

Dear Governor Haley,

12/29/2014

I am writing you this very informal letter as not only a mother but someone of concern for the future of a young girl. My daughter **Carrie J. Hill** is a sophomore at Erskine college in Due West S.C.. This is a very challenging college. Carrie is studying for a Bachelors of Arts with a major in history with a minor in secondary education. She has a great passion for history. She plans to teach in our S.C. schools.

Carrie is a very goal oriented person with a strong personality. Carrie joined the legislative team at Erskine by invite. Since in this group she made a trip to our capital and brought a bill which after some debate was passed. She has now been chosen by the governor of **SC student legislature** to take a seat assisting the Governor of student legislature. She is so excited about this opportunity. I think this could be her calling-LOL.

The problem she faces at this time is about to bring all this to an end- tuition. I hate sob stories and you probably do to, but I had cancer the first of 2014 and had it removed. I had to be out of work. My husband is disabled. I support a family of 5. So we got behind. We already live day to day barely getting by but I have worked hard to get her this far. But I was not able to finish paying her tuition for fall.

We did apply for FASFA and because my income as a nurse, she was only given the bare minimums. We do have the minimum subsidized and unsubsidized loans and she has scholarships she has earned, and a small grant. No grants or lottery or any of that because of "my income" During my illness Carrie didn't do as well and lost her life scholarship by only a few points. Right now she owes for the present semester and is not able to register for spring classes until it's paid.

It seems so unfair to see other students from the same middle class who's parents make just a little less, get awarded all the grants and awards they need to pay for college and books while my daughter wonders if she will even get to finish. We did try student and personal loans, but she needs a cosigner for these. My husband and I tried but due to our financial struggles our credit is not good enough. We have no one else to cosign for her. Carrie's biological father is a disabled Veteran and he applied to get his GI bill for her to use but because he is only 80% disabled and not 100% he was denied.

Recently a few of Carrie's professors, without Carrie knowing, went to the financial aid office to see if there was anything else that financial aid would do or might be missing. The answer was no and that due to Erskine's financial status they could not help. I feel that it says a lot for Carrie that these professors would go out of their way for her like that.

My question to you is—Is there anything you can do to help this young lady? Grants, scholarships, anything? I just hate to see such a determined, bright girl with so much potential, lose it all over tuition.

When I told Carrie I was going to write you she begged me not to. She is not one to ask for help, nor do I usually, but this is a special case. We have no other hope left. I feel if she drops out it will discourage her. We have prayed about this but Carrie is beginning to lose her faith.

The first SC student legislature meeting is Saturday. Carrie plans to resign before then since “I want be there in the spring”, she says. I’ve never seen her give up but she feels she is up against a wall at this point. Please help her in any way you can, please please! Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,
Jane H Gillespie

Contact information

Jane 864-353-8690

Carrie 864-353-8670

Address:

301 Will Hanks Rd.
Honea Path, SC 29654



ERSKINE
COLLEGE

Carrie Hill
301 Will Hanks Road
Honea Path, SC 29654

Student ID: A0100022694
Statement Date: 12/02/2014
Due Date: 08/01/2014
Balance Due: \$3,447.50

TERM	DATE	DESCRIPTION	CHARGES	CREDITS
FA-14	07/01/2014	Returning Student Deposit	\$0.00	\$150.00
FA-14	08/29/2014	Subsidized Direct Loan	\$0.00	\$2,226.00
FA-14	09/08/2014	Athletic Fee	\$242.50	\$0.00
FA-14	09/08/2014	Board Charges - 15 meals/week	\$2,441.00	\$0.00
FA-14	09/08/2014	Computer Fee - College	\$150.00	\$0.00
FA-14	09/08/2014	Fine Arts/Convocation/Chapel	\$105.00	\$0.00
FA-14	09/08/2014	Main Tuition	\$14,655.00	\$0.00
FA-14	09/08/2014	Medical Fee	\$122.50	\$0.00
FA-14	09/08/2014	Parking Permit	\$25.00	\$0.00
FA-14	09/08/2014	Room Charges - Double Occupancy	\$2,611.50	\$0.00
FA-14	09/08/2014	Student Activity Fee	\$150.00	\$0.00
FA-14	09/08/2014	Student Center Fee	\$215.00	\$0.00
FA-14	09/18/2014	Unsubsidized Direct Loan	\$0.00	\$990.00
FA-14	09/30/2014	Erskine Grant	\$0.00	\$1,375.00
FA-14	09/30/2014	Erskine Scholarship	\$0.00	\$8,000.00
FA-14	09/30/2014	Presidential Semi-Finalist	\$0.00	\$500.00
FA-14	09/30/2014	Service Charge	\$75.00	\$0.00
FA-14	10/16/2014	South Carolina Tuition Grant	\$0.00	\$1,500.00
FA-14	11/04/2014	Federal Direct Add'l Unsubsidized L	\$0.00	\$1,979.00
FA-14	11/07/2014	Erskine Grant	\$0.00	\$625.00

CURRENT	PAST DUE	TOTAL DUE
\$3,447.50	\$0.00	\$3,447.50

Hold Date: 10/30/2014
Hold Category: Business Office
Hold Description: Balance Due

Notes:

Make Checks Payable To: Erskine College
P.O. Box 338
Due West, SC 29639

To make a payment online using a Credit Card, please visit
<https://netpay.higherone.com/NetPay/Products/Erskine+College/Tuition+and+Fees/1463/Gateway.aspx>
To make a payment online using a Checking or Savings Account, please visit
<https://netpay.higherone.com/NetPay/Products/Erskine+College/Tuition+and+Fees/1463/Gateway.aspx>
To make a payment over the phone, please call 888-240-0979

Please contact Lori Mulzer at the Business Office via (864) 379-8751 with any questions.