



Scholarships and Financial Aid

There are three types of financial aid- scholarships , grants, and loans.

Grant and loan eligibility is determined based on the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). The FAFSA is available online at www.fafsa.ed.gov after January 1 of each year. Based on your financial information, students may be eligible for grants (money that is not paid back) or loans (money that is paid back). There is not any paperwork you can do until January 1 of your senior year because the FAFSA requires your tax information from the previous year.

Scholarships are merit based awards. One of the strongest scholarship programs in South Carolina are the lottery scholarships- Hope, Lottery, Palmetto Fellows, and Lottery-Tuition Assistance. It is important to note that these scholarships may only be used for colleges and universities located in South Carolina. The only lottery scholarship that requires an application is Palmetto Fellows. The college you are admitted to is responsible for the awards process for the Hope, Life, and Lottery Tuition Assistance Program. Please note that Life and Hope are based on final GPA. More information can be found on the Commission of Higher Education website at www.che.sc.gov.

South Carolina lottery Scholarships: Hope. Life. Palmetto fellows. Lottery Tuition Assistance

SC Hope Scholarship

* Full-time students attending a four-year institution may receive up to **\$2,800** (including \$300 book allowance) toward the cost-of-attendance during the first year only. Half will be awarded in the fall semester and half in the spring semester.

*Students eligible to receive the SC HOPE Scholarship for up to two terms based on initial college enrollment.

*Students who receive the SC HOPE Scholarship and earn a 3.0 LIFE GPA and 30 credit hours by the end of the first year may receive the LIFE Scholarship for the second year of college. AP credit and dual enrollment count toward these 30 hours.

LIFE Scholarship

*Must not be a recipient of the SC HOPE Scholarship, Palmetto Fellows Scholarship or Lottery Tuition Assistance during the academic year.

Initial Eligibility Requirements for Students Attending Four-Year Institutions:

First-time, full-time entering freshmen attending an eligible SC Institution must meet two of the following three criteria to qualify for the LIFE Scholarship:

1. Minimum 3.0 cumulative GPA based on the SC Uniform Grading Scale;
2. Minimum 1100 SAT or 24 ACT ; and
3. Rank in the top 30% of the graduating class

Initial Eligibility Requirements for Students Attending Two-Year Institutions:

1. Minimum 3.0 cumulative GPA based on the SC Uniform Grading Scale.

Award Amounts:

Full-time students attending an eligible SC four-year institution may receive **up to \$5,000** (including a \$300 book allowance) toward the cost of attendance each academic year.

Full-time students attending an eligible SC two-year institution may receive **up to the cost of tuition** and fees plus a \$300 book allowance.

Palmetto Fellows Scholarship

COUNSELORS WILL NOTIFY ALL ELIGIBLE CANDIDATES IN NOVEMBER.

*** For early awards,** students must submit applications to the Commission on Higher Education by December of their senior year. In order to be eligible to apply for early awards, students must meet all of the criteria in either #1 or #2 below:

1. Score at least 1200 on the SAT (27 ACT) by the November test administration of the high school senior year, earn a minimum 3.5 cumulative GPA on the SC Uniform Grading Scale at the end of the junior year, and rank in the top six percent of the class at the end of either the sophomore or junior year; or

2. Score at least 1400 on the SAT (32 on the ACT) by the November test administration of the high school senior year and earn a minimum 4.0 cumulative GPA on the SC UGS at the end of the junior year, without regard to class rank.

***For final awards,** students must submit applications to the Commission on Higher Education by June of their senior year. In order to be eligible to apply for final awards, students must meet one of the following criteria:

1. Score at least 1200 on the SAT (27ACT) by the June national test administration of the senior year, earn a minimum 3.5 cumulative GPA on the SC UGS at the end of the senior year, and rank in the top six percent of the class at the end of the senior year; or

2. Score at least 1400 on the SAT (32 ACT) by the June national test administration and earn a minimum 4.0 cumulative GPA on the SC UGS at the end of the senior year, without regard to class rank.

***For final awards,** students must submit applications to the Commission on Higher Education by June after their senior year. In order to be eligible to apply for final awards, students must meet one of the following criteria:

1. Score at least 1200 on the SAT (27ACT) by the June national test administration of the senior year, earn a minimum 3.5 cumulative GPA on the SC UGS at the end of the senior year, and rank in the top six percent of the class at the end of the sophomore, junior or senior year; or

2. Score at least 1400 on the SAT (32 ACT) by the June national test administration and earn a minimum 4.0 cumulative GPA on the SC UGS at the end of the senior year, without regard to class rank.

Award Amounts

*Freshman students may receive **up to \$6,700** during the first academic year toward the cost-of-attendance

*Sophomores, juniors and seniors may receive **up to \$7,500** each academic year toward the cost-of-attendance.

Lottery Tuition Assistance

Eligibility Criteria

*Must file the FAFSA each year

*Enroll in minimum of six (6) credit hours each term as a degree –seeking student in a certificate, diploma or associate’s degree program

Awarding Process

*Must first apply federal grants and the SC Need-based Grant toward the cost-of-tuition

*Students may receive up to \$75 per credit hour if enrolled in part-time and up to \$900 if enrolled full-time toward the cost-of-tuition



More Scholarship Resources

There are other scholarships available to students. Education is an investment, and students must invest time to look for financial aid. Check with the workplaces of your parents, and any church or community groups to see if they have any scholarships. Travelers Rest High School will host a financial aid workshop in February to help answer any questions. If you would like to begin looking before this time, some helpful websites are listed below:

www.fastweb.com

A great source for scholarship information and has an extensive search feature.

www.collegeboard.org

Click on "College Planning" and then on "Pay for College" where you will find valuable information about financial aid and college costs.

www.scicu.org

If you are considering one of South Carolina's independent Colleges or Universities, you can download a free college guide here where you can find all of the information needed to make a well-informed decision including financial aid information, school visitation days, quick facts, and school profiles.



Scholarship Updates

As the counseling office receives individual scholarship information, it will be posted on the guidance website. Students are encouraged to visit the counseling office to view the scholarship files. Students are also reminded to check their school email for scholarship updates emailed from their school counselor. There will also be published scholarship updates available for pick up in the guidance office.