**Facts and Figures at a Glance**

**Participant Information**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Total Participants</th>
<th>Average Freshman Year Income</th>
<th>Gender</th>
<th>Race</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Male</td>
<td>African American</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2008 Cohort</td>
<td>94</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>41%</td>
<td>43%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2009 Cohort</td>
<td>125</td>
<td>$ 17,843</td>
<td>49%</td>
<td>28%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2010 Cohort</td>
<td>134</td>
<td>$ 16,975</td>
<td>42%</td>
<td>51%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2011 Cohort</td>
<td>131</td>
<td>$ 16,691</td>
<td>36%</td>
<td>26%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2012 Cohort</td>
<td>121</td>
<td>$ 16,325</td>
<td>45%</td>
<td>55%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2013 Cohort</td>
<td>152</td>
<td>$ 18,440</td>
<td>45%</td>
<td>32%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2014 Cohort</td>
<td>118</td>
<td>$ 16,413</td>
<td>33%</td>
<td>45%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015 Cohort</td>
<td>118</td>
<td>$ 17,600</td>
<td>42%</td>
<td>36%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Overall</strong></td>
<td><strong>993</strong></td>
<td><strong>$ 17,184</strong></td>
<td><strong>42%</strong></td>
<td><strong>33%</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Participant Academic Performance**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Two-Year Graduation Rate</th>
<th>Four-Year Graduation Rate</th>
<th>Six-Year Graduation Rate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Retention Rate</td>
<td>Four-Year</td>
<td>Five-Year Graduation Rate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2008 Cohort</td>
<td>91%</td>
<td>89%</td>
<td>83%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2009 Cohort</td>
<td>92%</td>
<td>86%</td>
<td>82%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2010 Cohort</td>
<td>91%</td>
<td>87%</td>
<td>82%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2011 Cohort</td>
<td>93%</td>
<td>86%</td>
<td>81%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2012 Cohort</td>
<td>85%</td>
<td>78%</td>
<td>74%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2013 Cohort</td>
<td>89%</td>
<td>82%</td>
<td>77%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2014 Cohort</td>
<td>91%</td>
<td>86%</td>
<td>NA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015 Cohort</td>
<td>88%</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>NA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Overall</strong></td>
<td><strong>90%</strong></td>
<td><strong>85%</strong></td>
<td><strong>80%</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Report Description:** This report summarizes important participant information, academic performance information, and aid information for students in the Gamecock Guarantee Program. Gamecock Guarantee participants are regularly admitted South Carolina residents who are considered first-generation college students and whose families’ adjusted gross incomes at the time they join the program is less than 150% of the poverty level.

**Report Date:** September 29, 2016
### Participant Aid Information

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cohort</th>
<th>Freshman Year Gift Aid as a Percent of Total Award</th>
<th>Freshman Year Self-Help Aid as a Percent of Total Award</th>
<th>Freshman to Sophomore LIFE Scholarship Retention Rates</th>
<th>Average Student Loan Debt at Graduation (Students Graduating in Four Years)</th>
<th>Average Student Loan Debt at Graduation (Students Graduating in Five to Six Years)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2008 Cohort</td>
<td>90%</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>$15,476</td>
<td>$21,700</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2009 Cohort</td>
<td>97%</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>$12,442</td>
<td>$20,724</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2010 Cohort</td>
<td>96%</td>
<td>4%</td>
<td>68%</td>
<td>$15,411</td>
<td>$27,715</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2011 Cohort</td>
<td>98%</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>74%</td>
<td>$12,996</td>
<td>NA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2012 Cohort</td>
<td>99%</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td>65%</td>
<td>$15,483</td>
<td>NA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2013 Cohort</td>
<td>99%</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td>73%</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>NA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2014 Cohort</td>
<td>98%</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>76%</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>NA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015 Cohort</td>
<td>96%</td>
<td>4%</td>
<td>71%</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>NA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Overall</strong></td>
<td>96%</td>
<td>4%</td>
<td>71%</td>
<td><strong>$14,362</strong></td>
<td><strong>$23,380</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Additional Information

The Gamecock Guarantee is a need-based financial- and academic-support initiative to help make attendance at the university more affordable—and a South Carolina degree attainable—for academically qualified first-time freshmen who will be the first in their families to earn a college degree and are residents of South Carolina.

At minimum, the Gamecock Guarantee provides each participant an award of $4,500 per year for four continuous years of enrollment. If this award combined with the total of other grants and scholarships in the student’s financial aid package does not meet the cost of undergraduate tuition and technology fee, the Gamecock Guarantee will increase its support to cover the difference. In other words, Gamecock Guarantee participants who retain eligibility and graduate in four years will not pay any tuition and technology fee from their own pockets.

The purpose of the annual $4,500 program award is to help offset the participants' educational costs while attending the University of South Carolina. Many Gamecock Guarantee participants will find that their other awards cover or nearly cover their tuition and technology fees. If so, they can use the remaining $4,500 program award to pay for other college-related expenses such as course fees, equipment or lab fees, books and supplies, room, board or other miscellaneous expenses. Participants should diligently pursue and maintain their eligibility for other scholarships and grants. By doing so, the Gamecock Guarantee award can help to reduce or eliminate participants’ needs for incurring educational debt. Twenty-seven percent of the program participants who graduated within six years did so with no student loan debt incurred.

To be eligible a student must:

- Be a resident of South Carolina
- Apply for University admission on or before the December 1st priority application deadline
- Be admitted to the University of South Carolina's Columbia campus
- Have a family taxable income for the most recently completed tax year that is not greater than 150% of the Department of Health and Human Services poverty guidelines
- Be a first-generation college student (neither parent has completed a four-year college degree)
- Be eligible to receive a federal Pell Grant
- Enroll as a first-time, full-time freshman for fall semester after being admitted to a program (admission must be within 5 years of high school graduation)
- Be pursuing a bachelor’s degree

No special application is required to be considered for the Gamecock Guarantee Program. The University will identify and notify eligible students.

For comparison purposes, the retention and graduate rates for the Undergraduate population at USC-Columbia are as follows:

- Two-year retention rate: 88%
- Three-year retention rate: 80%
- Four-year retention rate: 75%
- Four-year graduation rate: 55%
- Five-year graduation rate: 71%
- Six-year graduation rate: 73%

Source: http://ipr.sc.edu/retention/