

# South Carolina Commission on Higher Education

Mr. Tim M. Hofferth, Chair  
Ms. Dianne C. Kuhl, Vice Chair  
Mr. Paul O. Batson, III  
Mr. Devron H. Edwards  
Dr. Bettie Rose Horne  
Mr. Kenneth W. Kirkland  
Ms. Allison Dean Love  
Dr. Louis B. Lynn  
Vice Admiral Charles Munns, USN (ret.)  
Mr. Kim F. Phillips  
Ms. Terrye C. Seckinger  
Dr. Evans Whitaker

Mr. Jeffrey M. Schilz  
Interim President and Executive Director

## Committee on Access & Equity and Student Services

**Tuesday, May 23, 2017**

**1:00 p.m.**

**Main Conference Room**

### AGENDA

1. Introductions and Approval of Minutes Mr. Paul Batson, Chair
2. The South Carolina Commission on Higher Education State  
Approving Agency Overview and Function Mr. Frank Myers  
*(For Information, No Action Required)*
3. Palmetto Fellows Scholarship Program Presentation Ms. Tanya Weigold  
*(For Information, No Action Required)*
4. \*Information Session (at 2:00 p.m.): Dr. Karen Woodfaulk  
Ten Point Uniform Grading Scale and SAT Redesign:  
- Impact on State Scholarships
5. Other Business Mr. Paul Batson

### Adjournment

\*The Committee on Access & Equity and Student Services will discuss the current eligibility requirements for each scholarship program, recent changes to the Uniform Grading Policy, and the potential impact of the changes on state scholarships at **2:00 p.m.** in the Main Conference Room.

**South Carolina Commission on Higher Education  
Committee on Access & Equity and Student Services**  
1122 Lady Street, Suite 300  
Columbia, SC 29201

**Minutes of the Meeting  
Main Conference Room  
March 2, 2017  
4:15 p.m.**

**Members Present**

Mr. Paul Batson, Chair  
Dr. Bettie Rose Horne (phone)

**Commission Members Present**

Ms. Terrye Seckinger

**Members Absent**

Mr. Dr. Evans Whitaker  
Mr. Devron Edwards

**Staff Present**

Dr. Karen Woodfaulk  
Ms. Lorinda Copeland  
Ms. Carrie Eberly  
Mr. Kevin Glears  
Mr. Gerrick Hampton  
Ms. Devon Hollimon  
Mr. Frank Myers  
Ms. Vickie Pratt  
Ms. Laverne Sanders  
Ms. Tanya Weigold  
Ms. Leslie Williams

**Guests**

Ms. Reinell Thomas-Myers, SC State University  
Mr. Ray Jones, SC Student Loan Corporation  
Mr. Grant Carwile, SC Student Loan Corporation

**1) Introductions and Approval of Minutes**

Mr. Paul Batson called the meeting to order. Introductions were made by all in attendance. The minutes of January 5, 2017 and February 17, 2017 were tabled for approval at the next committee meeting because the necessary quorum was not present to vote. Mr. Batson stated that information items could be reviewed.

**2) SC Program for the Recruitment and Retention of Minority Teachers (SC-PRRMT) FY 2016-17 Quarterly Report *(For Information, No Action Required)***

Dr. Woodfaulk explained that SC State University provides a quarterly report for the SC Program for the Recruitment and Retention of Minority Teachers (SC-PRRMT). She stated that that the quarterly report was not the final report but that it is a part of the expansion plan which began in 2013. She said part of the agreement is for SC-PRRMT to provide a report on the program's performance to the Committee on Access & Equity and Student Services.

Ms. Reinell Thomas-Myers presented SC-PRRMT's FY 2016-17 Quarterly Report. She stated that during Fall 2016 there were 61 participants in the SC-PRRMT Program; 10 seniors, 14 juniors, 14 sophomores,

17 freshmen and 6 MAT students. Ms. Thomas-Myers stated that there were 36 applicants in Fall 2016, but only five teacher assistants were eligible for the program and were accepted in Fall 2016. In Fall 2015-16 the forgivable loan allocation was \$339,482. She stated that \$195,689 was awarded to the 61 participants for Fall 2015. The average cost for the students to attend South Carolina University is over \$10,000. SC-PRRMT's average award amount is approximately \$32,000 per semester. Some of the students have additional financial aid and do not need a full award.

Ms. Thomas-Myers stated that SC-PRRMT added a Winnsboro site in Spring 2017 in addition to Columbia and Fairfield Counties. There were five graduates in the Fall 2016 and five projected for Spring 2017. The combined sites for Fall 2016 were Moncks Corner and Berkeley, Richland One and Fairfield, Williamsburg and Georgetown and SC State University, which includes four school districts in Orangeburg. In 2015-16 there were 10 graduates. Eight graduates were in critical needs subject areas and nine in the critical need geographical areas. Ms. Thomas-Myers stated that the program received 100% certification subject/employment and all ten of the graduates were placed in school districts around the state. In Fall 2016 there were five graduates that graduated and worked in critical needs areas and geographical areas. All the graduates were placed in school districts around the state.

Mr. Batson asked if the graduation rate was dropping based on the numbers provided in the report. Ms. Thomas-Myers replied that the students in the SC-PRRMT cohort sometimes take five years to graduate. She said when the students begin attending college, they may decide to leave their job and attend college full-time and will graduate faster than the non-traditional student.

### **3) College Application Month 2016: Overview and Data Report** *(For Information, No Action Required)*

Mr. Gerrick Hampton explained that College Application Month (CAM) 2016 is in its seventh year. He stated that CAM was launched through the American College Application Campaign which started as a national effort. He stated that presently, all 50 states operate a CAM program and the purpose is to help high school seniors to navigate the college admission process, which starts with the college application. Mr. Hampton said that there is a focus on first generation students and low income students. He said that CHE implemented CAM in 2009 borrowing the model from the North Carolina GEAR UP Program. He said the first CAM program began along the I-95 corridor.

Mr. Hampton explained that CAM typically has one model, similar to one used by AC Flora High School as an example, that organizes the program as a one-day event during the school day. He said CHE started to observe in recent years that CAM can take different formats with varying levels of success. He said 98% of AC Flora's high school senior class attended their college application event, completing 310 applications. He stated that South Pointe High School in Rock Hill used a different format and held an evening event. South Pointe's program had 22 college admission representatives to attend. Mr. Hampton explained that South Pointe High School had 315 students in the senior class and they had 51% of the senior class attend the College Application evening event. Mr. Hampton stated that staff will speak with South Pointe High School's staff to gain additional information about how the school was able to get so many students to return after school. He stated one way which could have contributed to their success was that South Pointe High School structured their event as a college fair. Mr. Hampton stated that Midlands Technical College's TRIO program held a Saturday event and 36% of their seniors attended the college application event. He said that CHE staff is reviewing different models across the state and that staff plans to talk to the different sites to determine best practices.

Mr. Hampton explained that the number of sites increased for 2016. One of the ways that CHE staff was able to increase the number of sites was by tapping into the independent high schools. He said some of the schools do their own promotion of their CAM by promoting their events with videos. Mr. Hampton shared a video from Crescent High School in Anderson, SC. He stated that in 2016 there were 223 high schools that participated and held a college application event. He said 229 high schools registered but six schools were unable to hold their event. Mr. Hampton explained that the completion of the survey is

important because this is where staff can receive data and measure the success of the program. He stated that the estimated number of applications completed in 2016 was 37,656 which was an average increase of 5,000 applications over the previous year.

Mr. Hampton stated that CHE now implements a three step process for college access which includes college application month, College Goal South Carolina which is a FASFA completion program, and College Decision Day which celebrates the entire process - submitting a college application, learning how to pay for college including the completion of the FAFSA, and making the decision to attend college. Mr. Hampton stated that 83 high schools participated in College Decision Day in 2016.

Mr. Batson asked about the CACRAO training of staff to assist students with the FASFA application. Mr. Hampton replied that the local financial aid offices are asked to assist at College Goal 50 events. Ms. Seckinger suggested requesting that CACRAO staff train retired people to assist with FASFA. Mr. Hampton stated that CHE would like to increase the number of volunteers. He said that one possibility that is being explored is working with AmeriCorps to help build the volunteer base. Mr. Ray Jones stated that SC Student Loan has helped with the FASFA application in the past and may be available to provide some assistance in the future to College Goal SC events.

#### **4) Public Law 114-315 Compliance** *(For Information, No Action Required)*

Dr. Woodfaulk stated that in December 2016 President Obama signed Public Law 114-315. She explained that the law provided for of veterans and covered individuals to come into the state and pay in-state tuition charges, even though they may be a resident in another state. She said that CHE was informed that South Carolina is among 47 states that were not in compliance in January 2017. Dr. Woodfaulk stated that staff worked with the Department of Veterans Affairs in Washington, DC to develop language that was would make SC compliant. She stated that the language allows for two additional groups to pay in-state tuition charges if they attend college in South Carolina. She said that individuals using the Marine Gunnery Sergeant John David Fry Scholarship are no longer required to enroll within three years of the service member's death, and there is no longer a requirement that the deceased service member's death was in the line of duty following a period of active duty service of 90 days or more. Dr. Woodfaulk stated that the other group consists of covered individuals of active duty personnel, who after a period of six years can transfer their benefits over to a covered individual. She said in order for South Carolina to be in compliance, the state will have to include language related to Public Law 114-315 in the proposed South Carolina's bill. Dr. Woodfaulk explained that the Department of Veterans Affairs has the authority to withdraw all GI Bill benefits from states that are not in compliance. She stated that staff would like to send the language through this legislative session because the deadline to be in compliance is July 1, 2017. Mr. Batson asked about the implications if the bill is not passed. Dr. Woodfaulk replied that if a bill is not passed, the Department of Veterans Affairs has the authority to withhold the benefits that are being provided for all of our veterans in this state. Mr. Batson asked if there a cost associated with the tuition waiver. Dr. Woodfaulk stated that there would be a cost, and the challenge of developing a cost estimate is that the institutions do not know who qualifies as a Fry Scholarship recipient or which students are covered individuals of active duty service members until they are enrolled.

#### **5) SC Student Loan Corporation – SC Teacher Loan Program** *(For Approval)*

Mr. Ray Jones explained that SC Student Loan has been the administrator for South Carolina Teacher Loan Program for the state. Mr. Jones stated that with the passage of the Health Care and Education Reconciliation Act in 2010, the Corporation lost all authority to originate new federal loans under the Federal Family Education. He stated that the SC Student Loan Corporation's Portfolio has decreased and they are having to outsource the servicing of their loans. He said, therefore, in order to maintain a proper level of servicing the Corporation is requesting to have the servicing of the SC Teacher Loan Program moved to the servicer that the Corporation will be using. He stated that approval is needed from CHE in order to be able to move the servicing of the SC Teacher Loan Program.

Dr. Woodfaulk stated that the SC Student Loan Corporation acquired the administration of SC Teacher Loan in addition to the other services that they manage for the state. She explained that there will be a cost associated with using third-party servicer. She said that the SC Student Loan Corporation kept the costs for administering the SC Teacher Loan to a minimum level. Dr. Woodfaulk stated that if approved, administration costs using a third-party servicer would be at a substantial increase. She said that estimated cost to administer the SC Teachers Loan Program through a third party servicer will be approximately \$675,000 for FY17-18.

Mr. Batson stated that because there was not a quorum for the meeting the vote would be tabled until another meeting could be scheduled. He requested to have a teleconference meeting scheduled expeditiously.

**6) Update on Scholarship and Grant Advisory Committee** *(For Information, No Action Required)*

Mr. Batson stated that there have been a lot of discussion regarding proposed changes to the state scholarship and grant programs. He stated the process needs to be discussed. Mr. Batson asked about the expected timeframe for the Committee to act. Dr. Woodfaulk said the presidents will have to be involved in the discussions. She stated that an update was provided to the Scholarship and Grants Advisory Committee members about the process. She stated that the Committee discussed proposed continued eligibility requirements and moving to a state scholarship GPA, and allowing for all students to use the average of credit hour requirements. She stated that the institutional representatives expressed ~~replied~~ that they may prefer a one-time change to the scholarship and grant criteria rather than a gradual change over several years. Dr. Woodfaulk explained that the institutional representatives also stated they would prefer for CHE to leave the ranking as is for the Palmetto Fellows Scholarship Program and LIFE Scholarship eligibility. She said presently the Palmetto Fellows recipients are required to be in the top 6 percent of their graduating class and the LIFE Scholarship criteria states that students must be in the top 30 percent of students in the class. She stated that the SAT and ACT score are still being reviewed by both companies but CHE will be speaking with them about coming to a firm SAT/ACT score equivalent. Dr. Woodfaulk stated that all GPA's listed on the narrative were on a 10-point scale and CHE has made it clear that we are looking at GPA based on the 10-point scale. She said staff is scheduling another meeting to discuss dual enrollment as discussed at the February 2, 2017 meeting. Dr. Woodfaulk explained that staff will first meet with the technical college presidents in March, and other parties to discuss dual enrollment, and then have a larger meeting to bring forth changes, issues and concerns. She said finally, CHE staff would like to have town hall meetings around the state and a number of institutions have offered their campus facilities as sites for the town hall meetings. She stated after the town hall meetings, we would begin to work with legislative staff to put forward the changes to the statute and then regulations. Dr. Woodfaulk said that a period of six to nine months is anticipated to get through the process of changing the law and regulations.

**7) Other Business**

With no further business, the meeting adjourned at 5:04 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,  
*Laverne Sanders*  
Laverne Sanders  
Recording Secretary

**South Carolina Commission on Higher Education  
Committee on Access & Equity and Student Services**  
1122 Lady Street, Suite 300  
Columbia, SC 29201

**Minutes of the Meeting  
Teleconference  
Main Conference Room  
March 9, 2017  
2:00 p.m.**

**Members Present**

Mr. Paul Batson, Chair  
Mr. Devron Edwards  
Dr. Bettie Rose Horne  
Dr. Evans Whitaker

**Staff Present**

Dr. Karen Woodfaulk  
Ms. Lorinda Copeland  
Mr. Gerrick Hampton  
Mr. Frank Myers  
Ms. Vickie Pratt  
Ms. Laverne Sanders  
Ms. Tanya Weigold  
Ms. Leslie Williams

**Guests Present**

Mr. Charles Sanders, President & CEO  
SC Student Loan Corporation  
  
Mr. Ray Jones,  
SC Student Loan Corporation

**1) Introductions and Approval of Minutes**

Mr. Paul Batson called the meeting to order. Introductions were made by all in attendance. A **motion** was made (Dr. Horne) and seconded (Mr. Edwards) to approve the minutes of the January 5, 2017 and February 17, 2017 meetings.

**2) SC Student Loan Corporation – SC Teacher Loan Program**

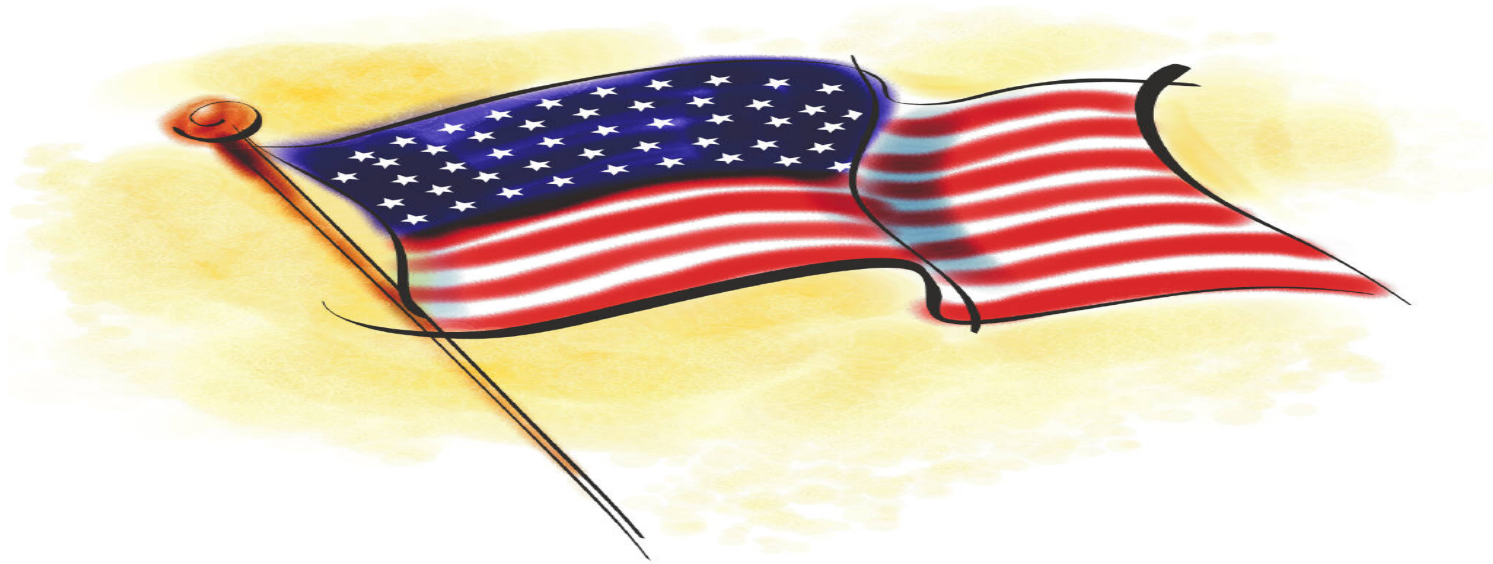
Dr. Woodfaulk reported that staff was submitting a request from the SC Student Loan Corporation. She stated that the SC Student Loan Corporation requests approval to contract with a third party servicer to service the portfolio of loans in the SC Teachers Loan Program to avoid interruption of the program. Dr. Horne **motioned** to approve the request for the SC Student Loan Corporation to contract with a third party for the servicing of the SC Teachers Loan Program and **seconded** (Mr. Edwards). The motion was **approved**.

**3) Other Business**

The **motion** was made (Dr. Horne) to adjourned, **seconded** (Dr. Whitaker). The motion **carried**. With no further business, the meeting adjourned at 2:30 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,  
*Laverne Sanders*  
Laverne Sanders  
Recording Secretary

# National Association of State Approving Agencies Overview and Function May 23, 2017



## Veterans' Education and Training

# A Little History

State Approving Agencies were created during the early days of the World War II “GI Bill of Rights.” The United States Congress, recognizing that education is a function reserved to the States, decided that each state should create or designate an agency to determine which education and training programs were appropriate for veterans to enroll and use their GI Bill education benefits. The law establishing the education benefits program requested each state’s governor to designate the State Approving Agency.

In 1948, the State Approving Agencies saw a need to coordinate their efforts nationwide and gathered to form the National Association of State Approving Agencies (NASAA). Then, as now, NASAA assists states in their efforts to do a better job for veteran-students and served as a tool to resolve mutual problems.



# About NASAA

The National Association of State Approving Agencies (NASAA) helps make the GI Bill work. NASAA facilitates the efforts of its member State Approving Agencies (SAAs) in promoting and safeguarding quality education and training programs for veterans, ensuring greater education and training opportunities for veterans, and protecting the integrity of the GI Bill.

NASAA is made up of more than 50 state agencies nationwide that oversee education and training programs for veterans in their respective states. Some states have separate SAAs for different types of training (schools vs. on-the-job, for example) but most states have a single agency to evaluate, approve, and monitor education and training programs for use by GI Bill-eligible students.

SAAs provide assistance to schools and training facilities that are approved or are seeking approval. SAAs' approval decisions are transmitted to the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs in order to pay benefits when students enroll. SAAs play a major role in monitoring schools with approved programs to ensure continued compliance with state and federal law.

NASAA works hand-in-hand with other organizations to make the GI Bill the best possible educational assistance program for our nation's veterans.

# South Carolina Commission on Higher Education State Approving Agency Overview

- The governor of each state assigns the State Approving Agency (SAA) to operate under a state agency/department.
- The SAA has been under the South Carolina Commission of Higher education since the early 1990s.
- Title 38 Code of Federal Regulations is the governing authority for granting approval, suspension and withdrawal of approval.

# South Carolina Commission on Higher Education

## State Approving Agency Overview

- The SAA acts on behalf of the federal government to evaluate educational/vocational institutions and training establishments.
- The SAA approves programs where veterans and those eligible for VA education benefits (under Title 38, US Code, Chapters 30, 32, 33, 35, 36, and Title 10 US Code, Chapter 1606 and 1607) can achieve quality training in either an educational, professional, or vocational objective.
- The focus of the SAA is the review, evaluation, and approval of quality programs under both state and federal criteria.

# South Carolina Commission on Higher Education

## State Approving Agency Overview Continued - Contract and Business Plan

- The SAA reviews all requests for approval documents from all educational institutions and employers requesting to be approved for veterans' education and training programs.
- All requests for approval must be submitted to the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) Education Liaison Representative at an approval accuracy rate of a minimum of 90% with no substantive errors for concurrence.




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Kevin Glears  
\*

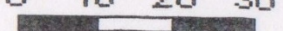
Peggy Simons  
\*

Frank Myers  
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**South Carolina**

 Interstate Highway

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# State Approving Agency Overview-Contract and Business Plan - Timeliness for Submission of Referrals and Reports

- The SAA conducts compliance surveys (audits) at colleges, universities and training establishments per VA assignment each federal fiscal year.
- If there are no findings noted, the SAA will have seven calendar days to submit the report to the VA.
- The SAA must complete corrective action within 10 calendars of a compliance survey finding.
- If a financial finding is noted during the compliance survey visit, the SAA will assist the educational institution in submitting the referral to the VA. This action must be completed within 15 calendar days
- If there are no findings noted, the SAA will have seven (7) calendar days to submit the report to the VA.

# FY 2016 and 2017 Compliance Survey Visits

## 2016

### **Compliance survey visits - 64**

- Institutions of Higher Learning -23
- Non-College Degree Schools -28
- Apprenticeships -2
- On-the-Job Training - 11

## 2017

### **Compliance survey visits - 38**

- Institutions of Higher Learning -12
- Non-College Degree Schools -10
- Apprenticeship -1
- On-the-Job Training - 15

# FY 2016 and 2017

## Over and Under payments from Compliance Survey Visits

**2016**

### **Compliance survey visits - 64**

- Institutions of Higher Learning - 13
- Non-College Degree Schools - 13
- Apprenticeship - 0
- On-the-Job Training - 5
- Total over payments - **\$329,776.57**
- Total under payments - **-\$9,495.33**

*Note: As of September 30, 2016*

**2017**

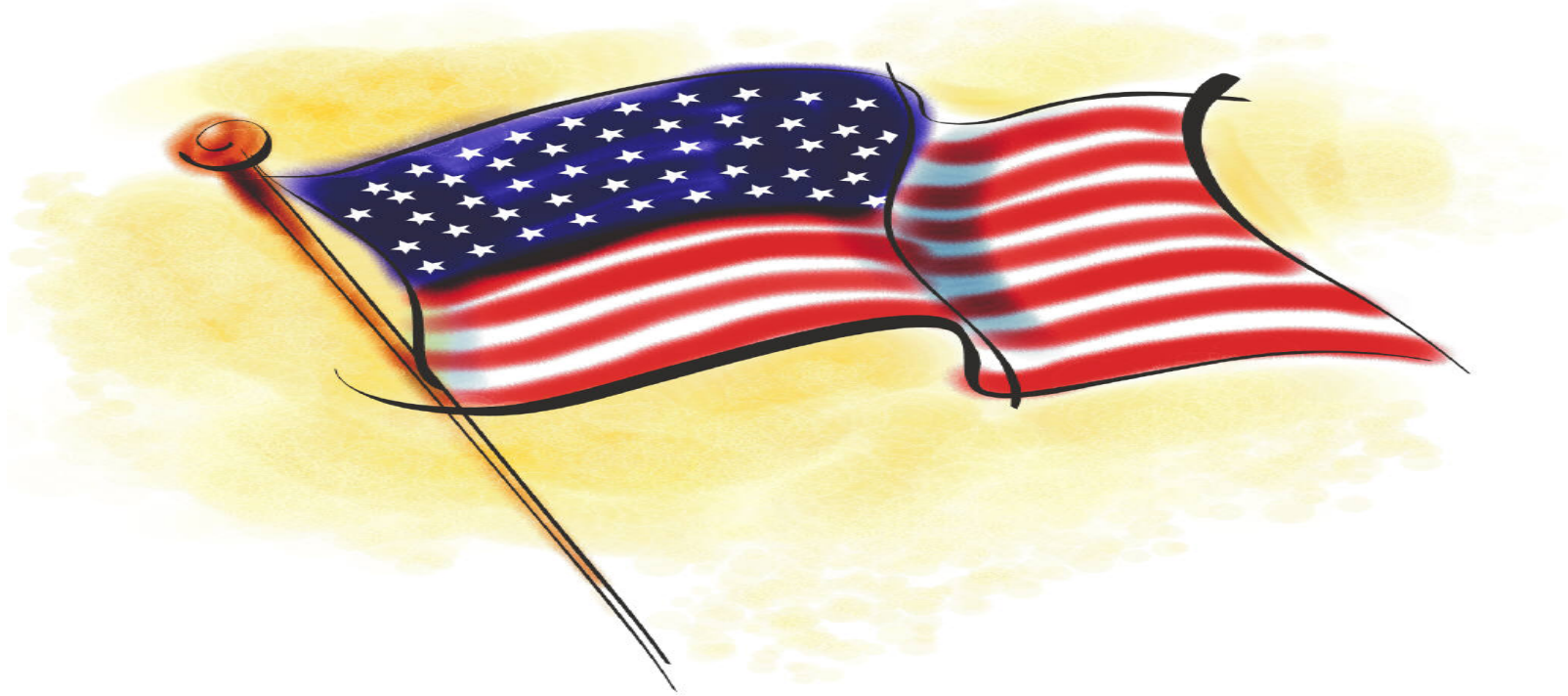
### **Compliance survey visits - 38**

- Institutions of Higher Learning - 6
- Non-College Degree Schools - 1
- Apprenticeship - 0
- On-the-Job Training - 3
- Total over payments - **\$27,651.20**
- Total under payments - **\$1,100.28**

*Note: As of May 15, 2017*



# The GI Bill “Not Just for College”



# What is an Apprenticeship?

- Apprenticeship (APP) programs usually range from two to five years in length.
- Eligible veterans/employees are in training, performing a new job, and earning wages.
- Benefits for training is based on 120 hours or more worked each month.

# What is OJT?

- On-The-Job (OJT) is training received while actually performing a job and earning wages, in addition to receiving GI Bill benefits.
- OJT programs normally range from six months to two years of full-time training.
- Eligible veterans/employees are in training, performing a new job, and earning wages.
- Benefits for training are based on 120 hours or more worked each month.

# Examples of Approved Occupations/Training Objectives

Police Officer	Deputy Sheriff
Correctional Officer	Detention Officer
Security Guard	Detective
Diver	Flight Readiness Technician
Aircraft Assembler	Fire Medic
Firefighter	Broadband Technician
Auto Mechanic	Electrician
Industrial Maintenance Mechanic	Funeral Director
HVAC Technician	Railroad Conductor/Freight
Nuclear Operations Specialist	Landscaper

# South Carolina Commission on Higher Education State Approving Agency Overview – Technical Assistance

- The South Carolina Commission on Higher Education State Approving Agency is one of four states that actually provides technical assistance in completing the required approval documents and enrollment application for SC employers and veterans.
- The SAA reviews all On-the-Job Training (OJT) enrollment applications to ensure accurate completion. This assistance helps the VA Claims Department process enrollment applications without delay.
- *As of May 19, 2017, the SAA has assisted, completed and forwarded 104 enrollment applications to the VA for final processing.*

# South Carolina Veterans and Dependents Receiving GI Bill Benefits

	<b>CHAP 30</b>	<b>CHAP 33</b>	<b>CH 35</b>	<b>CHAP 1606</b>	<b>CHAP 1607</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>
VETS	153	8411	0	0	0	8564
SVC/PER	19	261	0	0	26	306
DEP	0	0	2167	0	0	2167
RESERVE	0	0	0	721	0	721
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>172</b>	<b>8672</b>	<b>2167</b>	<b>721</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>11758</b>

Enrollment of Veterans: As of April 2017, the estimated number of veterans/dependents receiving GI Bill benefits at educational institutions in South Carolina is 11,758.

# **Department of Veterans - Post 9/11 GI Bill Tuition Rates for the Academic Years - 2016 and 2017**

## **2016 GI Tuition Rate for Academic Year August 1, 2016 – July 31, 2017**

- \$21,970.46
- Books/supplies/stipend
- Housing allowance

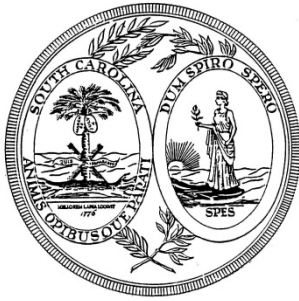
## **2017 GI Bill Tuition Rate for Academic Year August 1, 2017 – July 31, 2018**

- \$22,805.34
- Books/supplies/stipend
- Housing allowance

# QUESTIONS







# South Carolina Commission on Higher Education

## Agenda Item 3

Mr. Tim M. Hofferth, Chair  
Ms. Dianne C. Kuhl, Vice Chair  
Mr. Paul O. Batson, III  
Mr. Devron H. Edwards  
Dr. Bettie Rose Horne  
Mr. Kenneth W. Kirkland  
Ms. Allison Dean Love  
Dr. Louis B. Lynn  
Vice Admiral Charles Munns, USN (ret.)  
Mr. Kim F. Phillips  
Ms. Terrye C. Seckinger  
Dr. Evans Whitaker

Mr. Jeffrey M. Schilz  
Interim President and Executive Director

## Palmetto Fellows Scholarship 2017-2016 Presentation

### Palmetto Fellows History

The South Carolina General Assembly established the Palmetto Fellows Scholarship Program in 1988 to recognize the most academically talented high school seniors and encourage these students to attend college in the State. From 1988 until 1995, the SC Commission on Higher Education awarded an average of 42 new Palmetto Fellows Scholarships each year. The State awarded \$2,500 per academic year to each recipient, and the institution in which the recipient was enrolled was required to match that amount.

In 1996 the SC General Assembly increased funding for the program thereby increasing the average number of new Palmetto Fellows Scholarships awarded each year as well as the average award amount. Institutions were no longer required to provide matching funds. With the implementation of the SC Education Lottery in 2002, the General Assembly approved an increase in the maximum Palmetto Fellows Scholarship award amount. Palmetto Fellows may receive up to \$6,700 their freshman year and up to \$7,500 for their sophomore, junior and senior years for a maximum of eight terms towards their first bachelor's at an eligible higher education institution in South Carolina.

### Initial Eligibility Requirements

- Rank in the top 6% at the end of the 10th, *or* the 11th, *or* the 12th grade academic year; *and*
- Earn a 1200 on the SAT or 27 on the ACT; *and*
- Earn a 3.5 cumulative GPA (based on the SC UGP)

*OR* qualify by meeting the Alternate Criteria eligibility requirements without regard to rank

- Earn a 1400 on the SAT or 32 on the ACT; *and*
- Earn a 4.0 Cumulative GPA (based on the SC UGP)

### Palmetto Fellows Scholarship Enhancements

During the 2007 legislative session, the General Assembly created the Palmetto Fellows Scholarship Enhancement. The Scholarship Enhancement increases the Palmetto Fellows Scholarship award from \$7,500 to \$10,000. The enhancement is available to students majoring in the mathematics, science and health fields at eligible South Carolina four-year institutions. Eligible students can be awarded a Palmetto Fellows

Scholarship Enhancement to meet their cost of attendance for up to six consecutive terms starting the second year of college enrollment.

**To be eligible for the Scholarship Enhancement a student must:**

- Be a recipient of the Palmetto Fellows Scholarship; *and*
- Earn at least 14 credit hours of instruction in approved mathematics or life and physical sciences or a combination of both by the end of the first academic year of college enrollment; *and*
- Declare an approved major in science, mathematics, or health related field at the institution.

In fall 2016, 7,410 Palmetto Fellows students were enrolled at SC eligible institutions. Of those 7,410 students, 3,142 were receiving the STEM enhancement.

**2017-2018 Student Profile**

**Early Award (Mid-October – December 15<sup>th</sup>)**

- 2,850 students met the academic requirements
  - 505 more eligible students than last year
- Average GPA: 4.8
- Average SAT: 1320
- Average ACT: 30

**Demographic Breakdown**

- American Indian/Alaskan Native: less than 1%
- Asian or Pacific Islander: 6%
- Black/African American: 5%
- Hispanic: 3%
- White/Non-Hispanic: 84%
- Unknown: 2%

**Late Award (Mid-April – June 15<sup>th</sup>)**

- We anticipate at least 700 or more applications for the 2017 Late award based on last year's data.

### Where are the 2017 Palmetto Fellows planning to attend?

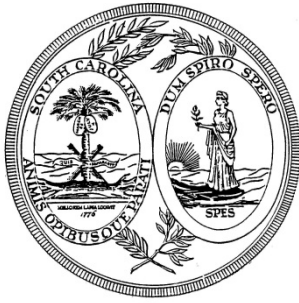
<b>Out-of-State</b>	<b>134</b>
	134
<b>Eligible</b>	<b>1323</b>
	1323
<b>Fellow</b>	<b>1392</b>
Anderson University	43
Bob Jones University	5
Charleston Southern University	44
Claflin University	1
Clemson University	632
Coastal Carolina University	20
College of Charleston	70
Columbia College	2
Columbia International Univ.	3
Converse College	8
Erskine College	5
Francis Marion University	9
Furman University	30
Lander University	6
Limestone College	2
Newberry College	1
North Greenville University	26
Presbyterian College	11
South Carolina State Univ.	2
Southern Wesleyan University	6
The Citadel	6
U.S.C. - Aiken	6
U.S.C. - Beaufort	9
U.S.C. - Columbia	350
U.S.C. - Upstate	11
Winthrop University	43
Wofford College	41
<b>Ineligible</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>2850</b>

### Students electing to attend Out-of-State Institutions

The University of Alabama	14	Washington and Lee University	1
Duke University	7	Belmont University	1
Vanderbilt University	6	Georgia Institute of Technology	1
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill	5	Binghamton University	1
University of Pennsylvania	3	University of Georgia	1
Emory University	3	Northwestern University	1
New York University	3	DePaul University	1
Savannah College of Art and Design	3	Norwich University	1
University of Tennessee	2	University of Purdue	1
United States Naval Academy	2	Oberlin	1
Samford University	2	University of Virginia	1
Cornell University	2	Oxford College of Emory University	1
University of Minnesota Twin Cities	2	Harvard University	1
Auburn University	2	Pfeiffer University	1
Wake Forest University	2	Lee University	1
Georgia Tech	2	Fashion institute of technology	1
Boston University	2	Columbia University	1
Liberty University	2	Florida International University	1
University of Central Florida	2	University of Chicago	1
Lipscomb University	2	Florida state university	1
Brigham Young University	2	University of Dallas	1
Montreat College	2	University of Tennessee	1
Virginia Tech	2	University of Michigan Ann Arbor	1
Princeton University	2	University of Texas	1
West Virginia University	2	University of Mississippi	1
Rochester Institute of Technology	2	Texas A&M University	1
Colorado School of Mines	2	University of Notre Dame	1
University of Colorado	1	The College of William and Mary	1
Centre College	1	Brown University	1
University of Oregon	1	Queen's University	1
Lehigh University	1	University of Southern Mississippi	1
Yale University	1	George Washington University	1
Colorado State University	1	University of Toledo	1
Georgia Southern University	1	Tufts University	1
Embry Riddle Aeronautical University	1	University of Wisconsin-Madison	1
Harding University	1	Tulane University	1
Mills College	1	Virginia Commonwealth University	1
		Tuskegee University	1
		Hollins University	1

UNC-Chapel Hill	1
Wesleyan University	1
Undecided	1
Wheaton College	1
Georgetown University	1

University of California at Berkeley	1
Lees McRae College	1
University of California Santa Barbara	1
Southern Methodist University	1



# South Carolina Commission on Higher Education

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## Information Session May 23, 2017 2:00 p.m. Main Conference Room

### SC Department of Education: Uniform Grading Policy

In spring 2016 the State Board of Education adopted a new Uniform Grading Policy, moving from a seven-point scale to a ten-point scale. Because Palmetto Fellows, LIFE and SC HOPE scholarship eligibility are based in part, upon grade point average (GPA), changes to the grading system will impact these scholarships. The Palmetto Fellows Scholarship requires at least a GPA of 3.5. The LIFE Scholarship requires a minimum 3.0 GPA. The SC HOPE Scholarship also requires only a 3.0 GPA by the end of the high school senior year. In addition, beginning in March 2016, the College Board redesigned the SAT, changing the testing structure and scoring format of the exam.

If no changes are made to the current scholarship requirements, the above mentioned changes essentially provide lower merit requirements for state scholarships:

When fully phased-in by Year 4, a **Current:**

- 2.37 GPA becomes → 3.00 GPA
- 3.00 GPA becomes → 3.50 GPA
- 3.50 GPA becomes → 3.90 GPA
- 4.00 GPA becomes → 4.30 GPA

College Board indicates on their concordance table, that an OLD:

- 1100 is now → 1170
- 1200 is now → 1270
- 1400 is now → 1450

**Assuming no change to the current qualifications for the Palmetto Fellows, LIFE, and HOPE Scholarships, the net effect of moving to a ten-point grading scale would cost the state **\$88,301,060**.**

The Committee on Access & Equity and Student Services will discuss the current eligibility requirements for each scholarship program, recent changes to the Uniform Grading Policy, and the potential impact of the changes on state scholarships at **2:00 PM Tuesday, May 23, 2017**. This will be an opportunity to inform Committee members about the specific issues relating to these changes. All Commission members, as well as the public, are invited to attend the Committee meeting. Video teleconferencing will also be available:

**<https://scche.adobeconnect.com/accessequitymeeting/>**. In addition to the video conferencing, our dial-in teleconference will also be available. The dial-in number is 800-503-2899 and the access code is 7372226.

It is anticipated that there will be opportunities for numerous conversations about these issues and possible discussion at the June 1, 2017 Commission Meeting.

*\* Net new cost to state does not include changes to the SAT.*

## Estimates over four years: Base Award Estimates Plus Estimated PF & LIFE STEM Enhancement in Years 2-4

	Year 1 #	Cost	Year 2 #	Cost	Year 3 #	Cost	Year 4 #	Cost	Total #	Cost
<b>Palmetto Fellows</b>										
Entering Class 1	330	\$2,211,000	294	\$2,503,058	270	\$2,302,814	248	\$2,113,983	1,142	\$9,130,855
Entering Class 2			344	\$2,304,800	306	\$2,609,249	282	\$2,400,509	932	\$7,314,557
Entering Class 3					356	\$2,387,773	317	\$2,703,182	674	\$5,090,954
Entering Class 4							369	\$2,473,733	369	\$2,473,733
SUBTOTAL	330	\$2,211,000	638	\$4,807,858	933	\$7,299,835	1,216	\$9,691,406	3,117	\$24,010,099
Total Cost Savings from Reduced LIFE		-\$1,650,000		-\$3,188,500		-\$4,663,740		-\$6,080,550		-\$15,582,790
<b>NET NEW COSTS</b>		<b>\$561,000</b>		<b>\$1,619,358</b>		<b>\$2,636,095</b>		<b>\$3,610,855</b>		<b>\$8,427,309</b>
<b>4-Year LIFE and HOPE</b>										
Entering Class 1	2,018	\$6,730,600	628	\$3,450,948	544	\$2,991,972	456	2,507,272	3,646.79	\$15,680,792
Entering Class 2			2,093	\$6,962,600	649	\$3,567,057	563	3,092,639	3,304.96	\$13,622,296
Entering Class 3					2,161	\$7,172,621	668	3,672,153	2,829.19	\$10,844,774
Entering Class 4							2,231	7,389,556	2,231.19	\$7,389,556
SUBTOTAL	2,018	\$6,730,600	2,721	\$10,413,548	3,355	\$13,731,650	3,919	16,661,620	12,012	\$47,537,418
Total Cost Savings										
<b>NET NEW COSTS</b>		<b>\$6,730,600</b>		<b>\$10,413,548</b>		<b>\$13,731,650</b>		<b>\$16,661,620</b>		<b>\$47,537,418</b>
<b>2-Year LIFE</b>										
Entering Class 1	3,549	\$14,797,733	834	3,475,987					4,383	\$18,273,720
Entering Class 2			3,826	15,952,698	899	3,747,289			4,725	\$19,699,987
Entering Class 3					4,013	16,734,381	943	\$3,930,906	4,956	\$20,665,287
Entering Class 4							4,210	\$17,554,365	4,210	\$17,554,365
SUBTOTAL	3,549	\$14,797,733	4,660	\$19,428,686	4,912	\$20,481,669		\$21,485,271	18,274	\$76,193,359
Total Cost Savings from Reduced LTA		-\$8,517,600		-\$11,183,184		-\$11,789,283		-\$12,366,958		-\$43,857,026
<b>NET NEW COSTS</b>		<b>\$6,280,133</b>		<b>\$8,245,502</b>		<b>\$8,692,386</b>		<b>\$9,118,313</b>		<b>\$32,336,333</b>
<b>GRAND TOTALS</b>										
Entering Class 1		\$23,739,333		\$9,429,994		\$5,294,785		\$4,621,255		\$43,085,367
Entering Class 2		\$0		\$25,220,098		\$9,923,595		\$5,493,147		\$40,636,840
Entering Class 3		\$0		\$0		\$26,294,775		\$10,306,240		\$36,601,015
Entering Class 4		\$0		\$0		\$0		\$27,417,654		\$27,417,654
SUBTOTAL		\$23,739,333		\$34,650,092		\$41,513,155		\$47,838,297		\$147,740,877
Total Cost Savings from All		-\$10,167,600		-\$14,371,684		-\$16,453,023		-\$18,447,509		-\$59,439,816
<b>NET NEW COSTS</b>		<b>\$13,571,733</b>		<b>\$20,278,408</b>		<b>\$25,060,131</b>		<b>\$29,390,789</b>		<b>\$88,301,060</b>