**FIRST SCHOLARSHIP**

FIRST and the University of South Carolina (USC) College of Engineering and Computing (CEC) have established a scholarship opportunity to benefit deserving students who have participated on a FIRST team for at least two years during their high school years and who would like to attend the USC. The student may enroll in any one of the eight engineering or computing programs offered in the College of Engineering and Computing at the USC. Five scholarship opportunities are being offered to deserving and qualified high school seniors for the 2018-2019 FIRST Competition season.

**Description:**
The scholarship committee of the USC College of Engineering and Computing will award a College of Engineering and Computing scholarship to five (5) selected high school seniors currently on a FIRST team that have been a member of a FIRST Robotics Competition (FRC) and/or FIRST Tech Challenge (FTC) team at their high school for at least two years. The recipient of the scholarship will receive up to $1,000 per year for up to four years at USC. The scholarship is applied directly towards tuition and fees or on campus room and board costs at USC. Eligible students will have a minimum GPA of 3.50, minimum SAT score of 1250 (combined math and verbal) or equivalent ACT combined score, and meet USC academic enrollment requirements. The award is worth up to $1,000 per year and can be renewable for up to three years provided the student maintains at least a “B” average or higher and completes at least twelve (12) credit hours per semester.

**Submission Requirements:**
To apply for the University of South Carolina College of Engineering and Computing FIRST scholarship, students must complete the following:

- Admission application to University of South Carolina
- USC FIRST Scholarship Application
- Letter of Recommendation from a Teacher or FIRST Mentor explaining the applicant’s role and contribution to their FIRST Team. (due March 15, 2018)

**More Information:**
USC admissions application is available at: [http://www.sc.edu/admissions/apply/first_year_students/default.html](http://www.sc.edu/admissions/apply/first_year_students/default.html)

For more information about the University of South Carolina (USC) College of Engineering and Computing (CEC) FIRST Scholarship, please contact:

**Stefanie Perrell**
Outreach and Recruitment Director  
University of South Carolina  
College of Engineering and Computing  
1A16 Swearingen Engineering Center  
Columbia, South Carolina 29208  
803-777-2706 voice  
803-777-3818 fax  
sperrell@cec.sc.edu
FIRST SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

Personal Information:

Name ________________________________________________________

Mailing Address ________________________________________________

City ________________________________ State _____  Zip_________-

Telephone (______) ________________

Social Security Number ________________________

High School ___________________________________________________

E-mail _______________________________________________________

FIRST Team Number ____________

FIRST Team Name ______________________________________________

Among other rights afforded to me under Federal Legislation commonly known as “The 1974 Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act,” as amended, I understand that I have the right to specify the name of each and every individual to whom my records are released. I further understand that I may waive my right to specify the name of each scholarship donor or scholarship committee to whom my records are released as long as such records are used only in connection with USC Scholarships and Financial Aid. I hereby authorize the USC Scholarships and Financial Aid to gather and release all records maintained by the office concerning me. Such records may contain the following:

a. A copy of my unofficial transcript.
b. Letter of recommendation bearing specifically on my application for scholarship.
c. Other documents and information relating to my academic performance.
d. Documents and information relating to my financial status.

I certify that the information throughout this application is accurate and that misrepresentation of any facts or details could result in ineligibility for any scholarships/awards.

Print Name ___________________________________________________

Signature Date _____________________________

I understand and agree that the funds from this scholarship are to be used only for expenses directly related to my education while attending the USC College of Engineering and Computing. I understand that any misuse of funds could result in the cancellation of this award.

Print Name ________________________________

Signature _____________________________ Date _________________
Submission Requirements/Deadline:

To apply for the 2017 University of South Carolina FIRST Scholarship:

1) **By December 1, 2017:** submit a University of South Carolina admissions application available online at: [http://www.sc.edu/admissions/apply/first_year_students/default.html](http://www.sc.edu/admissions/apply/first_year_students/default.html)

2) **By March 15, 2018:** Complete this form and provide a Letter of Recommendation from a Teacher or FIRST Mentor explaining the applicant’s role and contribution to their FIRST Team.

Please send your FIRST Scholarship application and Letter of Recommendation from a Teacher or FIRST Mentor (email preferred) to:

**Stefanie Perrell**
Outreach and Recruitment Director
University of South Carolina
College of Engineering and Computing
1A16 Swearingen Engineering Center
Columbia, South Carolina 29208
803-777-2706 voice
803-777-3818 fax
sperrell@cec.sc.edu
Thank you for taking time to complete this form as a reference for:

_____________________________________________________________

A letter of recommendation is requested from a Teacher or FIRST Mentor as part of the requirements for the University of South Carolina College of Engineering and Computing FIRST Scholarship.

Privacy Act Statement: Disclosure of the information is voluntary, but the applicant will not be considered further if the information is not provided. Submissions will not be disclosed to the applicant without consent.

Please provide the information requested in the Letter of Recommendation. Please complete this form and seal it in the envelope provided by the applicant. Sign your name over the envelope seal to ensure confidentiality and return it to the student.

The completed form must be received by the deadline of March 1, 2017. If additional space is needed for your responses, please feel free to add attachments.

For more information about the University of South Carolina (USC) College of Engineering and Computing (CEC) FIRST Scholarship, please contact:

Stefanie Perrell
Outreach and Recruitment Director
University of South Carolina
College of Engineering and Computing
1A16 Swearingen Engineering Center
Columbia, South Carolina 29208
803-777-2706 voice
803-777-3818 fax
sperrell@cec.sc.edu
FIRST SCHOLARSHIP - Letter of Recommendation

Reference for Student ____________________________________________

High School ______________________________________________________

High School Address ______________________________________________

Reference Relationship to Student _________________________________

Contact Information of Reference
 telephone number ( ____ ) ________________________________

 e-mail address _____________________________________________

1. Please rate on a scale of 1 – 5 the student’s interest in engineering.  
(1- no interest, 2- some interest, 3- average interest, 4- strong interest, 5- high level of interest)

  1  2  3  4  5

2. Describe the student’s contributions to their FIRST team. 
Did the student or the group win any type of award for the competition?

____________________________________________________________________

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3. Describe the student’s ability to work on a team. Please provide examples.

____________________________________________________________________

____________________________________________________________________

____________________________________________________________________
4. Please comment on the student’s ability to (a) solve problems, (b) make decisions, (c) generate creative ideas, and (d) demonstrate leadership. Please provide examples.

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________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________

5. Please comment on the student’s ethics as demonstrated by her/his character traits.

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________________________________________________________________________
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6. Additional Comments.

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________________________________________________________________________

Name: ________________________________

Signature: _____________________________ Date: ____________