

Frequently Asked Questions

TUITION, EXPENSES, AND FINANCIAL AID FAQ

1. Who should I contact about Financial Aid questions?

The Financial Aid Office is the only office on campus that will be able to assist you with Financial Aid questions. You may contact them at 803-313-7068 or usclfa@mailbox.sc.edu.

2. How much are tuition/fees at USCL?

Please visit <http://usclancaster.sc.edu/busoffic/tuition.htm> for current fee information.

3. Where do I go to pay my tuition/fees?

In Student Self Service (from my.sc.edu), click on “Personal” to apply your financial aid towards your bill. Any amount remaining after financial aid can be paid by one of the following options:

- E-check (give an account number and check number)
- Credit card (a convenience fee will be added and VISA is not accepted)
- Check by mail
- In person in the Business Office (usually starting in late July)

3. How do I receive financial aid?

To be considered for federal aid and loans you must file a FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid). The applications is available at www.fafsa.gov. You will need you/your parents' tax returns, the USCL school code (003453), and to sign the FAFSA with Federal Student Aid PINs. You will need your parents' taxes and a PIN for them if you are under the age of 24. The USCL Financial Aid Office should receive the FAFSA within one week. You will not receive a letter from USCL unless further information is needed.

4. What scholarships are available for USCL students?

You can apply for USC Lancaster Scholarships at <http://usclancaster.sc.edu/finaid/scholshp.htm>.

You can search for scholarships online, please visit the financial aid checklist for search engine suggestions. You must report all non-USCL scholarships to the Financial Aid Office. Scholarship checks sent to the school will be applied to the student's account as financial aid.

6. When will I receive my Financial Aid?

Check the status of your financial aid on Self Service Carolina:

- Go to <https://ssb.onecarolina.sc.edu>
- If you are a first time user go to <https://my.sc.edu/vipid/>
- Click on Sign In
- Login with your VIP ID and Password
- Click on Financial Aid to access your Application (FAFSA), Requirements, and Awards

7. How do I receive LIFE Scholarship?

LIFE Scholarships are awarded automatically provided that you are eligible and the following requirements have been completed:

- In-state residency has been confirmed
- Final high school transcript has been evaluated

8. What if my Financial Aid does not cover all of my tuition/fees?

If your financial aid does not cover all of your tuition and fees, you will need to pay the balance that you owe via one of the payment methods from question 3.

9. What if my Financial Aid covers more than my tuition/fees?

If your financial aid covers more than the cost of your tuition and fees, then you will receive the balance in an overage check. We encourage USCL students to sign up for direct deposit to receive their overage checks. Please visit <http://usclancaster.sc.edu/finaid/Forms/20102011/EDeposit.pdf> for more information.

ADMISSIONS AND FORMS FAQ

1. Where do I send my Immunization Records?

You should send your immunization records to the USCL Admissions Office.

2. Where do I send my Residency Forms?

In order to claim South Carolina as your state of residence you must submit the SC Residency Certification Form online at my.sc.edu. All new students who do not apply for residency will be billed at Non-Resident rates.

3. Where do I fill out Transfer Forms?

Change of campus forms to USC Columbia may be picked up in the Admission Office. Change of campus forms to other USC senior campuses may be completed online in Self Service Carolina (my.sc.edu).

4. When and how will I know when my Admissions Status is completed?

You are encouraged to contact Megan Catoe, 803.313.7149, mmcatoe@mailbox.sc.edu; Thomas Monroe, 803.313.7081, monroetj@mailbox.sc.edu, or Jennifer Blackmon, 803.313.7053, jblackmo@mailbox.sc.edu concerning your admissions status. Once you are an accepted student, you will receive an acceptance package in the mail.

ORIENTATION FAQ

1. During Orientation, when will I register for my classes?

You will meet with your academic advisor during the second portion of your selected orientation date. It is during this time you will register for your Fall classes.

2. During Orientation, when will I take placement tests?

You will take placement tests in Foreign Language on your selected orientation date. The Mathematics placement test is administered online. You will receive information concerning this test once you register for Orientation.

3. Where should I stay if I'm coming to Orientation from out of town?

The Jameson Inn: (803) 283-1188
Kilburnie Inn: (803) 416-8420
Super 8 Hotel (803) 283-1200

4. What should I bring with me to Orientation?

You should bring the print out of your math placement scores, a picture id, the make and model of your automobile, your automobile's tag number, and the name in which your automobile is registered.

5. Are parents welcome at Orientation?

Orientation is designed for USC Lancaster students. However, parent orientation is scheduled during the evening of each orientation session in June, July, and August.

6. How long will Orientation last?

Make arrangements to attend Orientation from 8 a.m. until 5 p.m on the first day, and 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 pm on the second day. It is very important that you take off work and do not schedule any other appointments during this time. Orientation is the only time in which the entire campus will be totally devoted to addressing your needs and concerns about entering USCL.

7. What does the Orientation fee cover?

Your Orientation fee covers your Orientation materials, Orientation t-shirt, Lunch during Orientation, and Parent Orientation.

8. Is the Orientation fee included in my tuition/fees?

The Orientation fee is a separate payment. It may be paid in the USCL Business Office or mailed to P.O. Box 889; Lancaster SC 29720; Attention Orientation Fee Processor.

GENERAL FAQ

1. Who should I call if I trouble with my SSC username and password?

The USC Help Desk at (803)777-1800.

2. What type of off-campus housing is offered

USC Lancaster does not have campus housing. However, several apartment complexes are available in the area.

Lancer Commons:	(803) 286-6800
Millers Ridge:	(803) 313-5980
Azalea Apartments:	(803) 283-9305
Dalton Ridge:	(803) 286-9776
Woodhaven and Oakhaven:	(803) 286-2185
Watts Reality:	(803) 286-6101

3. How will I know who my academic advisor is?

Your acceptance letter contains the name of your advisor. You will also receive information and meet with your advisor during your chosen Summer Orientation session.

4. How do I change my major?

You must come to the Admissions Office and complete a Change of Major form. Please bring a picture ID.

5. What is my Carolina Card, and when will I use it?

The Carolina Card is your student ID card and is mandatory for all students. It can be used to make purchases on campus, but only if you have added money to your Carolina Card account. You may do this online through SSC. You may be periodically asked to show your Carolina Card for security purposes, so keep it with you at all times.

6. How much is the parking sticker? When will I get it?

The Parking and Security Fee is \$15. You may pick up your parking sticker in the Business Office after you pay tuition. You may also pick up the sticker at Registration if you have paid your tuition.

7. When can I have my laptop encrypted?

Laptop encryptions will begin the second day of class each semester. You must make an appointment with the IT office to have your laptop encrypted. A signup sheet will be posted outside Hubbard Hall 224. You must have a copy of your Carolina Card or paid tuition bill. Smartphones cannot be encrypted for the wireless network at this time.

8. Where are the ATMs located?

A Founder's Federal Credit Union ATM is located inside of the Student Center in Starr Hall.

PARENT FAQ

1. How do I remain current with what is happening at USCL?

Ask your student how he/she is doing academically and what he/she is involved with outside of the classroom. It is not in the best interest for your student to contact his/her professors or USCL administrators on his/her behalf. Legally, faculty and staff cannot divulge any information regarding students unless the student has waived his/her FERPA rights.

2. Where can I get more information about Orientation? Please visit the USCL orientation website located at <http://usclancaster.sc.edu/studentlife/orientation/index.html> or send an email to Laura Carnes at humphrlb@mailbox.sc.edu

3. If a student cannot attend classes because of illness, accident, or emergency who should be notified?

Each professor of each class the student is enrolled in should be notified. If it is an extreme emergency situation, please contact the Dean of Students, (803) 313-7191.

4. How safe is the campus?

You may obtain campus security data by visiting the following link:

<http://usclancaster.sc.edu/security/index.html>

5. When can my student have their laptop encrypted for the wireless network?

Laptop encryptions will begin the second day of class each semester. You must make an appointment with the IT office to have your laptop encrypted. A signup sheet will be posted outside Hubbard Hall 224. You must have a valid Carolina Card or a bill of paid tuition.

6. What housing is available for my student?

USC Lancaster does not have campus housing. However, several apartment complexes are available in the area.

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Millers Ridge:	(803) 313-5980
Azalea Apartments:	(803) 283-9305
Dalton Ridge:	(803) 286-9776
Woodhaven and Oakhaven:	(803) 286-2185
Allison Row:	

7. What do you offer in terms of student health services?

The Gregory Health and Wellness Center is free to all students. Additionally, students are entitled to free cholesterol checks at the Carol Ray Dowling Health Services Building. At this time, USCL does not offer a full or part time nurse practitioner. USCL also offers free personal counseling and career counseling services through the Counseling Center

8. Is every student assigned an advisor? How often should they meet?

Each student is assigned an academic advisor dependent on his/her major and ability level. Unless enrolled in Disability Services, there is no set schedule regarding when to meet with an academic advisor. Students will need to meet with advisors in order to register for classes. It is also suggested that students meet with advisors if they are encountering academic difficulty or having trouble adjusting to collegiate life.

9. How can a parent know how well the student is doing academically?

Unless the student has waived his/her FERPA rights, the only way to know is to ask the student. Parents will not receive a grade report, and faculty and staff cannot legally divulge this information.

10. Where can the student go for help if things become overwhelming?

All currently enrolled USC Lancaster students are eligible to receive free assistance through USC Lancaster Counseling Services. The goal of Counseling Services is to assist students in clarifying and resolving personal, educational, and career concerns. All counseling is conducted in a confidential and professional setting, providing students the opportunity to explore and evaluate information central to the helping process. Please call 803-313-7112 for an appointment.

11. When will my student's books be available?

Books are available in the bookstore located in Starr Hall as early as your student's orientation date. You can also order or rent your textbooks on our website at cbamatthews.com/usclanc/.

12. When and where does my student register for classes?

Your student may register for classes at orientation, as long as he/she has taken the online math placement test prior to orientation, the foreign language placement test offered at orientation, and paid the orientation fee. If the student does not attend orientation, registration will be held prior to the beginning of the fall semester. Registration for the spring semester may be completed before the end of the fall semester by meeting with an

academic advisor or in January before the beginning of the spring semester. Registration for summer classes is dependent upon which summer session the student enrolls in. The earlier the student registers for classes the more likely he/she is to get the classes he/she needs and wants.

13. What banks are available for my students?

Founders Federal Credit Union	(803) 283-5900
Wachovia	(803) 286-3321
BBT	(803) 285-8488
First Citizens	(803) 285-7431