Overview
The South Carolina Semester Program is a competitive internship program that affords students the opportunity to learn about South Carolina government operations through a 3 credit seminar class in the fall and an internship with a state agency in the spring. Students will earn academic credit and be paid for their internship.

The program supports students interning in state government and with a broad range of state agencies. Through this practical experience, students have the chance to witness firsthand the operation of state government and various facets of public service. This program is applicable to all majors.

Eligibility
Open to all UofSC-Columbia students with 1) a cumulative GPA of 3.5 or better and 2) sophomore, junior or senior classification based on the total number of hours earned at the University of South Carolina, credit transferred from other colleges, or AP/IB credit earned. Students must possess maturity and a strong work ethic to interact with state government officials and agency administrators as a representative of the South Carolina Semester Program.

Courses and Credits
The South Carolina Semester Program is a 2 semester commitment:

- **Fall Semester**
  SCHC 333: S.C. Semester Seminar (3 credits)
  Course attributes: Social Behavioral Science (Honors), GSS (Carolina Core)

- **Spring Semester**
  SCHC 489: S.C. Semester Internship (3 credits)
  Course attributes: Beyond the Classroom (Honors), Not Core

The S.C. Semester Seminar (SCHC 333) is completed in the fall, one semester prior to the S.C. Semester Internship (SCHC 489). The seminar dwells heavily on state government operations and policymaking processes. Students have the chance to discuss current issues with a range of guest speakers, including government officials and state agency administrators. The course will also guide students through their S.C. Semester Internship search.

The S.C. Semester Internship (SCHC 489) is completed in the spring. Students are required to work 15-20 hours per week throughout the spring semester and will complete academic coursework online. Students are paid a $2,000 stipend for their internship.
**Hours and Compensation**
Students are required to work 15-20 hours per week (at internship site) throughout the spring semester and are paid a $2,000 stipend.

**Application Instructions**
Complete online application available at:
https://www.sc.edu/study/colleges_schools/honors_college/internal/forms/index.php
The application consists of

1) Student information (name, USC ID, GPA, major, etc.)
2) Personal statement regarding interest in the program and relevance to educational and career goals (500 words or less)
3) Resume

**Student Testimonials**

*Kara, Department of Commerce*
"This internship was my first opportunity to apply what I had learned in the classroom, so I dove into topics like international economic development and public policy issues, such as healthcare and economic incentives, and ultimately proposed solutions to improve South Carolina."

*Vihar, Office of Regulatory Staff - Utility Rates Division*
“As an intern, I had the opportunity to work on a variety of testimony and exhibits for these cases, allowing me to apply economics, accounting, and finance principles. This work included summarizing testimonies from other parties, reading/editing ORS testimony, data entry for exhibits by following examples from previous years, and researching cases in other states to support testimony."

*Lauren, Lt. Governor’s Office*
“Interacting with Senators and House members every day was exciting. Everyone in the office wrote fantastic recommendation letters for me, including the Lieutenant Governor.”

**Internship Sites**
Examples of recent internship sites include but are not limited to:

- Appleseed Legal Justice Center
- Attorney General’s Office
- Bureau of Community Health and Chronic Disease Prevention
- Department of Commerce
- Department of Education
- Department of Health and Environmental Control
- Department of Natural Resources
- House Democratic Caucus
- House of Representatives
- Human Affairs Commission
- Governor’s Office
- Lt. Governor’s Office
- Office of Regulatory Staff
- Retirement Investment System Commission
- Richland Soil and Water Conservation District
- Senate Judiciary Committee
- SC State Museum
- SC Technical College System
- State Treasury Department
- Supreme Court

**For More Information**
Contact Erica Elbery, elbery@sc.edu or 803-576-7207