

South Carolina Tuition Grant Policies & Procedures

This is a need-based grant program for SC residents. The maximum grant is \$5,000 and is split evenly between the Fall & Spring semesters. The grant is renewable for up to 8 semesters.

Eligibility Requirements

- Submit the FAFSA annually by August 1.
- Obtain a high school diploma or equivalent (e.g., GED).
- Must be a legal SC resident who is domiciled in SC at least 12 months prior to the Fall semester start.
 - The parent(s) of dependent students must also satisfy this requirement.
- Complete the SC State Certification Form annually.
- Complete a one-time SC Residency form upon enrollment.
- Enroll full-time (minimum 12 credits) at an eligible independent non-profit SC college.
- Must be a degree-seeking undergraduate who has not yet received a bachelor's degree.
- Meet all eligibility requirements for Title IV financial aid programs (including Verification).
- Students who do not enroll during the Fall semester forfeit their eligibility for the entire academic year.
- Returning students must satisfy SAP standards.

Awarding

- Applicant reports are available from the SCTG Commission.
- Students are awarded based on SCTG Commission criteria, the FAFSA, and Workday information.
- The Policies & Procedures Manual contains additional award packaging information.
- Awards are renewed with a message that completed credits will be reviewed after Spring grades.
- Awards are removed for students who do not earn at least 24 credits in the previous academic year.
 - Students are notified via email with a revised award notice.
- Funds are disbursed on a semester basis directly to the student account.
- The SCTG Commission is notified of the following:
 - Eligibility changes due to a FAFSA update.
 - Non-traditional students.
 - Traditional students who are incorrectly listed as non-traditional students.
 - Students who change their reported housing status.

Reporting

- The SCTG Commission sends enrollment reports for each population (traditional & non-traditional).
- To receive funding, AU must return the report to the SCTG Commission within 25 business days.

Posting

- After funds are received, AU receives a student roster, including amounts.
- The roster and amounts are shared with the Accounting Office.
- Funds are posted to student accounts.

Reconciliation

- The FA Office & Accounting Office reconcile grant funds quarterly for the SCTG Commission.
- The FA Office, Accounting Office, and SCTG Commission reconcile SCTG annually.

Hope Scholarship Policies & Procedures

This is a merit-based scholarship program for SC residents. The scholarship amount is \$2,800 and is split evenly between the Fall/Spring semesters.

Eligibility Requirements

- There is no application for this freshman-only scholarship.
- The award is only available to freshman with a minimum cumulative high school 3.0 GPA.
- Must be a legal SC resident who is domiciled in SC at least 12 months prior to the Fall semester start.
 - The parent(s) of dependent students must also satisfy this requirement.
- Complete the SC State Certification Form and the SC Residency form.
- Enroll full-time (minimum 12 credits) at an eligible independent non-profit SC college.
- Must be a degree-seeking undergraduate who has not yet received a bachelor's degree.
- The award is not renewable, but students who earn 30 credits with a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.0 become eligible for the LIFE Scholarship in subsequent years.

Awarding

- Students are awarded based on CHE criteria and Workday information.
- The Policies & Procedures Manual contains additional award packaging information.
- Students who become eligible for the LIFE Scholarship during their sophomore year are notified via email with a revised award notice.
 - These students must meet LIFE Scholarship criteria for future renewals.
- Funds are disbursed on a semester basis directly to student accounts.

Reporting

- Reports are due to CHE by October 31 (Fall), March 31 (Spring), and July 31 (Summer).
- The July 31 report is also used for Fall & Spring "clean up."

Posting

- Invoices are sent when reports are sent to CHE.
- Funds are posted to student accounts.
- The roster and amounts are shared with the Accounting Office.

Reconciliation

- The FA Office & Accounting Office reconcile funds by semester for the CHE.

Enhancement

- Enhancements are not available to Hope Scholarship recipients.

LIFE Scholarship Policies & Procedures

This is a merit-based scholarship program for SC residents. The scholarship amount is \$5,000 and is split evenly between the Fall/Spring semesters. The grant is renewable for up to 8 semesters.

Eligibility Requirements

- Applicants must meet 2 of the following 3 criteria:
 - 3.0 GPA.
 - Score an 1100 on the SAT or 22 on the ACT.
 - Rank in the top 30% of the graduating class.
- Must be a legal SC resident who is domiciled in SC at least 12 months prior to the Fall semester start.
 - The parent(s) of dependent students must also satisfy this requirement.
- Complete the SC State Certification Form annually.
- Complete a one-time SC Residency form upon enrollment.
- Enroll full-time (minimum 12 credits) at an eligible independent non-profit SC college.
- Must be a degree-seeking undergraduate who has not yet received a bachelor's degree.
- Returning students must earn an average of 30 credits each academic year & a 3.0 cumulative GPA.
 - The GPA is based on eligible grades earned at ALL institutions attended.
 - Credits may be earned before high school graduation, during the summer, and via CLEP/IB/AP.

Awarding

- Students are awarded based on CHE criteria and Workday information.
- The Policies & Procedures Manual contains additional award packaging information.
- Awards are renewed with a message that completed credits will be reviewed after Spring grades.
- Awards are removed for students who meet credit/GPA requirements.
 - Students are notified via email with a revised award notice.
- Funds are disbursed on a semester basis directly to student accounts.

Reporting

- Reports are due to CHE by October 31 (Fall), March 31 (Spring), and July 31 (Summer).
- The July 31 report is also used for Fall & Spring “clean up.”

Posting

- Invoices are sent when reports are sent to CHE.
- Funds are posted to student accounts.
- The roster and amounts are shared with the Accounting Office.

Reconciliation

- The FA Office & Accounting Office reconcile funds by semester for the CHE.

Enhancements

- Enhancements are available to returning students (sophomore, junior, senior).
- Eligibility requirements depend on the student's major (i.e., Accounting, STEM, Education).
- Detailed information may be found in the above URL and the AU Enhancement flier.

Palmetto Fellows Scholarship Policies & Procedures

This is a merit-based scholarship program for SC residents. The scholarship amount is \$6,700 for freshmen and \$7,500 for each additional year that renewal requirements are maintained. The amounts are split evenly between the Fall/Spring semesters. The award is renewable for up to 8 semesters.

Eligibility Requirements

- Applicants must satisfy 1 of these criteria:
 - 1200 SAT (25 ACT) by the March national test administration; cumulative GPA of 3.5 at the end of the junior year; top 6% class rank at the end of the sophomore or junior year.
 - 1400 SAT (31 ACT) by the March national test administration; cumulative 4.0 at the end of the junior year.
- Late applicants must satisfy similar criteria, details of which may be found at the above URL.
- Must be a legal SC resident who is domiciled in SC at least 12 months prior to the Fall semester start.
 - The parent(s) of dependent students must also satisfy this requirement.
- Complete the SC State Certification Form annually.
- Complete a one-time SC Residency form upon enrollment.
- Enroll full-time (minimum 12 credits) at an eligible independent non-profit SC college.
- Must be a degree-seeking undergraduate who has not yet received a bachelor's degree.
- Returning students must earn 30 credits each academic year at AU (or a PFS-eligible institutions) and maintain a minimum 3.0 cumulative GPA at AU.

Awarding

- Students are awarded based on CHE criteria and Workday information.
- The Policies & Procedures Manual contains additional award packaging information.
- Awards are renewed with a message that completed credits will be reviewed after Spring grades.
- Awards are removed for students who meet credit/GPA requirements.
 - Students are notified via email with a revised award notice.
- Funds are disbursed on a semester basis directly to student accounts.

Reporting

- Reports are due to CHE by October 31 (Fall), March 31 (Spring), and July 31 (Summer).
- The July 31 report is also used for Fall & Spring "clean up."

Posting

- Invoices are sent when reports are sent to CHE.
- Funds are posted to student accounts.
- The roster and amounts are shared with the Accounting Office.

Reconciliation

- The FA Office & Accounting Office reconcile funds by semester for the CHE.

Enhancements

- Enhancements are available to returning students (sophomore, junior, senior).
- Eligibility requirements depend on the student's major (i.e., Accounting, STEM, Education).
- Detailed information may be found in the above URL and the AU Enhancement flier.