



College Financial Newsletter

CERRA – South Carolina | www.cerra.org

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South Carolina Scholarship Programs

WHAT SHOULD I KNOW?

Grants and Scholarships DO NOT have to be repaid.

MOST loans must be repaid, under most circumstances. Education loans usually have low interest rates, and most do not have to be repaid until the student leaves college.

Fellowships are funds granted for advanced study. In many cases, Fellows share similar professional interests.

Student Employment is a job that the college coordinates or assigns for the student to offset the cost of attending school.

PALMETTO FELLOWS

- **1200 SAT/27 ACT** by the June test Administration
- cumulative **3.5 GPA** based on the SC Uniform Grading Scale (SC UGS) by the end of the senior year
- **rank in the top 6% of the class at the end of the sophomore, junior, or senior year**

For college freshmen entering in the fall of 2019, the amount of the scholarship is up to \$6,700 towards the cost of attendance. Sophomores, juniors, and seniors may receive up to \$7,500 per year. Math and science majors are eligible to receive up to a \$2,500 supplement beginning their second/ sophomore year.

LIFE SCHOLARSHIP

Students must meet two of the following three academic criteria to receive funds at a four-year institution:

- **1100 SAT/24 ACT**
- cumulative **3.0 GPA** based on the SC UGS upon high school graduation
- **rank in the top 30% of the graduating class**

Freshmen attending an eligible four-year college or university in the fall of 2019 may receive up to \$5,000 (including a \$300 book allowance) each academic year towards the cost of attendance. Math and science majors are eligible to receive up to a \$2,500 supplement beginning their second/sophomore year.

For students attending an eligible two-year public/private college or technical college in SC, the LIFE scholarship pays up to the maximum cost of tuition at the two-year regional campus (plus a \$300 book allowance) each academic year.

Students must earn a cumulative **3.0 GPA** based on the SC UGS upon high school graduation to receive the LIFE Scholarship at a two-year college.

Freshmen attending an eligible four-year college or university may receive up to \$2,800 (including a \$300 book allowance) toward the cost of attendance.

Check out more details:

<http://www.che.sc.gov/Students/FamiliesMilitary/PayingForCollege/FinancialAssistanceAvailable/ScholarshipsGrantforSCResidents.aspx>



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Federal Sources for Financial Aid (18/19)

Federal Parent Loan for Undergraduate Students (PLUS) – Loans made to parents who are then responsible for repaying the amount borrowed.

Federal Pell Grant – Direct aid for students based on need. Maximum amount awarded for the 2018-2019 is \$6,095, depending on program funding, financial need, and cost of attendance. **FAFSA** completion automatically targets students who may qualify. (See next page for FAFSA information).

Federal Stafford Loan – a type of federal loan available to students who are enrolled in college at least half-time. Borrowers who receive a Federal Stafford Loan may be eligible for the US Department of Education's Stafford Loan Forgiveness Program for teaching. Upon meeting specific criteria, including teaching for five consecutive, complete school years in a low income school, recipients may be eligible to forgive up to \$17,500.

Federal Supplemental Education Opportunity Grant (FSEOG) - Grants of \$100 - \$4,000 for students with exceptional financial need.

Federal Work Study Program (FWSF) – Jobs on campus for students with financial need.

Need more info? Check out...

www.staffordloan.com and

<https://studentaid.ed.gov/sa/repay-loans/forgiveness-cancellation/teacher>

Eligibility for Federal Financial Aid

Be a **U.S. citizen, a U.S. national or permanent resident** (*Eligible noncitizens may also receive federal student aid.*)

Be **registered with the Selective Service**, if you are a male 18 or older

Have **documented financial need** for certain types of aid

Have a **high school diploma, a GED, or a passing score** on a test approved by the U.S.

Be **enrolled as a regular student** in a course of study leading to a degree or certificate

Have a valid **Social Security number**

Meet the **school's standard** for academic progress

<http://studentaid.ed.gov/eligibility/infographic-accessible>



FAFSA Free Application for Federal Student Aid

Federal law requires the U.S. Department of Education to provide students with the opportunity to apply for federal aid without paying a fee. To be considered for student aid, the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) form must be completed and submitted. Forms are available in high school guidance offices and online at www.fafsa.ed.gov, or by calling 1-800-4FED-AID 1-800-433-3243.

To apply for FAFSA, you will need the following:

- an application or computer access for e-filing
- social security number
- the most recent student and parent income tax information
- all W-2 statements of earnings
- current bank statements
- any stocks, bonds, or other investment statements
- a FSA ID to sign electronically

Students may not complete the FAFSA application before October 1st or after June 30th of the year in which they will receive the aid. **NO EXCEPTIONS.**

Electronic FAFSA Form
www.fafsa.ed.gov

After applying, you will receive a Student Aid Report (SAR) noting eligibility for aid.



Other Sources for Financial Aid

Private College Information

The South Carolina Tuition Grants Program provides undergraduate grant assistance to eligible SC residents who attend SC independent, non-profit (private) colleges on a full-time basis.

Visit:
www.sctuitiongrants.com

Think creatively about financial aid options!

Consider community agencies, civic groups, corporations, cultural organizations, foundations, fraternal groups, religious organizations, and the military for additional aid.

Ask your guidance counselor, and check the guidance office's bulletin boards and/or electronic newsletters OFTEN for local information.

College Admission Testing 2019

ACT / Registration Deadline

January 11, 2019
March 8, 2019
May 3, 2018
June 14, 2019

Test Date

February 9, 2019
April 13, 2019
June 8, 2019
July 13, 2019

SAT / Registration Deadline

February 8, 2019
April 5, 2019
May 3, 2019

Test Date

March 9, 2019
May 4, 2019
June 1, 2019

Interested in Becoming a Teacher?

The SC Teachers Loan Program

encourages South Carolina residents to enter the teaching profession. These loans are forgiven by teaching in a SC public school in a critical subject and/or critical geographic area.

What are the critical geographical areas?

Critical geographical areas vary in each district and every year. Please visit the website below for the current listings for each district.

What are the critical subject areas?

Current critical subject areas for 2018/2019 include the following:

Secondary Math, Secondary Science (Biology, Chemistry, Physics and Science), Media Specialist, Special Education (all areas), Spanish, French, Latin, Family & Consumer Science (Home Economics) Business/Marketing/Computer Technology, German, Secondary English, Theatre, Art, Health, Dance, Middle Level Social Studies, Math, Language Arts, Science, ESL, Chinese, Literacy, Music, Speech Lang Therapist, Social Studies, Physical Education, Industrial Tech Education

Do you qualify?

You must:

- rank in the top 40% of your high school graduating class
- be a SC resident
- be a citizen or permanent resident of the United States
- have a SAT/ACT score equal to or greater than the SC average for the year of graduation from high school. Currently, the average scores are: SAT (ERW and Math) 1058, ACT 18

To renew the loan:

- students must re-apply each year
- undergraduates must have a cumulative GPA of at least 2.75 on a 4.0 scale

To be eligible for the loan after the freshman year, a student must take and pass the Praxis Core exam. Students with a SAT score of 1100 or greater (1650 for exams taken on or after March 1, 2005) or an ACT score of 24 or greater are exempt from the Praxis requirement.

Praxis Information

For information on the Praxis, visit the ETS Web at www.ets.org/praxis or call 609.771.7395

Loan Amounts & Repayment

Freshmen and sophomores may borrow up to \$2,500 per year. Juniors, seniors, and graduate students may borrow up to \$5,000 per year. If a borrower decides not to teach or does not teach in a critical area, the loan must be repaid.

Loans are forgiven at the rate of 20% or \$3,000, whichever is greater, for each year of full-time teaching in a critical subject area or in a critical geographic area in a SC public school. The loan is cancelled at a rate of 33.3% or \$5,000, whichever is greater, for each year of full-time teaching in both a critical subject area and a critical geographic school.



For more information, contact South Carolina Student Loan Corporation by calling 803.798.0916 or 800.347.2752 or online at www.scstudentloan.org



Ken Bower Teacher Cadet Scholarship

The Ken Bower Teacher Cadet Scholarship, named in memory of Dr. Ken Bower, an architect of the original Teacher Cadet course and curriculum, is awarded each year to as many as five senior Teacher Cadets who intend to become classroom teachers in one of South Carolina's many public schools. Teacher Cadet instructors receive notification of the call for applications early each calendar year, and the additional scholarship information can be found at <https://www.teachercadets.com/ken-bower-scholarship.html>.

Applications must be postmarked on or before March 30, 2019. All applicants, even those who are not selected, will be notified by May 11, 2019. Thanks to the generosity of silent auction "shoppers" at CERRA's 2018 Pre-Collegiate Fall Renewal Conference and the SC Teacher Forum Conference, recipients will receive a one-time award of \$1,000.00. The award is mailed directly to the recipient's college or university in August and is applied to his or her account. Awards are determined based on the merits of scholarship, school and community involvement, teacher recommendations, and a written essay. The Ken Bower scholarship is not "needs-based" and does not rely on the Teacher Cadet's family financial information. Teaching Fellows may also be recipients of the Ken Bower Scholarship.



Need some good advice?

Be careful when searching for information on student financial aid. Don't fall prey to fraud. The College Scholarship Fraud Prevention Act helps protect against fraud in student financial assistance.

The Federal Trade Commission (FTC) cautions students to look for tell-tale lines such as these:

"You can't get this information anywhere else."

"I just need your credit card or bank account number to hold this scholarship."

"The scholarship is guaranteed or your money back."

"You can't get this information anywhere else."

"I just need your credit card or bank account number to hold this scholarship."

"The scholarship is guaranteed or your money back."

Source: www.studentaid.ed.gov

Call Me MISTER

The mission of the **Call Me MISTER** (Mentors Instructing Students Toward Effective Role Models) Initiative is to increase the pool of available teachers from a broader background. Call Me Mister combines the special strengths of Clemson University with the individualized instructional programs offered by several colleges and universities in South Carolina. The project also has limited enrollment in the middle school Master of Arts in Teaching Program.

Partner schools:

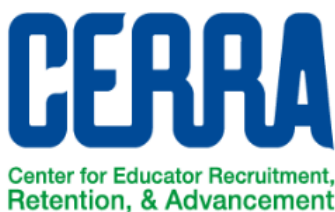
[Aiken Technical College](#), [Anderson University](#), [Benedict College](#), [Claflin University](#), [Clemson University](#), [Coastal Carolina University](#), [College of Charleston](#), [Greenville Technical College](#), [Horry Georgetown Technical College](#), [Lander University](#), [Limestone College](#), [Midlands Technical College](#), [Morris College](#), [Newberry College](#), [Piedmont Technical College](#), [South Carolina State University](#), [Southern Wesleyan University](#), [Spartanburg Community College](#), [Tri-County Technical College](#), [Trident Technical College](#), [University of South Carolina Aiken](#), [University of South Carolina Beaufort](#), [University of South Carolina Upstate](#), and [Winthrop University](#).

Call 800.640.2657, visit <https://www.clemson.edu/education/callmemister/>, or e-mail MISTER@clemson.edu.

TEACH Grant

The Teacher Education Assistance for College and Higher Education (TEACH) grant program provides grants of up to \$4,000 per year to students who intend to teach in a private or public elementary or secondary school that serves students from low-income families. As a recipient of a TEACH Grant, you must teach in a high need field for at least four academic years within eight calendar years of completing the program of study for which you received a TEACH Grant. If you fail to complete this service obligation, all amounts of TEACH Grants that you received will be converted to a Federal Direct Unsubsidized Stafford Loan.

<http://studentaid.ed.gov/PORTALSWebApp/students/english/TEACH.jsp>



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Rock Hill, SC 29733
800.476.2387/803.323.4032
www.teachercadets.com www.cerra.org

Additional Information at Your Fingertips

ACT	www.act.org
ACT Fee Waivers (need-based)	319-337-1270
Call Me MISTER	www.clemson.edu/education/callmemister/
CAPPEX	www.cappex.com
CERRA	www.cerra.org
College Board	www.collegeboard.com
CollegeNET	www.collegenet.com
FAFSA (English and Español)	www.fafsa.ed.gov/ 1-800-433-3243
Federal Information	http://www.studentaid.ed.gov/students/publications/student_guide/index.html
Gates Millennium	www.gmsp.org
SC Scholarships & Colleges	www.che.sc.gov
NABSE	www.nabse.org
Private Sector Scholarships	www.fastweb.com
SAT	www.collegeboard.com
SAT Fee Waivers (need-based)	1-866-756-7436
SCABSE	www.scabse.net
SC Student Loan Corporation	www.scstudentloan.org or 1-800-347-2752
SC Teaching Fellows	https://www.cerra.org/teaching-fellows-overview.html
SC Teacher Loan	http://www.scstudentloan.org/wp154.aspx
SC Tuition Grants	www.sctuitiongrants.com
Student Aid Info Center	http://www.ed.gov/finaid/landing.jhtml?src=rt
The Smart Student TM Guide to Financial Aid	www.finaid.org
US Department of Education	www.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ope/index.html?src=mr
Veterans' Affairs	http://www.military.com/education/content/money-forschool/military-spouse-and-family-educational-assistance-programs.html