

# Financial Aid Information for BSN Students

**WARNING!** The following information is not a complete list of everything you need to know about financial aid. For detailed information about any bullet below please check the USCL Financial Aid Website <http://usclancaster.sc.edu/finaid/index.html>, call our office at 803-313-7068 or e-mail us at [usclfa@mailbox.sc.edu](mailto:usclfa@mailbox.sc.edu).

This is only a summary.

## ALL NURSING STUDENTS

- Nursing students qualify for all forms of financial aid available to all other students.
- File the FAFSA [www.fafsa.ed.gov](http://www.fafsa.ed.gov) Send this to USC Lancaster (not Columbia)
- Students with family incomes of approximately \$60,000 or less could qualify for grants.
  - If your family income is <\$25,000 you could qualify for maximum Pell of \$5920.
  - Other grants are possible (usually up to \$2080)
- The LIFE Scholarship requirements:
  - SC Resident (at time of HS Graduation and College enrollment),
  - requires a 3.0+ SC UGS GPA,
  - Requires continuous enrollment from the day you start college (only summer breaks).
  - To earn LIFE scholarship for your 2<sup>nd</sup> year you must have 30 hours & a 3.0+ LIFE GPA.

You can also earn the LIFE scholarship by the same means.
- NURSE Corps Scholarships:
  - <https://bhw.hrsa.gov/loansscholarships/nursecorps>
  - Tuition, Fees Books, Supplies, Uniforms and a monthly stipend of \$1363 for students who agree to, at minimum, a two-year full-time service obligation (or part-time equivalent) at an eligible health care facility with a critical shortage of nurses.
- All students qualify for Direct Student Loans
- Public Service Loan Forgiveness is available for all nurses who become employed in public service:  
For more information: <https://www.allnursingschools.com/student-loan-forgiveness/>
- If you plan to drop or withdraw from ANY courses you should speak with Financial Aid FIRST

## LOWER DIVISION

- While in “Lower Division” you will **send your FAFSA to USC Lancaster.**
- Students with a 3.0+ GPA could qualify for scholarships apply here:  
<http://usclancaster.sc.edu/finaid/scholshp.htm>
- Work study is possible in Lower Division (though very few awards are made in this program)
- Direct Student Loan Limits in Lower Division are: \$5500 1<sup>st</sup> year, \$6500 2<sup>nd</sup> year
- The LIFE Scholarship
  - Nursing students (who are LIFE eligible) should take 14 hours of math and lab sciences in their Freshman year to be eligible for the \$2500 enhancement in Upper Division.
  - **You must enter Upper Division in your 3<sup>rd</sup> year to maintain eligibility.**
- Lottery Tuition Assistance Program (LTAP)
  - SC Residents not eligible for LIFE are usually eligible for LTAP funding.
  - **LTAP can only be received during your Lower Division work (while a USCL student).**
- You are limited to 90 attempted credit hours to complete your Lower Division work before you stop receiving Financial Aid.
- **Warning: If you already received an Associate’s Degree or have already attempted 90 credit hours you cannot qualify for aid to complete the pre-requisites for B.S.N. Upper Division.**

SEE BACK FOR “UPPER DIVISION” FINANCIAL AID INFORMATION

## UPPER DIVISION

- When you enter “Upper Division” you will **send your FAFSA to USC Columbia.**
- Grants at USC Columbia are basically the same as they are at the regional campus.
- Work study is usually not available in Upper Division (as you would have to work in Columbia).
- **Direct Student Loan Limits in Upper Division are: \$7500 per year**  
(Lifetime Undergraduate Maximums: Dependent \$31,000; Independent Students \$57,500)
- **Upper Division students can borrow Title IX Nursing Student Loans (\$5200 NSL yearly).**

The Nursing Student Loan Program (NSL) is a federal loan program funded by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. These loans are need-based and available to upper division, undergraduate nursing students and graduate nursing students enrolled either full-time or half-time. The interest rate is fixed at 5% with a 9 month grace period after ceasing at least half-time enrollment before repayment begins and interest begins to accrue. Loan amounts are subject to annual and cumulative limits

Find more information here:

[http://www.sc.edu/financialaid/types\\_of\\_aid/loans/nursing\\_student\\_loans/default.html](http://www.sc.edu/financialaid/types_of_aid/loans/nursing_student_loans/default.html)

<https://www.hrsa.gov/loan-scholarships/loans/index.html>

- **LIFE Scholarship is available:**
  - **3<sup>rd</sup> Year: must have 60 hrs and 3.0+ LIFE GPA, must be in Upper Division**
  - 4<sup>th</sup> Year: must have 90 hrs and 3.0+ LIFE GPA, must be in Upper Division
  - If you do not enter Upper Division in your 3<sup>rd</sup> year you may lose 1 or 2 years of LIFE
  - If you took the 14 hours of Science and Math courses in your freshman year, you can qualify for the LIFE Enhancement of +\$2500 per year.
- SC Lottery Tuition Assistance Program (LTAP) is not available in Upper Division.
- Upper Division students can apply for USC Columbia scholarships. **The deadline is March 1<sup>st</sup>!**  
Go to : [http://www.sc.edu/financialaid/scholarships/non\\_institutional\\_scholarships/default.html](http://www.sc.edu/financialaid/scholarships/non_institutional_scholarships/default.html)  
Select [Departmental Scholarships – Schools, Colleges, and Departments](#)  
Select [View These Scholarships \(PDF\)](#) beside “College of Nursing”.
- **Warning: If you believe you will not meet the eligibility requirements for Upper Division Nursing, you need to come see Financial Aid right away to know how changing your major will affect you.**