

January 6, 2005

MEMORANDUM

To: Mr. Dalton B. Floyd, Jr., Chair, and Members
Commission on Higher Education

From: Mr. Daniel Ravenel, Interim Chair, and Members,
Committee on Access & Equity and Student Services

2003-04 Palmetto Fellows Scholarship

The Palmetto Fellows Scholarship Program is a merit-based scholarship program designed to recognize the most academically talented high school seniors in S.C. and encourage them to attend college in the State. Each Palmetto Fellow could receive a scholarship of up to \$6,700 per year for a maximum of eight terms. The scholarship must be applied towards the cost-of-attendance to pursue the first baccalaureate or professional degree at a participating senior institution in the State.

In order to be eligible to apply for a Palmetto Fellows Scholarship for the 2003-04 Academic Year, a student must have met the following minimum academic requirements: (1) score at least 1200 on the SAT or 27 on the ACT; (2) earn a 3.5 cumulative GPA on the Uniform Grading Scale through the end of the junior year; and (3) rank in the top six percent of the class at the end of either the sophomore or the junior year. For the 2004 cohort of first-time entering freshmen, the Commission on Higher Education received 1486 applications. 1205 new scholarships were awarded to students with an average SAT score of 1305 (ACT scores were converted to SAT). For renewal, students must earn thirty credit hours and a 3.0 cumulative GPA for graduation purposes by the end of each academic year.

For the 2003-04 academic year, \$21.9 million was disbursed to 3414 Palmetto Fellows as of August 7, 2004. This is a 12% increase in the number of students awarded compared with 2002-03. The following pages provide detailed reports to include: number of Palmetto Fellows awarded and amount disbursed per institution; recipients by ethnic group; recipients by gender; recipients by student level; retention statistics; 2003-04 Palmetto Fellows by county of origin; and, 2004 first-time entering Palmetto Fellows by county of origin. These reports may also be found at the Commission's website at www.che.sc.gov.

South Carolina Commission on Higher Education
Academic Year: 2003-04
Scholarship Type: Palmetto Fellows Scholarship

Date: 08/07/2004

| | Revised Fall 2003 | | Revised Spring 2004 | | Summer 2004 | | Academic Year | |
|-----------------------------|-------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|-------------|-----------------|---------------|-------------------|
| | Number | Amount | Number | Amount | Number | Amount | Number* | Amount |
| The Citadel | 20 | \$59,499 | 20 | \$59,498 | | | 20 | 118,997 |
| Clemson Univ. | 1,166 | 3,883,450 | 1104 | 3,673,431 | 17 | 56,950 | 1,195 | 7,613,831 |
| Coastal Carolina University | 27 | 90,450 | 30 | 100,500 | | | 31 | 190,950 |
| College of Charleston | 330 | 1,101,773 | 331 | 1,108,363 | | | 335 | 2,210,136 |
| Francis Marion University | 42 | 139,522 | 42 | 139,423 | | | 43 | 278,945 |
| Lander University | 23 | 76,617 | 23 | 76,617 | | | 23 | 153,234 |
| South Carolina State Univ. | 2 | 6,700 | 2 | 6,700 | | | 2 | 13,400 |
| U.S.C. - Columbia | 823 | 2,655,165 | 806 | 2,594,332 | | | 832 | 5,249,497 |
| U.S.C. - Aiken | 21 | 66,153 | 22 | 69,841 | | | 23 | 135,994 |
| U.S.C. - Beaufort | | | | | | | | |
| U.S.C. - Upstate | 39 | 129,022 | 35 | 114,301 | | | 40 | 243,323 |
| Winthrop University | 129 | 419,933 | 127 | 415,251 | | | 131 | 835,184 |
| Medical University of S.C. | 7 | 22,333 | 7 | 23,450 | | | 7 | 45,783 |
| SUB-TOTALS | 2,629 | 8,650,617 | 2,549 | 8,381,706 | 17 | 56,950 | 2,682 | 17,089,273 |
| Allen University | | | | | | | | |
| Anderson College | 33 | 110,550 | 30 | 100,500 | | | 33 | 211,050 |
| Benedict College | | | | | | | | |
| Bob Jones University | | | | | | | | |
| Charleston Southern Univ. | 19 | 63,650 | 19 | 63,650 | | | 19 | 127,300 |
| Clafin University | 3 | 10,050 | 3 | 10,050 | | | 3 | 20,100 |
| Coker College | 6 | 20,100 | 4 | 13,400 | | | 6 | 33,500 |
| Columbia College | 16 | 53,600 | 13 | 43,550 | | | 16 | 97,150 |
| Columbia International Univ | 3 | 10,050 | 3 | 10,050 | | | 3 | 20,100 |
| Converse College | 34 | 106,798 | 35 | 108,767 | | | 35 | 215,565 |
| Erskine College | 48 | 158,800 | 47 | 155,450 | | | 49 | 314,250 |
| Furman Univ | 282 | 708,666 | 277 | 695,824 | | | 282 | 1,868,465 |
| Johnson and Wales Univ | | | | | | | | |
| Limestone College | 2 | 6,700 | 2 | 6,700 | | | 2 | 13,400 |
| Morris College | | | | | | | | |
| Newberry College | 12 | 40,200 | 12 | 40,200 | | | 12 | 80,400 |
| North Greenville College | 28 | 93,800 | 27 | 90,450 | | | 28 | 184,250 |
| Presbyterian College | 80 | 268,000 | 79 | 262,724 | | | 81 | 530,724 |
| Southern Wesleyan Univ | 7 | 23,450 | 7 | 23,450 | | | 7 | 46,900 |
| Voorhees College | | | | | | | | |
| Wofford College | 156 | 521,889 | 156 | 521,092 | | | 156 | 1,042,981 |
| SUB-TOTALS | 729 | 2,196,303 | 714 | 2,145,856 | | | 732 | 4,806,134 |
| Spartanburg Methodist Coll. | | | | | | | | |
| SUB-TOTALS | | | | | | | | |
| ACADEMIC TOTALS | 3,358 | \$10,846,920 | 3,263 | \$10,527,563 | 17 | \$56,950 | 3,414 | 21,895,408 |

* Unduplicated headcount

Fall 2003 Palmetto Fellows by Ethnic Group

| | | |
|--------------------------------|--------------|-------------|
| American Indian/Alaskan Native | 8 | 0.2% |
| Asian/Pacific Islander | 99 | 2.9% |
| Black/African American | 93 | 2.7% |
| Hispanic | 20 | 0.6% |
| White/Non-Hispanic | 3010 | 89.6% |
| Unknown | 128 | 4.0% |
| TOTAL | 3,358 | 100% |

Fall 2003 Palmetto Fellows by Gender

| | | |
|--------------|--------------|-------------|
| Men | 1,237 | 36.8% |
| Women | 2,121 | 63.2% |
| TOTAL | 3,358 | 100% |

Fall 2003 Palmetto Fellows by Student Level

| Student Level | Public Senior | Independent Senior | TOTAL |
|--------------------|---------------|--------------------|--------------|
| Freshmen | 844 | 260 | 1,104 |
| Sophomores | 633 | 188 | 821 |
| Juniors | 508 | 116 | 624 |
| Seniors | 629 | 163 | 792 |
| Graduate (Masters) | 1 | 1 | 2 |
| First Professional | 13 | 0 | 13 |
| Not Reported | 1 | 1 | 2 |
| TOTAL | 2,629 | 729 | 3,358 |

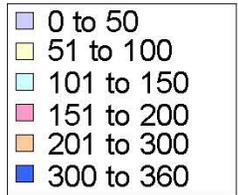
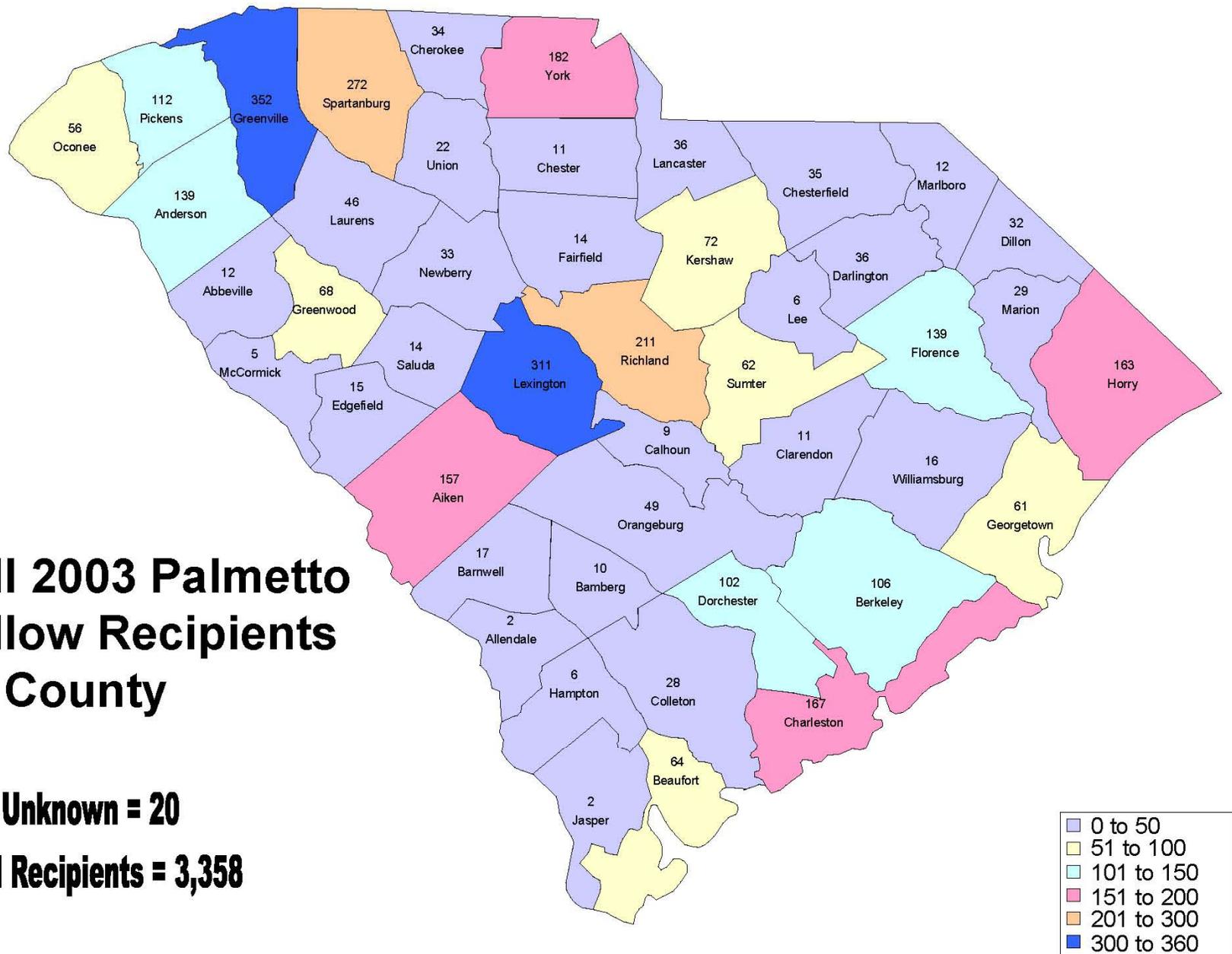
Fall 2002 Palmetto Fellows Scholarships Retaining the Scholarship in Fall 2003

| Institution | Retained at Same Institution | | | |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------|---------------------|------------------|--------------|
| | Freshman to Sophomore | Sophomore to Junior | Junior to Senior | Total |
| Public Senior | 90.1% | 90.1% | 91.6% | 90.5% |
| Independent Senior | 81.7% | 93.2% | 89.8% | 86.8% |
| Subtotal | 88.1% | 90.8% | 91.3% | 89.7% |
| Including students who transferred from originating institution to another institution in the State and retained the scholarship. | | | | |
| Grand Total: | 90.6% | 93.2% | 91.7% | 91.6% |

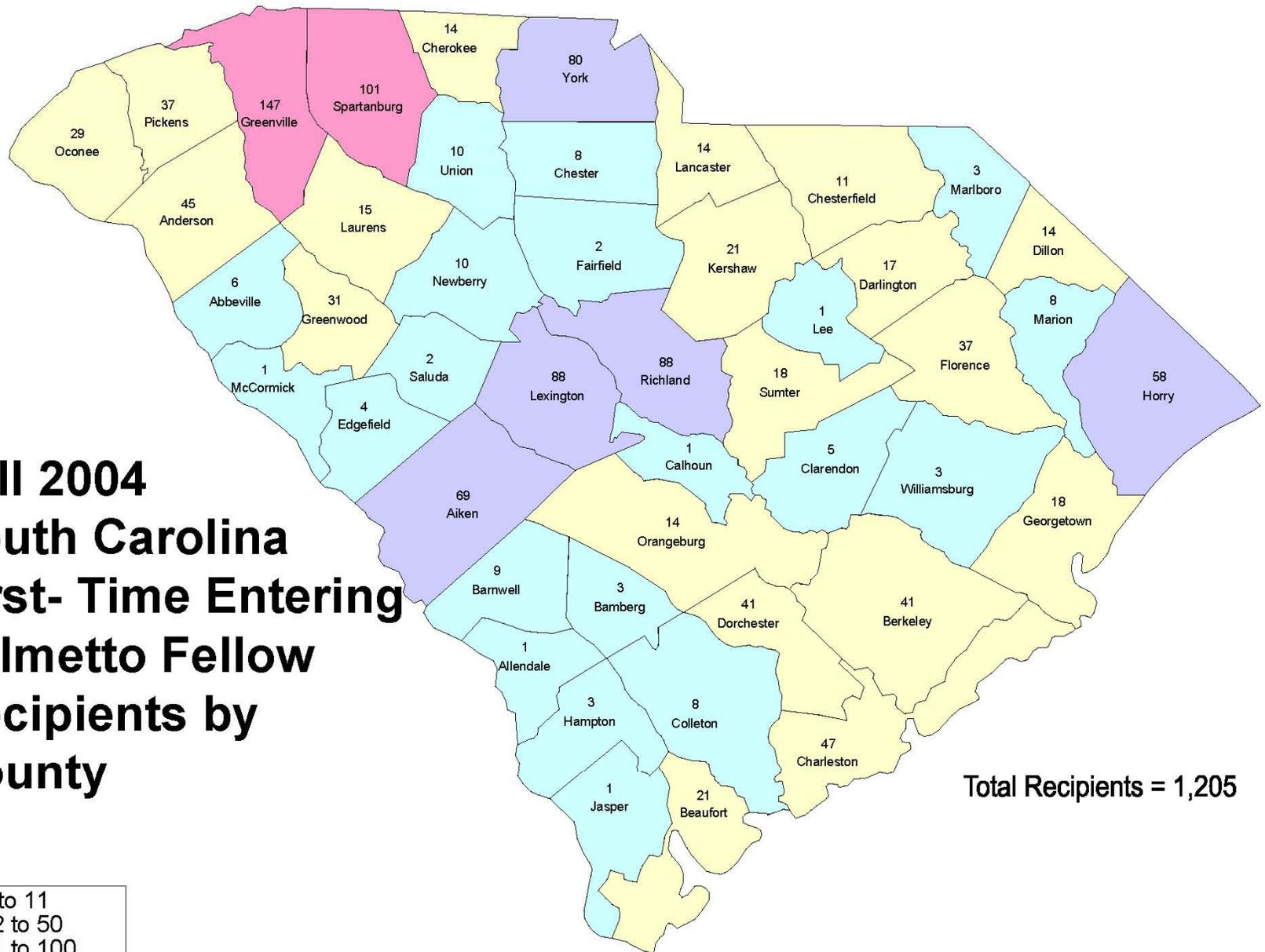
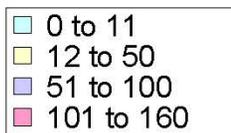
Fall 2003 Palmetto Fellow Recipients by County

Unknown = 20

Total Recipients = 3,358



Fall 2004 South Carolina First- Time Entering Palmetto Fellow Recipients by County



Total Recipients = 1,205