 February 5, 2018

**GROWING** TEACHERS FOR **SOUTH CAROLINA** • [CERRA.ORG](http://cerra.org) • @CERRASC

Stewart House at Winthrop University • Rock Hill, SC 29733 • P: 803.323.4032 or 800.476.2387 • F: 803.323.4044

To Whom it May Concern:

In 1999, the SC General Assembly, recognizing the shortage of teachers in our state, funded the Teaching Fellows Program for South Carolina. The mission of the South Carolina Teaching Fellows Program is to recruit talented high school seniors into the teaching profession and help them develop leadership qualities. Each year, the program provides Fellowships for up to 200 high school seniors who have exhibited high academic achievement, a history of service to their school and community, and a desire to teach in South Carolina.

Teaching Fellows participate in advanced enrichment programs at Teaching Fellows Institutions, have additional professional development opportunities, and are involved with communities and businesses throughout the state. They receive up to $24,000, in yearly scholarships (up to $6000 a year for four years) while they complete a degree leading to teacher certification. The scholarship provides up to $5700 for tuition and board and $300 for summer enrichment programs administered by CERRA (contingent on funding from the S.C. General Assembly). A Fellow agrees to teach in South Carolina one year for every year he or she receives the Fellowship.

On April 10, 2018, the Teaching Fellows will have the distinct honor of being formally recognized by the SC House and Senate while participating in a mandatory Hill Day event. The Teaching Fellows will also have the opportunity to view the legislative process first hand and interact with members of the General Assembly. We understand that this event is scheduled during the school week and respectfully ask you to approve this absence.

If you have any questions or if we may be of assistance, please contact me at hallmanj@cerra.org or call 800.476.2387.

Sincerely,

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Dr. Jenna Hallman

Teaching Fellows Program Director