

COLLEGE OF CHARLESTON
Office of Financial Assistance & Veterans Affairs
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S.C. LIFE SCHOLARSHIP ELIGIBILITY

Amount: The award amount is cost of tuition (up to \$4,700) plus \$300 for book allowance at four-year schools.

General Eligibility Requirements for All Students:

- Legal resident of the State of South Carolina.
- Be a South Carolina resident for in-state purposes at the time of enrollment at the institution, and be either a member of a class graduating from a high school located in this State, or a student who has successfully completed at least three of the final four years of high school within this State, or a home school student who has successfully completed a high school home school program in this State in the manner required by law, or a student graduating from a preparatory high school outside this State; **while a dependent of a parent or guardian who is a legal resident of this State and has custody of the dependent.**
- Submitted transcript(s) from all institutions attended prior to the first day of enrollment
- Full time enrolled undergraduate each semester. (EDLS 100: Learning Strategies does not count toward degree requirements or toward registered financial aid hours.)
- Working toward first undergraduate degree.
- Will use the LIFE Scholarship for tuition and fees and other educational costs at the College of Charleston.
- Not a S.C. Palmetto Fellow. (If you are subsequently awarded the Palmetto Fellows Scholarship, the Office of Financial Assistance will automatically cancel the LIFE Scholarship for you.)
- Have not received the S.C. LIFE Scholarship for more than six semesters at any institution.
- Do not owe a refund on a Federal Title IV or State of South Carolina educational loan.
- Not in default on a Federal Title IV or State of South Carolina educational loan.
- Not adjudicated a delinquent.
- No felony convictions, drug convictions, or alcohol convictions in any U.S. state.*

Entering Freshmen Eligibility: (must meet two of three)

- Score 1100 on the SAT or 24 on the ACT
- Graduate High School with a 3.0 GPA on a 4.0 Grading Scale
- Rank in the top 30% of graduating class

Continuing Student Eligibility:

- Minimum LIFE GPA of 3.0 on 4.0 scale; and
- For the initial eligibility, collegiate average of 30 credit hours earned.
- After the initial year, earn a collegiate average of 30 credit hours and minimally by the end of the sophomore year have earned 60 hours, junior year, 90 hours.
- Students who are not eligible going into fall term cannot regain eligibility for disbursement again until the subsequent fall term.

Entering Transfer Student Eligibility:

- Earn a LIFE GPA of 3.0 on 4.0 scale; and
- For the initial eligibility, minimum of 30 credit hours earned at all prior institutions for the previous academic year---fall, spring, summer to be eligible as a 2nd year; or 60 credit hours for a 3rd year; or 90 credit hours for a 4th year continuing student.
- After the initial year, earn a collegiate average of 30 credit hours each year and by the end of sophomore year have earned 60 hours; junior year, 90 hours; and a minimum LIFE GPA of 3.0 on 4.0 scale.

Award notification to qualified students. Students who qualify will be notified just as soon as possible. ANY STUDENT WHO BELIEVES (S)HE MEETS THE ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA, AND HAS NOT HEARD FROM US BY AUGUST 31, SHOULD CONTACT THE SCHOLARSHIP COORDINATOR AT bloodwortha@cofc.edu.

OVER

ADDITIONAL CERTIFICATIONS:

For Entering Freshmen

- If the final high school transcript indicates less than an acceptable GPA and/or percentile rank in class or does not indicate the diploma received, the S.C. LIFE Scholarship award will be canceled.
- Mid-year (i.e. January), the renewal requirements will be 15 hours and a 3.0 collegiate GPA in the following August, and an average of 30 hours per year and a collegiate 3.0 GPA thereafter.
- Students may only be considered for the LIFE Scholarship for four years (eight consecutive semesters) from the date of initial college enrollment after high school graduation.
- All students who have been admitted to CofC must submit final official academic transcripts from all other institutions attended, including courses taken while still in high school to the Office of Admissions.

For Upper Classmen & Transfer Students

- Effective fall 2004, the SC LIFE GPA can be calculated based on coursework taken at eligible institutions in South Carolina (excluding remedial/developmental courses, continuing education courses, study abroad coursework outside the College of Charleston, distance education courses offered through out-of-state institutions, and EDLS 100 Learning Strategies). A minimum state collegiate GPA of 3.0 on 4.0 scale; AND minimum of 30 earned hours after the first year of college, prior to the beginning of the fall term; minimum of 60 earned hours after the second year of college, prior to the beginning of the fall term; minimum of 90 earned hours after the third year of college, prior to the beginning of the fall term. During the 2004-05 year, students can use their SC LIFE GPA **OR** the COFC GPA for calculating LIFE eligibility. Effective 2005-06, the SC LIFE GPA must be used in determining eligibility. This means that if a student does not have a cumulative 3.0 GPA at the College of Charleston, but does have a SC LIFE GPA of 3.0 or better, the student will meet the GPA requirement for 2004-05 but may not for the 2005-06 academic year. This information will be used to determine your LIFE Scholarship only and will not be used for your institutional academic standing or for graduation purposes.
- Students who are not eligible going into fall term cannot regain eligibility for the scholarship again until the subsequent fall term.
- Students may be considered for the LIFE Scholarship for four years (eight consecutive semesters) from the date of initial college enrollment after high school graduation.
- If the student fails to successfully complete the appropriate GPA and/or number of hours, the scholarship will be cancelled for the next year. However, the option of enrolling in summer school at any approved SC institution is available to make up deficit hours and/or GPA. If you are successful in making up the deficits, you may request reconsideration for the LIFE, provided you do so **PRIOR** to the first day of enrollment in the fall term.
- All continuing students who have been enrolled elsewhere, if they have not already done so, must have official academic transcripts sent to the Office of the Registrar.
- For upper classmen participating in a Study Away Program, if your credits are not recorded on your transcript at the College of Charleston prior to the beginning of the fall term, you may lose eligibility for the S.C. LIFE Scholarship. Discuss the promptness of delivery of your academic transcript with the host institution and the Study Away Programs Office staff when deciding whether to participate in these programs during the fall or spring terms.

The eligibility requirements above are based on our current understanding of the law and of the S.C. Higher Education Commission's implementing guidelines as of the date at the bottom of this page.