I. Policy

The policies governing Federal Title IV student aid programs originate from the Higher Education Act of 1965 as amended and as promulgated by the U.S. Department of Education through the Federal Register. Policies governing student aid programs administered under the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) are authorized under Titles VII and VIII of the Public Health Services Act. South Carolina student financial aid programs are regulated under guidance from the S.C. Commission on Higher Education (CHE). Other non-University aid resources are administered as directed by the funding donor organization or individual. Institutional financial aid policy is authorized by the University Scholarship and Student Financial Aid Committee.

II. Procedure

A. Federal Financial Aid Administration


2. Regulations specific to the Title IV student aid programs are issued routinely by the US Department of Education.

3. At the University of South Carolina-Columbia, the following information is provided in support of the administration of Title IV aid:

   a. Consumer Information
      http://ipr.sc.edu/HEOA/
b. The Awarding Process  
http://www.sc.edu/financialaid/receiving_aid/the_awarding_process/default.html

c. Aid Recipient Responsibilities  
http://www.sc.edu/financialaid/receiving_aid/aid_recipient_responsibilities/default.html

d. Satisfactory Academic Progress  
http://www.sc.edu/financialaid/satisfactory_academic_progress/default.html

e. Federal Student Aid Penalties for Drug Law Violations  

f. FAFSA Verification  
http://www.sc.edu/financialaid/applying_for_aid/fafsa_verification/default.html

g. Award Terms and Conditions  
http://www.sc.edu/financialaid/receiving_aid/default.html

h. Types of Aid  
http://www.sc.edu/financialaid/types_of_aid/default.html

4. Additional, student-specific awarding information is provided on Self-Service Carolina, within the Award Overview and Accept Award Offer sections.

B. State Financial Aid Administration

1. South Carolina State Scholarships and Grants are governed by state legislation and regulations administered by the South Carolina Commission on Higher Education. The South Carolina Commission on Higher Education provides comprehensive legislative and regulatory information on state scholarships and grants at  

2. The South Carolina Loan Programs are administered by the South Carolina Student Loan Corporation as required by legislation. The South Carolina Student Loan Corporation provides information about the South Carolina Loan programs at  
http://www.scstudentloan.org/students/loanprograms/scteachersloanprograms.aspx.
3. At the University of South Carolina – Columbia, the following information is provided in support of the administration of the state scholarships and grants:

a. Palmetto Fellows Scholarship Guidelines
   http://www.sc.edu/financialaid/scholarships/palmetto_fellows_scholarship_guidelines/default.html

b. LIFE Scholarship Guidelines
   http://www.sc.edu/financialaid/scholarships/life_scholarship_guidelines/default.html

c. HOPE Scholarship Guidelines
   http://www.sc.edu/financialaid/scholarships/hope_scholarship_guidelines/default.html

d. State Need-Based Grant
   http://www.sc.edu/financialaid/types_of_aid/grants/state_need_based_grant/default.html

e. South Carolina Teacher Loan Program
   http://www.sc.edu/financialaid/types_of_aid/loans/teacher_loan_programs/default.html

C. Institutional Financial Aid Programs

Institutional Financial Aid programs include scholarship and grant programs funded from variety of sources, including university and donor funded sources.

1. The Gamecock Guarantee Grant program is designed to assist the neediest South Carolina residents admitted to the University of South Carolina – Columbia. Information about this program is available at https://www.sa.sc.edu/guarantee/. Specific, historical awarding information for Gamecock Guarantee Grant participants is available at http://www.sc.edu/financialaid/factbooks/2014_2015_factbook/pdfs/Public%20Information%20GGG.pdf.

2. General University Scholarships are awarded in accordance with the guidelines established by the Scholarship and Financial Aid Committee. These guidelines are available at http://www.sc.edu/financialaid/scholarships/university_policy/SFAC_Policy_2015.pdf.

3. Department-specific scholarships are awarded by individual departments at the University of South Carolina – Columbia. A comprehensive listing of these
scholarships is available at http://sc.edu/financialaid/scholarships/department_scholarships_schools_colleges_departments/default.php.


D. Specific procedures for the administration of federal, state, and institutional financial aid and scholarship programs are maintained by the Office of Student Financial Aid and Scholarships.

III. Reason for Revision

The policy has been revised to reflect all of the student aid programs/resources administered in the Office of Student Financial Aid and Scholarships and to provide additional details.