



**Commission on
Higher Education**

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MEMORANDUM

To: Mr. Dalton B. Floyd, Jr., Chair, and Members
Commission on Higher Education

From: Mr. Daniel Ravenel, Interim Chair, and Members,
Committee on Access & Equity and Student Services

2003-04 Palmetto Fellows Scholarship

The Palmetto Fellows Scholarship Program is a merit-based scholarship program designed to recognize the most academically talented high school seniors in S.C. and encourage them to attend college in the State. Each Palmetto Fellow could receive a scholarship of up to \$6,700 per year for a maximum of eight terms. The scholarship must be applied towards the cost-of-attendance to pursue the first baccalaureate or professional degree at a participating senior institution in the State.

In order to be eligible to apply for a Palmetto Fellows Scholarship for the 2003-04 academic year, a student must have met the following minimum academic requirements: 1) score at least 1200 on the SAT or 27 on the ACT; 2) earn a 3.5 cumulative GPA on the Uniform Grading Scale through the end of the junior year; and 3) rank in the top six percent of the class at the end of either the sophomore or the junior year. For the 2004 cohort of first-time entering freshmen, the Commission on Higher Education received 1486 applications. 1205 new scholarships were awarded to students with an average SAT score of 1305 (ACT scores were converted to SAT). For renewal, students must earn thirty credit hours and a 3.0 cumulative GPA for graduation purposes by the end of each academic

year.

For the 2003-04 academic year, \$21.9 million was disbursed to 3414 Palmetto Fellows as of August 7, 2004. This is a 12% increase in the number of students awarded compared with 2002-03. The following pages provide detailed reports to include: number of Palmetto Fellows awarded and amount disbursed per institution; recipients by ethnic group; recipients by gender; recipients by student level; retention statistics; 2003-04 Palmetto Fellows by county of origin; and, 2004 first-time entering Palmetto Fellows by county of origin. These reports may also be found at the Commission's website at www.che.sc.gov.

South Carolina Commission on Higher Education

Academic Year: 2003-04

Scholarship Type: Palmetto Fellows Scholarship

Date: 08/07/2004

	Revised Fall 2003		Revised Spring 2004		Summer 2004		Academic Year	
	Number	Amount	Number	Amount	Number	Amount	Number*	Amount
The Citadel	20	\$59,499	20	\$59,498			20	118,997
Clemson Univ.	1,166	3,883,450	1104	3,673,431	17	56,950	1,195	7,613,831
Coastal Carolina University	27	90,450	30	100,500			31	190,950
College of Charleston	330	1,101,773	331	1,108,363			335	2,210,136
Francis Marion University	42	139,522	42	139,423			43	278,945
Lander University	23	76,617	23	76,617			23	153,234
South Carolina State Univ.	2	6,700	2	6,700			2	13,400
U.S.C. - Columbia	823	2,655,165	806	2,594,332			832	5,249,497
U.S.C. - Aiken	21	66,153	22	69,841			23	135,994
U.S.C. - Beaufort								
U.S.C. - Upstate	39	129,022	35	114,301			40	243,323
Winthrop University	129	419,933	127	415,251			131	835,184
Medical University of S.C.	7	22,333	7	23,450			7	45,783
SUB-TOTALS	2,629	8,650,617	2,549	8,381,706	17	56,950	2,682	17,089,273
Allen University								
Anderson College	33	110,550	30	100,500			33	211,050
Benedict College								
Bob Jones University								
Charleston Southern Univ.	19	63,650	19	63,650			19	127,300
Claflin University	3	10,050	3	10,050			3	20,100
Coker College	6	20,100	4	13,400			6	33,500
Columbia College	16	53,600	13	43,550			16	97,150
Columbia International Univ	3	10,050	3	10,050			3	20,100
Converse College	34	106,798	35	108,767			35	215,565
Erskine College	48	158,800	47	155,450			49	314,250
Furman Univ	282	708,666	277	695,824			282	1,868,465
Johnson and Wales Univ								
Limestone College	2	6,700	2	6,700			2	13,400
Morris College								
Newberry College	12	40,200	12	40,200			12	80,400
North Greenville College	28	93,800	27	90,450			28	184,250
Presbyterian College	80	268,000	79	262,724			81	530,724
Southern Wesleyan Univ	7	23,450	7	23,450			7	46,900
Voorhees College								
Wofford College	156	521,889	156	521,092			156	1,042,981
SUB-TOTALS	729	2,196,303	714	2,145,856			732	4,806,134
Spartanburg Methodist Coll.								
SUB-TOTALS								
ACADEMIC TOTALS	3,358	\$10,846,920	3,263	\$10,527,563	17	\$56,950	3,414	21,895,408

* Unduplicated headcount

Fall 2003 Palmetto Fellows by Ethnic Group		
American Indian/Alaskan Native	8	0.2%
Asian/Pacific Islander	99	2.9%
Black/African American	93	2.7%
Hispanic	20	0.6%
White/Non-Hispanic	3010	89.6%
Unknown	128	4.0%
TOTAL	3,358	100%

Fall 2003 Palmetto Fellows by Gender		
Men	1,237	36.8%
Women	2,121	63.2%
TOTAL	3,358	100%

Fall 2003 Palmetto Fellows by Student Level

Student Level	Public Senior	Independent Senior	TOTAL
Freshmen	844	260	1,104
Sophomores	633	188	821
Juniors	508	116	624
Seniors	629	163	792
Graduate (Masters)	1	1	2
First Professional	13	0	13
Not Reported	1	1	2
TOTAL	2,629	729	3,358

Fall 2002 Palmetto Fellows Scholarships Retaining the Scholarship in Fall 2003

Institution	Retained at Same Institution			
	Freshman to Sophomore	Sophomore to Junior	Junior to Senior	Total
Public Senior	90.1%	90.1%	91.6%	90.5%
Independent Senior	81.7%	93.2%	89.8%	86.8%
Subtotal	88.1%	90.8%	91.3%	89.7%
Including students who transferred from originating institution to another institution in the State and retained the scholarship.				
Grand Total:	90.6%	93.2%	91.7%	91.6%

01/06/05

Agenda Item 4.03.B



