

## 12.1

### Academic and Student Support Services

The institution provides appropriate academic and student support programs, services, and activities consistent with its mission.

#### Judgment

Compliant  Non-Compliant  Not Applicable

#### Narrative

The university maintains a broad array of programs and services that enhance the educational development of all students in the context of the university's threefold mission: the education of the state's diverse citizens through teaching, research and creative activity, and service. Educational support services permeate the university community. Most of these services are centered in the Division of Student Affairs and Academic Support (SA/AS), but other initiatives exist in academic units throughout the university community. The SA/AS mission focuses on the promotion of the intellectual, emotional, physical, spiritual, cultural and social development of students and educators, thus preparing them for a life of learning, service, and engagement. As stated in the Division of Student Affairs and Academic Support's [Blueprint for Service Excellence](#) (Username: **xxxx**; Password: **XXXXXXXX**), the division collaborates with campus and external constituents to provide access, facilitate students' progress and persistence, advance learning, and shape responsible citizens and future leaders.

Students are encouraged to take advantage of myriad opportunities to develop leadership, academic success skills, personal physical and emotional wellness, multicultural and diverse perspectives, life goals, and personal and civic responsibility, among many others. Such opportunities reflect the university's mission and philosophy of multifaceted learning and development that occurs in and beyond the classroom, in the community, and around the globe. These programs are promoted in a variety of ways including the Undergraduate Studies Bulletin, dynamic and regularly updated web sites, departmentally produced brochures and other educational materials, and via in-person presentations to groups, classes, and committees. Promotion of these opportunities begins with prospective students through the admissions recruitment marketing process and continues throughout the student experience. The outstanding programs and services for student learning and development are also promoted beyond the campus through information provided to alumni, the local community, the press, and the greater higher education community via professional activities of faculty and staff. Because it can be difficult to precisely differentiate academic support from student support services and programs, some elements of this standard may also be found in additional standards. Cross references will be indicated in these cases.

Each department collects assessment data as appropriate for each program, reviews the data regularly, and initiates corresponding improvements to programs and services as resources allow. Additionally, the SA/AS Planning, Assessment, and Innovation Council supports departmental *Blueprint* development, revision, and continuous improvement. Assessment goals and performance data are available on the Provost website under the [Academic Affairs Departmental Units](#).

The Student Affairs and Academic Support Division-level [Blueprint for Services Excellence](#) (Username: **xxxx**; Password: **XXXXXXXX**) as well as the department level usage data and the Beyond the Classroom Matters® supplemental student information system. A report including data from Beyond the Classroom Matters® represents the distinct Columbia undergraduate population participation in student support services engagement during AY2018-19 and AY2019-20 (summer term excluded). Engagement types are categorized based on the Council for the Advancement of Standards in Higher Education (CAS) labels. There are approximately 200 engagements that students participate in throughout the university. Each of these engagements are categorized to provide a summary type of service (i.e. Academic Advising Programs, Career Services). Engagement category participation is broken down into the following demographic categories: gender, residency, race/ethnicity, Pell and first-generation.

### Columbia

#### Recruitment and Pre-Enrollment

##### [Carolina Welcome](#)

Activities and events presented as part of Carolina Welcome are designed to further support students with their transition to the university. The goals of Carolina Welcome include: create opportunities for interaction, socialization and community-building for new and returning students to aid in their connection to the university; provide programming that can aid in the reduction of high-risk behaviors; and expose students to departments, organizations, and services that will aid in their transition to the University of South Carolina. Student organizations, academic units and student service departments sponsor activities beginning the evening of "Move-in Day" through the weekend after the first day of class in the fall semester.

##### [First-Year Reading Experience](#)

The First-Year Reading Experience, sponsored by the Office of the Provost, introduces students to academic life at the

University of South Carolina. All first-year students receive a book to read during the summer, followed by a week of programming in September that includes an opportunity for students to hear from the author or subject related speaker.

### [New Student Convocation](#)

Each fall, on the Wednesday after Move-in Day, new students, their parents, faculty and staff are invited to attend the new student convocation. This event formally welcomes students to campus with the pomp and circumstance of academic tradition. At convocation, the student government president reads the Carolinian Creed to all attendees, and a representative of the incoming freshmen class accepts the Creed on behalf of his/her peers. This tradition is one way we formally welcome students to the Carolina community.

### [New Student Orientation](#)

The Office of New Student Orientation offers programs to help new and current students and their families make the most of their Carolina experience. Each new undergraduate student is expected to attend one of many orientation sessions offered. All orientation programs are designed to assist with the transition to university life. At orientation, new students will meet with an academic advisor, register for classes, take placement tests, receive the Carolina Card student ID, and learn about campus resources, university services, and university expectations. The orientation program provides a helpful foundation for students to begin a productive and comprehensive college student experience.

### [Undergraduate Admissions](#)

The Office of Undergraduate Admissions plans and implements initiatives to recruit and enroll academically talented students while maintaining diversity on the Columbia campus. The office is responsible for marketing the university to prospective students, processing and reviewing applications, awarding university-level scholarships, and counseling, admitting, and enrolling new and returning undergraduates. Recruiting activities include attending college fairs and high schools throughout the country, initiating robust recruit and yield marketing campaigns, hosting recruitment events, developing and implementing focused recruitment plans for special populations, and providing in-person and telephone counseling for prospective students and their parents. Additionally, the office supports the South Carolina Honors College in attracting top scholars to the university, assists the Athletics Department with NCAA eligibility certification, produces transfer credit summaries, and maintains admissions records. For more information see [10.5 Admissions Policies and Practices](#).

### [Visitor Center](#)

The Visitor Center welcomes prospective students and their parents, alumni, and all visitors who want to know more about the university. Lively wall displays and interactive exhibits introduce the university's rich history, outstanding academics, and beautiful campus. Among the many services provided by the Center, campus tours are conducted by undergraduate student ambassadors. Thus, the Visitor Center provides a critical first step for individuals and groups exploring opportunities or information on campus, and thereby encourages and promotes prospective student learning and development.

## **Undergraduate Services**

### *Support for Learning*

#### [Academic Advising](#)

Academic advising is mandatory, largely decentralized, and provided to students by professional staff members or faculty in each academic unit. Students are encouraged to declare a major upon application to the university and are advised accordingly. In fall 2015, the University of South Carolina opened the [University Advising Center](#) to provide training, standard expectations, resources and assessment for academic advisors and students. Beginning fall 2016, all first-year students were assigned to a first-year professional staff advisor who hired, trained, supported and evaluated through a standard partnership between the University Advising Center and each undergraduate college/school. The University Advising Center supports student considering [changing their majors](#), students [transferring to the University of South Carolina](#), and students in need of [academic coaching](#). The Office of Academic Advising facilitates the development of [faculty/student mentorships](#).

#### [Academic Integrity](#)

The Academic Integrity office promotes academic integrity, upholds the Honor Code, and supports the ideals set forth in the Carolinian Creed to foster a better living and learning environment in the university community. Academic ethical behavior is essential for an institution dedicated to the promotion of knowledge and learning. The University of South Carolina is committed to fostering a university environment which exemplifies the values embodied in the [Carolinian Creed](#). All members of the university community have a responsibility to uphold and maintain the highest standards of integrity in study, research, instruction, and evaluation; as well as adhering to the [Honor Code](#).

#### [Capstone Scholars](#)

This living and learning community for 1st and 2nd year high achieving students is led by a faculty principal and

staff who engage students in high impact learning activities such as service-learning, undergraduate research, and study abroad trips. The approximately 1,500 students per cohort take a Capstone Scholar (CS) specific section of University 101 to learn and create small communities within the larger CS population.

### [Center for Integrative and Experiential Learning](#)

The Center for Integrative and Experiential Learning (CIEL) is the University of South Carolina's comprehensive initiative to enhance undergraduate education and build a culture of integrative learning. CIEL promotes student opportunities to engage beyond the classroom and synthesize and apply learning across experiences. Faculty, staff, and students throughout the University of South Carolina Columbia, Lancaster, Salkehatchie, Sumter and Union campuses have been developing and implementing CIEL since 2011. [Graduation with Leadership Distinction](#) is the signature program of USC Connect recognizing students for significant engagement and learning, including leadership through solution-oriented thinking.

### [National Fellowship and Scholar Programs](#)

The Office of Fellowships and Scholar Programs provides innovative educational initiatives for exceptional students. The staff facilitates the pursuit of nationally prestigious scholarships by university students and coordinates an enhanced university experience for the Carolina Scholars, Hamilton Scholars, McNair Scholars and Horseshoe Scholars.

### [Pre-Professional Advising](#)

The Office of Pre-Professional Advising (OPPA) was established to provide University of South Carolina undergraduates with the competitive edge in gaining admission into law school, medical school, dental school, veterinary school and other health-related institutions.

### [Residential Learning Communities](#)

The university offers its students the choice of twenty-four "living and learning communities." Living and learning communities are an integral part of the university experience, providing students with the opportunity to live in an environment that promotes diversity, embraces excellence, encourages insightful faculty-student interaction while developing a strong sense of community. The department provides academically themed communities that emphasize active service-learning experiences, study abroad opportunities and undergraduate research. These communities provide students a way to integrate into the institution, both academically and socially. Faculty and other academic staff interact with students and push students' critical thinking skills and cognitive development. As part of a learning community, students have unique opportunities to pursue their academic and personal interests, engage with their community, meet new people and interact with faculty in their field. Each living and learning community encourages students to spend time and energy on activities that enhance their education and promote self-awareness. Types of communities include both Faculty Principal Communities and Associated Communities. Faculty Principles Communities are themed, building-wide learning communities staffed by a faculty member who is an expert in the theme. Students get in-depth experience with their community topic, and gain a greater understanding of how to apply that experience outside the classroom and after they graduate. Associated Communities are smaller learning communities within residence halls focused on an area of study or student interest. Students in these communities will meet others who share their interests, and have unique opportunities to pursue those interests outside of the classroom. Available communities include:

#### **Capstone Scholars**

Capstone is a notable living and learning community for 1st and 2nd year high achieving students and is led by a faculty principal and staff who engage students in high impact learning activities such as service-learning, undergraduate research, and study abroad trips. The approximately 1,500 students per cohort take a Capstone Scholar (CS) specific section of University 101 to learn and create small communities within the larger CS population.

#### **Galen Health Fellows**

This living and learning community, led by a faculty principal, is comprised of students who are interested in pursuing careers in allied health professions. Through this hands-on learning opportunity, students take classes together in linked science courses.

#### **Green Quad Learning Community**

This learning community, led by a faculty principal, is focused on issues of sustainability. The 500 upper class students live and learn in LEED certified residence halls engaging a variety of activities along a continuum of environmental issues. Interested faculty and community members join students in educational and service oriented meetings and activities, both formal and informal.

#### **International House at Maxcy College**

This living and learning community includes students who live with and take classes with fellow students

who want to learn about world cultures and languages. Staffed by a faculty principal, students participate in global opportunities such as visiting scholars, cooking demonstrations, language classes and study abroad.

### **Preston Residential College**

This learning community is modeled after the early residential colleges of England to foster close and frequent interactions between faculty and students, in class and beyond. A faculty principal lives in the hall with students and approximately 40 faculty associates dine, teach, and engage the 240 Preston college students.

### **Rhodos Fellows**

This learning community, led by a faculty principal, is open to students pursuing careers in information, design, and computing who are interested in careers in digital technologies. Students develop independent projects over the academic year, earning the honor of Rhodos Information Fellow. There are opportunities for students to take advantage of programming, such as meeting special guests who are experts in their field and linked classes.

Several of the learning communities across campus have smaller clusters of 19 students living in proximity that relate to the theme of the larger learning community, called [First-Year Interest Groups \(FIGs\)](#). Students who choose to apply for a FIG community will have the opportunity to live with students who have similar majors and academic interests, enroll into a University 101 Course and three additional courses that are a part of their degree seeking course progression. Members of a FIG will have the opportunity to connect with a mentor team of students, faculty and staff during a scheduled seminar meeting time. Students can select a FIG as their learning community choice on the second part of the housing application.

### [Student Success Center](#)

Academic Success programs offered through the Student Success Center include [course-specific support](#) and [assistance with study skills](#).

### **Early Intervention Alerts**

Faculty, instructors, and campus partners can [submit alerts](#) on behalf of students to the Student Success Center for academic and/or financial support at any time. This early intervention referral program facilitates outreach to at-risk students based on faculty referrals or student self-identification. Success consultants meet individually with referred students and assist them in accessing appropriate resources and support.

### **Out-to-Lunch**

The Student Success Center facilitates the Out-to-Lunch Program, a program that promotes more informal faculty and student interactions outside the classroom setting by allowing students to invite their professor to lunch for free at a campus dining facility.

### **Peer Tutoring**

Peer Tutors are undergraduate students who have excelled in the course they tutor. They have been trained to facilitate discussions on course content and to guide undergraduate students at the University of South Carolina as they improve their academic habits. Tutoring provides support for a wide range of courses and is delivered by trained peer leaders in 1:1, group settings. Assistance with study skills is provided by success consultants who engage with individual students in one-on-one appointments to set goals, explore study and time management strategies, develop action plans, and make referrals to appropriate university resources.

### **Peer Writing and Communications**

Peer Writing and Communications offers students peer-led support during the writing process.

### **Supplemental instruction**

Supplemental instruction provides high quality, peer guided, assistance to enhance learning and academic success. Supplemental instruction focuses on introductory courses that are critical to students' academic progression and is delivered by trained peer leaders in a group setting. Tutoring provides support for a wide range of courses and is delivered by trained peer leaders in 1:1, group settings. Assistance with study skills is provided by success consultants who engage with individual students in one-on-one appointments to set goals, explore study and time management strategies, develop action plans, and make referrals to appropriate university resources. During [summer semesters](#), the Center provides virtual one-on-one support

with tutoring, writing, success consultations, and money management consultations.

## **Workshops**

Through the Center, students can take advantage of a wide variety of academic, money management, and skill development workshops where they can enhance their academic experience by attending workshops to gain a fresh perspective gain new skills to apply to your academics and money management.

## [Study Abroad](#)

The Study Abroad Office staff guides students through the process, providing information about overseas study options as well as intern, research and service learning abroad programs, scholarship opportunities and diverse academic, cultural, and linguistic experiences. By developing and implementing quality programming connected to each stage of the study abroad process, a sense of cultural awareness, open mindedness and appreciation of differences in every student is fostered.

## [TRIO Programs](#)

TRIO offers a comprehensive set of services through five different programs, each targeted at a specific group of individuals from the 6th grade through adulthood. Services and activities include academic tutoring, cultural enrichment, financial aid counseling, summer on-campus residency programs, admissions counseling, and student mentoring. These resources targeted to specific populations help to enhance and improve student learning and degree completion among under-represented groups.

## [Undergraduate Research](#)

The Office of Undergraduate Research seeks to enrich the academic experience of all University of South Carolina undergraduates by providing research and scholarly experiences in their chosen fields. The office promotes inquiry, discovery, and creativity in all disciplines through faculty-student mentoring relationships and the integration of instruction with research, scholarship, and creative activities. Current initiatives from the Office include: maintaining a searchable database of undergraduate research opportunities, sponsoring a living and learning community for first and second-year students, undergraduate research grants, a credit-bearing undergraduate research course, and hosting the University of South Carolina's beyond-the-classroom showcase known as Discovery Day. The Office also provides [online resources](#) to assist students involved in research.

## [University 101](#)

For more than 40 years, the University of South Carolina's hallmark course, University 101, has been a national model for first-year seminars and is consistently named by US News and World Report as a 'program to look for'. The purpose of University 101 is to help new students make a successful transition to the University of South Carolina, both academically and personally. This course aims to foster a sense of belonging, promote engagement in the curricular and co-curricular life of the university, articulate to students the expectations of the university and its faculty, help students develop and apply critical thinking skills, and help students continue to clarify their purpose, meaning, and direction. Overarching goals of University 101 are to foster academic success, help students discover and connect with the University of South Carolina, and prepare students for responsible lives in a diverse, interconnected, and changing world. A robust annual agenda of instructor development workshops help faculty, university administrative staff, graduate students, and undergraduate peer leaders hone their teaching and facilitation skills for use in UNIV courses and other educational settings. Through this course, student success and retention is enhanced at the University of South Carolina.

## [Writing Center](#)

The University of South Carolina Writing Center is committed to helping students at any stage of the writing process become better writers. Their mission is to help writers in all academic disciplines develop their writing abilities, to promote collaborative learning, to train graduate students in writing center teaching and administration, and to provide writing resources to our academic community. The university Writing Center welcomes the opportunity to work with undergraduate and graduate students on writing projects. The Writing Center can help students organize and outline drafts, develop a thesis statement and conclusion, and convey ideas with clarity. The office also helps student with strategies for editing and proofreading, and with MLA/APA/Chicago formatting questions. The Writing Center is available for all university personnel.

## *Support for Student Life and Engagement*

### [Career Center](#)

The Career Center provides comprehensive career related services and programs that are available to all students. Services include individual and small group career counseling, resume critiques, mock interviews, online job and internship postings with on-campus interview scheduling, and resources to research employers and identify contacts for networking. The Career Center coordinates experiential education

opportunities such as job shadowing, internships, and cooperative education. Potential employers are brought to the community via multiple job fairs each year, and workshops on topics ranging from career fair preparation to graduate school are provided. Online career development tools are available to students such as Handshake, Big Interview, Career Shift, and Candid Career. Career planning and related services are critical to student identity and purpose as well as life goal development.

### [Fraternity and Sorority Life](#)

The Office of Fraternity and Sorority Life, and the many volunteer chapter/grad advisors, support, challenge and nurture the 47 diverse fraternities and sororities at Carolina, with student participation representing 27% of the undergraduate population, as they strive to become the premier Greek community in North America. These values-based organizations uphold their founding values of scholarship, service, leadership and friendship on a daily basis as they enhance the undergraduate experience for their members.

### [Off-Campus Living and Neighborhood Relations](#)

Off-campus students comprise more than 75% of the student population. Off-Campus Student Services seeks to provide services to enhance their experience and connect them to the university and surrounding community. Services and activities include an off-campus housing locator website, off-campus housing fairs, a merchant fair, and educational presentations on off-campus living, renting and renter's rights. Current initiatives aim to engage off-campus students to increase their satisfaction and connection to the university.

### [Office of Parents Programs](#)

In recognition of the critical role that parents play in their students' college success, the Office of Parents Programs partners with parents and families to educate them about the resources available to support their students' growth and success. The office works to educate parents about the university and the changing parent-student relationship; to serve as a centralized resource at the university for information, advice, and support for parents; and to provide parents with resources to encourage their students' growth and success. These goals are accomplished through communication, events, partnership, and the Parents Annual Fund. All parents are encouraged to join the dues-free Parents Association and to attend Parents Weekend each fall. The Office of Parents Programs also coordinates with the Carolina Alumni Association and the Office of Undergraduate Admissions to host send-offs around the country each summer to welcome incoming freshmen to the Carolina family during late July and early August. These events, hosted by the local alumni clubs, allow students and their families from a particular city to meet each other before they leave home for campus. In addition, staff members attend the events to answer last-minute questions prior to Move-in Day.

### **Dinner Dialogues**

Dinner Dialogues, sponsored by the Office of Parents Programs, offers faculty members a unique way to increase their interaction with students outside the classroom and build community among the members of a class. The program provides funding for faculty members and University 101 instructors who host their undergraduate classes for dinner in their homes. Funding for the Dinner Dialogues program is provided by a grant from the Parents Annual Fund, which is coordinated by the Office of Parents Programs to solicit annual contributions from parents of Carolina students.

### [Russell House University Union](#)

The Russell House University Union is an indispensable campus resource where students, faculty, and staff meet, eat, and gather as part of their daily activities. The Russell House University Union promotes student learning and development by providing services and resources pertinent to the daily needs of the student body and through sponsorship of programs and activities designed to educate and entertain members of the university community. Open seven days a week, the Russell House contains a variety of student-centered organizations and activities: the Leadership and Service Center; restaurants and eateries; the Barnes and Noble-managed university Bookstore; student postal services; meeting spaces and offices; and the Department of Student Life. Lounge areas have been established throughout the Russell House as part of our effort to foster a welcoming environment for students and faculty, and provide you with opportunities to relax, study and socialize. **U**

### **Carolina Productions**

Housed in the union, Carolina Productions is a student-operated organization that provides entertaining, educational, traditional and diverse programs to students, faculty, staff and community members. These programs encompass the ideas, issues, and interests of the University of South Carolina community, as well as the Carolinian Creed and university mission. Carolina Productions also provides accessible opportunities for the social, cultural, intellectual, and leadership development of University of South Carolina students.

### **Thursday After Dark**



Each Thursday, the Russel House University Union hosts Thursday After Dark (TAD), a student's go-to for late night entertainment every Thursday night of the semester. Whether on or off campus, this night of fun is always free. As classes have moved online during COVID-19, so has TAD.

### **Gamecock Picture Show**

In addition to offering movies in the Carolina Theatre, Gamecock Entertainment holds specialty movie screenings with our outdoor mobile movie theater, Gamecock Picture Show (GPS). GPS often takes advantage of the beautiful South Carolina weather and shows all-time favorite films in locations such as Davis Field next to the Russell House or on the pool deck at The Strom Thurmond Wellness & Fitness Center.

### **Russell Underground**

Located in the basement of the Russell House, Russell Underground is fully equipped with high-quality audio and live streaming technology and software that make it the perfect multipurpose venue for meetings and events that engage participants whether they present in the space or at a distance. Student organizations, university departments, and other groups can reserve Russell Underground for events like socials, meetings, and training. Groups have unlimited access to the lounge seating, billiards table, cable television, house sound system, as well as live streaming technology and support.

### [Sophomore Success](#)

The Student Success Center provides events and helpful information designed just for sophomores. Sophomore Success is the combination of services, programs, and curricular and co-curricular activities that provides a gateway between a student's college transition and their future educational and career aspirations; and offers a foundation to explore the specific academic experiences and opportunities the University of South Carolina has to offer. Specific initiatives for sophomores include: a welcome back to campus event (SophoMORE September), a series of spring events (SophoMORE Warm-Up Series), an annual Halfway There Celebration commemorating when students are halfway done with their college career, and an online Month by Month Roadmap custom-made for second-year students.

### [Spiritual and Religious Life](#)

A variety of opportunities for religious worship, study, and recreational and social activities are available to students. Ordained chaplains, other university-recognized religious workers, and student leaders from many denominations, faiths, and registered religious organizations serve students on campus and in religious centers located near campus. Registered religious workers are available as pastors, mentors, and counselors and for sacramental and ceremonial occasions.

### [Student Conduct](#)

The Office of Student Conduct and Academic Integrity is committed to providing and ensuring an educational campus climate conducive to the personal and professional development of each student. Student conduct codes and policies are developed by this office in collaboration with faculty, staff and students. In serving these purposes, the Office distributes publications concerning student conduct codes and hearing procedures; selects, trains, and advises Carolina Student Judicial Council members; and offers educational programs and other options to students who have violated conduct codes or been affected as a result of violations of student conduct codes. The Office also encourages responsible community citizenship through promotion of [The Carolinian Creed](#).

### [Student Media/Garnet Media Group](#)

Student Media consists of [The Daily Gamecock](#) newspaper, [Garnet & Black](#) magazine, [SGTV](#) and [WUSC-FM](#). All students are invited to participate in one or more media groups regardless of major, year in school or previous experience. Volunteer and paid positions are available. In addition to obtaining specialized skills, many students have used their experience to earn internships and jobs following graduation.

### [Undergraduate Student Ombudsman Services](#)

The Undergraduate Student Ombudsman serves as a confidential, neutral, informal, and independent resource for graduate students' concerns and conflicts. The student ombudsman guides students to resources, refers them to programs and explains university processes to help students solve their problems and make informed choices about their academic careers.

### [University Housing](#)

Students who live on campus have constant opportunities to strengthen their academics, start friendships, take advantage of unique opportunities and become part of the vibrant Carolina community. University Housing is

dedicated to helping residential students succeed at the University of South Carolina and include many points of engagement for students in residence halls. University of South Carolina Residence Life staff members co-create a safe and welcoming environment by designing an intentional residential experience that encourages student success. The Carolina Residential Living Experience is guided by the "four cores" creating a sense of belonging through personal connection; building inclusive communities; cultivating dynamic learning environments; and empowering student growth and resiliency.

### [UofSC Experience](#)

In 2018, the university launched a supplemental student information system called Beyond The Classroom Matters to catalog and record student engagement in educationally purposeful programs, events and activities beyond the classroom. These records of student engagement supplement academic records to more comprehensively document student learning and the holistic college experience for each student. Each student can access their own My UofSC Experience records through the [student portal](#). Advisors can access their advisees My UofSC Experience records to inform advising conversations on education and career planning, reflections on learning (students may choose to keep selected records private). In Spring 2019, students were able to select records from their My UofSC Experience to include in an official, extended university transcript that will be distributed at the request of the student to prospective employers and graduate schools. This new source of institutional information provides additional data for analysis of program effectiveness and the impact of engagement on student success.

### [University Awards Day](#)

The annual University Awards Day event, held each year in April, provides a venue for recognition of academic and leadership accomplishments of undergraduate students. The annual University Awards Day celebration recognizes approximately 300 students with more than 350 awards annually.

### *Support for Leadership and Service*

The [Leadership and Service Center](#) provides programs and services that enhance student involvement, aid in personal and leadership skills development, and celebrate members of the university community for their contributions and service. Through participation in the various programs, students are challenged to learn about their strengths and abilities and apply them to the Carolina community through involvement in campus life.

### [Dobson Volunteer Service Program](#)

The Dobson Volunteer Service Program at the University of South Carolina provides funding support for students, faculty and staff members to engage in direct service activities, both locally and abroad. Applicants for Dobson funding (normally 50 percent of approved expenses) must agree to provide on their return a personal reflection document and ten presentations sharing information about their experiences as a Dobson participant. Emphasis is placed on depth of service commitment and spiritual development through the service experience. Activities of Dobson travelers have included English language instruction, school and medical facility construction, and installation of water purification systems for local residents.

### [Community Service Programs](#)

Community Service Programs promotes volunteer service as an integral part of the educational values of the University of South Carolina. Programs emphasize a deep commitment to learning through reflection. Community service and service-learning allow students to interact directly with challenging environments while using skills and knowledge gained in the classroom. Through the integration of community service across the curriculum and co-curriculum, students become prepared for a lifetime of community leadership and responsible citizenry. Over 80 non-profit agencies in the Columbia area partner with the office to provide these experiences.

### [Peer Education/Leadership Initiatives](#)

The Student Success Center coordinates an advisory board of representatives from the various organizations and offices across campus that maintain peer leadership positions. The advisory board seeks to promote an understanding of the value of peer leadership positions through assessment, provide common training and promotional materials, and coordinate together to enhance the peer leadership experience at the University of South Carolina.

### [Service Learning Initiatives](#)

The Carolina Service-Learning Initiative at the university seeks to engage students, faculty, and community organizations in service-learning partnerships by offering support in creating intentional service experiences that are integrated into curriculum across disciplines. The Initiative includes resources developed for university faculty, staff, and students, ongoing faculty development, a data base of service-learning courses, networking opportunities for community agencies and faculty, and ongoing assessment. The Carolina Service-Learning Initiative is housed within the Leadership and Service Center with strong, collaborative support from the South



Carolina Honors College.

### [Student Government](#)

Student Government consists of both policy making and programming constituents. From academic affairs to student services, the Student Government is committed to submitting policies that represent the voice of the students to the university administration, local government and state government. Members of the Student Government also work to improve campus life through a variety of programming initiatives that protect student interests, and support student groups.

### [Student Organizations](#)

Students on Carolina's campus have created over 300 groups with mutual interests in academic, social, or active pursuits. Full-time faculty or administrative staff members serve as advisors to each group. Participation in student organizations helps foster leadership skills, team building, networking, and overall development.

## **Graduate Services**

### *The Graduate School*

The Graduate School is a key point of contact for applicants, providing information on graduate program offerings, application requirements (including deadlines), and admission decisions to include approving exceptions to admissions criteria that are adequately supported and that appropriate conditions are included. These decisions with conditions are communicated to applicants. Once enrolled, the Graduate School is responsible for confirming all official conditions surrounding admission are met, recording milestone accomplishments (e.g., qualifying exams, comprehensive exams, various committee nomination forms, thesis/dissertation final submissions, and graduation). Specific services offered by the graduate school include:

#### Program-Specific Coordinators

Provides a team of competent staff who provides useful information and other support services that will help students better understand policy and procedure enabling them to navigate their journey to degree completion and academic success more easily.

#### Self-Service Carolina

Provides the University of South Carolina ID number and directions for how students will be able to sign in to manage academic, financial and personal information.

#### Registering for Classes

Provides support information for how students must register for classes, including how to address any holds that may prevent them from enrolling.

#### Health Requirements

Provide support information for how students must provide proof of vaccination and health insurance to be eligible to enroll.

#### Official Transcripts

Provides support information for how students must provide official transcripts from all previous institutions of higher education that they have attended—whether a degree was earned or not.

#### GTA/GIA Training

Supports and monitors the mandatory orientation and training for any graduate students who will be offered either a graduate teaching assistantship (GTA) or a graduate instructional assistantship (GIA) position.

#### Citizenship & Residency

Provides support information for how students must provide proof of US Citizenship or lawful immigration certification, and confirm residency for tuition assessment purposes. Confirming legal residency is a function of the Office of Legal Residency/Registrar (for domestic students) and ISS (for internationals and resident aliens).

#### International Student Services

Provides support information for where international students can access resources to ease their transition to the US. We also monitor proficiency of English language for applicants whose primary language is not English. This

proficiency is necessary for all students, including those who will be offered GTA/GIA positions. Through English Programs for Internationals (EPI), we offer conditional admission and access to English for Foreign Students (ENFS) coursework to help non-native speakers who need additional remediation in English to strengthen their oral and/or writing skills to help ensure academic success.

#### Career Guidance

Provides support information for helping graduate students can recognize the advanced transferable skills that academic and non-academic employers seek.

#### Communication and Negotiation

Provides professional development opportunities for students to practice expressing their ideas clearly in speech and writing. Specifically, this service provides support for students interested in presenting their work at 3MT competitions where cash prizes, local, regional and national recognition is available, and as preparation for possible representations of their work at job interviews.

#### Entrepreneurship

Provides support information for graduate students who might be interested in pursuing startup businesses in a variety of disciplines.

#### Grant and Proposal Writing

Provides support information for graduate students seeking grants and sponsored awards.

#### Individual Development Plans (IDP)

Provides support information for graduate students to prepare their own IDP to outline past accomplishments, areas in need of development and feasible professional goals—a requirement of graduate students included in many federal government grant applications, and a valuable tool for planning for the future.

#### Thesis and Dissertation Workshops

Provides face-to-face, synchronous online and asynchronous resources for students in programs that require a thesis or dissertation. These resources help students navigate the format and deadline requirements for this key milestone on the way to earning a graduate degree.

#### Programs and Subscriptions

Provides a calendar of upcoming professional development opportunities and we archive past presentations, when possible, of many resources of interest, such as: In-Person Programs, Webinars, Professional Development Fridays, Institutional Memberships, Self-Assessment and Career Planning, and Writing Motivation.

#### Graduate Student Association

We provide support for the Graduate Student Association by advocating for graduate students, publicizing events sponsored by the GSA, and including them in policy deliberations that impact graduate students, through voting membership on the Graduate Council.

#### Commencement

We are the point of contact for students seeking confirmation of having met all graduation requirements, including them in graduation ceremonies and in ceremonial publications (e.g., Commencement program for doctoral students).

#### Regulations and Appeals

The Graduate School is responsible for publishing and enforcing all graduate degree regulations. Graduate student Grievances, Appeals and Petitions are heard by the Graduate Council and final decisions are communicated by the Graduate School.

#### Ombuds

The Graduate School Ombuds serves as a confidential, neutral, informal, and independent resource for graduate students' concerns and conflicts.

#### Scholarly Initiatives

The Graduate School sponsors and coordinates scholarly initiatives to enhance student in-classroom experiences through professional development, pedagogical training and exposure to non-academic settings. Several specific initiatives include: Bridge Humanities Postdoctoral Teaching Fellows Program, Graduate Civic Scholars Program, Presidential Fellowship, and Grace Jordan McFadden Professors Program.

#### Travel Grants

(This program is temporarily suspended due to COVID-19 restrictions on university travel). Provides support for graduate students traveling to professional conferences to present their work. Domestic travel can be supported for up to \$500; international travel can be supported for up to \$800. Awards are competitive and funds are limited. There were 283 grant recipients in the 2018-2019 academic year, totaling \$150,000.

#### *Center for Teaching Excellence*

The University of South Carolina Center for Teaching Excellence (CTE) offers four broad areas of service to the teaching community: Workshops and seminars, instructional design services, orientations, and training of graduate teaching assistants. The Center for Teaching Excellence is committed to planning and implementing professional development programming for graduate teaching assistants. The Center for Teaching Excellence is a unit of the Office of the Provost, and the Director of CTE reports to the Vice Provost and Dean of Undergraduate Studies.

#### Workshops and Seminars

The CTE offers between 50 and 80 workshops and seminars per term that provide training for faculty, staff, graduate students, and administrators in areas ranging from pedagogy and online instruction to academic integrity and first aid. Graduate student workshops and events are designed to address teaching challenges unique to being a graduate student. The majority of these sessions are stand-alone, but CTE also packages multiple sessions into "Certificate of Completion" programs in diversity and inclusion, academic integrity, online teaching, and mentoring. Individual sessions are 50-75 minutes long. Until the COVID-19 crisis, the majority of attendance was in-person, with webinars offered for a subset of training sessions. Since the COVID-19 crisis began, all training has been conducted online.

#### Graduate Teaching Assistant Orientation

Graduate Teaching Assistant orientation is conducted by CTE at the beginning of every term. These orientations explore pedagogy, administration, technology (including the Blackboard LMS), logistics, and practical issues related to teaching at the University of South Carolina.

#### Preparing Future Faculty

For graduate students and post-docs who want to become faculty members at the college level, the Preparing Future Faculty (PFF) program is designed to assist participants in identifying and accomplishing key professional development activities related to becoming a future faculty member. The PFF program at the university is administered through a partnership between the Center for Teaching Excellence and the Graduate School.

#### GRAD 701

GRAD 701 supports the teaching skill development of graduate students through training sessions and workshops directly applicable to TA/IA responsibilities. The course provides a wide variety of interactive workshops for graduate students to learn fundamental teaching pedagogy, relevant and useful teaching techniques, important professional development skills, and the opportunity to interact with other GTA/IAs across the university.

#### Grants

The CTE provides incentives for creation of new courses and integration of innovative teaching techniques with grants totaling approximately \$100,000 per year. Specific grant projects have focuses in diversity and inclusion, online teaching, innovative pedagogy, globalization, virtual and augmented reality, and graduate students.

### **Support for Research**

The [Office of Research](#) strives to enable the pursuit of research, innovation and excellence by creating an environment that supports the scholarly and creative activities of all faculty and students.

#### *SPARC*

SPARC is a competitive, internal grant program for graduate students at the University of South Carolina. Graduate students may receive up to \$5000 in funding to support their research. In 2017-2018, 54 graduate students received SPARC grants. In 2018-2019, 57 graduate students received SPARC grants. In 2019-2020, 57 graduate students

received SPARC grants. Tracking surveys indicate that recipients have successfully competed for national fellowships after receiving SPARC grants, including Fulbright Fellowship, NIH Kirschstein Predoctoral Fellowship NRSA (F31), American Heart Association Predoctoral Fellowship, AAUW American Dissertation Fellowship, and others.

#### *Breakthrough Graduate Scholar Award*

The Office of the Vice President for Research's Breakthrough Graduate Scholar Award recognizes exceptional graduate students who demonstrate excellence in the classroom, and make considerable contributions to research and scholarly activities in their field. We honor approximately one dozen exceptional graduate students with this award each spring.

#### *Office of Undergraduate Research & Magellan Funding*

The Office of Undergraduate Research seeks to enrich the academic experience of all University of South Carolina undergraduates by providing research and scholarly experiences in their chosen fields. The office promotes inquiry, discovery, and creativity in all disciplines through faculty-student mentoring relationships and the integration of instruction with research, scholarship, and creative activities. Current initiatives from the Office include: maintaining a searchable database of undergraduate research opportunities, sponsoring a living and learning community for first and second-year students, undergraduate research grants, a credit-bearing undergraduate research course, and hosting the University of South Carolina's beyond-the-classroom showcase known as Discovery Day. The Office also provides online resources to assist students involved in research.

Magellan Scholar Program: Up to \$3000 for materials, travel, and stipend to support mentored research experiences. Deadlines: mid-October and mid-February. Minimum overall GPA of 3.30; all campuses, majors, and academic years are eligible. Created in 2005.

Magellan Mini-Grant Program: Up to \$1000 for materials, supplies, or travel costs for undergraduates conducting mentored research. Deadlines: late October and late February. All campuses, majors, and academic years are eligible. Created in 2007.

Magellan Guarantee: Mentored research experiences for first- and second-year students who qualify for the Opportunity Scholars Program or students in the TRiO Ronald E. McNair program. Created in 2008.

Magellan Apprentice, Explorer, Navigator, Sustainable, Galen, and Rhodos: Awards vary (\$500-\$1000) for salary, materials, or travel costs for undergraduates conducting research projects with a mentor. Mentors can be faculty, staff, or community partners. These programs are in partnership with Columbia campus living and learning communities. Eligibility varies. First grant initiated in 2010.

South Carolina Alliance for Minority Participation (SC-AMP) program: This is a state-wide alliance funded by the National Science Foundation. It is composed of 12 institutions, including 6 HBCUs and 3 technical colleges. SC-AMP is designed to support and encourage undergraduate students who are historically underrepresented in STEM fields to pursue graduate education. The University of South Carolina focuses on providing research experiences and professional development workshops for participants.

Student awards per year per program\*

Program\Year	2017-2018	2018-2019	2019-2020	TOTAL*
Magellan Scholar	135	135	135	405
Magellan Minigrant	43	40	33	116
Magellan Guarantee	7	7	7	21
Magellan Apprentice	33	29	28	90
Magellan Explorer	2	9	1	12
Sustainable Magellan	4	1	1	6
Magellan Galen	2	1	3	6
SC-AMP**	13	7	2	22
TOTAL*	239	229	210	678

\*numbers represent student awards per program per year. These are not unique students as some programs permit students to receive the same award multiple times or one student may receive more than one award type, either in the same year or different years. Exception: students may receive the Magellan Scholar award only once.

\*\*SC-AMP is primarily a summer research program. Due to COVID-19, the summer 2020 program was cancelled. The two students represented for 2019-2020 participated in academic year research.

Alumni surveys have been conducted for the Magellan Scholar program, providing further insight into the research experience. [Data from 2019] Approximately 96% of alumni rated their mentorship as good or excellent. More than 80% believe the research experience helped prepare them for their current positions and ~99% stated that the program met their educational goals.

### *Discover USC*

Discover USC is an annual showcase of research, scholarship, leadership and creative projects by undergraduate and graduate students, postdoctoral scholars and medical scholars representing the entire university system. In 2018, 93% of survey respondents were very satisfied or somewhat satisfied with their experience at Discover USC, and 95% strongly agreed or agreed that Discover USC was an excellent opportunity to showcase scholarly work. In 2019, 94% of survey respondents were very satisfied or somewhat satisfied with their experience at Discover USC, and 94% strongly agreed or agreed that Discover USC was an excellent opportunity to showcase scholarly work. In 2020, Discover USC was cancelled due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

### Discover USC Participation

	<b>2018</b>	<b>2019</b>	<b>2020</b>
Undergraduate Presenters	668	678	cancelled
Graduate Student Presenters	221	219	cancelled
Postdoctoral Scholar Presenters	20	14	cancelled
Medical Scholar Presenters	113	103	cancelled
<b>Total Presenters</b>	<b>1022</b>	<b>1014</b>	cancelled
Total Attendees	2268	2312	cancelled

### *SMART Program*

The SMART (Support for Minority Advancement in Research Training) program aims to enhance the training of under-represented minority students by providing funds for University of South Carolina faculty to mentor minority undergraduate students through summer research projects in every discipline. Since 2018, the Office of Research has provided \$1000 in support to 82 faculty members who mentor underrepresented minority students who are conducting research projects over the summer (38 faculty in 2018, 33 faculty in 2019 and 11 faculty in 2020).

### *Summer Research Symposium*

The Summer Research Symposium is a poster session which provides an opportunity for all summer research students at the University of South Carolina to present their work. This symposium includes both University of South Carolina students and students from other universities working with university faculty. At this student-focused symposium, undergraduate researchers will showcase their research and share their findings via poster presentations. In 2018, there were 62 student presenters and 218 total attendees. In 2019, there were 60 student presenters and 198 total attendees. In 2020, the symposium was cancelled due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

### *Research: Next Steps to Success Summer Workshop Series*

This is a six-part professional development workshop series for summer undergraduate students who are conducting research on campus. In 2018, average attendance was 41 students, and the workshop received an 8.8/10 rating for the overall workshop experience. In 2019, average attendance was 37 students, and the workshop received an 8.2/10 rating for the overall workshop experience. In 2020, the workshop series was cancelled due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

### *Grant Basics*

Grant Basics is a yearly workshop designed to train graduate students and postdocs to write competitive grant proposals. In 2017, 64 graduate students and postdocs attended, and the overall workshop rating was 9.2/10. In 2018, 81 graduate students and postdocs attended, and the overall workshop rating was 9.1/10. The workshop did not take place during the 2019-2020 academic year which was affected by the COVID-19 pandemic.

## **Support for Health and Wellness**

A safe, healthy campus is an environment that fosters success. The university develops and offers programs, resources, and services that encourage healthy behaviors and promote a lifetime of living well.

### *Campus Recreation*

The mission of Campus Recreation is to provide the entire university with community, individual, economic and environmental benefits for the purpose of developing and reinforcing healthy lifestyles. Campus Recreation maintains over 400,000 square feet of indoor space in two facilities (the [Solomon Blatt Physical Education Center](#) and the [Strom Thurmond Wellness and Fitness Center](#)), eight multipurpose playing fields, three tennis courts, four sand volleyball courts, and an [outdoor recreation hub](#). Facility amenities include: weight rooms, cardio-vascular training areas, basketball / volleyball courts, racquet sport courts, swimming pools, climbing wall, multipurpose rooms, and locker rooms. Programs offered include: intramural sports, sport clubs, group exercise classes, aquatics, adventure trips and clinics, and informal recreation.



## [Gamecock Recovery](#)

Gamecock Recovery supports students affected by substances and promotes a nurturing campus and community environment to ensure that all students in recovery can achieve academic and personal success. A safe Carolina community is a community that embraces recovery and where students' academic and personal success is not impaired by substance use. Students can attend recovery meetings and meet one-on-one with certified Recovery Coaches. Gamecock Recovery also hosts meetings for students affected by a loved one's addiction provide education, resource navigation, and on-going support needed to address substance use disorder in a healthy and constructive way. The Recovery Ally workshop helps faculty, staff, and students learn about substance use disorder, the experiences of students in recovery at the University of South Carolina, and identifying and responding to stigmatizing language.

## [Student Health Services](#)

Student Health Services (SHS) provides comprehensive physical and mental health care services right on campus. Our professional and compassionate providers are committed to evidence-based, patient-centered care to help contribute to your success and overall well-being. SHS provides a variety of online services, including [MyHealthSpace](#), a portal that allows students to make appointments, complete health history forms, review their medical information, and communicate with their physician; [MyRXSpace](#), a portal for refilling prescriptions; an [online mental health screening tool](#), Therapist-Assisted Online for therapeutic interventions anytime and anywhere, and [Kognito At-Risk](#), a web-based program to assist students in recognizing distress in others and determining how to assist. SHS is accredited by the Accreditation Association of Ambulatory Health Care which demonstrates the excellence of our programs and services to all our students. The 2014 accreditation included recognition as a Patient Centered Medical Home, making the University of South Carolina the first institution in South Carolina to receive this distinction. SHS offers a variety of medical and mental health services including:

### [Allergy Shots](#)

Students can get their allergy shots without leaving campus by visiting the Student Health Center.

### [C.A.L.M Oasis](#)

Students come to the C.A.L.M. Oasis for mindfulness and meditation, either through open practice or to participate in open learning coordinated by a trained facilitator.

### [Counseling & Psychiatry](#)

The Counseling and Psychiatry Department provides psychological counseling, psychiatry, education, consultation and essential therapy and emotional wellness services for students at the University of South Carolina. The department offers counseling for individuals and couples, as well as group counseling, community support meetings and psychiatric services. Counseling and Psychiatry also provides assessment, medicine management and/or short term, time-limited therapy to students who are experiencing developmental, psychosocial, academic, career, and/or mental health concerns. Counseling and Psychiatry maintains an after-hours care line and referral service. The Department currently offers teletherapy and telepsychiatry appointments to university students residing in South Carolina who were enrolled in the prior academic year and plan to return in Fall 2020. Counseling and Psychiatry also offers clinical supervision for selected mental health graduates.

### [Health Carolina](#)

Healthy Carolina supports and encourages healthy choices in the Carolina Community as a way of life, encompassing all dimensions of wellness. The Healthy Carolina [Farmers Market](#) aims to emphasize the direct connection between local food choices people make and the quality and health of our environment and daily lives. The market promotes overall wellness through campus resources, cooking demonstrations, health screenings and community engagement, while still providing access to healthy, fresh and locally grown goods.

### [Immunizations](#)

Through Student Health Services, students have access to a full range of vaccines, including those required by the university.

### [Interpersonal Violence Support](#)

SHS offers services for survivors and those who are helping to support a victim of interpersonal violence. In addition to 24/7 access to an interpersonal violence advocate, survivors are supported through academic assistance, accompaniment to evidence exams, meetings, and appointments, housing changes, and safety planning.

### [Lab Tests & Screenings](#)

Students can request a screening for blood pressure, body fat, glucose levels, cholesterol, STIs, pregnancy, sickle cell and more. The Lab provides walk-in health screenings and rapid in-house testing. We also partner with outside reference labs to provide a full range of testing.

### [LGBTQ Health](#)

SHS strives to create an environment where all students feel comfortable and welcome when they visit. All programs and services are open to all students.

### [Nutrition](#)

A Registered Dietitian is available to assist student with medical nutrition therapy needs including high cholesterol, high blood pressure, food allergies, eating disorders and other dietary concerns. Students may also attend the Health Eating workshop, an hour-long group appointment where students meet with a registered dietitian to learn how to choose balanced meals and snacks on and off campus. By the end of the group appointment, students will increase their basic nutrition knowledge, know tips for eating on a budget and understand cues for eating.

### [Physical Therapy](#)

Students receive personalized treatment plan aimed at helping them get back to normal activities after injury or surgery.

### [Primary Care](#)

Students have access to comprehensive, ongoing health care without leaving campus through our wide range of physical and mental health care services. Compassionate and professional staff members provide evidence-based, patient-centered care to directly contribute to your success and overall well-being. A new Telemedicine service uses HIPAA-compliant video conferencing to enable health care providers to see patients remotely for faster, more convenient care. All enrolled students at the University of South Carolina Columbia are eligible for this service. Patients must be in the state of South Carolina during their Telemedicine appointment.

### [Radiology & EKGs](#)

Students, faculty and staff can have radiology procedures performed and interpreted without leaving campus.

### [Sports Medicine](#)

Sports medicine physicians diagnose, treat and prevent activity-related injuries to get students back to their optimal health and performance.

### [Stress Management](#)

Many students face above average stress at one time or another during their time on campus. SHS helps students identify their stressors and find techniques to decrease stress.

### [Wellness Coaching](#)

Managing multiple commitments can make it difficult for students to find time to do things they need to stay well and thrive at the University of South Carolina. Wellness coaching provides students with education, support and encouragement to develop behaviors for a healthier lifestyle.

### [Women's Health](#)

Students have access to a full range of women's health care services, including testing, contraceptives and pregnancy counseling.

### [Student Care and Outreach Team](#)

The Care Team is a group of caring professionals dedicated to student success and well-being by identifying concerns, addressing those concerns with the student, and referring them to campus and community resources. The Care Team's primary goal is to ensure that the student involved gains the necessary resources to remain successful academically

and personally at the University of South Carolina.

### *Substance Abuse Prevention and Education*

The Substance Abuse Prevention and Education Office serves to educate students so that they can make informed decisions regarding substance-related behaviors and other student-wellness issues. Through collaboration with other service areas and departments on campus, SAPE provides programs, services, and resources that encourage Carolina students to recognize their decisions impact not only themselves, but also the greater university and City of Columbia communities. SAPE also provides Carolina students with a Gamecock tailgate party before each home football game; and is called upon to provide presentations and information to various entities on campus to support responsible decision-making in the student development process.

The SAPE Office advises a [peer education team](#) and administers programs such as AlcoholEdu. All students, regardless of age, are required to take [alcohol education and sexual assault education courses](#) before and during their first semester of classes. SAPE also administers [Students Taking Initiative & Responsibility \(STIR\)](#), a brief screening and intervention program where students learn to reduce high-risk behavior related to alcohol and cannabis use. STIR is focused on harm reduction, prevention and encouragement as you complete the program. Students can self-refer or be referred to the STIR program.

## **Support for Diversity and Inclusion**

### *Diversity and Inclusion*

The Office of Diversity and Inclusion partners with faculty and staff groups, student programs, and university offices to implement programs for students, faculty and staff. The Office of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion creates programs and opportunities for the University of South Carolina to come together to address our ever-changing cultural landscape, including ["dive-in" lunches](#), the [Finding Common Ground](#) series, the [SC Collaborative for Race and Reconciliation](#), and [Welcome Table SC](#). One notable event is the MLK Celebration, a week of events focused around service and reflection. The Teaching Towards Inclusive Excellence Certificate, offered through the Office of Diversity and Inclusion in partnership with the Center for Teaching Excellence, strengthens strategic diversity leadership capabilities within and outside of the classroom. Diversity and Inclusion also hosts [Diversity Week](#), a Carolina tradition that celebrates the identities of the members of the Carolina community. Through various events and social media campaigns, we seek to highlight the unique experiences and stories of university students, faculty, and staff.

### *Multicultural Student Affairs*

In order to produce positive effects upon multicultural student retention and success, the Office of Multicultural Student Affairs offers a myriad of cultural support services, diversity education initiatives, and multicultural programming. These programs, services, and initiatives focus on the development of all students at the University of South Carolina. The Office of Multicultural Student Affairs' goal is to help promote an accepting environment, and to assist in fostering an appreciation for each of our culturally diverse populations. The Office provides [student support](#) by meeting the unique needs of students from underrepresented communities. Support groups include:

- [Affinity Groups](#): Affinity Groups are small groups designed to be spaces for similarly identified folks to come together as caucuses.
- [BlackSpace](#): BlackSpace is a community group for Black students (undergraduate, graduate, or professional) attending the university that is sponsored and facilitated by the Counseling Center.
- [Multicultural Assistance Peer Program](#): The Multicultural Assistance Peer Program (MAPP) is designed to assist first-year multicultural students transitioning to the university by providing them with a [trained mentor](#) for their critical first year.
- [Black Male Initiatives](#): We want our students to achieve success in all aspects of life and create meaningful relationships with others. These programs exclusively serve the needs of black men.
- [Queer Connections: LGBTQ+ First Year Experience](#): Queer Connections (QC) is a support initiative for incoming LGBTQ+ students to connect with support and resources in their first year.

The Office of Multicultural Student Affairs provides Diversity and Social Justice Education Initiatives for all students that include, but are not limited to:

- [Alphabet Soup](#): Alphabet Soup is a LGBTQ+-focused professional development lunch series open to all university faculty and staff.
- [Diversity Dialogues](#): Diversity Dialogues educate the campus community on issues related to diversity and multiculturalism.
- [Diversity Retreat](#): The Diversity Retreat is a weekend-long retreat designed to allow students to take a deeper look at diversity and social justice.
- [Diversity Matters](#): Diversity Matters is a brown bag luncheon series which assists Student Life professionals in increasing their cultural competence.
- [OMSA Peer Educators \(OPE\)](#): OPE's are trained to lead small peer discussion groups in meaningful dialogue around issues of identity and personal experience in order to cultivate a compassionate and inclusive campus community.
- [Social Justice Program \(SJP\)](#): SJP is a certificate program through OMSA designed to increase students' knowledge about issues related to social justice.

In addition to support groups and educational initiatives, the Office of Multicultural Engagement offers a variety of

social and educational opportunities, including:

- **Celebration of Excellence:** The Celebration of Excellence Awards honors and recognizes students who actively contribute to the University of South Carolina's values of diversity, leadership and community service.
- **Identity365:** Identity365 is a year-long celebration of the cultural diversity at the University of South Carolina.
- **Hip Hop Wednesday:** Students, faculty, staff and community partners gather on Greene Street once a month to socialize while the DJ spins new and old school hip hop music.
- **Student Organizations:** There are a variety of multicultural organizations operating on campus as well as the OMSA Leadership Council.
- **Multicultural Senior Recognition Ceremony:** The Multicultural Senior Recognition Ceremony is a pre-commencement celebration to honor a diverse student experience and our multicultural students who have successfully completed an undergraduate degree from the University of South Carolina.
- **Q'afe:** Q'afe provides a weekly opportunity for LGBTQ+ students and friends to meet, connect, socialize and relax.

## Support for Special Populations

### *Veterans and Military Services*

Veterans and Military Services provides veterans with assistance and support in the college application, financial aid, and enrollment process. This resource provides guidance through processes including enrollment certifications, assists in the coordination of financial aid verification, manages advanced payments, and provides assistance with tutorial services and work study positions. Veterans also receive a suite of support services, as appropriate, including the Student Success Center, Career Center, Student Disability Services, Counseling Center, and the Veterans Student Organization. The University of South Carolina has been designated a Military Friendly School, an award that honors the top 20 percent of colleges, universities, and trade schools that excel in embracing military students and ensuring their success.

### *Transfer Student Services*

More than 1,900 new transfer students enroll at the University of South Carolina annually. These students benefit from materials, workshops and programming developed to ease the transition to the university. The Student Success Center and University Advising Center, in partnership with other departments, provides academic advising for transfer students, a transfer student checklist, transfer coaching, and advises the local chapter of Tau Sigma, a national honor society for transfer students.

### *International Student Services*

Students from more than 100 countries around the world come to the University of South Carolina to pursue their educational goals. International Student Services provides comprehensive support services to international students, from pre-arrival assistance to advising and support programs throughout and immediately following studies. Once admitted, an Immigration Specialist contacts students to provide information on securing immigration documents, as well as to answer any pre-arrival questions. This Specialist also partners interested international students with a current university student, a relationship that continues post-arrival through this program. Students are provided an orientation upon arrival, which is designed to instruct them on next steps at the university and to assist them with resettlement. Throughout their studies, international students have access to immigration advising services with trained advisors, opportunities to get off campus and experience the community, culture-sharing experiences, and community service opportunities, all of which are provided to further international students' engagement with the campus and to further internationalize the campus. Assessment is conducted annually on office services and programs to ensure we continue to meet student needs and concerns. Feedback is also collected from an international student advisory group and focus groups as needed. Our goal is to provide professional, caring services to our students while exposing them to a world of educational and developmental opportunities.

### *Student Disability Resources*

The Student Disability Resource Center provides resources for students, faculty and staff to ensure students receive the appropriate accommodations to support their success. Our professionally trained staff provides students with exceptional services as they transition to college or continue their studies at the university. The office serves students with learning, physical, health, or psychiatric disabilities in managing the varying demands of the university experience. Direct student services include sign language interpreters, captioning, test proctoring, note takers, alternative format textbooks, and an assistive technology lab. In addition to serving students, the staff assists the university community in making programs, services, and activities accessible for everyone.

### *Distance Learning*

Distance learning students may avail themselves of any of the general student support services, programs, and activities delineated in this standard that are appropriate given their individual circumstances. Given that a large portion of distance learning students located away from the campus are [graduate students](#), and focus their attention on a particular academic or professional discipline, services for distance learning students tend to be based in the academic program with admission, advising, orientation, student government, etc. being provided at the individual degree program level. Similarly, distance course related support is largely provided by the academic unit housing the course. While academic units typically have staff who are available to directly support their distance learning students with respect to the range of student services, University Technology Services provides a single point of contact for help with technology problems—the [Help Desk](#). In addition, at the undergraduate level, the [regional Palmetto College campuses](#) provides central support for admissions and financial aid, with direct student support services provided by

the degree granting institution.

## Technological Support

Students rely on technology to learn, study, explore, and participate in student life. The university provides a variety of technological services and support to ensure that no student misses an opportunity to engage.

### *Thomas Cooper Library (TCL)*

The [Thomas Cooper Library Technology Lounge](#) is a collaborative computer lab that provides access to 139 Windows/Mac desktops, scanners, printers, and laptops, tablets and iPads for student checkout. The Technology Lounge offers assistance for users with disabilities including screen-reader technology. Additionally, TCL provides access to 86 computer workstations located in Reference and two multimedia classrooms with 30 computers in each room. TCL also has a laptop convertible classroom with 20 laptops available for instruction and an interactive classroom with seats and laptops to accommodate 40 students. This means that a total of over 300 computers are available for use in the library. As of this academic year, patrons can also make use of a Data Visualization Lab and the Cooper Production Studio, which houses audio and video production and editing suites. Wireless printing is available as well as self-service scanners. All University Libraries facilities have both Ethernet and wireless internet connectivity.

### Study and Reading Rooms

The Thomas Cooper Library offers 45 study rooms and 272 silent study carrels. Students can enter vacant study rooms at any time, or they can reserve rooms using an [online reservation system](#). Several study rooms are equipped with large monitors that students may connect to their laptops.

### Reference Desk

Reference librarians are on duty at TCL 61 hours per week to teach and assist patrons using the library resources. Other service desks throughout the University Libraries are available for specialized assistance ranging from 42 ½ hours a week in special collections departments to 114 ½ hours a week at the Circulation Desk and the Computer Lab.

### Cooper Technology Lounge

The [Cooper Technology Lounge](#) is a collaborative computer lab that provides access to 139 Windows/Mac desktops, scanners, printers, and laptops, tablets, iPads, DSLR cameras, GoPros, Oculus Go (VR), & voice recorders for student checkout. The Technology Lounge offers assistance for users with disabilities including screen-reader technology. As of this academic year, patrons can also make use of a Data Visualization Lab and the Cooper Production Studio, which houses audio and video production and editing suites. Wireless printing is available as well as self-service scanners.

### *Physical Internet Connectivity and Data Center*

At&T, CenturyLink, and Segra provide physical connectivity and commodity internet bandwidth. Connectivity is provided between the Columbia campus and the other seven campuses. Distribution connectivity is provided to the university Data Center, with a current distribution to core of 10GE. Future distribution to core and Data Center is planned for 100GE.

### *Classroom Technologies*

The Division of Information Technology (DoIT) supports 611 classrooms on the Columbia campus that facilitate traditional on-campus teaching and learning. Ninety-nine of these rooms receive additional support from the college, school, or department in which they are housed to ensure special IT needs are fulfilled to suit the purposes of a specific department. DoIT personnel deploy and maintain projectors, podiums, desktop cameras, audio/speaker systems, and assistive listening technologies as needed across the campus. Technology-enhanced classrooms also include web conferencing capabilities, including multi-way video, audio, content sharing, and recording of sessions that supports both synchronous and asynchronous teaching and learning.

### *Learning Management System (LMS)*

DoIT supports and administers the learning management system, Blackboard, for the entire university system. The University of South Carolina was a founding partner in the late 1990's as online learning emerged in higher education. Blackboard supports and facilitates both traditional and distance education and may be used as much as desired in a given course at the discretion of the instructor or faculty. Blackboard is the preeminent LMS in higher education, and facilitates activities and interaction such as posting of assignments, course documents, discussion boards, grade center, and literally hundreds of smaller applications that support teaching and learning, known as building blocks and learning technology integrations (LTIs). A few examples include electronic textbooks from multiple publishers, complete with

inclusive access, iClicker, remote proctoring of tests and quizzes through ProctorU, and lockdown browser through Respondus to support academic integrity.

### *Carolina Tech Zone (CTZ)*

The CTZ provides hands-on technology support for all students. Located on the Columbia campus, personnel and services are available free-of-charge to any student and include connecting to the network, operating system support, installing software, diagnosing computer problems, removing viruses, providing mobile support and more.

### *Office 365*

The University of South Carolina is a Microsoft Office 365 institution, offering instructors, faculty, and students access to email via Outlook as well as desktop/cloud-based productivity software such as Word, Excel, PowerPoint, and Power BI.

The University of South Carolina serves more than 35,000 students at the Columbia campus and nearly 52,000 students system-wide based on 2019-2020 enrollment data. In addition to the Columbia Campus, the system includes the regional Palmetto College campuses that includes four additional regional campuses distributed across the state of South Carolina. With 12.92 million gross square feet in 234 buildings on the Columbia campus and another 594,000 cumulative square feet in 35 buildings on the regional Palmetto College campuses, the institution has considerable physical resources to support our mission and the scope of programs, services and research for a flagship R1 institution. The university ensures that it has the appropriate assets to support the institution through the administration of an effective structured and integrated capital planning process.

## **Administrative Support**

### *Financial Aid and Scholarships*

The Office of Financial Aid and Scholarships supports the instructional and service missions of the university by removing financial barriers so that qualified students, both undergraduate and graduate, may attend the university. Financial aid staff provides assistance, education, and support for students and families in securing the funding they need to attend the university. They administer scholarships and financial aid programs in accordance with the mission of the university, and state and federal law. They also provide online tools to assist students with reviewing their aggregate borrowing history and estimating loan repayment ([housed within Self-Service Carolina](#)).

### *Office of the Registrar*

The Office of the Registrar supports students by providing the following services: maintenance of the master schedule of classes and classroom assignments; maintenance of the online registration system; collection of and recording of official grades; coordination of the commencement exercises; and transcript issuance and stewardship of student records. These services are critical for facilitating an effective learning environment and providing official records of student progress and achievement. The Office of the Registrar is also the functional owner of Self-Service Carolina, the portal for the university's student information system, Banner; DegreeWorks, a degree audit tool; and College Scheduler, a course planning and scheduling tool.

## **Faculty Support**

The University of South Carolina provides its faculty and instructors with a variety of support related to technology, teaching, research and professional development. Information about services provided for faculty can be found in [6.5 Faculty Development](#) and [11.1 Library and Learning/Information Resources](#).

## **Regional Palmetto College Campuses**

The four regional campuses of the University of South Carolina (Lancaster, Salkehatchie, Sumter, and Union) fall under the authority of the Columbia campus and reside in a central administrative unit known as Palmetto College, headed by a Chancellor and Associate Provost. These campuses are referred to as regional Palmetto College campuses. The campuses exist as part of the University of South Carolina system as denoted in the [Board of Trustees Bylaws](#) (p.2). The administrative unit also houses the academic unit Palmetto College Columbia, which offers courses on the Columbia campus and in the metropolitan Columbia area as well as AA/AS programs and courses at Fort Jackson. This unit also provides instruction, guidance and support for the delivery of the university's undergraduate online degree completion programs.

The [Regional Palmetto College Campuses Mission Statements](#) share the following common language describing how these services support and enhance the mission of the institution: "The \_\_\_\_\_ regional Palmetto College campus emphasizes the development of the whole person and especially seeks to foster in students the disciplines essential to an educated citizenry. Core competencies, including the ability to communicate through effective writing and articulate speech; computational and quantitative mastery; creative and critical thinking; and the duties of citizenship are strategically



integrated within the curriculum. Classroom experiences, student activities, and physical education programs also provide opportunities for cultural enrichment, leadership development, intellectual growth and interpersonal relationships, all contributing to a sense of self-reliance and a joy of learning.”

### **Centrally Supported Student Services**

**Disability Services** – The University of South Carolina Columbia Office of Student Disability Services provides central coordination of application and determination of eligibility for services. Local staff at the campuses provide the on-campus notification and provision of services to students.

**Career Services** – University policy allows students from the regional Palmetto College campuses to use designated services of the Columbia campus office.

**Academic Integrity** – Academic integrity issues for Students enrolled in regional Palmetto College campuses and programs are addressed based on the program of study in which the student is enrolled. A professor needing to address a possible issue, consult with his/her academic dean considering how best to pursue.

**USC Connect** (recently renamed Center for Integrative and Experiential Learning). The center supports students, faculty and staff in assisting students connect their academic work to the real world. Students successfully completing the experience earn **Graduation with Leadership Distinction** (GLD).

**University 101**: All campuses encourage students to enroll in University 101, a 3-credit hour course designed to fully orient and assimilate students to higher education in general and the campus in particular.

**Athletic Event tickets**: The University of South Carolina department of Athletics affords the regional Palmetto College campuses the opportunity to purchase reduced cost athletic event tickets for distribution to students. Doing so allows interested students – who do not pay a University of South Carolina Athletics fee – an opportunity to access the university’s major sports (the demand is almost exclusively for football) and therefore experience a more direct connection to the institution.

**Online Tutoring**: Palmetto College central office provides a vendor-solution (Brainfuse) online tutoring service for all students enrolled in the regional Palmetto College campuses programs.

### **Distance Education for Online Programs**

**Services** – Students from the regional Palmetto College campuses who choose to enroll and are admitted into the online degree completion programs become students of the respective campuses offering the programs. The receiving institutions work with the students to provide needed services. Because the students remain in the “sending” regional Palmetto College campus service area, assistance with essential services such as advisement coordination, centralized disability services (see above), counseling, and library resources are available to former regional Palmetto College campus students if requested. Further, a vendor-solution online tutoring service (Brainfuse) is available for all regional Palmetto College campuses and majors and provides an integral core service to those associated with the regional Palmetto College campuses. Service provision is usually coordinated by a Palmetto College Coordinator housed at each regional Palmetto College campus.

**Complaints** – Students follow the same procedure as traditional students in having complaints addressed (see Standard 12.4).

**Recruiting/Admissions** – Students enrolled at a regional Palmetto College campus were initially recruited to the campus first. Those students desiring to pursue a Palmetto College major are generally provided information by the Palmetto College coordinator at each campus, who is supported by the central regional Palmetto College campus enrollment management operation.

**Security** – Personal information of university students is protected by the university’s authentication procedure as well as FERPA compliance regardless of whether the student is a traditional or online student.

**Technology** – Blackboard is the university’s course management web site for all courses. Online courses are delivered through Blackboard as well, therefore the proficiency students obtained when enrolled in traditional courses is readily

transferable to online courses. Further, online course development using [Quality Matters](#) standards helps assure ease of use.

## **Centrally Supported Services for Faculty**

The [Center for Teaching Excellence](#) provides services related to assisting faculty grow and develop their teaching expertise, including [New Faculty Orientation](#). As state employees, faculty may utilize the services of the [Division of Human Resources](#). The University of South Carolina Athletics Department affords faculty the opportunity to acquire sporting event tickets at reduced pricing. The regional Palmetto College campus central office sponsors events and activities for faculty including Tenure and Promotions workshops as well as central IT support. Support services at the campus level for faculty will be described in each campus section below.

## **University of South Carolina Lancaster**

Faculty, staff and students at the University of South Carolina Lancaster understand that learning occurs in a variety of ways both inside and outside the classroom. Accordingly, the campus offers support systems—programs, services and activities—which facilitate such growth and maximize each student’s personal and intellectual development. According to the [University of South Carolina Lancaster Mission Statement](#), “classroom experiences, student activities, and physical education programs also provide opportunities for cultural enrichment, leadership development, intellectual growth and interpersonal relationships contributing to a sense of self-reliance and a joy of learning.” Furthermore, the University of South Carolina Lancaster community values cultural literacy and overall student development as noted in the campus’s [General Education Goals](#). Such development, growth and enrichment occur when qualified and motivated faculty and staff offer creative and adaptive programs and services. Most campus support services are coordinated through the [Office of Academic and Student Affairs](#), which is dedicated to the education of the whole student through curricular and co-curricular programming designed for the student of the twenty-first century. Because University of South Carolina Lancaster’s student body includes a significant number of first-generation college students, appropriate student support services are critical for their academic and personal growth and development.

The following programs, services and/or activities are in place on the University of South Carolina Lancaster campus:

### **Admissions, Enrollment, Academic and Student Affairs, and Financial Aid**

Most students make their formal first point of contact with the University of South Carolina Lancaster through one of these critical offices. [Admissions and Records](#) staff recruit new students, making them aware of the many educational opportunities and student academic and support services available, and also assist students through the application and admissions process. The [Office of Academic and Student Affairs](#) provides and updates curriculum checklists and programs of study for degree programs, as well as managing the academic calendar and course scheduling, updating the [Student Handbook](#), providing support for faculty in tenure and promotion and annual evaluation processes, and supervising all other academic areas. This office also assists the [Faculty Organization](#) in providing support for faculty governance. The [Financial Aid and Veterans Affairs Office](#) provides services to both incoming and current students regarding how to apply for and maintain eligibility requirements for student financial aid and scholarships, as well as supporting veterans in their educational pursuits. This office also provides assistance with transcripts, residency and citizenship requirements, and University of South Carolina system change of campus.

### **Academic Advising**

Students are assigned an [academic advisor](#) (faculty or staff members) by the Admissions and Records Office when they are admitted to the campus. Students meet with their advisor to plan course schedules and discuss long-range goals and degree aspirations. Students officially meet with their advisors 2-3 times annually to plan an upcoming academic term. Academic advisors are trained annually and kept up-to-date with changes in curricula as necessary. Advisors and students access degree requirements through the [University of South Carolina Lancaster Bulletin](#) as well as the [University of South Carolina Undergraduate Bulletin](#). In Summer 2019, the campus began a pilot program called the First-Year Student Advising Corps, whereby new incoming students are advised for their first academic year by a faculty or staff advisor specifically dedicated to assisting students with the transition to university life. This program was designed for the success of first-generation college students in particular. These advisors are recruited from the University of South Carolina Lancaster’s faculty and staff and are provided special training. In this program, the following Spring, students then begin to work with a faculty advisor in their major area for their second-year course schedules, which then allows them to begin to build professional relationships in their field. During COVID-19, primarily staff advisors are temporarily handling most academic advising to provide faculty relief as they negotiate the transition to remote classroom instruction.

### **Opportunity Scholars Program (OSP)**

This federally funded Student Support Services program has centrally-located offices and labs on the University of South Carolina Lancaster campus. OSP staff members provide supplemental instruction and assistance to 176 students who are admitted to the program (grant stipulates that 165 students should be enrolled). Staff members also provide academic counseling and other support services to students such as lunchtime roundtable discussion groups, workshops, and scholarship opportunities. The University of South Carolina Lancaster’s Mission Statement notes the comprehensive support the campus offers to first-generation college students. The Opportunity Scholars Program is one of several support systems

for such students, and the program's success is indicated by the fact that in 2017-2018, 86.74% of program participants had GPAs in good academic standing of 2.0 or higher.

### **Counseling Center**

The University of South Carolina Lancaster's [Counseling Center](#) services for students are free, confidential, and provided by qualified and competent personnel. Services are provided in the Counseling Center primarily through scheduled appointments, although walk-ins are welcome and will be seen as scheduling permits. The Center provides a variety of therapies, including person-centered, solution-focused, and cognitive behavioral therapy. Counselors focus on adjustment to college, anxiety, grief, depression, academic struggles, relationships issues, and many more issues as necessary. The Center is active in campus-wide events and hosts educational workshops. The Counseling Center is a safe space for students to come, and all students are welcome. In addition to after-hours services, students are also provided with an emergency crisis resource list that includes [Catawba Community Mental Health Center](#), [Medical University of South Carolina Health Lancaster Medical Center](#), and [Counseling Services of Lancaster](#) for alcohol and substance abuse treatment as well as [Rebound Behavioral Health](#). Confidentiality is also a top priority in the counseling service department, which uses a HIPAA compliant electronic health records system (EHR) called "TherapyNotes" to maintain student documentation and progress notes.

### **Disability Services**

A full-time staff member is devoted to coordinating Disability Services for the University of South Carolina Lancaster campus. The coordinator works to meet the needs of any student with a documented disability by notifying faculty and staff when accommodations might be necessary in classroom or general campus settings. The coordinator works closely with the [Student Disabilities Resource Center](#) on the Columbia campus to determine need and necessary services and to provide them to the student. The coordinator also works closely with [Vocational Rehabilitation of Lancaster County](#) to secure financial and assistive technology support for students with disabilities.

### **Information Technology Support**

The University of South Carolina Lancaster offers a wireless network for laptops and personal hand-held devices. Besides providing technical support in all areas of computing, IT staff members work with students year-round to encrypt computers and to offer general support for academic pursuits. Likewise, IT staff members maintain campus computer labs for class and general student use.

The Office of Computer Services and Information Technology periodically performs a self-assessment of its infrastructure and services provided to students, faculty, and staff. Infrastructure is updated on a regular replacement cycle, and the IT staff assesses the University of South Carolina Lancaster's infrastructure in comparison with peer institutions with a similar mission. Direct support services are provided to students, faculty, and staff on an as-needed basis as quickly as possible. Students and faculty also may use centralized support resources offered by the [Division of Information Technology](#), particularly for help with the University Learning Management System, [Blackboard](#).

Students, faculty, and staff depend on Information and Instructional Technology resources daily. Those resources have become vital to the success of the University of South Carolina Lancaster students and essential for faculty and staff for classroom instruction, research support and administration. The success rate of our students and the Lancaster campus' efficiency in fiscal operations provides strong evidence that access to technology is effective.

### **Peer Advisors at Lancaster (PALs)**

This group is composed of students who serve as informal advisors and role models to incoming students. PALs are selected through an application process. They must exemplify growing leadership skills, demonstrate initiative, and be dedicated to maintaining a positive and solid image for the University of South Carolina Lancaster campus in their personal decisions and actions. PALs assist the Director of Student Life in planning, organizing and implementing new student orientation each summer and in January. For their contributions, PALs receive a \$1500 stipend and must enroll in a course for three (3) academic credits, RCAM 205—Foundations of Leadership. Their performance and engagement in the course and their performance as peer advisors during the summer orientation periods are evaluated by means of the course grade and surveys of incoming freshmen who attend orientation. PALs also serve as peer mentors and peer counselors for UNIV 101 classrooms.

### **Student Orientation**

The Director of Student Life at the University of South Carolina Lancaster along with the Peer Advisors at Lancaster (PALs) coordinate new student orientation sessions per year. These sessions are carefully reviewed each year to ensure enough sessions are available and that students are receiving a full orientation to their upcoming academic experience. In Summer 2019, six sessions were held; one occurs in January in preparation for the Spring semester. In Summer 2020, to allow for social distancing during the COVID-19 coronavirus outbreak, students had access to virtual orientation sessions, providing an overview of the same services but offered safely and conveniently for home access. Students are introduced to academic advisors and campus opportunities, and they hear from campus officials in the areas of course registration, financial aid, tuition and fee transactions, law enforcement and security. Each orientation session also includes an evening meeting for parents or guardians to meet key campus administrators.

## University 101 (UNIV 101)

This course, offered for three (3) academic credits, is taught in multiple sections each semester on the University of South Carolina Lancaster campus. The course focuses on the transition from the environment of secondary education to the university environment through discussions and assignments related to academic integrity and success, stress and time management, degree and career choices, personal finance, sexual assault, general health and safety issues, and campus resources and opportunities. University instructors gauge the effectiveness of the program by informal feedback from students. Students are polled regarding effectiveness of covered topics as well as the value of presentations made in joint sessions (all sections meeting together for a special presenter). Additionally, students complete the evaluation of instructor and course for each section, a requirement for all academic courses.

## Student Life Activities and Organizations

The Director of Student Life in coordination with various faculty and staff sponsors coordinate various activities and campus organizations. The campus recently hired an energetic new Director of Student Life who has been updating student life organizations, orienting student leaders and assisting with the process of ensuring that all student life organizations are officially registered and have a constitution. As of this writing, the campus has 13 registered organizations. The goal of student organizations is holistic development through co-curricular activities that allow students to make connections between in-class and out-of-class experiences. The [student organization roster](#) changes, but a sampling of current student organizations includes the Chemistry Club, the Lancaster Players, the Outdoor Recreation Club, and the Research Club. It is the goal of the Office of Student Life to provide special programming twice a month in the Fall and Spring Semester, including recurring campus events such as the Back to School Blast and Spring Fling. Student life events are publicized on social media, through text and email blasts, and through word of mouth and pop-up events.

## University of South Carolina Lancaster Travel Study

The University of South Carolina Lancaster strives to provide affordable and educational travel program for students. Faculty and staff may propose educational travel opportunities, and a faculty-elected Student Affairs Committee reviews these proposals. The excursions typically alternate between domestic and international travel in an attempt to make these opportunities available to a wider range of students. The trips are typically 8-12 days over Spring Break or Summer, and students earn academic credit (usually 3 credit hours) for this excursion while having the opportunity of a lifetime to experience a culture different from their own. In summer 2019, students traveled participated in a ten-day travel study trip to Germany, culminating with two of the students presenting at the 2nd World Congress on Undergraduate Research in Oldenburg, Germany; in summer 2018, a group of students traveled with Native American Studies faculty to the Cherokee and Catawba Nations, as well as Jamestown and Washington DC. The Office of Student Engagement and Success offers scholarships to help students offset the costs of the travel study program.

## Athletics

The University of South Carolina Lancaster fields teams in men's and women's soccer, men's baseball, and women's volleyball. The Athletics Department has as its goal to facilitate and to further educational and personal achievement of student-athletes through quality sports programming. The Lancers compete in the NJCAA, Region X conference at home and away games and matches. Approximately 90-100 student-athletes are enrolled at the University of South Carolina Lancaster, and their performance in academics and their respective sports is consistently high. The Lancaster campus athletics program adheres to the standards and policies of the National Junior College Athletic Association.

## Community Service

The University of South Carolina Lancaster offers several opportunities for students to participate in community service. In the past, students have had the opportunity to raise funds or collect food for local organizations such as the [American Red Cross](#), [Habitat for Humanity](#), [The United Way](#), [HOPE](#), and [KARE](#). Both Omega Scholars and Delta Links student organizations engage their members in monthly community service projects.

## Behavioral Intervention Team (BIT)

The Behavioral Intervention Team is comprised of representatives from the Office of Academic and Student Affairs, the Counseling Center, Student Life, and Law Enforcement and Security. BIT members serve as a response team to assist students when crises or potential crises are observed. Possible student behavior issues to trigger a referral by faculty or fellow students include, but are not limited to, the following:

- 1) Self-injurious behavior/suicidal ideation or attempt. May include, but is not limited to, self-mutilation (e.g., cutting of skin), risky behavior, expressions of suicidal thoughts or actions.
- 2) Erratic behavior (including online activities) that disrupts the mission and/or normal proceedings of university students, faculty, staff, or community. Behaviors include, but are not limited to, weapons on campus, significant inappropriate disruption to the community, threats of harm to others, potential for safety being compromised.

The University of South Carolina Lancaster BIT Team referral page was updated in Spring 2020 to provide additional guidance to faculty and staff regarding referrals for students experiencing emotional or mental stress during the COVID-19 coronavirus outbreak.

## **Undergraduate Research Opportunities**

Several University of South Carolina Lancaster faculty members open their research projects to student participation. Faculty encourage meaningful undergraduate involvement and active contributions. Currently, Lancaster campus students are involved in work in general psychology, cognitive psychology, exercise science, biology, and public health, among other areas. Students in all disciplines of study are encouraged to participate in research activities through the [University of South Carolina Lancaster Research Club](#), [Graduation with Leadership Distinction](#), and [Discover USC](#). The University of South Carolina Lancaster hosts regular celebration of research events, as well as student research presentations.

## **Internships**

The University of South Carolina Lancaster partners with local business to provide students with real world experience in careers related to their academic disciplines. Currently, students are able to participate in and receive course credit for internships via PALM 494 (Bachelor of Liberal Studies and Bachelor of Organizational Leadership), CRJU 494 (Criminal Justice Internship), and ITEC 399 (Business Internship). In Fall 2019, the campus hired a new position, an internship coordinator, who is dedicated to recruiting students and area businesses alike to participate in internships, as well as to help faculty determine new ways to incorporate internships into their classes as appropriate.

## **The Gregory Family YMCA**

All full-time University of South Carolina Lancaster students, faculty, and staff receive a free membership to the Gregory Family YMCA, formerly the Gregory Health and Wellness Center. The campus shifted management of the facility to the Upper Palmetto YMCA, but still retains classroom space and membership privileges for the university community. The Gregory Family YMCA offers personalized exercise plans, a fitness center with strength and cardio equipment, an indoor junior Olympic size pool, indoor racquetball courts, gym, indoor walking track, outdoor tennis complex, and group fitness options as well as physical education courses. Documentation for the YMCA branch manager is included below in credentials for this section, although the director is an Upper Palmetto YMCA employee, also employed part-time as an adjunct faculty member at the University of South Carolina Lancaster.

## **Excessive Absences Referral**

Faculty teaching at the University of South Carolina Lancaster may refer students with excessive absences to the [Office of Academic and Student Affairs](#). Excessive absences referral is used when a faculty member believes a student has accrued too many absences within a course, and therefore may be in danger of poor course performance. The campus is transitioning to a new format for electronic submission of these referrals, and at the present time requests that faculty email the Office of Academic and Student Affairs the student's number of days absent, date of last academic activity, date of last attendance, and any comments necessary. A professional staff member in that office contacts the student and begins intervention.

## **Academic Coaching**

The University of South Carolina Lancaster offers Academic Coaching to students on Academic Probation for the first time. Academic Coaching is rooted in appreciative advisement theory and allows professional staff members to connect students to valuable campus resources they may need to continue their degree successfully. Academic Coaching also allows students and professional staff members to create and implement a reasonable plan toward academic success with the goal of preventing academic suspension and developing meaningful relationships with key partners on campus.

## **Career Services**

Career Services at the University of South Carolina Lancaster are designed to assist students with making and achieving both short-term and long-term career goals. Realizing students are most successful when they pursue educational and career goals aligned with their individual gifts and strengths, Career Services provides students with assistance in selecting a major based on personality, interests, as well as work values and skills. With the aid of high-quality career assessments such as the Myers-Briggs Type Indicator and the Strong Interest Inventory, each student receives individual focus and support in selecting his or her best major fit. Students also receive assistance and support with job search skills, including developing effective resumes and learning how to better network with potential employers. This support facilitates the growth and personal development of each student helping them realize not only educational success but also long-term career success. Career Services also hosts an annual spring Career Fair, which connects students with area employers.

## **Graduation with Leadership Distinction**

The University of South Carolina Lancaster supports learning within and beyond the classroom via Graduation with Leadership Distinction and has had students graduate with leadership distinction at both the Associate and Baccalaureate degree level. The University of South Carolina Lancaster faculty offer UNIV 401, a course that offers instruction on



developing the e-portfolio required for Graduation with Leadership Distinction. Faculty also have received training on the Graduation with Leadership Distinction rubric and assessment process and serve as e-portfolio assessors.

### **Center for Integrative and Experiential Learning**

The University of South Carolina Lancaster supports student participation in the university's experiential learning opportunities offered through the Center for Integrative and Experiential Learning (CIEL). The Director of Student life coordinates with faculty and staff to plan and support events that expand learning beyond the classroom, and then to record student participation at those events.

### **Academic Success Center**

The mission of the ASC is to help all students enrolled at the University of South Carolina Lancaster achieve college success by reinforcing and supplementing classroom instruction, improving learning efficiency and effectiveness, and ultimately supporting students in becoming independent learners. The Academic Success Center is located upstairs in [Medford Library](#), and it serves as a home for the Lancaster campus tutoring services. The University of South Carolina Lancaster strives to provide students a tutor in every subject. Additionally, Lancaster students may use the online tutoring services of [Brainfuse](#), made available at no cost.

### **Medford Library**

As the only regional campus library with faculty librarians who are actively engaged in teaching, scholarship, and service, University of South Carolina Lancaster's Medford Library originates and supports curiosity, discovery, and creativity by offering a kaleidoscope of events and services that encourage professional collegiality ([Faculty Colloquium Series](#)), undergraduate research ([Book A Librarian consultations](#)); [Lancer Scholar Square](#) (a digital depository of student and faculty scholarship); cultural diversity and global citizenship ([Interactive Exhibit Series](#); Travel Study support); experiential learning (Show What You Know); lifelong learning via reading and discourse (Three Word Review, Banned Books Week), community/campus engagement (Study Snacks), and more. Information on these programs is located in the Medford Library [LibGuides](#). These kinds of programs and services are the hallmark of modern academic libraries and simultaneously support the University of South Carolina Lancaster mission, which includes the promotion of "activities, and attitudes which influence the life of the mind in men and women and instill in them a thirst to continue learning throughout life."

### **Services to Dual Enrollment Students**

High school students enrolled in dual/concurrent programs at the University of South Carolina Lancaster receive academic and student support services and library/learning resources based upon the location of their learning environment.

Concurrent/dual enrolled high school students who take classes on the University of South Carolina Lancaster campus have the same access to all academic and student support resources that are available to any Lancaster student. Concurrent/dual enrolled high school students who take classes at their high school utilize academic and student support services and library/learning services offered at their high school. These would include tutoring resources, library resources, counseling resources, and academic advising. Concurrent/dual students who need accommodations for a disability may follow their high school Individualized Education Plan, and this request is documented through the university. These students are also welcome to take advantage of on-campus academic and support services at the University of South Carolina Lancaster, and have access to other Lancaster campus online services, such as those provided by the Medford Library.

### **Faculty Support Services**

The University of South Carolina Lancaster faculty have access to academic support services from the Columbia campus, including the [Center for Teaching Excellence](#) and library databases for teaching and scholarship through [Thomas Cooper Library](#). Faculty may choose to participate in workshops and training offered by the Division of Human Resources [Office of Organizational and Professional Development](#).

On the local campus, the University of South Carolina Lancaster [Faculty Organization](#) often hosts programs dedicated to faculty development, such as Campus Reading Groups for faculty and staff to read and discuss common books and faculty sabbatical lectures, as well as forums on faculty academic and curricular concerns. These events are typically coordinated by the Faculty Organization Chair and Executive Committee Officers, who also maintain a [Faculty Resources webpage](#) providing information on teaching, peer review, tenure and promotion, and scholarship. In addition, the University of South Carolina Lancaster offers a robust annual travel budget to support faculty scholarship at academic conferences and a \$40,000 per year [Faculty and Staff Research and Productive Scholarship Program](#) providing competitive grant funding for scholarship to support professional development.

## **University of South Carolina Salkehatchie**



classroom, but in many venues beyond. According to the [University of South Carolina Salkehatchie Mission Statement](#), "classroom experiences, student activities, and physical education programs also provide opportunities for cultural enrichment, leadership development, intellectual growth and interpersonal relationships contributing to a sense of self-reliance and a joy of learning." Our educational support services such as academic advising, academic progress report system, Opportunity Scholars Program, counseling, orientation, University 101, and computer support, provide students with educational opportunities and support outside the classroom. Additionally, the University of South Carolina Salkehatchie believes that the extracurricular activities available on our campus play a part in a student's overall education. The Student Government Association, student organizations, student ambassador program, intercollegiate athletics, and opportunities to participate in community-service activities all play a part in the overall education of the student.

The University of South Carolina Salkehatchie is committed to providing academic support services for its students at their admission/initial enrollment and throughout their college careers. Salkehatchie's academic advising program aids students in their degree planning and course selection. New Student Orientation and University 101 help students navigate their way through the campus and the support services available. The computer labs provide student access to the tools needed to complete their academic work. The academic progress report system alerts the campus about students with academic difficulty in time to provide them the support services they need, including referral to the Opportunity Scholars Program, counseling, or assistance for students with disabilities.

Academic and student support services available on campus are described in the [University of South Carolina Salkehatchie Bulletin](#). Students are also informed about support services through the [Student Handbook](#), which is distributed at New Student Orientation (with additional copies available at any time from student services) and is also available online. Faculty members are informed about support services through a [Faculty Handbook](#), which is available in hard copy and online. Brochures, flyers and class/meeting/e-mail announcements are also used to make students and faculty members aware of special offerings and other services.

The University of South Carolina Salkehatchie's network of academic-support services include:

### **Academic Advising**

Academic advisement at the University of South Carolina Salkehatchie is provided by some full-time faculty as well as some key administrators and staff members. For the first two years of general education, students can select any advisor as all are trained to advise the first two years of general education. Students may make appointments directly with the individual advisor or through the central appointment system in the student services office in Allendale or the main office in Walterboro. Students who participate in the four-year degree programs offered through Palmetto College are advised by the Palmetto College Coordinator on both the Allendale and Walterboro campuses. Students who participate in the four-year degree programs offered by the four comprehensive campuses of the University of South Carolina system (including nursing and elementary education) are assigned specialized advisors at the University of South Carolina Salkehatchie.

Information regarding academic advisement is provided in the student's initial acceptance letter, in [Salk Talk](#) (the campus newsletter), and on flyers, sandwich boards, electronic bulletin boards, and in-class announcements at key times during the semester. Students may access degree requirements for the degrees provided by the University of South Carolina Salkehatchie online in the [University of South Carolina Salkehatchie Bulletin](#) as well as in the [Degree Programs area of the website](#), and also online through the greater [University of South Carolina Undergraduate Bulletin](#) for degree requirements following the initial general-education requirements.

Advisement training workshops are provided for all academic advisors on the campus. Frequent updates are provided to all advisors through e-mail.

Academic advisement is evaluated each year using the [Student Satisfaction Survey](#). The University of South Carolina Salkehatchie administrators use the results of the survey to evaluate and make changes to the advisement system as indicated. The University of South Carolina Salkehatchie Faculty Organization has a standing committee, the Retention Committee, that also uses the results of the survey, as well as student and advisor experience, to evaluate the advisement system and make any necessary adjustments.

The University of South Carolina Salkehatchie's student survey is administered through all University 101 classes during the first couple of weeks of the semester and administered again at commencement rehearsal to determine students' satisfaction with their initial exposure to academic advisement and their overall satisfaction with the advisement process at the end of their University of South Carolina Salkehatchie academic career. This survey is also available at all times on the website.

### **Academic Progress Reports**

Four times each semester, the Assistant Dean of Student Services requests of all faculty members an academic progress report from their classes. Faculty members are asked to identify and forward to the Assistant Dean the names of any students who are having difficulty in the class (along with a brief explanation). The Assistant Dean takes those reports and refers the

student to the appropriate support service for assistance.

Students who are reported as not attending receive a letter from Student Services asking if there is an error in their registration or a problem, and they are asked to contact a staff member for assistance. Students who are reported as having academic difficulties are forwarded to the Opportunity Scholars Program, whose staff contacts the students to discuss tutoring and other assistance that can be provided. Any athletes on the list who have attendance or academic issues are reported to their respective coach for discussion of attendance and further encouragement to go to the Opportunity Scholars Program or to go to the faculty member's office hours to request assistance.

### **Opportunity Scholars Program (OSP)**

This federally-funded [TRIO Student Support Services program](#) has staff and labs on both campuses to provide supplemental instruction and assistance to students who are admitted to the program. Tutors in math and English as well as online tutoring in many other disciplines are available in the Opportunity Scholars Program computer labs on both campuses. Staff members also provide intensive academic counseling and other support services (financial literacy, transfer assistance) to students.

### **Counseling**

A University of South Carolina Salkehatchie administrator has master's degrees in counseling disciplines and experience as a counselor and is available to assist students on campus. The University of South Carolina Salkehatchie also refers any students who need ongoing or more extensive counseling to the [Departments of Mental Health for either Allendale or Colleton counties](#). Students with alcohol or drug issues may be referred to [the Alcohol and Other Drug Abuse offices in those respective counties](#). In addition to referrals from on-campus administrators, students have access to information on substance-abuse issues through the [Student Right to Know](#) document that is available to students through the [Student Handbook](#) and separately online. An email is sent to all enrolled students during each academic year to inform them of the availability of this document online.

### **Students with Disabilities**

The Assistant Dean of Student Services works to meet the needs of any student with a documented disability. Students are informed of this at New Student Orientation as well as through the [Student Handbook](#). The Assistant Dean of Student Services works closely with the Office of Disability Services on the University of South Carolina Columbia campus to determine need and necessary services and the Assistant Dean works with the faculty and other appropriate parties to ensure the student is afforded appropriate accommodations/services.

### **Behavioral Intervention Team**

The Behavioral Intervention Team (BIT) is comprised of representatives from Academic and Student Affairs, the campus counselor(s), and Law Enforcement and Security. BIT members serve as a response team to assist students when crises or potential crises are observed. Possible student behavior to trigger a referral by faculty or fellow students include, but are not limited to, the following: self-injurious behavior/suicidal ideation or attempt, which may include, but is not limited to, self-mutilation (e.g., cutting of skin), risky behavior, expressions of suicidal thoughts or actions; and erratic behavior (including online activities) that disrupts the mission and/or normal proceedings of university students, faculty, staff, or community, with behaviors including, but not limited to, weapons on campus, significant inappropriate disruption to the community, threats of harm to others, potential for safety being compromised.

### **New Student Orientation**

New Student Orientation is held on each campus at the beginning of both Fall and Spring semesters. In addition to receiving copies of the Salkehatchie Student Handbook, students are given an overview of campus safety, advisement, the Opportunity Scholars Program (Student Support Services), computer lab accessibility, the library, financial-aid workshops, and all other academic support services available to students. Assessment of this service is conducted through a [survey](#), and changes are made the following year if necessary. Survey results are used to constantly improve orientation.

Currently, the New Student Orientation is organized in the following manner: after a general welcome and next-steps session, students are divided into groups of six. Each group rotates to various rooms to receive information on different topics necessary for successful matriculation. Students receive hands-on assistance with university network usernames and passwords, Self Service Carolina, and e-mail. During an SGA session, students learn about the organization and participate in an icebreaker with advisors and SGA members. Groups rotate to a new session every 20 minutes. This gives each student the opportunity to freely move about through each session, get to know other another, and refrain from becoming tired or restless from sitting in place.

### **University 101**

The University of South Carolina's pioneering and nationally recognized [University 101](#) is a three-credit-hour course that is available to all new students. In University 101, extensive time is devoted to assisting students with knowledge of all [academic support services on campus as well as actual training in time management, note-taking, test-taking and other](#)

study skills.

## **Computer Support**

Computer labs are available on each campus for student use. Students may use the labs for word processing, to access Blackboard or other online systems for their classes, or for other academic uses. All computers have up-to-date software and programs to meet student needs. In addition to the computer lab on each campus, computers for student use are available in the libraries on each campus, and the Opportunity Scholars Program (OSP) maintains computer labs on each campus for the use of students in the OSP program. Each campus provides wireless Internet access for personal computers and devices. [The University of South Carolina Salkehatchie Information Technology Department](#) supports students' technology needs through a Help Desk and online portal. Additionally, students can take advantage of Blackboard assistance and other resources available system wide through the University of South Carolina Columbia campus.

The University of South Carolina Salkehatchie's academic-oriented services are complemented by numerous extracurricular activities offered to students. These are available through several avenues:

## **Student Government Association**

[The Student Government Association \(SGA\)](#) is comprised of an overall President who is the CEO for both campuses, alternating between the Allendale and Walterboro campuses, as well as a Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, Parliamentarian, and senators for each campus. Hence, there are two houses of student government, one for each campus, each meeting on its respective campus to plan student activities for that campus. The group meets as a whole twice a semester. Funding for SGA is apportioned through the University of South Carolina Board of Trustees budget based on enrollment. SGA, with the assistance of its advisor, Director of Student Activities, and under the supervision of the Assistant Dean of Student Services, plans and implements student activities so that students have options for social activities on campus. The SGA constitution is available in the [Student Right to Know](#) document. Printed copies are also available through the SGA Advisor or Assistant Dean of Student Services.

Students are notified of SGA-sponsored social options through the weekly campus newsletter, [Salk Talk](#), as well as flyers, in-class announcements and through social media.

Examples of activities sponsored by SGA are: water-slide welcome parties; "pack the stands" events for each University of South Carolina Salkehatchie sport; movie nights; Halloween costume party; trip to a University of South Carolina Gamecocks football game in Columbia; Black History Month keynote speaker; softball game/cookout; and chili cookoffs. Specific events held during each academic year, and the corresponding student attendance, are compiled and the reports are available from the Assistant Dean of Student Services.

## **Student Organizations**

Student organizations may be formed by students and may be chartered through the Student Government Association. Steps to charter an organization are in the SGA constitution, available in the [Student Right to Know](#) document. Currently active organizations include the International Students Club, Education Majors Club, History Club, the Student Nurses' Association, and the Fencing Club.

## **Student Ambassador Program**

This is a prestigious organization with a carefully selected membership. Ambassadors, who are selected from candidates nominated by faculty and staff, serve as hosts for the Admissions and Recruiting departments of the campus. They are trusted to represent the campus at various activities and events, ranging from campus tours to community presentations. Student Ambassadors undergo specialized training and attend regular monthly meetings.

Bylaws for the organization were first formally adopted in January 2008, when the organization began. Those bylaws set all requirements related to the organization, including membership qualifications, selection process, training, officer elections, individual member responsibilities, and the points system that indicates level of involvement and determines continued eligibility for Ambassadors.

All records relating to the Ambassador organization, including annual handbooks, meeting minutes, activity logs, and other documents, are maintained by the Recruiting office at the University of South Carolina Salkehatchie and overseen by the Executive Director of Enrollment Management Services and recruiting staff. Individual records are reviewed each semester to determine whether ambassadors are meeting their individual responsibilities to the organization and will be allowed to continue as ambassadors. Overall records and achievements are reviewed annually by the recruiting staff and the Executive Director of Enrollment Management Services to determine what changes are necessary for the next program year. In past years, adjustments have been made to allow for changes in the points system that more accurately reflect student work.

## **Intercollegiate Athletics**

The University of South Carolina Salkehatchie offers six intercollegiate sports on campus. These programs operate under the guidelines, procedures, and eligibility requirements of the National Junior College Athletic Association (NJCAA). Coaches, teams, student athletes, and policies are subject to scrutiny and discipline by that body. On the East campus, men's and women's basketball and women's volleyball are offered. On the West campus, softball, baseball, men's soccer, and women's soccer are offered. All students are invited to try out for any of the teams at the beginning of each season. Additionally, the games and matches provide further social opportunities for students. Admission to all games and matches is free to all students.

The University of South Carolina Salkehatchie also has two fledgling club-level sports teams: bass fishing and golf.

The coaches meet twice a year with the campus administration as well as monthly with the Athletic Director for continual evaluation of the programs. Any suggestions or changes that arise are made on an ongoing basis.

## **Cultural Activities through Opportunity Scholars Program**

In addition to tutoring and academic services, the Opportunity Scholars Program (OSP) offers a cultural component to students in the program. Trips to concerts, plays, musical performances, and/or other cultural activities are provided throughout the academic year.

## **Community Service**

The University of South Carolina Salkehatchie encourages its students to play an active part in their respective communities through volunteer work. All University 101 classes have a community-service component that requires students to volunteer in the community. Additionally, all athletic coaches work with local schools and community organizations to provide their players as volunteers for community work. Opportunities involve partnerships with various elementary and middle schools in the Allendale and Walterboro area, as well as work with the Colleton Arts Council, Abba's Kitchen's Food Bank, and Colleton County Animal Shelter Pet Adoption project.

The Director of the [University of South Carolina Salkehatchie Leadership Institute \(and Community Outreach\)](#) receives reports of all community events that occur on the Salkehatchie campus with numbers of participants, as well as reports of off-campus events in which Salkehatchie campus students participate, and maintains records of all community involvement by students. The University of South Carolina Salkehatchie faculty report all community service activities through the Director of the University of South Carolina Salkehatchie Leadership Institute (and Community Outreach) and the Associate Dean for Academic and Student Affairs. Additionally, the Director of the University of South Carolina Salkehatchie Leadership Institute (and Community Outreach) periodically solicits from the campus and uploads community engagement into the [University of South Carolina Community Engagement database](#)

## **Center for Integrative and Experiential Learning (formerly University of South Carolina Connect) and Graduation with Leadership Distinction**

University of South Carolina Salkehatchie supports the Center for Integrative and Experiential Learning through participation in the [CIEL Opportunity Database](#). Faculty and staff are encouraged to submit events they host that provide experiential learning opportunities.

Another way that the University of South Carolina Salkehatchie works with the CIEL is by integrating learning within and beyond the classroom via the Graduation with Leadership Distinction program. The Salkehatchie campus has had students graduate with leadership distinction at the associate-degree level. Currently one University of South Carolina Salkehatchie professor is approved to teach UNIV 401 (for development of the e-portfolio as required for Graduation with Leadership Distinction).

## **Career Centers**

The University of South Carolina Salkehatchie has a career counselor and has established career-center stations on both campuses. FOCUS, the interactive, self-paced online system of career guidance and career decision-making is used to assist students in setting academic and career goals.

## **Academic Coaching**

The University of South Carolina Salkehatchie provides funding for tutors/coaches in multiple disciplines on an as needed/requested basis. These requests can come from students or professors. Most frequently requested are coaches for biology, anatomy and physiology, math, English and chemistry. Some full-time faculty members hold additional office hours for all students in their disciplines. Additionally, Salkehatchie students may use the online tutoring services of [Brainfuse](#), made available at no cost.

## IT Help Desk

The [University of South Carolina Salkehatchie IT Department](#) provides an IT Help Desk on each of the campuses. The IT Help Desk is staffed by professionals and work-study students to provide assistance for all students with technical problems/issues. IT staff can help with hardware issues as well as with loading software or determining causes of problems/issues and assisting in correcting them. IT staff can be approached in their respective offices, reached by phone or e-mail, or contacted about problems via an Internet portal.

## Services to Dual-Enrollment

The University of South Carolina Salkehatchie provides multiple services to dual enrollment students at the high schools with which we partner. All dual-enrollment students are issued University of South Carolina Salkehatchie ID cards that give them full access to all services on campus that all students have. This includes access to all social activities and athletic events, but—more important—provides access to all academic support services such as academic and student support workshops, tutoring, and any speakers or programs held on campus. The students are made aware of these events by the professors who teach them at their respective high schools, as well as by access to our campus calendar of events on our website. The student ID provides all dual-enrollment students with full access to the University of South Carolina Salkehatchie library and all of its services, including interlibrary loan, electronic databases and more. The dual enrollment students have identical access as on-campus students to all library services.

Because these students are taught by University of South Carolina Salkehatchie faculty who also teach on campus, the faculty themselves serve as a valuable resource to these students. The faculty provide them with information on services on our campus. The faculty also make themselves available on non-class days or at other non-class times, when necessary, for tutoring or extra help with classes. The Blackboard online course delivery system is used for the majority of dual-enrollment classes; this program provides the dual-enrollment students identical access to all course materials or supplemental materials available for the same course taught on campus. Blackboard and e-mail provide these students a means of communication with their professors at all times, not just when the professors are at their particular high school.

The above resources for students obviously assist faculty members in achieving their mission in the classroom, and some rely on faculty involvement. Moreover, faculty and staff are free and encouraged to avail themselves of certain services above, including computer/IT support, counseling, and community-service opportunities. Professional development of faculty members is supported through division funds and grant opportunities internal to the university system. The Campus Dean and Associate Dean for Academic and Student Affairs coordinate and assist with such endeavors, constituting a kind of faculty service. Similar professional-development opportunities are available to staff through their respective supervisors. Faculty and staff may attend any University of South Carolina Salkehatchie athletic event free of charge.

## University of South Carolina Sumter

The University of South Carolina Sumter understands that the education of the student occurs in many venues in addition to the classroom. According to its [mission statement](#), "classroom experiences, student activities, and physical education programs also provide opportunities for cultural enrichment, leadership development, intellectual growth and interpersonal relationships all contributing to a sense of self-reliance and a joy of learning."

Our educational support services such as academic advising, academic progress report system (Grades First), Opportunity Scholars Program, Student Orientation, Advisement and Registration (SOAR), University 101, and computer support provide students with educational opportunities outside the classroom. In addition, the University of South Carolina Sumter also believes that the co-curricular activities available on our campus play a part in a student's overall education. The student government association, student organizations, student ambassador program, intercollegiate athletics and the opportunities we provide for our students to participate in community service activities all play a part in the overall education of the student.

## Academic Advising

[Academic advisement](#) at the University of South Carolina Sumter is provided by full-time faculty and select full time staff. This structure is organized under an administrative position, Head of Advisement, appointed by the [Regional Palmetto College Campus Dean](#).

It is the goal of Academic Advising to develop and strengthen an environment conducive to meaningful growth of all students and members of the university. It is an environment that respects the diversity and the dignity of everyone's experience in relation to academic performance and the pursuit of life and career goals. Students are assisted in the clarification of their life and career goals, along with the development of their educational plans for realization of these goals.

Students may access degree requirements for the degrees provided by the University of South Carolina Sumter online in the [University of South Carolina Sumter Academic Bulletin](#) and also online through the greater [University of South Carolina Undergraduate Bulletin](#) for degree requirements following the initial general education requirements.

## Counseling

The University of South Carolina Sumter refers students who need ongoing counseling to the Departments of Mental Health in Sumter County. Students with alcohol or drug issues may be referred to Sumter Behavioral Health Services, the local Alcohol and Drug Abuse Services Office in Sumter. In addition to referrals from on-campus administrators, students have access to information on substance abuse issues through the [Student Right to Know](#) document that is available to students online. An email is sent to all students at the beginning of each academic year to inform them of the availability of this document online.

## Opportunity Scholars Program (OSP)

This federally funded Student Support Services program has staff and labs on campus to provide supplemental instruction and assistance to students who are admitted to the program. Tutors in Math and English, peer tutoring, as well as computerized tutoring in many other disciplines are available in the OSP computer labs. Staff members also provide academic counseling and other support services to students. Additionally, Sumter students may use the online tutoring services of [Brainfuse](#), made available at no cost.

## Students with Disabilities

The Coordinator for Disability Services works to meet the needs of any student with a documented disability. Students are informed of this at New Student Orientation as well as through the [University of South Carolina Sumter Student Handbook](#). The Coordinator also works closely with the [Office of Disability Services](#) on the University of South Carolina Columbia campus to determine need and necessary services/accommodations and to provide them to the student.

## New Student Advisement and Registration

New Student orientation is held several times on campus prior to the beginning of the academic year for all new freshman and new transfer students. Students receive an email and attend a presentation ([University of South Carolina Sumter Student Life](#)) that goes over various documents and facets of campus life: including the [Student Handbook](#), [Students Right to Know](#) and [Law Enforcement and Security](#) procedures, and the university's [Non-Harassment Policy](#). Students receive information handouts ([University of South Carolina Sumter Academic and Student Support Information](#)) with contact and help information related to [Academic Advisement Services](#), [Records and Registration](#), [Financial Aid and VA Services](#), the [Anderson Library](#), [Campus and Student Life](#), the [Opportunity Scholars Program](#), the [University Bookstore](#), the [Business Office](#), [Palmetto College Baccalaureate Degree Completion Programs](#), and the student [Fire Ant Cafe](#). Information is also provided for [computer lab accessibility](#), and academic support services available to students such as the [Tutoring Center](#). In addition, students receive detailed informational handouts specific to Financial Aid that include: FAFSA instructions, Financial Student Aid ID creation instructions and Financial Aid Title IV Fee Authorization instructions ([FASFA Instructions](#), [FASFA ID Creation Instructions](#), [FASFA Fee Authorization Instructions](#)).

## University 101

[University 101](#) is a university credit course that is available to all new students. In [University 101](#), extensive time is used to assist students with knowledge of all academic support services on campus as well as actual training in time management, note-taking, test-taking, and other study skills.

## Computer Support

[Computer labs](#) are available on campus for student use. Students may use the labs for research, paper preparation, to access Blackboard or other online systems for their courses, or for other academic uses. All computers have up-to-date software and programs to meet student needs. In addition to the two labs, computers for student use are available in the library. The [Opportunity Scholars Program](#) (OSP) also maintains computer labs for the use of students in the OSP program. The campus has now implemented wireless access on campus as a further means for student computer access.

## Internships and Job Opportunities

The University of South Carolina Sumter partners with local businesses and industry to provide students practical learning experience related to their academic pursuit. Internships in particular are intended to provide the student with a space for the practical application of knowledge gained in academic work and supervised exploration of a field related to the student's major, career or community interest.

## Services to Dual Enrollment Students

High school students enrolled in dual/concurrent programs at the University of South Carolina Sumter receive academic and student support services and library/learning resources based upon the location of their learning environment. All dual



enrollment students can be issued University of South Carolina Sumter ID cards, which give them full access to all services on campus, that all students have; both those taking classes on campus and those taking classes off-site may utilize all campus based resources that are available to all part time and full time University of South Carolina Sumter students.

The University of South Carolina Sumter also offers its students co-curricular activities to complement the academic offerings. These are available through several avenues:

### **Intramural Sports**

A variety of intramural sports and activities are provided by the Student Life Department throughout the academic year. Traditional programs such as flag football, basketball and soccer are supplemented by less strenuous sports such as billiards, table tennis and foosball. Each spring we sponsor and enter a co-ed team in the Sumter County Recreation Department's corporate softball league.

### **Nettles Gym and Recreational Facility**

All students, faculty and staff are encouraged to make use of the gymnasium facilities in the Nettles Building. The facility includes a full-service gymnasium, three racquetball courts, well equipped exercise room (wellness center), and a climbing wall used for recreation, Physical Education courses, team building, and individual self-development through self-challenge. Lockers and baskets, free towel service, available and free camping equipment rental for use by students, faculty, and staff.

### **Student Government Association**

The Student Government Association (SGA) is composed of the student body of the University of South Carolina Sumter. Participation by all students and each student organization is strongly recommended in order to conduct student affairs effectively and serve as the liaison between the faculty, administration, and the student body. Every University of South Carolina Sumter student is eligible to vote in student government elections held each spring semester.

The SGA meets bi-weekly throughout the school year. Meetings are held in the in the Student Union Building. The University of South Carolina Sumter Student Senate, composed of representatives from each student organization, meets on alternate weeks. Meetings are open to the public and all interested students are encouraged to attend. The SGA constitution is available in the [Student Right to Know](#) document. All students receive an email during each academic year notifying them of the availability and location of that document. Printed copies are also available through the SGA Advisor or Director of [Student Life](#). Students are notified of campus activities through a monthly newsletter, Stall Wall, as well as flyers, in-class announcements, and email.

### **Student Clubs**

Student clubs may be formed by students and may be chartered through the Student Life Office. Steps to charter an organization are available in the [Student Handbook](#). [Student University Ambassador Program](#) – This is a prestigious organization with a carefully selected membership. Ambassadors, who are selected from candidates nominated by faculty and staff, serve as hosts for the Admissions and Recruiting departments of the campus. They are trusted to represent the campus at various activities and events, ranging from campus tours to community presentations. Student Ambassadors undergo specialized training and attend regular monthly meetings.

### **Intercollegiate Athletics**

The University of South Carolina Sumter offers six intercollegiate sports – Men's Baseball, Women's Softball, Men's and Women's Tennis, Women's Gold and men's Soccer. Admission to all games and matches is free to all students that present their student IDs.

### **University of South Carolina Sumter eSports**

The University of South Carolina Sumter promotes the education and development of students through intercollegiate eSports participation. While providing competitive goals and aspirations, the development of the diverse student is the most important aspect of the program. The growth through teamwork, camaraderie, sportsmanship, time management, and developing skills to compete in a competitive environment (locally, nationally and globally) enhances the higher education experience.

### **Community Service**

The University of South Carolina Sumter provides a variety of methods for students to participate in campus and community outreach programs. Understanding that volunteerism and community involvement are critical to the development of our students, participation is encouraged through several venues. The Sumter campus also provides [continuing education](#)

programs and summer camps for K-12 students.

### Graduation with Leadership Distinction

The University of South Carolina Sumter promotes learning within and beyond the classroom via the [University of South Carolina Columbia Center for Integrative and Experiential Learning](#) and its Graduation with Leadership Distinction program. The Sumter campus has students graduate with leadership distinction at both the Associate and with [cooperative Baccalaureate degree](#) level programs housed on the Sumter campus. The University of South Carolina Sumter offers the UNIV 401 course (for development of the e-portfolio as required for Graduation with Leadership Distinction), and offer regular leadership distinction and [Inter-Curricular Enrichment Events](#).

- [CCSSE](#) – The University of South Carolina Sumter participates in the Community College Survey of Student Engagement to gain a clear picture of our institutional practices and student behaviors that are highly correlated to student learning and retention.
- Making A Difference (MAD) Friday – Several specified Friday afternoons each semester are designated and advertised to the student body to provide volunteer services to agencies and non-profits in the Sumter community.
- Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day – Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Dream Walk and Celebration sponsored by the University of South Carolina Sumter, Morris College, and Central Carolina Technical College is held each January on the holiday as a day of service. This is a community event in which students are invited to work, walk, and participate in the program honoring the life and legacy of Dr. King.

### Union

The University of South Carolina Union understands that the education of the student occurs not merely in the classroom, but in many venues beyond. According to the [University of South Carolina Union Mission Statement](#), "classroom experiences, student activities, and physical education programs also provide opportunities for cultural enrichment, leadership development, intellectual growth and interpersonal relationships contributing to a sense of self-reliance and a joy of learning." The University of South Carolina Union offers a variety of Student Support Programs. The faculty and staff at the Union campus place a great amount of importance in this area of student development and enrichment. There are many student services and student activities that are available to help students be successful inside and outside of the classroom. Our services include Academic Advisors, Computer Labs, a Student Academic Success Center, new student orientations, and our University 101 sections. The University of South Carolina Union also provides student services in other areas of student life, such as our Student Government Association, Student Ambassador Program, and Federal Work-Study Program, as well as opportunities to be members of other various Student Organizations, participate in club and NJCAA athletics, and use exercise equipment in the Truluck Gymnasium.

### New Student Orientation

The admissions and registrar's office coordinate five new student orientation sessions per year, four for new Fall students and one for new Spring students. Each new student is sent a packet with information about the orientation, which includes the day and time of the orientation and an agenda for the orientation. Each student also receives step-by-step instructions with screen shots with information on how to log in to Self-Service Carolina and take the Math Placement exam. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, new student orientations during summer 2020 were shifted to an online format. This format was anchored by a new student [Orientation Checklist](#), which includes a number of actions for the student to complete in order to finalize admission, connect with an academic advisor, register their classes, and explore other pertinent information about the campus and its resources. Newly admitted students continue to receive acceptance packets, in digital and physical form, that include this type of information as well.

### Academic Advising

After students verify that they are going to attend one of the orientation sessions, they are assigned an Academic Advisor by the Associate Dean of Academic Affairs. Academic advising is primarily provided by full-time faculty, but also by select full time staff. The student will have the same academic advisor throughout their time at the University of South Carolina Union unless they request to change that advisor, and that has to be approved by the advisor and the Associate Dean. Students meet with their advisor the day of orientation. Students may access degree requirements for the degrees provided by the University of South Carolina Union online in the University of South Carolina Union Academic Bulletin and also online through the greater University of South Carolina Undergraduate Bulletin for degree requirements following the initial general education requirements. Academic advisors receive regular updates, reminders, and training from the Associate Dean, who also serves as an academic advisor to students. Feedback on advisor effectiveness and availability is given each semester through student course evaluations. As mentioned above, academic advising beginning in summer 2020, shifted to a virtual format due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The link on the Orientation Checklist for academic advising takes students to a [Calendly University of South Carolina Union advising page](#), where they have the option of selecting an advisor from a certain subject area and getting directly onto that advisor's calendar. Student and advisor are both sent an email immediately confirming the appointment and information provided by the student to facilitate that advising appointment is included in that confirmation email. This is a scheduling tool that all academic advisors now have available to use in order to ease the process of connecting remotely with their advisees.

## University 101

During their first advising session, each new student is strongly encouraged to enroll in one of our University 101 sections. It is offered at several different days and times to accommodate the students' schedules. This course is designed to help students navigate their first semester and beyond in the university and covers all types of subjects, including how to log in to and check their Self-Service Carolina accounts, successful study and lifestyle habits, financial aid responsibilities, and in general where to go to receive other campus services as well as ways to get involved with the university. The Union campus also offers focused sections of UNIV 101 for pre-nursing students to encourage a cohort approach to this demanding major early on, and ensure that those students specifically are made aware of aspects of their college career that will be critical for being accepted into the Upper Division of a BSN program.

## Student Academic Success Center

The University of South Carolina Union has a [Student Academic Success Center](#) that has space available for students to come and receive academic support through stations for study groups, computers, and tutors to help with each subject offered at the University of South Carolina Union. Within this Center, there is a specifically designated Writing Tutor, who is vetted and trained by a full-time English faculty member. Additionally, Union campus students may utilize remote assistance from the Center via Adobe Connect online, as well as online tutoring resources and services via Brainfuse, made available at no cost to the students through their Blackboard LMS accounts. The online resources of the Center, and the ability of its tutors to adapt to the demands of remote/virtual tutoring required of the response to the COVID-19 pandemic, were critical to continuing to providing students with this assistance with their courses from wherever they were.

## Students with Disabilities

While it is the responsibility for each student to inquire about receiving services for disabilities, the topic is mentioned at orientation, during advising, and during University 101 and other University of South Carolina Union courses. All faculty are instructed to include a statement in their syllabi regarding these types of services as well, including contact information for the local Disability Services office on campus in Union. The Office of Disability Services at the University of South Carolina Union coordinates disability services with the Columbia campus Office of Student Disability Services, which makes recommendations regarding student accommodations. The University of South Carolina Union students, faculty, and staff also all have free, unlimited access to [TAO Self-Enroll/Self-Help](#) mental health resources online. This online suite of mental health modules touch on a variety of mental health topics, such as anxiety, depression, mindfulness, civility, etc. For students who require counseling services from mental health professionals, the Office of Disability Services maintains a listing of available providers in the area who the student can contact. Each fall semester, starting in fall 2019, the Union campus holds a [Fresh Check Day](#) event on campus as well, which highlights mental health awareness/resources and suicide prevention.

## Computer Labs

Along with the Student Academic Success Center, there is a computer lab in our Main Building that is accessible to students as well as several computer stations in the University of South Carolina Union Library at the Carnegie, two computer lab classrooms in our Central Building on campus in Union, and a virtual reality computer lab in the Science and Nursing Building in Union. There are also study areas in the Student Lounge and across campus where students can come together to study and use the wireless internet service that is provided for the entire campus. Finally, the Laurens location has a computer lab on site, as well as extra computers outside of the classroom spaces that are available for students to utilize.

## Student Government Association

The University of South Carolina Union offers the opportunity for students to get involved outside of the classroom through the Student Government Association (SGA). There are three or four elected officers that receive scholarships during their sophomore year depending on the number of senators from the year before. Those offices are President, Vice-President, Secretary, and Treasurer. Freshmen are allowed to be appointed as senators. These students are in charge of student activity funds for the university and provide several social events each semester. These events are attempts to get other students involved in things going on outside of the classroom and to have a chance to meet with faculty and staff in a friendly and fun environment. Usually there is music, free food, and small gifts such as University of South Carolina football tickets to be given away. This group is also the voice of the Union campus student body and brings awareness to the faculty and staff of concerns of the student body. They also raise money to use in community service efforts. Finally, as student ambassadors, students can serve as a link between faculty and staff and the students. They are present at all student events, work at the new student orientations, and other campus events, such as recruiting events, Awards Day, and SGA Constitution.

## Truluck Activity Center

The Truluck Activity Center serves as a major recreational space for our students, as well as the large outdoor space of Patron's Park directly behind it. It is open during the week to all students, faculty, and staff. Many students visit the Truluck Activity Center to play basketball, tennis, lift weights, or use the exercise machines. The University of South Carolina Union also supports multiple student athletic teams, [the Bantams](#), including NJCAA baseball, softball, and men's soccer; as well as intercollegiate marksmanship, club women's volleyball and bass fishing, and e-sports. Truluck and Patron's Park provide an on-site location for those athletes to train. For competition and practice, the softball team's home field is at City Park in Union, while the baseball and soccer teams host their home games nearby in Jonesville. The e-sports team has a brand new gaming room on campus in Union, with powerful gaming-caliber computers to compete virtually with teams from other colleges around the country.

## **Federal Work Study Positions**

Through the University of South Carolina Union Financial Aid Office, some students are determined to be eligible for these work study positions on and off campus. This provides these students with valuable working experience as well as more financial aid to help with their tuition. They fill positions in the Admissions and Registrar's Office, Financial Aid Office, The Truluck Activity Center, Science Labs, the Library, the Student Academic Success Center, the Science and Nursing Building, and at several off campus locations.

## **Student Groups and Organizations**

The University of South Carolina Union also has other [student organizations](#). Those include the African-American Alliance, the Research Club, the Art Club, the Sustainable Garden and Botany Club, and the Rotaract Club. There are also students involved in putting on theatrical productions on campus each semester, in some cases associated with courses they are enrolled in, but others as interested volunteers. Also, the campus student newspaper was recently revived and is another way for students to become involved on campus, by serving as editors and writers for the University of South Carolina Union Bantam Gazette. Finally, there is a Film Series on campus each semester, for which faculty show films and have discussions regarding their content with interested students, faculty, and staff.

## **Graduation with Leadership Distinction (GLD)**

Students interested in pursuing the University of South Carolina GLD in one of multiple possible pathways, either at the Associates or Bachelors level (or both), have the opportunity to work closely with a faculty member on campus in support of core and enhancement experiences inside and outside of the classroom toward fulfillment of those requirements. Examples of this collaboration include research projects, community service, and civic engagement experiences. When possible, this may also include study abroad. The GLD program is provided by the University of South Carolina Connect office (recently renamed the Center for Integrative and Experiential Learning) on the Columbia campus, made available to all regional Palmetto College campus students. The Associate Dean of Academic Affairs on the University of South Carolina Union campus, along with the Success Center and Union's CIEL Faculty Representative, coordinate with the University of South Carolina Connect office in Columbia to ensure that Union campus students stay on track in route to obtaining their GLD upon graduation. Students on the Union campus also have access to the UNIV 401 e-portfolio course, in person or online, to assist them in completing that major requirement of the GLD.













































## **Services to Dual Enrollment Students**

















































The University of South Carolina Union provides many services to dual enrollment students at partner high schools. The University of South Carolina Union Admissions/Registrar staff are available to personally visit each dual enrollment classroom every semester to show them how to log on to their Self-Service Carolina accounts and their Blackboard course management accounts. By accessing Self-Service Carolina, students have access to all of their personal, financial, academic, and registration information associated with their University of South Carolina Union classes. In Blackboard, dual enrollment students have access to an online course site for each of their dual enrollment courses, through which instructors can post class materials and course grades, as well as create online discussion forums, etc., which can help to enhance students' inside-the-classroom experiences. Blackboard also includes a link to free online tutoring services contracted by the regional Palmetto College campuses (Brainfuse) that all University of South Carolina Union students can access from anywhere, in addition to the on-campus Student Academic Success Center that provides in-person tutoring and career services. Dual enrollment University of South Carolina Union students also have the same access to the University of South Carolina Union library that all students have, which includes use of interlibrary loan, electronic databases, etc. Dual enrollment University of South Carolina Union students have access to the online, self-enroll/self-help TAO mental health resources as well, by using their University of South Carolina Union email address to register their account. Finally, dual enrollment University of South Carolina Union students are routinely involved in campus activities, such as the annual Junior Scholars event on campus that honors some of the top concurrent students from all of the partner high schools, the annual Awards Night Ceremony that honors top concurrent students alongside regular University of South Carolina Union students, and the annual Scholarship Luncheon at which concurrent and regular University of South Carolina Union students who have received scholarships have the opportunity to share a meal with the scholarship donors, to name a few. For dual enrollment students who take concurrent classes off campus on site at their high school, they also benefit from the library services, technology support, counseling services, etc., that are available to them locally through their high school.

## **Services to Faculty**








































Of the services listed above, the Truluck gym, campus computer stations/labs, conference rooms on campus, free/unlimited access to TAO Self-Enroll/Self-Help online mental health resources, and full use of the services and meeting spaces of the University of South Carolina Union Library at the Carnegie, are available to faculty also. Additionally, faculty have access to employee kitchen spaces in the Main Building, Central Building, Bookstore, and Science and Nursing Building. All of this is in addition to the many services that faculty have access to that are provided centrally out of Columbia that have been described for the regional Palmetto College campuses more generally.

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-  Catawba Community Mental Health Center
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-  Counseling and Psychiatric Services
-  Dinner Dialogues
-  Distance Learning
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-  Fellowships & Scholar Programs
-  Financial Aid
-  Financial Aid and Scholarships
-  Finding Common Ground
-  First Year Reading Experience
-  First-Year Interest Group
-  Fraternity & Sorority Life
-  Galen Health Fellows
-  Garnet and Black Magazine
-  Graduate School
-  Graduation with Leadership Distinction
-  Green Quad
-  Gregory Family YMCA
-  Health Services
-  Healthy Carolina
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-  Kognito
-  Lancaster Academic Coaching
-  Lancaster Academic Success Center
-  Lancaster Advising Guide

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-  [Lancaster Athletics](#)
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-  [Lancaster Handbook 19-20](#)
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