

State Scholarships and Grants Regulation Workshop

**Midlands Technical College
July 16, 2008**

Agenda

10:00	Welcome Introductions 2008 Legislative Updates SC Need-based Grant <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Foster Care Youth/Independent Living- 2008-09 Allocations- Award Methodology- Summer Term Awards House Bill 4408 (Act 235) LIFE Scholarship Enhancement Palmetto Fellows Scholarship Enhancement
11:45	2008 Scholarship Appeal
11:45-1:00	LUNCH
1:00-2:15	SC National Guard College Assistance Program (CAP)
2:15-2:30	Other Business
2:30	Adjournment

**Policy Guidelines and
Scholarship Regulations
can be found at our website
at www.che.sc.gov**

2008 Legislative Updates

2008 Legislative Updates

- Act No. 299 (S.1115) – In-state tuition for certain military personnel & dependents
- Act No. 235 (H.4408) – LIFE & Palmetto Fellows Scholarship Enhancement Eligibility
- Act No. 178 (H.3379) – Use of out-of-state rank for LIFE & Palmetto Fellows Scholarship eligibility
- Act No. 280 (H.4400) – SC Illegal Immigration Reform Act

Act No. 299 (S.1115) – In-state tuition for certain military personnel and their dependents

- When armed service personnel are ordered away from the State, their dependents are eligible for in-state tuition rates as long as they remain continuously enrolled at the state institution where they are enrolled at the time the assignment ends.

Act No. 235 (H.4408) - LIFE & Palmetto Fellows Scholarship Enhancement Eligibility

To be covered later in presentation...

Act No. 178 (H.3379)- Use of out-of-state rank for Scholarship eligibility

The existing high school rank of a South Carolina resident attending an out-of-state high school may be used when calculating initial eligibility for the LIFE and Palmetto Fellows Scholarships, if the rank is calculated pursuant to a state-approved standardized grading scale at the respective out-of-state high school.

Act No. 280 (H.4400) – Illegal Immigration Reform Act (Section 17)

(A) An alien unlawfully present in the United States is not eligible to attend a public institution of higher learning in this State. The trustees of a public institution of higher learning in this State shall develop and institute a process by which lawful presence in the United States is verified. In doing so, institution personnel shall not attempt to independently verify the immigration status of any alien, but shall verify any alien's immigration status with the federal government.

(B) An alien unlawfully present in the United States is not eligible on the basis of residence for a public higher education benefit including, but not limited to, scholarships, financial aid, grants, or resident tuition."

SC Need-based Grant

South Carolina Department of Social Services



State Director, Kathleen M. Hayes

Chafee Independent Living Program
1535 Confederate Avenue – P. O. Box 1520
Columbia, SC 29202-1520

Chafee Independent Living Program

Purpose:

The purpose of the Chafee Independent Living Program is to provide the developmental skills necessary for foster youth to live healthy, productive, self-sufficient and responsible adult lives. The program's overall goal is to provide foster youth with opportunities to learn needed independent living skills and increase the likelihood of successful transition from the foster care system.

State Plan Highlights

- Our agency is interdependent on private organizations and public social service organizations to meet the ever-changing needs of the child welfare population.
- Independent Living (IL) is a mandatory part of each child's case plan for ages 13 to 21 and is individualized based on the specific needs of the youth.

State Plan Highlights (cont.)

- Current policy stipulates that IL is a service concurrently provided with continuing efforts to achieve the youth's return to parents, relative placement or adoption.
- Youth are eligible to receive P.A.T.T.Y. (Providing Assistance to Transitioning Youth) Aftercare services to age 21 years upon leaving foster care at age 18 or older.

State Plan Highlights (cont.)

- Services are provided through each county and regional office to all targeted youth on a statewide basis allowing for unique features of each area to assist transitioning youth.
- Education is presented as an integral part of becoming self-sufficient.

John H. Chafee Foster Care Independence Program

- The John H. Chafee Foster Care Independence Program was created in 1999 with the passage of the Foster Care Independence Act. The Chafee Foster Care Independence Program replaced the Title IV-E Independent Living Initiative of 1986. Its purpose was spelled out in the legislation and had 5 initial points:
- (1) To identify children who are likely to remain in foster care until 18 years of age and to help these children make the transition to self-sufficiency by providing services such as assistance in obtaining a high school diploma, career exploration, vocational training, job placement and retention, training in daily living skills, training in budgeting and financial management skills, substance abuse prevention, and preventive health activities (including smoking avoidance, nutrition education, and pregnancy prevention);

John H. Chafee Foster Care Independence Program (cont.)

- (2) To help children who are likely to remain in foster care until 18 years of age receive the education, training and services necessary to obtain employment;
- (3) To help children who are likely to remain in foster care until 18 years of age prepare for and enter post secondary training and education institutions;
- (4) To provide personal and emotional support to children aging out of foster care, through mentors and the promotion of interactions with dedicated adults;

John H. Chafee Foster Care Independence Program (cont.)

- (5) To provide financial, housing, counseling, employment, education and other appropriate support and services to former foster care recipients between 18 and 21 years of age to complement their own efforts to achieve self-sufficiency and to assure that program participants recognize and accept their personal responsibility for preparing for and then making the transition from adolescence to adulthood; and to make available vouchers for education and training, including post secondary learning and education, to youths who have aged out of foster care (this point was added in the Promoting Safe and Stable Families Amendments of 2001).
- For more information on the Chafee Foster Care Independence Program go to:
<http://www.nrcys.ou.edu/yd/>

Chafee Services

Related to Postsecondary Education

- Pre-college Expenses – Any expense related to applying to college. Examples include but are not limited to:
 - College applications - \$150
 - SAT/ACT fees-up to three of each test
- Transportation to college or vocational school - \$35 per week for commuting students
- Bicycles (includes helmets and locks) used for transportation to work or education - \$200
- Transportation assistance for college students to visit home once each semester to maintain connections - \$75 per visit for maximum of two visits

Chafee Services (cont.)

- Interim Housing for College Students - summer housing funds are available for youth no longer in foster care and in need of housing assistance for the summer. Students may apply for up to \$300 per month a maximum of 3 months. Housing assistance is also available for December-January holidays if dormitories are closed.

Education and Training Voucher Program

- The Promoting Safe and Stable Families Amendment of 2001 amended section 477 of the Social Security Act to add a new purpose to the Chafee Foster Care Independence Program. It also adds a new subsection to section 477. Subsection (i) spelled out the following 6 points:
 - (1) Vouchers under the program may be available to youths otherwise eligible for services under the State program under this section.
 - (2) For purposes of the voucher program, youths adopted from foster care after attaining age 16 may be considered to be youths otherwise eligible for services under the State program under this section.

Education and Training Voucher Program (cont.)

- (3) The State may allow youths participating in the voucher program on the date they attain 21 years of age to remain eligible until they attain 23 years of age, as long as they are enrolled in a post secondary education or training program and are making satisfactory progress toward completion of that program.
- (4) The voucher or vouchers provided for an individual under this section –
 - a. may be available for the cost of attendance at an institution of higher education as defined in section 102 of the Higher Education Act of 1965; and
 - b. Shall not exceed the lesser of \$5,000 per year or the total cost of attendance, as defined in section 472 of that Act.

Education and Training Voucher Program (cont.)

- (5) The amount of a voucher under this section shall be disregarded for the purposes of determining the recipient's eligibility for, or the amount of, any other Federal or Federally supported assistance, except that the total amount of educational assistance to a youth under this section and under other Federal and Federally supported programs shall not exceed the total cost of attendance, as defined in section 472 of the Higher Education Act of 1965, and except that the State agency shall take appropriate steps to prevent duplication of benefits under this and other Federal and Federally supported programs.
- (6) The program is coordinated with other appropriate education and training programs.
- For more information on the Education and Training Voucher program go to: <http://www.nrcys.ou.edu/yd/>

Education and Training Voucher Program (cont.)

- Youth can receive up to \$5,000 per year as long as funds are available through the Education and Training Voucher Program. Youth who complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) form either on line or at their school will have access to all state and federal based scholarships and grants for which they may be eligible. The awarding of ETV funds depends on the cost of the school and the amount of grants and scholarships the youth needs. The \$5,000 award is to be applied to all costs associated with the cost of attendance to a postsecondary school.

Education and Training Voucher Program (cont.)

- This includes, but is not limited to, the following:
 - college placement tests
 - college and/or dorm deposits
 - books, supplies and uniforms
 - tuition and fees
 - computer (not to exceed \$850 desktop or \$1050 laptop)
 - meal plans or meal cards
 - room and board on/off campus
 - parking fees
 - required educational computer software
 - lab equipment
 - school related travel
 - personal allowance for food and transportation for commuting students

Education and Training Voucher Program (cont.)

■ **Criteria for Recipients**

Only youth in the custody of the Department of Social Services with independent living goals as part of the case plan or youth who were in the custody of DSS at 18 years of age are eligible for these funds. Youth are eligible for ETV funds as long as they are in college and have not reached the age of 21, even if they are not in care. Youth participating in the voucher program on the date they attain 21 years of age may remain eligible until they attain 23 years of age, as long as they are enrolled in a post secondary education or training program and are making satisfactory progress toward completion of that program.

■ **Application Process**

DSS Form 30198 (Jan. 08) edition is the only form to be used to make requests for youth. Please be sure that the youth signs the Education and Training Voucher Application because without the youth's signature, the application cannot be approved. Attach copies of the youth's billing statement from the school, financial aid award letter, and acceptance letter (if a freshman).

Education and Training Voucher Program (cont.)

Attachment A
EDUCATION AND TRAINING VOUCHER APPLICATION
(For Post Secondary Only)

A. Was youth adopted after age 16? If yes, skip to Section B. Yes No
 Is Independent Living part of the youth's case plan? Yes No
 Is attendance in post secondary training part of the case plan? Yes No
 Was youth actively involved in the development of the case plan? Yes No
 Computer needed? Yes No
 If yes, laptop or desktop? Laptop Desktop
 Graduation Date: _____

B. Name of Institution: (Attach a copy of acceptance letter. If there is no letter, explain.) _____
 Year of Study: Freshman Sophomore Junior Senior Other
 Choice of Major: (if Known) _____ Alternate: _____

C. Name/Telephone of School Financial Aid Contact: _____
 Annual Cost of Attendance for the Academic Year: \$ _____

ANNUAL EXPENSES FOR THE ACADEMIC YEAR:

Tuition	\$ _____	Parking Fees	\$ _____
Room/Board	\$ _____	Food (No food service on campus)	\$ _____
Fees (Specify on page 4)	\$ _____	Tutoring	\$ _____
Books/Supplies/Uniforms	\$ _____	Equipment (Specify on page 4)	\$ _____
Transportation (Type: _____)	\$ _____	Special Study Projects (Specify on page 4)	\$ _____
Child Care (Age of Child: _____)	\$ _____	TOTAL EXPENSES:	\$ _____

Available Funding: Was a FAFSA form filed? Yes No (Attach a copy of award letter)

SCHOLARSHIPS/GRANT	Amt. Awarded	SCHOLARSHIPS/LOANS	Amt. Awarded
<input type="checkbox"/> Life Scholarship	\$ _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Loans	\$ _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Hope Scholarship	\$ _____	Other Scholarships:	
<input type="checkbox"/> Palmetto Fellows	\$ _____	<input type="checkbox"/> _____	\$ _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Need-Based Grant	\$ _____	<input type="checkbox"/> _____	\$ _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Lottery Tuition Assistance	\$ _____	<input type="checkbox"/> _____	\$ _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Pell Grant	\$ _____	<input type="checkbox"/> _____	\$ _____
<input type="checkbox"/> S.C. Tuition Grant	\$ _____	TOTAL AMOUNT AWARDED:	\$ _____

Amount Needed: Fall 20 ____ \$ _____
 Spring 20 ____ \$ _____
 Summer 20 ____ \$ _____

TOTAL AMOUNT: \$ _____
 (Based upon "Awarded" minus "Expenses")

Youth Signature: _____ Date: _____

DSS Educational Liaison: _____ Date: _____ Amount: \$ _____

DSS Form 30198 (OCT 05) Edition of AUG 03 is obsolete. PAGE 2

Education and Training Voucher Program (cont.)

- **Application Approval Process and Deadlines**

Applications for the fall semester should be submitted by June 30 of each year. Meeting this deadline will ensure that the funds will be in the county offices in time for the fall term. All college funds are approved for the entire academic year of the fall/spring semesters. If a youth plans to attend summer school, funding requests should be made at least two months before the beginning of the summer session.

Chafee Independent Living Unit

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Additional NBG Funds for Foster Care Youth

- **Students must self-identify by May 1st and complete a Foster Care Waiver form. The form must be submitted to:**
 - **Institution**
 - **CHE – Need-based Grant Coordinator**
 - **DSS Independent Living – Bonita Strait**
 - **requires form to be submitted each year**

Institutional Disbursement of Additional NBG Funds for Foster Care Youth

Institutions will receive names of foster care youth attending their institutions and award amount to be requested. Institutions must submit a separate invoice for the additional NBG indicating the name of each Foster Care youth to:

**Jeff Richards
Internal Operations
SC Commission on Higher Education**

QUESTIONS

S.C Need-based Grant

Lottery Proviso 1AA.7

Additional revenue in excess of the amount certified by the Board of Economic Advisors for unclaimed prizes shall be distributed to the Commission on Higher Education for Need-based Grants.

Need-based Grant Proviso

“Need-based grant funds for public institutions must be allocated using a methodology that considers state resident Pell Grant recipients such that each public institution shall receive an amount sufficient to provide a similar level of support per state resident Pell recipient when compared to tuition and required fees. However, no public institution shall receive less funding than would be provided under the methodology used in FY 2007-08”.

NBG Methodology

- Direct funding to institutions with the neediest students.
- Equalize the level rather than the amount.
- Only affects the additional funding and does not affect base amount each institution receives.

* Estimated Allocation of Lottery Funding of \$3.4 M

	2007-08 Tuition & Fees	Avg allocation per eligible student w/current methodology	% of Tuition and Fees Supported w/Current methodology	Avg allocation per eligible student w/new methodology	% of Tuition and Fees Supported w/new method
Coastal Crl.	\$7,600	\$627	8.24%	\$803	10.56%
FMU	\$7,038	\$513	7.30%	\$743	10.56%
Lander	\$7,728	\$614	7.94%	\$816	10.56%
SC State	\$7,318	\$317	4.34%	\$773	10.56%
USC Aiken	\$7,006	\$611	8.71%	\$740	10.56%
USC Upstate	\$7,760	\$579	7.46%	\$820	10.56%
Winthrop	\$10,210	\$677	6.63%	\$1,078	10.56%
USC Salk.	\$4,868	\$374	7.67%	\$514	10.56%
USC Sumter	\$4,868	\$451	9.25%	\$514	10.56%
USC Union	\$4,868	\$315	6.48%	\$514	10.56%
Cntrl Carlna	\$2,920	\$244	8.35%	\$308	10.56%
Horry-Georgtn	\$3,114	\$302	9.71%	\$329	10.56%
NE Tech	\$2,982	\$298	10.01%	\$315	10.56%
Piedmont	\$3,126	\$319	10.20%	\$330	10.56%
TCLC	\$3,150	\$260	8.27%	\$333	10.56%
Williamsburg	\$2,830	\$244	8.64%	\$299	10.56%

*% supported is based on 07-08 tuition & fees & # of Pell Grant students; as a result, award amounts and institutions could change after 08-09 tuition and fees & # of Pell Grant students are established.

* Estimated Allocation of Lottery Funding of \$3.4 M

Coastal Carolina	\$ 191,334
FMU	\$ 295,877
Lander	\$ 168,441
SC State	\$ 948,812
USC Aiken	\$ 102,488
USC Upstate	\$ 338,021
Winthrop	\$ 545,701
USC Salkehatchie	\$ 33,737
USC Sumter	\$ 18,204
USC Union	\$ 24,856
Central Carolina Technical	\$ 55,404
Horry-Georgetown Technical	\$ 34,873
Northeastern Technical	\$ 5,976
Piedmont Technical	\$ 15,929
Technical College of Low Country	\$ 39,060
Williamsburg Technical	\$ 12,645
<u>Tuition Grants</u>	<u>\$ 645,553</u>
TOTAL	\$3,477,913

* % supported is based on 07-08 tuition & fees & # Pell Grant students; as a result, award amounts and institutions may change after 08-09 tuition and fees and # of Pell Grant students are established.

Institutional Disbursement of Unclaimed Lottery Funds

**Institutions must submit a separate invoice for the
unclaimed lottery funds to:**

**Jeff Richards
Internal Operations
SC Commission on Higher Education**

Awarding of Summer Session

62-460A Program Definitions for Administering SC NBG at Public Institutions

"Academic year" is defined as the fall, spring and summer semesters during which a part-time student would be expected to earn a minimum of six credit hours for each semester the student is enrolled for a minimum of 12 credit hours or a full-time student would be expected to earn a minimum of 12 credit hours for each semester to earn a minimum of 24 credit hours.

Awarding of Summer Session

62-465B Student Eligibility

Students enrolled part-time or full-time may not receive a Need-based Grant for more than a maximum of eight full-time equivalent semesters. Students may only receive Need-based Grant funding for up to two semesters of the academic year.

Students who have already been awarded their first baccalaureate degree are not eligible to receive a Need-based Grant.

Awarding of Summer Session

62-470B Policies and Procedures for Awarding Need-based Grants

62-475A Duration of Award and Continued Eligibility

62-475B Duration of Award and Continued Eligibility

62-485A Enrollment in Internships, Cooperative Work Programs, Travel Study Programs, or National or International Student Exchange Programs

62-490A Institutional Disbursement of Need-based Grants

Awarding of Summer Session

62-475E.1. Duration of Award and Continued Eligibility

...If a full-time student is awarded a Need-based Grant for only one semester of the academic year, the student must earn at least twelve credit hours by the end of the term. A part-time student who is awarded a Need-based Grant for only one term must earn at least six credit hours by the end of the term. Credit hours earned during any additional semesters (i.e. interim, winterim, or other non-regular semester) cannot be used to replace or reduce the minimum credit hour requirement for the regular academic year; and

Awarding of Summer Session

62-500 Program Administration and
Audits

Delete 62-490 C, (1) and (2)

62-490 Institutional Disbursement of Need-based Grants

62-490 D. ... A year-end reconciliation report will be submitted to the Commission on Higher Education prior to June 30th.

QUESTIONS

Scholarship Retention by Ethnicity & by Pell Grant Recipients

Scholarship Retention by Ethnicity - Palmetto Fellows Scholarship

Total Scholarship Retention from Fall 2006 Freshman,
Sophomores & Juniors to Fall 2007

Black/African American	*Other Minority	White/Non Hispanic	**Other Unknown	Overall Retention
88%	93%	91%	91%	91%

*Other Minority includes students reported as American Indian/Alaskan Native, Asian or Pacific Islander, Hispanic

**Other includes students reported as Unknown

Note on handout: Cells have been blanked with values of 3 or less and percentages are not calculated. Therefore, totals may not add correctly

Scholarship Retention by Ethnicity - LIFE Scholarship

Total Scholarship Retention from Fall 2006 Freshman, Sophomores & Juniors to Fall 2007				
Black/African American	*Other Minority	White/Non Hispanic	**Other Unknown	Overall Retention
50%	63%	67%	67%	64%

*Other Minority includes students reported as American Indian/Alaskan Native, Asian or Pacific Islander, Hispanic

**Other includes students reported as Unknown

Note on handout: Cells have been blanked with values of 3 or less and percentages are not calculated. Therefore, totals may not add correctly

Scholarship Retention by Ethnicity - SC HOPE to LIFE Scholarship

Total Scholarship Retention from Fall 2006 to Fall 2007

Black/African American	*Other Minority	White/Non Hispanic	**Other Unknown	Overall Retention
15%	19%	25%	33%	22%

*Other Minority includes students reported as American Indian/Alaskan Native, Asian or Pacific Islander, Hispanic

**Other includes students reported as Unknown

Note on handout: Cells have been blanked with values of 3 or less and percentages are not calculated. Therefore, totals may not add correctly

Scholarship Retention by Pell Grant Recipients

	Total # of scholarship recipients receiving Pell Fall 2006	Total # of scholarship recipients receiving Pell Fall 2007	% to Total
SC HOPE to LIFE	865	143	16.5%
LIFE	3,406	1,282	37.6%
Palmetto Fellows	198	163	82.3%

**Palmetto Fellows & LIFE
Scholarship Enhancements**

Fourteen Credit Hour Requirement

(2008 Legislative Changes)

Fourteen Credit Hour Requirement Scholarship Enhancements

- **Act No. 235 (House Bill 4408)** became law on May 22, 2008
 - changed the minimum level of instruction required in mathematics and science courses
 - beginning with the Fall 2007 freshman class & thereafter, must earn fourteen credit hours in the following courses by the end of the first year:
 - mathematics **or**
 - life and physical science **or**
 - a combination of both
 - removed laboratory course requirement

Fourteen Credit Hour Requirement Scholarship Enhancements

- Fourteen credit hour requirement waived for scholarship recipients who completed their first year prior to Fall 2007 (all other criteria applicable for Enhancement eligibility)
- See Policy Guideline dated 6/10/08 for details on courses that can and cannot be used:
www.che.sc.gov/StudentServices/LIFE/Directives/PolicyGuidelineforthePalmettoFellowsandLIFEScholarshipEnhancements.pdf

Fourteen Credit Hour Requirement Scholarship Enhancements

Sector	Palmetto Fellows – Fall 2007	No. also receiving Enhancement	%	LIFE Scholarship Recipients – Fall 2007	No. also receiving Enhancement	%
Public Research Institutions	3,013	1,070	35.5	9,828	2,206	22.4
Public Four- year Colleges & Universities	888	217	24.4	9,081	1,394	15.4
Independent Four-year Colleges & Universities	1,243	257	20.7	4,828	485	10.0
TOTAL	5,144	1,544	30.0	23,737	4,085	17.2

Fourteen Credit Hour Requirement: Lessons Learned

- Institutional process for identifying eligible students
- Institutional process for evaluating students' transcripts (by eligible course) for the fourteen credit hour requirement
- Institutional process for informing staff (i.e., financial aid officers, admissions staff, academic advisors, etc.) about requirements for the Scholarship Enhancements
- Send updated information concerning institution's notification process for State Scholarships and Enhancements to CHE by October 1, 2008

Scholarship Appeals Update

Scholarship Appeal Updates

- Commission staff is currently accepting SC HOPE, LIFE & Palmetto Fellows Scholarship appeals.
- 2008-09 appeal deadline is October 1, 2008.
- Advise students to thoroughly read the *Guidelines For Appeal 2008-09*.
- Commission staff is not responsible for ensuring that an appellant has submitted a complete appeal packet.
- Students must appeal the semester immediately upon return to college and/or the semester immediately following the extenuating circumstance.

SC Commission on Higher Education

- **Dr. Karen Woodfaulk – Director of Student Services**
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- **Mr. Gerrick Hampton – Residency, S.C. HOPE Scholarship & LIFE Scholarship Coordinator** ***803.734.4397 or ghampton@che.sc.gov***
- **Ms. Sherry Hubbard – Palmetto Fellows Scholarship Coordinator**
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After Hours Toll Free Hotline:

(877) 349-7183

5:30 PM – 8:30 PM on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays

www.che.sc.gov