



Office of Financial Aid

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**S.C. LIFE SCHOLARSHIP CERTIFICATION & AFFIDAVIT
 2026-2027 Academic Year**

Each year, students awarded funds from the South Carolina Legislative Incentive for Future Excellence (LIFE) Scholarship Program must complete and submit this document to our office prior to any funds being disbursed.

Students who fail to affirm each item below will be considered ineligible for the SC LIFE Scholarship.

Student's Last Name	First Name	MI	Lander ID (L#)
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Requirements:

- I am eligible for the LIFE Scholarship to the best of my knowledge.
- I am a US citizen or legal permanent resident.
- I am a legal resident of the state of South Carolina **AND** was a SC resident at the time of my high school graduation.
- **I have not received my first bachelor's degree.**
- I am working toward my first undergraduate degree.
- I have graduated (or soon will) from high school in S.C., from an approved home school program, or from a preparatory high school outside S.C. while a custodial dependent of a parent who is a legal resident of South Carolina.
- I have never been adjudicated delinquent, convicted, or pled guilty or *nolo contendere* to any felonies or any second or subsequent alcohol/drug related offenses under the laws of this or any other state or under the laws of the United States within the last academic year.
- I am not in default on a Federal Title IV or State of South Carolina educational loan.
- I do not owe a refund on a Federal Title IV or State of South Carolina educational grant or loan.
- I will use the LIFE Scholarship only for educational costs at Lander University.
- I have not received the S.C. LIFE Scholarship for more than six semesters at all institutions.
- I have a cumulative GPA of at least 3.0 at all LIFE eligible institutions combined.
- **I have provided Lander University with final academic transcripts from ALL other institutions attended.**

Please check the box that applies to you. You must check one box.

I accept the LIFE Scholarship and hereby certify that I meet ALL the above requirements.

I must **DECLINE** the LIFE Scholarship as I do **NOT** meet ALL the above requirements.

By my signature on this document, I understand the rights and responsibilities as described above **and on the back of the page**. In addition, I understand that I must be enrolled on a full-time basis in order to receive the S.C. LIFE Scholarship. I further understand that the most current rules will be available to me via the S.C. Commission on Higher Education website at, [Scholarships and Grants for SC Residents | CHE](#) and that I should check it frequently for additional information and/or changes since the date this document was revised.

By my signature below I understand and affirm the above S.C. LIFE Scholarship affidavit. I further understand that any student who has obtained a LIFE Scholarship through means of a willfully false statement or failure to reveal any material fact, condition or circumstances affecting eligibility will be subject to applicable civil or criminal penalties, including repayment of funds and loss of future eligibility for the LIFE Scholarship. I understand that changes to state legislation may impact my scholarship eligibility. I acknowledge that Lander University reserves the right to adjust or cancel my scholarship at any time that new, revised, or updated information becomes available or if state legislation or funding changes. I certify that I have provided previous and current official transcript(s) for **ALL** institutions I have ever attended. I also affirm that if I take courses after signing this document, I will immediately provide any additional transcripts to Lander.

Student's Signature	Phone #	Date
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DATA ENTRY	Financial Aid Office Use Only (Circle one)	COUNSELOR REVIEW
RRAAREQ	Signed and Accept box checked = S and file Incomplete (missing signature or not accepted) = M (mailed), ROAMESG set, RHACOMM, copy in file Marked Declined = N and forward to counselor for review	RRAAREQ
Initials/Date		RPAAWRD
Fwd to CNSLR Date		ROAUSDF FIELD 9 as needed
		RHACOMM

ADDITIONAL CERTIFICATIONS

The rules pertaining to the S.C. LIFE Scholarship Program currently state that in order for the student to qualify for renewal of the Scholarship in subsequent years the following criteria must be met:

- Minimum cumulative GPA of 3.0 on 4.0 scale at all eligible institutions; and
- Minimum of 30 earned hours after the first year of college; or
- Minimum of 60 earned hours after the second year of college; or
- Minimum of 90 earned hours after the third year of college.
- For freshmen entering mid-year (i.e. January), the renewal requirements will be 15 hours and a 3.0 LIFE Scholarship GPA in the following August, and an average of 30 hours per year and a 3.0 LIFE Scholarship GPA thereafter. A student who starts mid-year but was not eligible for LIFE the first term must earn 45 hours and a 3.0 LIFE GPA by the end of the summer term of the 2nd academic year of enrollment to gain eligibility in the subsequent fall semester.
- If transferring to Lander, to receive the LIFE Scholarship INITIALLY, students must:
 - Have earned a cumulative 3.0 grade point average on a 4.0 scale at all transferring institutions, earned a minimum of 30 credit hours (second year transfer), 60 credit hours (third year transfer), or 90 credit hours (fourth year transfer) at all prior institutions or an annual equivalent for a student who begins mid-year at the participating institution.
 - For scholarship eligibility after the initial year of transfer, students must:
 - Earn a cumulative 3.0 LIFE grade point average based on grades earned at all institutions attended excluding remedial, continuing education, and non-degree credit courses by the end of each academic year (fall, spring, summer).
 - Must have a cumulative total of 30 credit hours (second year student), 60 credit hours (third year student), or 90 credit hours (fourth year student) earned at or accepted by Lander University toward graduation.
- Students who are not eligible going into fall term cannot regain eligibility for disbursement again until the subsequent fall term.
- Students may only be considered for the LIFE Scholarship for four years (8 semesters, not including summer) from the date of **initial** college enrollment after high school graduation.
- For entering freshmen, if the final high school transcript indicates less than an acceptable GPA and/or class rank, or does not indicate the diploma was received, the S.C. LIFE Scholarship award will be canceled.
- For upperclassmen, if the student fails to successfully complete the appropriate GPA or number of hours, any award notice for the next year will be canceled. However, you have the option of enrolling in summer school to make up deficit hours and/or cumulative GPA. If you are successful in making up the deficits, you may request reconsideration for the LIFE, provided you do so PRIOR to the first day of class in the fall term. Payment arrangements must be made if these grades are not processed prior to the fall term.
- For upperclassmen, Incompletes, retroactive withdrawals or grade changes might affect your eligibility. If a retroactive withdrawal or grade change affects your eligibility during the award year, your LIFE Scholarship will be adjusted as appropriate.
- For upperclassmen participating in a Study Away Program, if your credits are not recorded on your transcript at Lander University prior to the beginning of fall term, you may lose eligibility for the S.C. LIFE Scholarship. Discuss the promptness of delivery of your academic transcript with the host institution and the Study Away Program coordinator when deciding whether to elect such a program in the fall or spring term. In addition, students wishing to use LIFE Scholarship for study away programs are required to complete additional paperwork in the Financial Aid Office prior to the term in which they intend to study away.

APPEALS

If an extenuating circumstance has caused a student to fail to meet the academic requirements (cumulative grade point average and/or credit hours) for regaining or renewing a LIFE Scholarship, the student may file an appeal with the Commission on Higher Education. Students wishing to file an appeal must thoroughly read the Appeal Guidelines and submit all materials by the established deadline. The maximum of 8 terms for a 4-year undergraduate degree cannot be appealed. The appeal guidelines and application are available at [Student Scholarship Appeals | CHE](#) .

DISCLAIMER

All state awards for the 2026-2027 academic year, including the S.C. LIFE Scholarship, the S.C. HOPE Scholarship, the S.C. Palmetto Fellows Scholarship, and the S.C. Need-Based Grant, are based on Lander University's current understanding of the legislative actions and intent of the S.C. General Assembly. If, at any time, the actions of the General Assembly require changes to your award, your awards will be changed to comply with state requirements. You will be notified of any changes to your award. We apologize for any difficulty this may cause and assure you that we will communicate any changes to you as soon as possible.