

SCHOLARSHIP POLICY OVERVIEW

Carolina Scholar/ Finalist McNair Scholar/ Finalist

- award renewable for six (6) semesters beyond the first year
- full-time enrollment required
- if student graduates early, can use remaining eligibility for graduate study at USC if enrolling in the next Fall semester
- renewal requirement of 3.00 USC system GPA (only work at USC)
- grades are checked following the Spring Semester; students who fall below the required GPA are sent a suspension letter and must attend summer school at USC in order to regain a 3.00 USC system GPA by the end of summer
- students who do not regain the USC system GPA have their scholarships terminated and may appeal to the Student Financial Aid Committee if the student has extenuating circumstances
- students are required to write a donor thank you note annually
- students must write donor thank you note(s) by the last day of classes each fall semester or will lose their scholarship for the next academic year and all consecutive years (see The Carolina Scholars and Carolina Scholar Finalist Award Agreement for more details)
- can use the scholarship for National Student Exchange Plan A (fees paid to host school) or Plan B (fees paid to USC)
- can use the scholarship for USC sponsored study abroad and in most instances, non-USC sponsored study abroad programs (there are some restrictions with non-USC programs)

National Merit Scholar/Lieber Scholar

- award renewable for six (6) semesters beyond the first year
- full-time enrollment required
- if student graduates early, can use remaining eligibility for graduate study at USC if enrolling in the next Fall semester
- renewal requirement of 3.00 USC system GPA (only work at USC)
- grades are checked following the Spring Semester; students who fall below the required GPA are sent a suspension letter and must attend summer school at USC in order to regain a 3.00 USC system GPA by the end of summer
- students who do not regain the USC system GPA have their scholarships reduced to \$500 if sponsored by USC
- students who do not regain the USC system GPA and have their scholarships reduced, may appeal to the Student Financial Aid Committee if the student has extenuating circumstances
- can use the scholarship for National Student Exchange Plan A (fees paid to host school) or Plan B (fees paid to USC)
- can use the scholarship for USC sponsored study abroad and in most instances, non-USC sponsored study abroad programs (there are some restrictions with non-USC programs). **National Merit Corporation must authorize any use of funds for study abroad programs.**

Palmetto Fellows

- renewable for six (6) semesters beyond the first year

- full-time enrollment required
- eligibility ceases once student earns bachelors degree
- renewal requirement of 3.00 USC system GPA (only work at USC)
- must earn 30 credit hours **per year (fall, spring, summer)**. cannot include hours earned from AP, CLEP, exams or exempted classes.
- Science and math majors may be eligible to receive an additional \$2500 per year starting in the sophomore year provided that the student earns 14 hours in math, science or a combination of both during their freshman year. For details on the Palmetto Fellows Enhancement and the 14 hour requirement, please visit www.sc.edu/financialaid
- summer is a grace period to raise GPA/increase hours earned; GPA problems must be resolved by attending summer school at USC, hours earned deficits may be resolved by attendance at any institution
- students who fall below either standard have their scholarship terminated and must appeal to Commission on Higher Education if the student has extenuating circumstances
- can use the scholarship for National Student Exchange Plan A (fees paid to host school) or Plan B (fees paid to USC)
- can use the scholarship for USC sponsored study abroad and in most instances non-USC sponsored study abroad programs (there are some restrictions with non-USC programs)

LIFE Scholars

- renewable for six (6) semesters beyond the first year
- full-time enrollment required
- eligibility ceases once student earns bachelors degree
- renewal requirement of 3.00 LIFE GPA
- must earn an average of 30 credit hours per year
 - rising sophomores must have 30 hours earned
 - rising juniors must have 60 hours earned
 - rising seniors must have 90 hours earned
- Science and math majors may be eligible to receive an additional \$2500 per year starting in the sophomore year provided that the student earns 14 hours in math, science or a combination of both during their freshman year. For details on the LIFE Scholarship Enhancement and the 14 hour requirement, please visit www.sc.edu/financialaid
- summer is a grace period to raise GPA/increase hours earned; GPA problems and hours earned deficits may be resolved by attendance at any institution
- students who fall below either standard can appeal to Commission on Higher Education if the student has extenuating circumstances
- can use the scholarship for National Student Exchange Plan A (fees paid to host school) or Plan B (fees paid to USC)
- can use the scholarship for USC sponsored study abroad and in most instances non-USC sponsored study abroad programs (there are some restrictions with non-USC programs)

Questions should be directed to Cindy Peachey at Cpeachey@mailbox.sc.edu, Office of Financial Aid & Scholarships.

As of June 2011