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President and Executive Director



MEMORANDUM

To: Provosts, Financial Aid Directors, Education Deans, Public and Independent Colleges and Universities

From: Dr. Karen Woodfaulk, Director, Office of Student Affairs

Date: April 20, 2025

Subject: Guidance on Education Enhancement Eligibility – ACT 156 Updates

The Commission on Higher Education (CHE) would like to provide updated guidance regarding eligibility for the Education Enhancement in accordance with ACT 156.

Effective Fall 2026, under the updated provisions, students may now qualify for the Education Enhancement through two pathways:

1. Enrollment in a CHE-approved Education major (existing pathway), or
2. Participation as an undergraduate Teaching Fellow (new pathway)

In addition to meeting one of the above criteria, students must also meet **all** of the following requirements:

- Be in their second academic year, as determined by initial college enrollment;
- Be a recipient of the LIFE Scholarship or Palmetto Fellows Scholarship; and
- Sign the Education Enhancement contractual agreement to either work in a SC public school for each year the enhancement is received OR repay the funds.

Additionally, students may not receive both the Education Enhancement and the STEM Enhancement concurrently. Teaching Fellows who are currently receiving the STEM Enhancement will not be eligible for the Education Enhancement but may continue to receive the STEM Enhancement. If a Teaching Fellow changes their major, they may be reconsidered for the Education Enhancement.

As a reminder, the Education Enhancement may only be applied toward undergraduate study and is not available for graduate-level coursework. The award is administered as a last-dollar resource and must be applied after all other scholarships and grants. Institutions must ensure that the total award does not exceed the student's cost of attendance once all other aid has been applied.

If you have any questions or need additional clarification, please contact me at kwoodfaulk@che.sc.gov | (803-856-0578) or Ms. Tanya Weigold (tweigold@che.sc.gov | 803-856-0672).



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