan.**	**Varies**	Check website for updates. **https://www.reaganfoundation.org/education/scholarship-programs/ge-reagan-foundation-scholarship-program/**
U.S. Junior Chamber International (JCI) Senate Foundation	**Jan. 1**	**$1000**	US JCI awards graduating high school seniors who plan to continue their education at an accredited post-secondary college or university. **https://usjcisenate.org/scholarship-program**
Roger W Khan Scholarship	**Jan. 7**	**$10,000**	Institute of the Aeronautical Sciences is awarding up to four $10,000 scholarships to high school seniors who enroll in an engineering major at a college or university. **https://www.aiaa.org/get-involved/k-12-students/scholarships/aiaa-roger-w.-kahn-scholarship**
Taco Bell Foundation Scholarship	**Jan. 8**	**Varies**	Taco Bell Foundation awards $10 million in Live Más Scholarships, with $2 million being awarded through our program for Taco Bell restaurant employees. Check website for updates. **https://www.tacobellfoundation.org/live-mas-scholarship/**
JFK Profiles in Courage Essay Contest	**Jan. 12**	**Varies**	The John F. Kennedy Library Foundation invites U.S. high school students to describe and analyze an act of political courage by a U.S. elected official who served during or after 1917, the year John F. Kennedy was born. **https://www.jfklibrary.org/Education/Profile-in-Courage-Essay-Contest.aspx**

Jackie Robinson Scholarship	**Jan. 14**	**$35,000 over 4 years**	JRF Scholars participate in a four-year, comprehensive program that includes career discernment strategies, job placement, international travel and practical life skills training. **https://jackierobinson.org/apply/**
George Washington Crossing Foundation	**Jan. 15**	**$5,000**	The National Washington Crossing Foundation Scholarship Awards for students completing twelfth grade (or final high school year) in 2025 who are planning careers in government service. **https://www.gwcf.org/scholarship**
James O. Thomason Scholarship	**Jan. 30**	**$2000 Renewable**	This scholarship consists of $2,000* annually, for up to four (4) consecutive years, to help a student further their education in print or photo journalism, advertising, public relations or mass communications. **https://hamptonwildlifefund.org/scholarships/**
David M. Kline Scholarship	**Jan. 31**	**$2000 Renewable**	This scholarship consists of $2,000* annually, for up to four (4) consecutive years, to help a student further their education in print or photo journalism, advertising, public relations or mass communications. **https://hamptonwildlifefund.org/scholarships/**
Harry Hampton Fund Scholarship	**Jan. 31**	**$5000 Renewable**	This scholarship consists of $5,000* annually, for up to four (4) consecutive years, to help a student further their education in the natural resources discipline. **https://hamptonwildlifefund.org/scholarships/**
Thomas Webster Hardick Scholarship	**Jan. 31**	**$5000 Renewable**	This scholarship consists of $5,000* annually, for up to four (4) consecutive years, to help a student further their education in the natural resources discipline. **https://hamptonwildlifefund.org/scholarships/**
Wallace F. Pate Scholarship	**Jan. 31**	**$2500 One Time**	This scholarship consists of a one time award of $2500, for up to four (4) consecutive years, to help a student further their education in print or photo journalism, advertising, public relations or mass communications. **https://hamptonwildlifefund.org/scholarships/**

Archibald Rutledge Scholarship	**Feb.**	**$2000 – 5 Scholarships Total**	The Archibald Rutledge Scholarship program, named for South Carolina's first poet laureate, offers twelfth-grade students (enrolled in a public school in South Carolina) the opportunity to compete for a scholarship in creative writing, dance, music, theatre, or visual arts as well as encourages and recognizes academic and artistic excellence among South Carolina students. **See your school counselor for more information.**
Essential Visionaries Scholarship Fund	**Feb. 2027; exact date pending**	**$5,000 to $10,000; renewable**	Education, counseling, social work, psychology, or pre-nursing/nursing; 2.5+ GPA and financial need. The official site says the 2027 program is tentative and expected to open in February. **Essential Visionaries Scholarship Fund**
Tim DeWitt HARVEST Education Foundation Scholarship	**Feb. 2027; exact date pending**	**Varies**	Agriculture and general education; scholarships include career-focused awards and awards for compelling need. Confirm opening, deadline, and local eligibility. **Tim DeWitt HARVEST Education Foundation Scholarship**
BMW SAE Engineering Scholarship	**Feb. 1**	**$1,000**	STEM and engineering; future engineering students. Confirm current eligibility, accredited-program requirements, and deadline on SAE's page. **BMW SAE Engineering Scholarship**
Jack Kent Cooke Foundation Scholarship	**Feb. 1**	**Amount Varies – Opened to 7th graders**	The Cooke Young Scholars Program is a selective five-year, pre-college scholarship for exceptionally promising 7th grade students with financial need. It provides comprehensive academic and college advising, as well as financial support for school, Cooke-sponsored summer programs, internships, and other learning enrichment opportunities. Check website for application. **https://www.jkcf.org/our-scholarships/**
SMEEF Scholarships	**Feb. 1**	**$2500 - $20,000**	Various scholarship opportunities available. **https://scholarships.smeef.org/applications/**
Venus Morris Griffin Scholarship	**Feb. 1**	**$10,000**	See website for specific criteria to apply. **https://www.venusmorrisgriffin.com/foundation**

USC Norman Topping Scholarship	**Feb. 4**	**Amount not posted on current public page**	Financial need and community service; applicants must be entering an on-campus USC program. February 4 was the 2026-2027 freshman priority deadline; June 1 was the regular deadline. **USC Norman Topping Scholarship**
Watson-Brown Scholarship	**Feb. 8**	**Varies**	The Watson-Brown Foundation provides need and merit based scholarships to select Georgia and South Carolina students attending accredited four-year colleges and universities in the United States. **https://www.watson-brown.org/scholarship/**
Connex Foundation Scholarship	**Feb. 15**	**$5000**	The purpose of the Connex Foundation Scholarship is to assist individuals who are exploring the study of skilled trades or multi-site facility management with the end goal of advancing their career in this field. **https://www.connexfoundation.org/scholarship-opportunities/**
Scholars Helping Collars Scholarship	**Feb. 24**	**$1500**	Students from across the U.S. are invited to apply for P.L.A.Y.'s annual Scholars Helping Collars Scholarship. This $1,500 scholarship rewards one student who can tell the best story, describing the impact he or she made in the life of a rescue animal or animal welfare cause in general. **https://www.petplay.com/pages/scholarship**
ISC2 Cybersecurity Scholarships	**Feb. 28**	**Varies**	See website for scholarship qualification and information. **https://www.iamcybersafe.org/s/undergraduate-scholarships**
Microsoft Disability Scholarship	**Mar.**	**Varies**	The Microsoft Disability Scholarship seeks to empower students with disabilities to achieve more through access to education leading to a career in technology. Check website for updates. **https://www.acs.org/funding/scholarships-fellowships/catalyst-scholarship.html**

SAE Scholarships for Engineering	**Feb. 28**	**Varies**	The SAE Scholarships for Engineering provides a list of scholarships available for students. Check the website for updates. **https://www.sae.org/participate/scholarships/freshman/**
American Chemistry Society	**Mar. 1**	**Up to $5000**	ACS awards renewable scholarships to underrepresented minority students who want to enter the fields of chemistry or chemistry-related fields. African American, Hispanic, Pacific Islander (excluding Asian) or American Indian high school seniors or college freshman, sophomores, or juniors pursuing a college degree in the chemical sciences or chemical technology are eligible to apply. Seniors can apply for their fifth year. **https://www.acs.org/education/acs-scholars/apply.html**
The Marine Corps Scholarship Foundation	**Mar. 1**	**Varies**	The Marine Corps Scholarship Foundation provides scholarships to eligible children of Marines and Navy Corpsmen, Chaplains, and Religious Program Specialists. For students pursuing post-secondary education at any accredited school - trade school, career training school, community college, or four-year university. **https://www.mcsf.org/**
Army ROTC Scholarships	**Mar. 4**	**Up to full tuition plus allowances**	Military service and leadership; high school and college pathways. Deadlines vary by application cycle and board. **Army ROTC Scholarships**
Create A Greeting Card Scholarship Contest	**Mar. 8**	**$10,000**	Creative arts; submit original greeting-card artwork. Confirm the active contest-year closing date. **Create A Greeting Card Scholarship Contest**
Horatio Alger Scholarship	**Mar. 15**	**Amount Varies**	The Horatio Alger Association supports deserving young people who are overcoming significant challenges and are committed to pursuing higher education. Our scholarships and services serve as a powerful symbol of recognition of Scholars' character and of our belief in their potential. See website below for the various scholarship opportunities. **https://horatioalger.org/scholarships/**

Leonard M. Perryman Communications Scholarship	**Mar. 15**	**$2,500**	Communications and faith; United Methodist racial-ethnic minority undergraduate at junior or senior level studying journalism or communications. **Leonard M. Perryman Communications Scholarship**
The Shell Technical Scholarship and Shell Incentive Fund Scholarship	**Mar. 15**	**$2500**	The Shell Technical Scholarship and Shell Incentive Fund Scholarship have been created to provide financial and career assistance to graduating high school seniors who have expressed an interest in the energy industry and demonstrated an aptitude in mathematics and science. Check website for updates. **https://bigfuture.collegeboard.org/scholarships/shell-oil-company-technical-scholarships-for-high-school-seniors**
SC State Fair Scholarship	**Mar. 15**	**$2500 for four years**	The South Carolina State Fair annually awards 50 scholarships to South Carolina high school students planning to pursue their studies at any public or private college, university, or technical college in the state. See website for updated application. **https://www.scstatefair.org/scholarship-requirements/**
The SC Coaches Association of Women's Sports Education Scholarship	**Apr.**	**$1000**	The South Carolina Coaches Association of Women's Sports (SCCAWS) and Trophies by "M" annually offer a scholarship to an incoming female college freshman from South Carolina. The scholarship is a one-time monetary award of $1000 presented to a student who plans to major in the medical field. **https://acrobat.adobe.com/id/urn:aaid:sc:VA6C2:8335d3c2-3184-435a-8b09-c500d2d83322**
Shawn Carter Foundation	**Apr.**	**Varies**	Our scholars and graduates are talented, resilient and diverse, assuming leadership roles on and off campus and in their professions, and collectively, contribute nearly 4000 hours of their time annually to giving back to their communities. See website for spring opportunities. **https://shawncartersf.com/scholarship/**

Tywanza Sanders Legacy Scholarship	**Apr.**	**Varies**	The Tywanza Sanders® Legacy Scholarship was established in 2017 to honor the legacy of Tywanza Sanders® and his commitment to education. Tywanza was a victim of the Emanuel Church shooting in Charleston, South Carolina. The mission of the scholarship is to provide financial assistance to graduating high school seniors enrolling in undergraduate study at a four-year college or university in the United States. Visit the website below to see when the application is available. **https://www.tywanzasanderslegacyfoundation.com/scholarships**
Davis Putter Scholarship	**Apr. 1**	**Up to $15,000**	Need-based; students active in progressive social-change movements and enrolled in college, university, trade, or technical programs. **Davis Putter Scholarship Fund**
Lockheed Martin Scholarship	**Apr. 1**	**Varies**	The Lockheed Martin Scholarships identify the next generation of STEM talent. Check website for updates. **https://www.lockheedmartin.com/en-us/who-we-are/communities/stem-education/lm-scholarship-program.html**
NAACP Scholarships	**Apr. 1**	**Varies by Program**	Need- and merit-based opportunities for eligible undergraduate and graduate students. Review each named scholarship because requirements and dates differ. **NAACP Scholarships**
Veterans United Foundation Scholarship	**Apr. 1**	**Varies**	Open to high school seniors who are the child of a deceased service member from a service related death, Ten $3000 scholarships are awarded twice a year. **https://www.enhancelives.com/scholarships/**
Gloria Barron Prize for Young Heroes	**Apr. 15**	**$10,000**	Service and leadership; U.S. and Canadian youth ages 8-18 who have led a significant service project. This is a youth prize, not a conventional college scholarship. **Gloria Barron Prize for Young Heroes**
Kenneth Shuler Scholarship	**May 1**	**Varies**	The Jumpstart Scholarship is offered to current high school seniors who enroll at one of Kenneth Shuler's School of Cosmetology campuses. Scholarship amounts are awarded based on current GPA. Must apply by August in the fall after graduation. **https://kennethshuler.com/admissions/scholarships/**

Ted and Holly Rollins Scholarship	**May 15**	**Up to $10,000**	General; supports graduating high school seniors with college expenses. Sponsor describes a biannual scholarship; confirm the active cycle. **Ted and Holly Rollins Scholarship**
New York Life Golden Futures Scholarship	**May 31**	**Varies by program year**	General and career readiness; high school juniors and seniors. Official Scholarship America listings indicate a new cycle is expected to open April 2027. **New York Life Golden Futures Scholarship**
Rudolph Canzater Scholarship	**May 31**	**Varies**	The Rudolph Canzater Scholarship is a need-based scholarship. Visit the website to create an account and view the timeline for the spring opportunities. **https://www.jecsrf.org/canzater-classic-application/**
Tragedy to Triumph Scholarship	**Jun.**	**$2500**	Anastopoulo Law Firm awards a $2,500 academic-based scholarship to two (2) deserving students in South Carolina who are pursuing higher education at an accredited college/university or graduate school. Students from all areas of study are invited to participate. **https://www.akimlawfirm.com/tragedy-to-triumph-scholarship-2024/**
Duck Brand Stuck at Prom Scholarship Contest	**Jun. 3**	**$10,000 first-place awards; other prizes**	Creative design; high school students create Duck Tape promwear. The source list's "Spring" label was replaced with the verified 2026 date; the 2027 cycle is not yet posted. **Duck Brand Stuck at Prom Scholarship Contest**
Abbott and Fenner Scholarship by A&F Business Consultants	**Jun. 10**	**$1000**	Visit the website for more information **http://www.abbottandfenner.com/scholarships.php**

Lariat Future Innovators STEM Scholarship	**Jun. 15**	**Varies**	For lower-income students from a small town who want to pursue degrees in Math and/or Science who meet the following criteria: • From a small town of 25,000 or less • Family household income of $55,00 or less • Curious, highly-motivated in and out of the classroom • Want to create an invention, exceled on a project or won a Math or Science award • Passionate about Science • Earn mostly As in Science and Math courses, 3.5 or above GPA, and/or take AP courses **https://lariatfoundation.org/**
Huntington Learning Center College Scholarship	**Jul. 31**	**$4,000**	General contest for eligible high school students. The listed date was for a prior cycle; confirm the next cycle before promoting. **Huntington Learning Center College Scholarship**
Project Yellow Light Scholarship	**Jul. 31**	**$2000**	See website for scholarship information. **https://www.projectyellowlight.com/instructions**



SCHOLARSHIPS WITH VARYING DEADLINES

Deadline	Scholarship	Award	Theme & Key Eligibility
Monthly	SoFi Scholarship Giveaway	$2,500	General sweepstakes; register for the applicable monthly drawing. This is a random drawing, not a merit scholarship. Review official rules.
Local deadlines vary	Scholastic Art and Writing Awards	Varies	Creative arts and writing; students in grades 7-12 enter through their regional program. Deadlines vary by region and category.
Regional deadlines vary	American Legion Oratorical Contest	Up to $25,000 at national level	Public speaking and U.S. Constitution; high school students advance through local, state, and national contests. Contact the South Carolina American Legion for the first deadline.
State and board deadlines vary	Air Force ROTC Scholarships	Tuition and other benefits vary	Military service, leadership, and academics; high school and in-college options have different requirements and timelines.
Program deadlines vary	DECA Scholarships	Varies	Business, marketing, hospitality, finance, and entrepreneurship; open to eligible DECA student members. Each award has separate criteria.
Program deadlines vary	EVERFI Scholarships	Varies	Financial literacy, health, career readiness, and other module-linked contests for eligible K-12 students. Each opportunity has its own rules and deadline.
Program deadlines vary	Elks National Foundation Scholarships	Varies by program	Academics, leadership, and service; multiple programs, including Most Valuable Student. Use the official program page for the active deadline.
Program deadlines vary	Hispanic Scholarship Consortium Scholars Program	Varies	Hispanic/Latino leadership; graduating seniors and current certificate, associate, and bachelor's students. Confirm residency and partner-specific requirements.
Program deadlines vary	McDonalds HACER National Scholarship	Varies; national program awards total $1 million	Hispanic heritage, academics, community involvement, and financial need; eligible high school seniors. Confirm the active application cycle.
College and FAFSA deadlines apply	Meeting Street Scholarship Fund	Up to $40,000 over four years	South Carolina; spring 2027 SC high school graduates who qualify for LIFE or Palmetto Fellows, complete FAFSA, receive Pell Grant, and attend an eligible SC college.
Financial-aid deadlines vary	South Carolina Workforce Industry Needs Scholarship	Up to $5,000 per year after other aid	South Carolina technical-college workforce programs; amount depends on program, enrollment, and other aid. Apply through an eligible SC technical college.

Deadline	Scholarship	Award	Theme & Key Eligibility
Deadline not posted	South Carolina Association of Counties Scholarship Program	$5,000	South Carolina county-based scholarship; Orangeburg County is included in the 2027 Board of Directors rotation. Contact SCAC for the official application and deadline.
Directory; deadlines vary	Central Carolina Community Foundation Scholarship Directory	Varies	Local and regional scholarship directory. Each fund has separate criteria and deadline; listed amounts are past averages and are not guarantees.
Date not posted	Vegetarian Resource Group Scholarship	$10,000 and $5,000 awards	Vegetarian/vegan advocacy; graduating U.S. high school seniors who promoted vegetarianism in school or community. Confirm the upcoming deadline.



Scholarships by Common Theme

Students may qualify in more than one category. Use the linked names in the deadline calendar for complete descriptions and official applications.

South Carolina and Local Opportunities

- Meeting Street Scholarship Fund
- South Carolina Teaching Fellows
- Kids Chance of South Carolina
- South Carolina Association of Counties Scholarship Program
- South Carolina Workforce Industry Needs Scholarship
- Central Carolina Community Foundation Scholarship Directory

Academic Access and Financial Need

- QuestBridge National College Match
- USC Norman Topping Scholarship
- Davis Putter Scholarship Fund
- Elks National Foundation Scholarships
- Ted and Holly Rollins Scholarship
- New York Life Golden Futures Scholarship

Leadership Service and Public Affairs

- United States Senate Youth Program
- VFW Voice of Democracy
- Washington Crossing Foundation Scholarship
- Gloria Barron Prize for Young Heroes
- American Legion Oratorical Contest
- Courage to Grow Scholarship

Career and Major Specific

- Essential Visionaries Scholarship Fund
- BMW SAE Engineering Scholarship
- Drug Rehab USA Mental Health Scholarship
- Leonard M. Perryman Communications Scholarship
- Tim DeWitt HARVEST Education Foundation Scholarship
- DECA Scholarships
- EVERFI Scholarships

Military and ROTC

- Army ROTC Scholarships
- Air Force ROTC Scholarships

Arts Writing and Creative Contests

- Doodle for Google
- Create A Greeting Card Scholarship Contest
- Duck Brand Stuck at Prom Scholarship Contest
- Scholastic Art and Writing Awards

Hispanic Heritage and Leadership

- Dr. Juan Andrade Jr. Scholarship for Young Hispanic Leaders
- Hispanic Scholarship Consortium Scholars Program
- McDonalds HACER National Scholarship

General Scholarships and Sweepstakes

- SoFi Scholarship Giveaway
- Sports Gear Swag Scholarship
- Huntington Learning Center College Scholarship

Special Interests and Circumstances

- Vegetarian Resource Group Scholarship
- Sheri Usher Memorial Scholarship

Related Academic Recognition Program

South Carolina Junior Scholars Program

This program identifies and recognizes academically talented eighth-grade students and connects them with special academic and summer opportunities. It is not a monetary scholarship and therefore is not included in the deadline calendar.

Final Verification Checklist

- Confirm the deadline and time zone on the official sponsor page.
- Confirm grade level, citizenship or residency, GPA, major, and enrollment requirements.
- Check whether an institutional nomination, counselor certification, FAFSA, transcript, recommendation, essay, audition, artwork, or local submission is required.
- Save a copy of the application and confirmation email.
- Report suspected broken links or changed deadlines so the district list can be updated.

NOTES

NOTES


ORANGEBURG
COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT