

Att. V

December 2, 2004
(Updated on January 10, 2005)

MEMORANDUM

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

From: Dr. Karen Woodfaulk, Director
Student Services Division

2003-2004 LIFE Scholarship Informational Report

The Legislative Incentives for Future Excellence (LIFE) Scholarship was established by the General Assembly during the 1998 legislative session and was signed into law on June 19, 1998. The LIFE Scholarship Program is a merit-based scholarship designed to increase access to higher education, improve the employability of South Carolina students, provide incentives for students to be better prepared for college, improve SAT scores, and encourage students to graduate from college on time.

During the 2003 legislative session, there were no changes made to the LIFE Scholarship Program. Forty million of the funding was allocated from the proceeds generated by the S.C. Education Lottery. Students attending a four-year public or independent institution received up to the cost-of-tuition, not to exceed \$4,700, plus a \$300 book allowance, while students attending a two-year public or technical institution received up to the cost-of-tuition plus a \$300 book allowance. In addition, students attending the two-year independent institution received up to the cost-of-tuition at the two-year regional campuses plus a \$300 book allowance.

In order to qualify for the LIFE Scholarship as a first-time entering freshman at a four-year institution, students were required to meet two of the following three criteria: 1) earn a 3.0 cumulative grade point average (GPA) based on a 4.0 scale or the Uniform Grading Scale (UGS), 2) earn a minimum score of 1100 on the SAT (24 ACT), 3) rank in the top 30% of the graduating class. The average SAT score for first-time entering freshmen in 2003 was 1164 (ACT scores were converted to SAT).

To earn or renew scholarship eligibility, the student is required to 1) meet all general eligibility criteria; 2) earn a cumulative 3.0 GPA on a 4.0 scale by the end of each academic year (fall, spring, summer) consistent with the policies and procedures of the institution; and 3) earn an average of 30 credit hours by the end of each academic year (fall, spring, summer) equaling a minimum of 30 credit hours if a rising sophomore, 60 credit hours if a rising junior, or 90 credit hours if a rising senior.

As of August 18, 2004, the Commission on Higher Education awarded 26,669 students, totaling \$119 million for the 2003-2004 academic year. This is an 8% increase of the number of students awarded in 2002-03. The following reports provide additional information regarding the 2003-2004 LIFE Scholarship recipients including: number of students awarded and the amount disbursed by institution; recipients by classification; Fall 2003 retention; recipients by ethnicity; recipients by gender; first-time

entering freshman by county of origin; and recipients by county of origin. These reports may also be found on the Commission's Website at www.che.sc.gov.

Institution	# of Recipients*	Amount Disbursed
Four-year Public Institutions:		
The Citadel	266	1,277,027
Clemson University	3978	19,072,856
Coastal Carolina University	763	3,564,468
College of Charleston	2240	10,711,144
Francis Marion University	733	3,504,906
Lander University	604	2,884,488
South Carolina State Univ.	372	1,758,656
U.S.C. - Columbia	5759	27,803,389
U.S.C. - Aiken	659	3,098,337
U.S.C. - Beaufort	94	354,123
U.S.C. - Upstate	755	3,518,256
Winthrop University	1557	7,530,187
Medical University of S.C.	57	255,000
SUB-TOTALS	17,837	85,332,837
Two-year Regional Campuses		
U.S.C. - Lancaster	218	785,554
U.S.C. - Salkehatchie	83	284,131
U.S.C. - Sumter	188	672,844
U.S.C. - Union	58	209,092
SUB-TOTALS	547	1,951,621
Technical Institutions:		
Aiken Technical College	57	136,300
Central Carolina Technical College	73	145,569
Denmark Technical College	62	130,620
Florence-Darlington Technical College	197	505,717
Greenville Technical College	372	968,476
Horry-Georgetown Technical College	222	470,838
Midlands Technical College	506	1,382,553
Northeastern Technical College	114	266,025
Orangeburg-Calhoun Technical College	118	304,008
Piedmont Technical College	234	594,392
Spartanburg Technical College	361	909,520
Technical College of the Low Count	19	46,400
Tri-County Technical College	463	1,088,560
Trident Technical College	252	587,215
Williamsburg Technical College	13	29,700
York Technical College	230	614,322
SUB-TOTALS	3,293	8,180,214
Four-year Independent Institutions:		
Allen University	28	117,500
Anderson College	433	2,093,000
Benedict College	229	1,112,500
Bob Jones University	382	1,828,005
Charleston Southern Univ.	462	2,205,500
Clafin University	323	1,515,000
Coker College	168	785,313
Columbia College	275	1,317,500
Columbia International Univ	81	367,500
Converse College	199	978,088
Erskine College	193	940,667
Furman Univ	299	1,462,062
Johnson and Wales Univ	111	443,102
Limestone College	76	347,500
Morris College	58	269,980
Newberry College	183	887,500
North Greenville College	466	2,231,125
Presbyterian College	281	1,387,500
South University		
Southern Wesleyan Univ	101	483,125
Voorhees College	58	271,175
Wofford College	357	1,758,567
SUB-TOTALS	4,763	22,802,209
Two-year Independent Institution		
Spartanburg Methodist Coll.	259	935,766
SUB-TOTALS	259	935,766
Grand Total	26,699	119,202,646

Fall 2003 LIFE Scholarship Recipients by Ethnicity

The table below shows a break down of the Fall 2003 recipients by ethnicity. There continues to be an increase in the number of Minority students due to the new eligibility criteria.

Ethnicity	Recipients	Fall 2003 Percentage of Total Recipients
	Fall 2003	
Black/African-American	4,132	16.2%
American Indian/Alaskan National	60	0.2%
Asian/Pacific Island	433	1.7%
Hispanic	276	1.1%
White/Non-Hispanic	19,5655	77.2%
Unknown	894	3.5%
Total	25,450	100%

The table below shows a comparison of Fall 2001, 2002 and 2003 LIFE Scholarship recipient by ethnicity. There continues to be an increase in the number of Minority students due to the new eligibility criteria.

Ethnicity	Recipients			Percentage change		
	Fall 03	Fall 02	Fall 01	Fall 01-Fall 02	Fall 02-Fall 03	Fall 01-Fall 03
Black/African-American	4,132	3,636	2,151	69.0 %	13.6%	92.1 %
American Indian/Alaskan National	60	68	37	83.8 %	-11.8 %	62.2 %
Asian/Pacific Island	433	425	352	20.7 %	1.9 %	23 %
Hispanic	276	241	166	45.2 %	14.5 %	66.3 %
White/Non-Hispanic	19,655	18,278	15,046	21.5 %	7.5 %	30.6 %
Unknown	894	678	1,596	-57.5%	31.9 %	-44 %
Total	25,450	23,326	19,348	20.6%	9.1%	31.5%

Fall 2003 LIFE Scholarship Recipients by Gender

Gender	Students	Percentage
Male	9,393	36.9%
Female	16016	62.9 %
Unknown	41	.2 %
Total	25,450	100.0 %

Fall 2003 LIFE Scholarship Recipients by Classification

Compared to Fall 2002, the number of freshmen recipients increased 11.2%. The percentage of upper classmen increased approximately 5%.

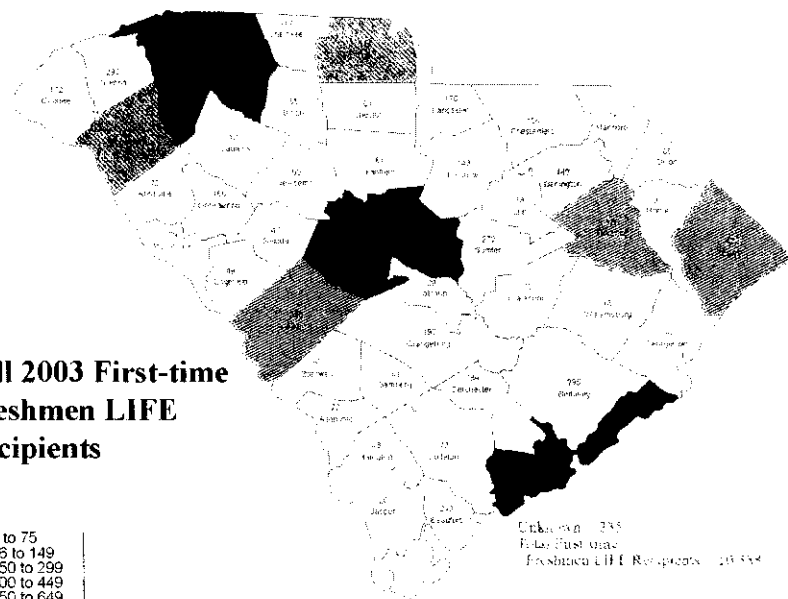
Classification	Fall 2003	
	# of Students	Percentage
Freshmen	11,252	44.2 %
Sophomores	5,718	22.5 %
Juniors	4,448	17.5 %
Seniors	3,925	15.4 %
Unclassified Undergraduate	23	.1 %
First Professional	38	.1 %
Masters	5	.0 %
Unknown	41	.2 %
Total	25,450	100.00 %

Fall 2003 LIFE Scholarship Retention

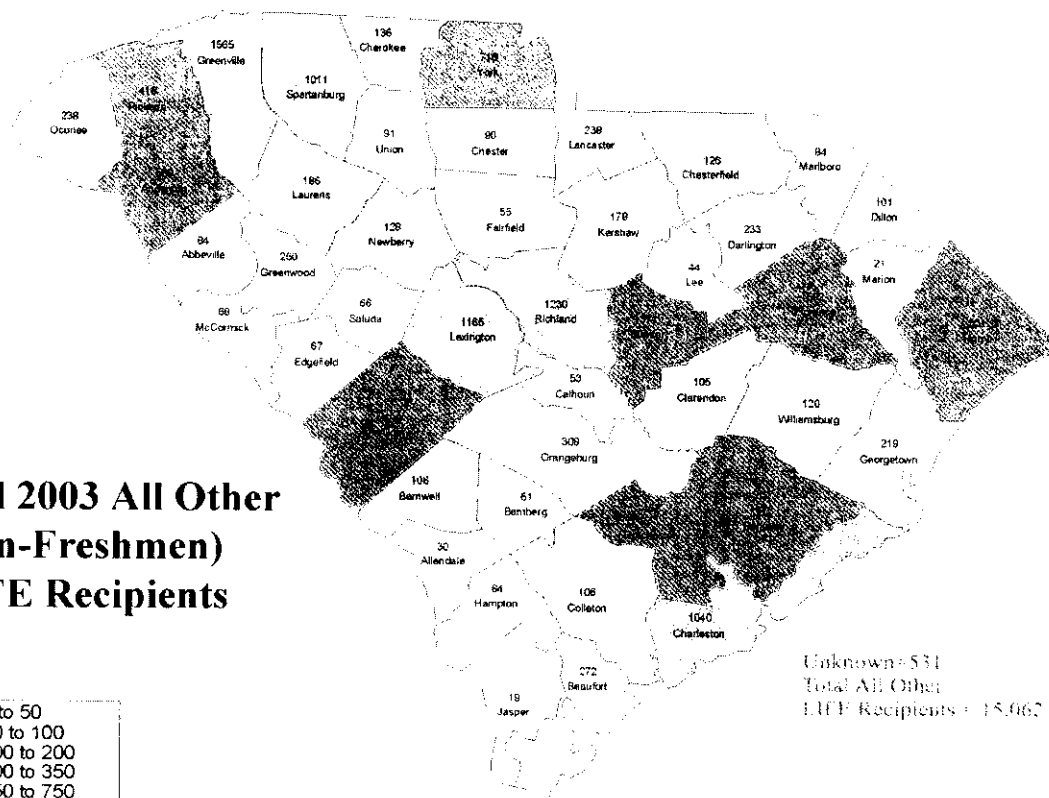
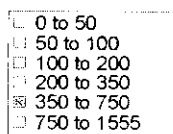
Students receiving the scholarship in Fall 2002 retained the scholarship in Fall 2003 at a rate of 65%. Freshman in Fall 2002 retained the scholarship in Fall 2003 at a rate of 49 % as compared to sophomores, 85% and juniors, 84%. Data shows that since 1998 the retention numbers have steadily increased each year.

Institution	Retained at Same Institution			
	Freshman	Sophomore	Junior	Total
Senior Public	50.6%	77.7%	82.1%	65.2%
Two-Year Regional of USC	34.7%	0	0	34.7%
Technical	21.1%	0	0	21.1%
Senior Independent	46.3%	74.4%	84.5%	63.3%
Two-Year Independent	29.8%	0	0	29.8%
Sub-Total	44.8%	77%	82.7%	60.5%
Including students who transferred from originating institution to another institution in the State and retained LIFE. The Grand Total is:	49.2%	85%	83.8%	65.1%

Fall 2003 First-time Freshmen LIFE Recipients



Fall 2003 All Other (non-Freshmen) LIFE Recipients



Unknown = 531
Total All Other
LIFE Recipients = 15,067