

Guide to Consumer Information

This guide contains a summary of consumer information that must be made available to students at the University of South Carolina as stated by the Higher Education Opportunity Act.

About the Guide

The Higher Education Opportunity Act (HEOA) requires colleges and universities that participate in federal student aid programs to disclose certain information to current and prospective students, and to university employees. This information is also available at http://sc.edu/financialaid/student_consumer_information.html.

If you need assistance retrieving this information, contact the Office of Student Financial Aid and Scholarships at the address below:

Office of Student Financial Aid and Scholarships
University of South Carolina
1714 College Street
Columbia, SC 29208

All addresses include the University of South Carolina after the department name.

General Information

Accreditation

Students may review copies of documents regarding entities that accredit, license, or approve the institution and its programs. The University of South Carolina is accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges to award Associates, Baccalaureate, Masters, and Doctorate degrees. Contact the Commission on Colleges at 1866 Southern Lane, Decatur, Georgia 30033-4097 or call 404-679-4500 for questions about the accreditation of the University of South Carolina. The Commission requests that it be contacted only if there

is evidence that appears to support an institution's non-compliance with a requirement or standard. Accreditation information can be found at <http://www.ipr.sc.edu/sacs/> with the Office of Institutional Research, Assessment, and Analytics.

Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA)

Many offices at the University of South Carolina must collect and maintain information about students to properly carry out assigned responsibilities. All records belong to the university, according to university policy and federal regulations, but students have a number of rights concerning these records. The Federal Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act passed in 1974, outlines the governance of access to and disclosure of student records. To fulfill FERPA requirements, the university has established Policies on Student Records. These policies indicate the information disclosed in directories, an explanation about parental access to student records, and a detailed description of student rights. The policies on student records are on the web at http://www.sc.edu/about/offices_and_divisions/registrar/transcripts_and_records/privacy/ferpa/index.php. For more information or to receive a copy, contact the Office the University Registrar, 1244 Blossom Street, Columbia, SC 29201 or by phone at 803-777-5555.

Because the university does not maintain all student records in one location, each office maintaining student records is required to develop a written statement of policies and procedures for handling student records. They are available in their respective offices. The university also has copies of university policies on student records on its website at <http://www.sc.edu/policies/policiesbysubject.php#R>.

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General Information...

Student Diversity

For information about the diversity of the university student body, contact:

Office of Institutional Research, Assessment, and Analytics

1710 College Street, Columbia, SC 29208
Phone: 803-777-2814
Fax: 803-777-5415
Web: <http://www.ipr.sc.edu/cds/cds2013/cdsb2013.htm>

Facilities and Services for Students with Disabilities

For information on facilities and services for disabled students, contact:

Office of Student Disability Services
1523 Greene Street
LeConte Room 112A
Columbia, SC 29208
Phone: 803-777-6142
Fax: 803-777-6741
Email: sasds@mailbox.sc.edu
Web: www.sa.sc.edu/sds

Description of Academic Programs and Course Listings

Information on the university's academic programs, degree offerings, and plans for future programs is available from the various schools/colleges and admitting offices (Undergraduate Admissions and Graduate Admissions). See <http://www.sc.edu/study/index.php>. All course listings are located in the academic bulletin at http://www.sc.edu/about/offices_and_divisions/registrar/academic_bulletin/index.php.

Instructional Facilities

Information on the university's instructional facilities and laboratories is available from the various schools/colleges and admitting offices (Undergraduate Admissions and Graduate Admissions); see http://sc.edu/study/colleges_schools/index.php

Faculty

Information on the university's faculty and instructional personnel is available from the various schools/colleges. See <http://ipr.sc.edu/faculty/>.

Cost of Attendance

For actual University of South Carolina fees, contact:

Bursar's Office

516 Main Street
Columbia, SC 29208
Phone: 803-777-4233
Fax: 803-777-7953
Web: <http://sc.edu/bursar>

For estimated tuition and fees, housing costs, and personal/miscellaneous expenses contact:

Office of Student Financial Aid and Scholarships

1714 College Street
Columbia, SC 29208
Phone: 803-777-8134
Fax: 803-777-0941
Email: uscfaid@sc.edu
Web: <http://sc.edu/financialaid>

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General Information...

The following professional schools have a different point of contact: for estimated costs:

School of Medicine Columbia

6311 Garners Ferry Road
Building #3
Columbia, SC 29209
Phone: 803-216-3629
Fax: 803-216-3627
Email: jerel.arceneaux@uscmed.sc.edu
Web: <http://financialaid.med.sc.edu>

School of Medicine Greenville

607 Grove Road
Greenville, SC 29605
Phone: 864-455-8204
Fax: 864-455-5267
Email: wileyc@greenvillemed.sc.edu
Web: <http://greenvillemed.sc.edu/financial.shtml>

Copyright Infringement Policies

Information about the university's copyright policies can be found on the Copyright @USC website <http://www.sc.edu/copyright/index.shtml>. It contains policies about the use of authorized distribution of copyright material, unauthorized downloading, and a summary of penalties for violation of federal copyright laws.

Information about Student Financial Assistance

School of Medicine Columbia and School of Medicine

Greenville Students

Contact your respective schools for information about financial aid.

All Other Students:

Contact the Office of Student Financial Aid and Scholarships (see information on page 2).

Overview of Financial Aid Programs

Need based aid and non-need based aid is available to students who qualify for financial aid including where to find scholarship sources not provided by the University of South Carolina: <http://sc.edu/financialaid>

How to Apply for Aid and Eligibility Requirements

http://sc.edu/financialaid/applying_for_aid/default.html

How Eligibility for Need Based Aid is Determined and How Need Based Aid is Awarded

http://sc.edu/financialaid/receiving_aid/the_awarding_process/default.html

Financial Aid for Study Abroad

http://sc.edu/financialaid/applying_for_aid/financial_aid_for_study_abroad/default.html

Code of Conduct for Student Loans

The Office of Student Financial Aid and Scholarships considers every aspect of the administration of financial aid to be a vital part. Because of this, the office adheres to a code of conduct regarding lenders of student loans. See <http://www.sc.edu/financialaid/codeofconduct.html>.

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Rights and Responsibilities

Aid Recipient Responsibilities

As a recipient of financial aid, you have certain rights and responsibilities. See https://www.sc.edu/financialaid/receiving_aid/aid_recipient_responsibilities/default.html.

Refund Policy and Return of Federal Financial Aid

Federal financial aid funds are awarded with the expectation that students will complete the entire period of enrollment. If a student does not meet this expectation, the student's financial aid awards could be affected. See <http://www.sc.edu/bursar/refunds.shtml>.

Requirements and Procedures for Withdrawal

Students who are withdrawing from all classes at the university must do so by dropping all classes in Self Service Carolina. The implications of withdrawal are dependent on the date of withdrawal during the semester. See University Advising <http://www.sc.edu/advising/withdrawal/university.html>.

Satisfactory Academic Progress

Students must maintain satisfactory academic progress to continue to be eligible for financial aid. See https://www.sc.edu/financialaid/satisfactory_academic_progress/default.html for the policy.

Terms of Student Loans, Including Entrance and Exit Counseling:

See http://www.sc.edu/about/offices_and_divisions/financial_aid/loans/federal_direct_loans/index.php and http://www.sc.edu/about/offices_and_divisions/financial_aid/loans/managing_educational_debt_successfully/index.php

[aid/loans/managing_educational_debt_successfully/index.php](http://www.sc.edu/about/offices_and_divisions/financial_aid/loans/managing_educational_debt_successfully/index.php)

Private Education Loan Applicant Self-Certification Form

See <http://ifap.ed.gov/dpcletters/attachments/GEN1315Attach.pdf>.

Student Outcomes

Graduation and Retention Rates

The Office of Institutional Research, Assessment, and Analytics offers data on degrees conferred, freshmen retention rates, and race and ethnicity reports for annual degrees. Visit <http://ipr.sc.edu/retention>

Post-Graduate Statistics

The Office of Institutional Research, Assessment, and Analytics offers data about job placement rates and types of employment obtained by University of South Carolina graduates. Visit <http://ipr.sc.edu/effectiveness/performance/alumni>.

Health and Safety

Annual Security and Fire Safety Reports:

To keep students informed about campus safety and university initiatives, the university publishes its Annual Security and Fire Safety Report. The report contains information on emergency services, safety, crime statistics, university policies and state law, fire safety in on-campus housing, confidential crime reporting, and missing person protocol. To receive a copy, visit the Division of Law Enforcement and Safety website, <http://les.sc.edu>.

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Health and Safety...

Vaccinations

The University of South Carolina adheres to the guidelines set forth by the Center for Disease Control and Prevention and the American College Health Association's recommendations regarding immunizations for college students. Student Health Services is available weekdays only. For more information, see <https://www.sa.sc.edu/shs/imm>.

Drug and Alcohol Abuse Prevention Programs

The Drug Free Workplace Act of 1988 and the Drug Free Schools and Communities Act Amendments of 1991 require the University of South Carolina to establish a drug policy outlining prevention, education, and intervention initiatives and consequences for violations of the policy. USC is committed to creating a safe atmosphere for all Carolina family. Visit the Substance Abuse and Prevention office at <https://www.sa.sc.edu/sape/alcohol-and-drug-policies> for more information on policy.

Intercollegiate Athletic Program

Graduation and Completion Rates for Student Athletes

This must be provided to student-athletes, their parents, high school coaches, and guidance counselors when an offer is made of financial aid. The NCAA provides this information directly to schools. Visit <http://web1.ncaa.org/GSRSearch/exec/homePage>.

Athletic Participation Rates and Financial Support Data Required Under the Equity in Athletics Disclosure Act (EADA)

As part of The Equity in Athletics Disclosure Act, information on annual participation rates and financing of men's and women's sports in intercollegiate athletic programs is available by request to students and the general public. For more information, see <http://ope.ed.gov/athletics/#/>.

Contact Information for Admitting Offices and Schools

Office of Undergraduate Admissions

Lieber College
902 Sumter St. Access
Columbia, SC 29208
Phone: 803-777-7700
Web: http://sc.edu/apply/apply_for_undergraduate_admission/index.php

The Graduate School

901 Sumter Street
Suite 301
Columbia, SC 29208
Phone: 803-777-4243
Fax: 803-777-2972
Web: http://sc.edu/apply/apply_to_graduate_school/index.php

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University of South Carolina

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Contact Information for Admitting Offices and Schools...

USC School of Law

701 Main Street
Columbia, SC 29208
Phone: 803-777-6605
Web: <http://law.sc.edu/admissions>

USC School of Pharmacy

715 Sumter Street
Suite 301
Columbia, SC 29208
Phone: 803-777-4151
Fax: 803-777-2775
Web: https://www.sccp.sc.edu/pharmd_admissions

USC School of Medicine Columbia

6311 Garners Ferry Road
Building #3
Columbia, SC 29209
Phone: 803-216-3629
Web: <http://admissions.med.sc.edu/>

USC School of Medicine Greenville

607 Grove Road
Greenville, SC 29605
Phone: 803-864-455-8204
Fax: 864-455-5267
Web: <http://greenvillemed.sc.edu/admission.shtml>

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Fax: 803-777-0941
Email: uscfaid@sc.edu
Web: <http://sc.edu/financialaid>

The University of South Carolina does not discriminate in educational or employment opportunities or decisions for qualified persons on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, disability, genetics, sexual orientation or veteran status.

