SOUTH CAROLINA COMMISSION ON HIGHER EDUCATION

Scholarship & Grants Workshop 2020
Agenda

11:00 am Welcome

11:05 am Scholarship & Grant Workshop
   - Funding Levels and Notes of Interest
   - Grant Programs
   - SCNG CAP
   - Scholarship Programs
   - Year-Round Scholarships
   - Transcripts
   - Other
   - Legislative Updates
   - Data Verification Review

12:00 pm Adjourn

* After the final workshop, a copy of this presentation can be found on the CHE website *
Regulations

http://www.che.sc.gov/StudentsFamiliesMilitary/PayingForCollege/FinancialAssistanceAvailable/ScolarshipsGrantsforSCResidents.aspx
Notes of Interest

This presentation will place special emphasis on sections of the regulations that have produced multiple inquiries from institutions, families and public officials over the past year.

- Much of this emphasis will come in the form of scenarios for you to consider. Please note that the institutional names and locations of the scenarios have been changed.

- Due to the time constraints within remote presentation, we are asking that questions be submitted through the chat feature. Questions will be collected and answered and then posted on our website with this presentation after the final workshop.
SC Need-based Grant:
- Funding remained the same at $32,000,000

Lottery Tuition Assistance:
- Funding remained the same at $51,100,000
- Fall 2019: $100 per credit hour
- Spring and Summer 2020: $110 per credit hour

Merit Scholarships:
- Overall funding increased from $312,982,119 to $328,469,396
  - HOPE Scholarship: $14,557,008
  - LIFE Scholarship: $240,102,429
  - Palmetto Fellows Scholarship: $73,809,959

SC National Guard College Assistance Program (CAP)
- Funding remained the same at $2,631,129
Governor Henry McMaster signed H. 3411 into law on May 18, 2020. The bill, also called a continuing resolution, provides for the continued and uninterrupted operation of state government into the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2020.
Initial Eligibility Requirements for the State Scholarship / Grant Programs

In compliance with the established laws/regulations in place for the HOPE, LIFE, and Palmetto Fellows Scholarship programs, a student must meet the initial eligibility requirements in order be a recipient of scholarship funds:

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

*This must be determined by the institutions at the time of high school graduation and college enrollment.
Residency as it Pertains to State Scholarships

To be eligible for any State scholarships, students must:

1. Be a U.S. citizen or a legal permanent resident that meets the definition of an eligible non-citizen under State Residency Statutes whose lawful presence has been verified at the time of enrollment at the institution; *and*

2. Be a South Carolina resident* for in-state purposes at the time of high school graduation *and* at the time of enrollment at the institution;

*(As set forth by Section §59-112-10 – 140 and related R. 62.600-612). Unless listed under the five exceptions located in the residency regulations.*
### Program Administration

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<tr>
<th>Program</th>
<th>Code</th>
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<tr>
<td>Lottery Tuition Assistance (LTAP)</td>
<td>62-900.190</td>
<td>(A) Refunds and Repayments.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Need-Based Grants</td>
<td>62-495</td>
<td>(D) Refunds and Repayments.</td>
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<td>62-900.140</td>
<td>(D) Suspension or Termination of Institutional Participation</td>
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<td>62-1200.75</td>
<td>(D) Suspension or Termination of Institutional Participation: LIFE Scholarship and LIFE Scholarship Enhancement.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Palmetto Fellows Scholarship</td>
<td>62-365</td>
<td>(C) Refunds and Repayments.</td>
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The institution is responsible for determining SC residency and lawful presence of all State Scholarship and Grant recipients. If it is determined that the institution has failed to verify the lawful presence and SC residency of all State Scholarship and Grant recipient, **the institution shall immediately reimburse the funds disbursed in error.**
GRANT PROGRAMS
In order to be eligible to receive S.C. Need-based Grant funds a student must:

- Complete a FAFSA; and
  - Be ‘needy’ as defined by Title IV; and

- A US citizen/legal permanent resident and SC resident; and

- Enroll at least part-time as a degree seeking student at the time of grant disbursement; and

- Not convicted of any felonies or second or subsequent alcohol or drug related offenses within the past academic year; and

- 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 Direct Loan program; and

- Complete any other documentation required by the financial aid office at the institution at which the student is enrolled.
Need-Based Grant

Foster Care Youth

Proviso 11.8

• Enables additional need-based grant funds for youth in the custody of the Department of Social Services and attending an eligible South Carolina higher education institution.

NBG Awarding Process Section 62-470 (F): Institutions must give first priority and award the maximum allowable NBG plus the additional Foster-Care grant up to $2,000 toward unmet need ($1,000 per term if full-time, $500 per term if part-time) to Foster Care youth who are in the custody of DSS.

This may include Foster Care youth who have aged out of the system.
Before you can award, you need:

- A “SC Need-based Grant Waiver Form For Foster Care Youth” completed by the student’s case worker
- A letter from the DSS caseworker indicating that the student is in custody of DSS or participating in Independent Living Services

*Students are only required to provide this documentation once per institution; copies must ALSO be sent to CHE.*

Eligibility Requirements for Foster Care Youth

If the student meets the eligibility requirements of the S.C. Need-based grant and submits proper documentation, you are free to award a full Need-based grant of $2,500 (if full-time, $1,250 if part-time) plus the additional Foster Care Youth grant up to $2,000 toward unmet need ($1,000 per term if full-time, $500 per term if part-time).

Once you have awarded, please send CHE an invoice for the additional Foster Care Youth funds.
College Transition Program

• 5 programs in South Carolina

• Funding is up to $7,500 per year for 8 terms

• Since the 2013-2014 academic year, 218 students have benefited from CTP funds.
Lottery Tuition Assistance Program (LTAP)

62-900.165 Student Eligibility

Each academic year the following must be true:

- Student must complete the FAFSA or a FAFSA waiver
  - A college may waive the FAFSA requirement when: 1) the student is in high school and is participating in a dual enrollment program; 2) the student has already earned a bachelor’s degree; 3) the student is enrolled in a program that is not eligible for federal funds; or 4) the dependent student is not able to obtain his/her parents’, guardians’ or spouse’s tax form.

- Student has NOT used LTAP funding to earn a certificate, diploma, or degree within a five year period unless the additional certificate, diploma, or degree constitutes progress in the same field of study

- Student must be making SAP towards the completion of the requirements of the program

- Student must be enrolled as a degree seeking student in a 2-year program at one of the: 16 technical schools, 2-year USC satellite campuses, or Spartanburg Methodist College.
F. While the student is taking remedial/developmental coursework, an exception to the initial college enrollment applies only to first-time freshmen who met the eligibility requirements for the LIFE Scholarship upon graduation from high school, are enrolled in less than 12 credit hours of non-remedial coursework at an eligible two-year or technical college and taking a minimum of six credit hours of remedial/developmental education coursework during the term may be eligible to receive Lottery Tuition Assistance for the fall and/or spring terms only of their first academic year. First-time freshmen who are eligible for the LIFE Scholarship, attending an eligible two-year or technical college and enrolled in a minimum of 12 credit hours of non-remedial coursework shall receive the LIFE Scholarship. Once a student is awarded the LIFE Scholarship, they are no longer eligible to receive LTAP during the same academic year. See Section 62-1200.10 (I) of the LIFE Scholarship and LIFE Scholarship Enhancement Regulation.
South Carolina National Guard College Assistance Program (SCNG CAP)

- SCNG CAP offers financial assistance to members of the South Carolina Army and Air National Guard by providing incentives for enlisting or remaining for a specified time in either the South Carolina Army or Air National Guard (SCNG).

- Statutory Authority - SC Code of Laws, Section 59-114-10 Et. Seq.

- The regulation can be accessed at: https://www.che.sc.gov/Students,FamiliesMilitary/Military-EducationTraining/NationalGuardCollegeAssistanceProgram.aspx

- If you or your colleagues need assistance regarding the SCNG CAP, please contact Lorinda Copeland at 803-737-2157 or lcopeland@che.sc.gov.
SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAMS
PFS Year-Round Processing Timeline

- CHE will review applications continuously (bi-weekly) to determine eligibility for the PFS
- Decisions will then be uploaded into CHE data system and released to students/schools
- Estimated processing time from date of paper application receipt to decision release: **1 month**

**Early Award Period**

- May 1st of Junior (3rd) Year (i.e. May 1, 2020)
- April 15th of Senior (4th) Year (i.e. April 15, 2021)

March test administration date will be the FINAL accepted for Early Award period

**Late Award Period**

- May 15th of Senior (4th) Year (i.e. May 15, 2021)
- June 15th of Senior (4th) Year (i.e. June 15, 2021)

June test administration date will be the FINAL accepted for Late Award period
Palmetto Fellows Scholarship (PFS)

**Early Award**
- 3,212 met the Academic Eligibility requirements
- Increase of 61 awardees from the 2019 Early Award Process

**Late Award**
- Application period will close June 30, 2020 at 5:00pm
- Notifications will be sent out in August*

**Designation Forms**
- 2,284**

**Transfers**
- Total Requests for Fall 2020: 45**

* Emergency Regulation allowing July ACT test scores, could delay notification
** As of June 11, 2020
E. In determining the amount awarded for the Palmetto Fellows Scholarship and the Palmetto Fellows Scholarship Enhancement, all other sources of gift aid, including federal, State, private and institutional funds, must be applied to the unmet cost-of-attendance before calculating the Scholarship and Enhancement amounts and making the award. Adjustments to the financial aid package will be made to the Palmetto Fellows Scholarship and the Palmetto Fellows Scholarship Enhancement in accordance with prescribed Title IV regulations in order to prevent an over-award.
PFS Transfer / Reapplication Process (62-340)

Student submits transfer/reapplication form to CHE

CHE notifies new institution of potential new Palmetto Fellow

Institution verifies scholarship eligibility

Institution informs CHE of eligibility/ineligibility

Institution awards (if eligible)
REMINDER: 62-335. Duration and Renewal of Awards

E. By the end of the spring term each academic year, the institution must notify all Palmetto Fellows who have not met the continued eligibility requirements for the next academic year.

The notification should include information regarding the student’s ability to attend summer school in order to meet the continued eligibility requirements.
Changes to the Palmetto Fellows Scholarship

- Emergency Regulations:
- July ACT Test
- Break in Enrollment
Changes: Emergency Regulation COVID-19 Related July ACT Scores

CHE has enacted emergency regulations to allow for students to continue standardized testing through July of the Senior year. Students will now have the opportunity to obtain a qualifying score by the July test administration of the ACT during 2020.

- It is important to note that while CHE will allow the usage of test scores obtained through July 2020 to qualify for state scholarships, the established deadlines for transcripts (June 15th) and the Palmetto Fellow application period (June 30th) will remain in place. As we continue reviewing all possible avenues to provide relief, we will ensure that appropriate communication to notify students, families, school counseling staff and other constituencies, continues.
Changes: Emergency Regulation
COVID-19 Related Break in Enrollment

The Palmetto Fellows and LIFE Scholarship regulations presently require continuous enrollment once the student begins attendance. However, there may be cases where, due to financial, medical or other COVID-19 related circumstances, students may need to enroll in the Spring 2021 term rather than enroll this upcoming Fall 2020 term. **Eligible continuing students who decide to enroll in the Spring 2021 term instead of the Fall 2020 term due to COVID-19 related circumstances are temporarily granted a waiver of this continuous enrollment requirement.**

- Students who were eligible for the Palmetto Fellows Scholarship entering the Fall 2020 term can utilize a break in enrollment for the **Fall 2020 only**. Students must re-enroll for the Spring 2021 term. Eligible students can continue to receive the scholarship for their remaining eligible terms upon re-enrolling for Spring 2021 term.

- Students who were eligible for the LIFE Scholarship entering the Fall 2020 term can utilize a break in enrollment for the **Fall 2020 term only**. Students must re-enroll for the Spring 2021 term. Students will be eligible for their remaining terms of eligibility upon re-enrolling for Spring 2021 term.

- Students who were ineligible for the Palmetto Fellows or LIFE Scholarship entering the Fall 2020 term can still utilize a break in enrollment. However, students will not be eligible for the award upon re-enrollment for Spring 2021 term.

*Continued Eligibility Requirements remain the same.*
PALMETTO FELLOWS SCHOLARSHIP

Frequently Asked Questions
Scenario - Gap Year-

A student applies for the Palmetto Fellows Scholarship and is determined to meet the academic eligibility requirements during the Early Award process. Should this student decide to not enroll at an eligible college/university the following fall, can they still receive the Palmetto Fellows Scholarship?

What if a student begins their enrollment and decides to “take a break” after their first year?

Response

This student can still receive the scholarship if they begin their initial enrollment by the fall term one year following graduation.

- Graduated June 2020 -> Must enroll by Fall 2021 term
- Student must complete a reapplication form (found on CHE’s webpage) prior to their initial enrollment in order for their status to be updated and the proper institution to be notified.
- Student CANNOT attempt/earn any college credits during the gap period.
  - Institutions are responsible for verifying that the student has not attempted/earned credit hours during the gap period

A student may only take a “gap year” immediately following high school graduation. Any break in “continuous enrollment” at an eligible 4-year institution after that point will result in a forfeit of the Palmetto Fellows Scholarship.
Scenario
- Mid-year Enrollment -

• A student completed their high school requirements (graduates) in December and enrolls at an eligible institution the spring term immediately following. Will they be eligible to receive the Palmetto Fellows Scholarship?

Response

• This student must apply for the Palmetto Fellows Scholarship during the Early Award Period prior to graduating from high school. If determined to be eligible, they will be able to receive the Palmetto Fellows Scholarship during the spring term. In order to maintain scholarship eligibility, the following year the student must earn 15 credit hours with a cumulative institutional GPA of 3.0.
**Scenario**

- A student applied for and was determined to be academically eligible for the Palmetto Fellows Scholarship. This student completed the Designation Form indicating that they will be attending a 4-year institution outside of SC. If this student were to transfer to an eligible in-state institution could they still receive the Palmetto Fellows Scholarship?

**Response**

- This student must complete the Reapplication Form found on the CHE website in order to “transfer” back in-state. CHE Staff will then verify that the student did, in fact, apply for the Palmetto Fellows Scholarship and that they were academically eligible for the scholarship. This student **MUST** have met the continued eligible requirements (3.0 cumulative GPA and 30 credit hours per year) in order to be eligible to receive the Palmetto Fellows Scholarship upon transferring to an approved in-state institution. A student **cannot** receive the Palmetto Fellows Scholarship if they have completed their undergraduate degree or have been enrolled for more than 8 terms at the out-of-state institution.
Scenario

• Can a student take courses at a local 2-year institution during the summer in order to increase their GPA and meet the continued eligibility requirements?

Response

• **NO.** A Palmetto Fellow must take courses at their **home** institution in order to increase their GPA.

• A student may attend an institution other than their home institution for the purpose of increasing earned credit hours if the home institution accepts these hours back for credit (we always recommend a transient student form be completed).

  • *(62-335.G.2. Earn at least a 3.0 cumulative GPA at the home institution for graduation purposes by the end of each academic year)*
Terms of Eligibility
“LIFE Clock”

Continuous
LIFE 62-1200.5.UU.
Palmetto Fellows 62-310.G.
How to Calculate LIFE GPA

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Total Quality Points : 109
GPA Hours: 36
Earned Hours: 43
Institutional GPA: 3.37
LIFE GPA: 3.02
LIFE SCHOLARSHIP

Frequently Asked Questions
Scenario

- Is there a “shelf expiration” for the LIFE Scholarship? Meaning, if a student does not enroll in a college within a certain period of time will they lose their ability to receive the LIFE Scholarship?

Response

(62-1200.10 Student Eligibility: LIFE Scholarship and LIFE Scholarship Enhancement)

There is no time limit on the ‘gap’ between high school graduation and college enrollment. If the student was eligible out of high school, they are still eligible today as long as they are still considered

1) A SC resident now and at the time of HS graduation;
2) Did not take any college level classes between high school graduation and college enrollment;
3) Also double check the high school transcript to verify the GPA was on the current SC UGP.

If the transcript does not match with the current SC UGP, institutions will need to do a GPA conversion or ask the high school to do the GPA conversion from the previous grading scale to the current scale.
Initial Eligibility Requirements for Enhancement

- A student must meet ALL of the eligibility requirements for a Palmetto Fellows or the LIFE Scholarship;
- Be a recipient of Palmetto Fellows or LIFE Scholarship;
- Must be a declared math or science major in a CHE approved program;
- Must have taken at least fourteen credit hours of instruction in mathematics and life and physical science courses before the end of their FIRST academic year in school.

*(CLEP), Dual Enrollment, Pass/Fail courses with a grade of “Pass” (only), Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory courses with a grade of “Satisfactory” (only), (IB) courses and (AP) courses in mathematics and life and physical sciences taken in high school in which the student scored a three or more on the advanced placement test and received college credit may count toward the fulfillment of this minimum requirement.

Palmetto Fellows 62-335.H.
LIFE 62-1200.10.O

* Students enrolled at two-year institutions are not eligible to receive a LIFE Scholarship Enhancement
Eligible Classes / Programs

- Approved lists of eligible majors and eligible courses to meet the fourteen credit hour course requirement for the Palmetto Fellows or LIFE Scholarship Enhancement are provided on the Commission’s website at [www.che.sc.gov](http://www.che.sc.gov).

- CIP codes have been approved by the Commission on Higher Education for eligible degree programs in the fields of mathematics and science.

- If you’d like to add courses or degree programs to the list, please visit our website for more information on how to do so, or contact CHE directly. The link for instructions to the process is:

Year-Round LIFE Scholarships

Proviso 11.13.

End of Spring Term
Student is eligible for Fall Term
*Also eligible for summer

Summer Term
*Using scholarship

*Credit hours and GPA earned during summer will be used to determine eligibility the following spring term

Fall Term
Still eligible for scholarship based off spring

Summer Term
*NOT using scholarship

*Credit hours and GPA earned during summer will be used to determine eligibility the following spring term
Scenario

If a student was eligible to receive LIFE at the end of spring, but took a summer class to meet the enhancement credit hour eligibility, and then dropped below the GPA requirement, are they still eligible to receive the enhancement in the fall?

Response

(Year-round guidelines)

- As long as the student was eligible for the base LIFE scholarship at the end of the Spring term and met the enhancement requirements by the end of summer (14 credit hours), they are eligible for the scholarship and the enhancement beginning in the fall term.

- In order to maintain eligibility for the following academic year the student must meet the requisite GPA and credit hours by the end of the upcoming spring term.
All state scholarships and grants are based on the SC UGP, therefore all transcripts must specifically state “SC UGP.”

- Any transcript that states, “Weighted and Unweighted GPA” OR “Total GPA” will not be accepted for the purposes of awarding state scholarships as it must comply with the SC UGP.

All final official transcripts must be date calculated between the date of the high school graduation and no later than June 15th.

The final grades/ranking cannot include grades earned after the official graduation date of the school year. Summer school grades earned after high school graduation cannot be used in the calculation.
In order to determine eligibility for the State scholarship programs, the financial aid office/institution and/or CHE for the Palmetto Fellows Scholarship must have an official transcript on file (electronic or otherwise) that demonstrates the following items:

- **A valid signature** (electronic or otherwise) from the Principal.* In the event that the Principal is not available, the Superintendent signature is acceptable.
  - **For Independent/Private and home school students:** The administrator, registrar, or an official from the home school/accountability group. Should provide letter stating designated school rep.

- **SC UGP GPA** must be demonstrated

- **Date calculated date** to be date calculated no later than June 15\(^{th}\) (regardless of academic year)
  - For the LIFE Scholarship and the Palmetto Fellows Scholarship Late Award the transcript MUST demonstrate that it is the **final** official transcript, as well as reflect a **graduation date**

- **Rank**
  - If an independent high school or home school association has an approved policy on rank, a rank must be demonstrated on the official transcript (even if the student is not using rank for scholarship eligibility).
  - A rank report must also be submitted with a date calculated matching the transcripts even if the student is not using rank. (LIFE 62-1200.10.C)
For Scholarship purposes, out-of-state schools must comply with SC UGP GPA and ranking (*if applicable*).

- If the institution is not converting the grades, the out-of-state high school must submit a converted transcript *in addition* to the official out-of-state high school transcript
  - No handwritten or strikethrough edits can be demonstrated on the submitted transcript for scholarship eligibility determination

- If a student is attempting to use rank as an eligibility criterion from an out-of-state high school:
  - The high school or home school association must have a policy on rank; *and*
  - If using rank, the entire academic class must be converted to the SC UGP and a ranking report that reflects all students in that academic class, the out-of-state GPA, the SC UGP GPA, and the rank based on the SC UGP GPA must be included in order to determine eligibility and award a State scholarship.

- If the high school or home school association *does not rank* as a policy, or the student does not meet the rank eligibility requirement once a conversion of the grades to meet the SC UGP GPA and rank requirement then student must use the Alternate Criteria for eligibility (SC UGP GPA and SAT/ACT score).
State of South Carolina
Standard High School Transcript - Final
Graduation Date: 06/01/2017
Class Of: 2017
Diploma Type: State of SC Diploma

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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>337200AW</td>
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<td>352011EW</td>
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<tr>
<td>354102CW</td>
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<td>301811EW</td>
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<td>322911EW</td>
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<td>333111EW</td>
<td>American Government</td>
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<td>12</td>
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<td>1.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>335711EW</td>
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<td>354101CW</td>
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<td>373596EW</td>
<td>Careers in teaching/Teacher Cadet DC</td>
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<td>417000AW</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**GPA Summary**
- Total Credits Attempted: 37.00
- Total Credits Earned: 37.00
- GPA: 4.00

**Credit Summary**

**SC GPA: 4.00**

SC transitioned to a 10-point Grade Scale in 2016-17. Prior year courses were evaluated on a 7-point Grade Scale (see below).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2015-16</th>
<th>2016-17</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A 93-100</td>
<td>A 90-100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B 85-92</td>
<td>B 80-89</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C 77-84</td>
<td>C 70-79</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D 70-76</td>
<td>D 60-69</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F 0-69</td>
<td>F 0-69</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

An official signature and/or seal is required for manually printed transcripts (PDF format).
An official signature (JPEG format) is required for electronic transcripts sent via secure transmission.

**Signature Here**

Principal

Date: June 8, 2017

An official signature or seal is required for manually printed transcripts (PDF format).
An official signature (JPEG format) is required for electronic transcripts sent via secure transmission.
# Academic Transcript

**XXX Academy**

**Phone:** xxx-xx-xxx | **Fax:** xxx-xx-xxxx

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name:</th>
<th>Birth Date:</th>
<th>City:</th>
<th>Gender:</th>
<th>Parent/Guardian:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Address:</th>
<th>State:</th>
<th>Entry Date:</th>
<th>Withdrawal Date:</th>
<th>Graduation Date:</th>
<th>Final Transcript Calculated on:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>05/26/2017</td>
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## 2012-2013

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class Title</th>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Algebra 1 Honors</td>
<td>89</td>
<td>1.000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Computer Science</td>
<td>92</td>
<td>1.000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>English I CP</td>
<td>92</td>
<td>1.000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>History</td>
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<tr>
<td>PE</td>
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<td>1.000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Science</td>
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<td>0.000</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

*Grade Level: 8 GPA: 4.031 Credits: 4.000*

## 2013-2014

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class Title</th>
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<tr>
<td>Algebra II Honors</td>
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<td>80</td>
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<tr>
<td>Physical Science</td>
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<td>Spanish I</td>
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<tr>
<td>World Geography</td>
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</table>

*Grade Level: 9 GPA: 2.700 Credits: 5.000*
### Semester 1

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class Title</th>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Advanced Biology Honors</td>
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<tr>
<td>American History II-DC</td>
<td>97</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Economics</td>
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<tr>
<td>English V CP</td>
<td>90</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Government</td>
<td>88</td>
<td>0.500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Statistics</td>
<td>92</td>
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<tr>
<td>World Religion-DC</td>
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</tbody>
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Grade Level: 12 GPA: 4.988 Credits: 4.000

### Semester 2

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class Title</th>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Advanced Biology Honors</td>
<td>98</td>
<td>0.500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>American History I-DC</td>
<td>96</td>
<td>1.000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Economics</td>
<td>92</td>
<td>0.500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>English V CP</td>
<td>95</td>
<td>0.500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Government</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Statistics</td>
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</table>

Grade Level: 12 GPA: 4.967 Credits: 3.000

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Weighted</th>
<th>Cumulative GPA:</th>
<th>Cumulative Credits:</th>
<th>Class Rank:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Un-Weighted</td>
<td>Cumulative GPA:</td>
<td>Cumulative Credits:</td>
<td>Class Rank:</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Official(s) Certifying Transcript:

Signature Here

SC Uniform 10 Point Grading Scale used in 2016-2017 School Year
A = 90-100% B = 80-89% C = 70-79%
D = 60-69% F = 59% & Below

6-6-2017
Early Graduate
(Senior graduating mid-year > not during the Spring Cohort)

LIFE Scholarship
• For scholarship eligibility the student CANNOT use rank as an eligibility criterion.

Palmetto Fellows Scholarship
• Student can qualify with class rank from the end of the 10th or 11th grade year.

• Palmetto Fellows: can only apply during the Early Award Period prior to completing their high school graduation requirements.

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

SC HOPE / LIFE Scholarship
• Eligibility is based on the end of the academic year with the student’s “new” graduating class

Palmetto Fellows Scholarship
• Early Award Application Period can use the end of 10th or 11th grade rank, must use end of 11th grade GPA
• Late Award Application Period can use the end of 10th or 12th grade rank, must use end of 12th grade GPA
**State of South Carolina**

**Standard High School Transcript - Final**

Graduation Date: 06/01/2017
Class Of: 2017
Diploma Type: State of SC Diploma

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Crs ID</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Term</th>
<th>Grd</th>
<th>Mark</th>
<th>Credit</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Crs ID</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Term</th>
<th>Grd</th>
<th>Mark</th>
<th>Credit</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

SC UGP GPA 4.0 GPA

GPA Summary 4.618 3.799
Class Rank 21 of 561
Date Calculated December 15, 2016

Credit Summary
Total Credits Attempted: 19.00
Total Credits Earned: 19.00

To determine the course grades look for:

- Course Title
- Term
- Grd
- Mark
- Credit
Internships, Co-op Work Programs, Travel Study Programs, or National or International Student Exchange Programs

Students enrolled in a program listed above, that is approved by the institution:

A. Accepts full-time transfer credit: student can use scholarship funds/term (student must meet continued eligibility requirements).

B. Funds must be paid directly to student’s account at home institution. Cannot exceed COA at home/host institution, whichever is less.

C. Enroll one term for no credit: must earn **15 credits/3.0 GPA** by the end of the academic year. Does not use a term of eligibility.

D. Enroll full year for no credit: renewal will be based on prior year’s eligibility. Did not use any terms.

E. One term and/or summer: enroll in 12 credit hours over summer. Renewal requirements: Summer only (12 credit hours); One term plus summer (27 credit hours) and a 3.0 GPA.

LIFE Scholarship: 62-1200.40
Palmetto Fellows Scholarship: 62-350
Military Mobilization

• “Military mobilization” is defined as a situation in which the U.S. Department of Defense orders service members to active duty away from their normal duty assignment during a time of war or national emergency. Service members include: 1) active duty and reserve members in the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps and Coast Guard, and; 2) members of the Army and Air National Guard.

• Term(s) that a service member is mobilized will not count against the maximum terms of eligibility. The service member must re-enroll within 12 months of demobilization and provide documentation to the Financial Aid office. Reinstatement will be based upon the service member’s eligibility at the time he/she was mobilized. If they re-enroll after 12 months, they can submit an appeal to CHE.

• Mobilized for a full-year, eligibility will be based on prior year’s eligibility.

• Enrolled one term, mobilized one term: continued eligibility is 15 credit hours and a 3.0 GPA.

• One term and/or summer: enroll in 12 credit hours. Renewal requirements: Summer only (12 credit hours); One term plus summer (27 credit hours) and a 3.0 GPA.
The 2020-2021 Appeals Cycle for the Palmetto Fellows, LIFE, and SC HOPE scholarship opened April 3, 2020. All appeals materials must be in receipt of CHE by the deadline close of 5:00 pm on September 4, 2020.

Students are encouraged to review the Guidelines for Appeal on the CHE website to determine if their circumstance truly meets the definition of an extraordinary circumstance or a traumatic event.

Students should be advised that their appeal is not guaranteed to be granted, nor is it a guarantee that a decision will be rendered prior to the due date of their college bill. Students should make arrangements with the institution for payment.

The link to the appeals information and application is: http://www.che.sc.gov/Students,FamiliesMilitary/Appeals.aspx

Correspondence will be sent electronically - both to students and institutions. Initial emails will go to Financial Aid Directors, who can then inform us if there is a more appropriate contact.
Scholarship Appeals Con’t

As part of the Scholarship Appeals Guidelines:

If the student is appealing because of poor academic performance, the student must explain to the Committee whether he/she used the institutional appeals process to have the grades changed due to an extenuating circumstance each term. The student must also explain each term of poor academic performance.
B. The Institutional Disability Services Provider must provide written documentation to the Office of Financial Aid prior to 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. The institution is responsible for retaining appropriate documentation according to the “Program Administration and Audits” Section.
Pending Legislation

• **S. 419 / H. 3759 - South Carolina Career Opportunity and Access for All Act**
  Proposed Changes to Scholarship Eligibility for Palmetto Fellows, LIFE, SC HOPE and LTAP.

• **S. 298 / H. 4576 - Higher Education Opportunity Act**
  Proposed changes to Need-based Funding, STEM Scholarship Enhancements, the use of General Fund Revenue for Scholarships.
  Up for second senate reading, currently contested.
Pending Legislation

• H. 3936 - A BILL TO AMEND SECTION 59-104-20, CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA, 1976, RELATING TO ELIGIBILITY FOR PALMETTO FELLOWS SCHOLARSHIPS, SO AS TO INCLUDE TWO-YEAR INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER LEARNING AND TECHNICAL COLLEGES AMONG INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER LEARNING WHOSE STUDENTS MAY BE ELIGIBLE FOR THE SCHOLARSHIPS.
S.C. STATE SCHOLARSHIP AND GRANT PROGRAMS-DATA VERIFICATION REVIEW
Review Process

- Engagement Letter
- Desk Review
- Field Work
- Preliminary Draft Report
- Final Report
Desk Review

- Preliminary documents request
  - Policies and Procedures
  - Cost of Attendance budgets and any supporting documents
  - Institutional list of scholarship recipients
  - Compliance Review Questionnaire

- CHEMIS Reconciliation
  - Invoices
  - Award File

- Sample Selection
  - Based on population
  - 5-25 per program
  - Provided prior to on-site
# Fieldwork

| Entrance Conference | Review Scope  
|                     | Policies and Procedures  
|                     | Compliance Questionnaire  

| Data Verification | Eligibility – General, Initial and Continued  
|                  | Awarding and Disbursement  
|                  | Record Retention  

| Exit Conference | Findings  
|                 | Observations  

Data Verification

Eligibility
- Citizenship and residency
- Initial enrollment date and enrollment status
- SAT/ACT scores
- Final High School Transcript
- Ranking Report
- Collegiate GPA
- Needs Analysis

Award Disbursement
- Award amounts disbursed to students for each term
- Number of credit hours students were enrolled at the time of disbursement
- Total Gift Aid
- COA
- COT

Record Retention
- Award Notifications/Award Letter
- LIFE GPA Verification/Calculation
- Annual Scholarship Certification/Affidavit
- Scholarship Terms and Conditions
Reporting

Preliminary Draft Memorandum and Report
- Mailed to the Institution’s President
- Includes findings, criteria, and recommendations
- Requests written response within 10 business days
- Electronic copy provided to FA Director and others as directed

Final Report
- Includes written response(s) from institution
- Mailed to the Institution’s President
- Electronic copy provided to FA Director and others as directed
Issues and Observations

Findings by Category

- Continued Eligibility: 3
- General Eligibility: 8
- Initial Eligibility: 13
- Record Retention: 3
Issues and Observations

Findings by Conditions

- Annual Affidavit: 14
- Incorrect LIFE GPA: 3
- Invalid HS Transcript: 4
- Max Term Limits: 2
- Residency: 2
- Terms and Conditions: 1
- Transfer student: 1

Total: 16
Questions?

Please submit questions in the chat box. We will collect and answer them and then post them on the website with the presentation.
CHE Contact Information

Dr. Karen Woodfaulk
Director of Student Services
(803) 737-2244
kwoodfaulk@che.sc.gov

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