

S.C. LIFE SCHOLARSHIP AFFIDAVIT

The S.C. LIFE Scholarship regulations issued by the S. C. Commission on Higher Education on behalf of the S.C. General Assembly require us to notify you about certifications pertaining to your SC LIFE Scholarship award. If you have questions please email meritscholarships@cofc.edu.

By accepting the SC LIFE Scholarship, I hereby certify that I meet the following:

General Eligibility:

A student must be a U.S. Citizen or legal permanent resident (student visas or H visas are not eligible) and a resident of the State of South Carolina that graduated from high school in S.C., successfully completed a home school program as prescribed by law; or graduated from a preparatory high school outside of South Carolina while a dependent of a parent or guardian who is a legal resident of this state and has custody of the dependent, and must meet residency requirements for tuition and fees purposes.

Initial Eligibility: Must meet 2 of the following 3

- Score 1100 (Reading and Math) on the SAT or 24 (Composite) on the ACT
- Graduate High School with a 3.0 GPA on the S.C. Uniform Grading Scale
- Rank in the top 30.00% of graduating class

Continued Eligibility:

- LIFE 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.
- *NOTE*: AP, Placement Testing, and concurrent credit can count toward the credit hours requirement for renewal

Additional Criteria and Information

- SC LIFE Scholarship recipients must enroll full time (at least 12 credit hours per semester) in order to receive any scholarship funds. Students dropping below full-time status after the beginning of the semester may be required to return SC LIFE Scholarship funds. (EDLS 100: Learning Strategies does not count toward degree requirements or toward registered financial aid hours.)
- 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.
- 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 LIFE GPA in the following August, and an average of 30 hours per year and a LIFE 3.0 GPA thereafter.
- SC LIFE Scholarship students must be first degree seeking undergraduates. Recipients that are eligible to graduate are considered to have completed their first undergraduate degree.
- Students receiving grant or scholarship aid in excess of tuition, fees, books, and supplies may be required to report the excess funds when filing federal and state taxes.
- If you elect to participate in the summer state scholarship program, you understand that the summer term will count against your 8 potential terms of SC LIFE Scholarship eligibility.
- State scholarship participation in summer does not guarantee accelerated graduation, but provides the opportunity for early graduation.
- Will use the LIFE Scholarship for tuition and fees and other educational costs at the College of Charleston.
- Cannot be receiving SC HOPE or SC Palmetto Fellows (If you are subsequently awarded the Palmetto Fellows Scholarship, the Office of Financial Assistance will automatically cancel the LIFE Scholarship for you.)
- 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.
- Students who are not eligible going into fall term cannot regain eligibility for the scholarship again until the subsequent fall term.
- 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 institution is available to make up deficit hours and/or GPA. If you are successful in making up the deficiency, 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 must have official academic transcripts sent to the Office of the Registrar.
- For upperclassmen 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.

State law requires that a student receiving the SC LIFE Scholarship certify he/she is not in default and does not owe refunds on any Federal or State financial aid, including the S.C. Need-Based Grant, Federal Pell Grant, Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant, Federal Perkins Loan, or Federal Stafford Loan. Any false information provided by the student or any attempt to obtain, expend, or attempt to expend any SC LIFE Scholarship funds for unlawful purposes or any purpose other than in payment or reimbursement for the cost of tuition and fees and other educational costs at the institution authorized to make the scholarship will be cause for immediate cancellation of the SC LIFE Scholarship. Any student who has obtained a SC LIFE Scholarship through means of a willfully false statement or failure to reveal any material fact, condition, or circumstances affecting eligibility will be subject to applicable civil or criminal penalties, including the loss of the scholarship.

REQUIRED CERTIFICATION

This is to certify that I have not been adjudicated delinquent, convicted, or pled guilty or nolo contendere to any felonies, or two or more alcohol or drug related offenses, under the laws of this or any other state or under the laws of the United States. I understand that if I have been adjudicated delinquent, convicted, or pled guilty or nolo contendere of a second alcohol or drug related misdemeanor offense, I will be ineligible for one academic year from the date of the adjudication, conviction or plea. **Certain rehabilitation programs may result in regaining eligibility. See your Financial Aid Administrator with questions about this certification. This is to certify that I will use the SC LIFE Scholarship solely for educational expenses at the College of Charleston. I am not in default on a Title IV educational loan. I further certify that I do not owe an overpayment on a Title IV educational grant. I will notify the school if I do owe an overpayment or if I am in default.

I further understand that the most current rules will be available to me via the S.C. Commission on Higher Education website at <http://www.che.sc.gov>, and that I should check it frequently for additional information and/or changes since the date this document was revised as indicated below. Any student who has obtained a LIFE Scholarship through means of a willfully false statement or failure to reveal any material fact, condition or circumstances affecting eligibility will be subject to applicable civil or criminal penalties, including retroactive loss of the LIFE Scholarship. **I hereby give permission for a background check to be conducted to verify the above. I understand additional information may be requested after the background check has been conducted.**

If you do not meet the affidavit requirements for the S.C. LIFE Scholarship, you must decline the S.C. LIFE Scholarship.

**Office of Financial Assistance &
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