

# **GAMECOCK GUARANTEE**

**Student Financial Aid & Scholarships**

**1244 Blossom St., Suite 200**



UNIVERSITY OF  
**South Carolina**

# WHAT IS THE GAMECOCK GUARANTEE?

- ❑ A need-based financial & academic support program created to make a USC Bachelor's degree more attainable for first-generation students from South Carolina with high financial need.
  
- ❑ The Gamecock Guarantee Grant base award is \$5000 starting 2024-25 and guarantees grant and/or scholarship coverage of tuition, technology fee, and average program fees.
  - Can receive for up to 4 years if continues to meet program criteria



# HISTORY OF GAMECOCK GUARANTEE

❑ Established in 2008 through a partnership of Enrollment Management, Office of Student Financial Aid and Scholarships, and the TRIO Opportunity Scholars Programs.

- No one can do this work alone!

❑ Modeled after similar programs created around that time as well

- Ours is unique in that it partners with a Federal TRIO Program!



# GAMECOCK GUARANTEE ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

- South Carolina Resident
- First-Generation College Student (neither parent has earned a Bachelor's degree)
- Household Income within 150% of the Health & Human Services Poverty

## Guidelines

- Eligible to receive a Federal Pell Grant
- First-Time, Full-Time Freshman for the Fall Semester pursuing a Bachelor's Degree



# GAMECOCK GUARANTEE IDENTIFICATION

Combine information from what we already have

✓ Admissions Application

- Parent's Educational Level Questions

✓ Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)

- Household Income Information Provided

Students must also meet established deadlines

✓ Admissions Deadline: December 1

✓ Financial Aid Priority Deadline: April 1

Not able to invite all students that qualify due to funding and academic support capacity limitations

Once identified as meeting criteria, TRIO OSP or the SC Honors College is notified of students eligible



# MAINTAINING GAMECOCK GUARANTEE

- Must complete FAFSA early for the next academic year and meet April 1<sup>st</sup> deadline
- Must meet financial criteria for a Federal Pell Grant or USC Access Grant
  - If does not, may continue to receive support from academic support program but will not receive Gamecock Guarantee Grant.
  - If student meets financial criteria in a future year, Gamecock Guarantee will be reinstated.
- Must be enrolled full-time
- Must meet Satisfactory Academic Progress
- Participating in their academic support program and actively pursuing Bachelor's degree by attending class, completing assignments, etc.
- Outcomes



# GAMECOCK GUARANTEE

## ADDITIONAL FINANCIAL SUPPORT

- ✓ OSP Tuition Reduction for T-sectioned courses
- ✓ Institutional Funds
  - Primarily to assist Freshmen & Sophomores
- ✓ Endowed Scholarships for Gamecock Guarantee
- ✓ General Gamecock Guarantee Supplement Fund
  - Donor funds awarded to Juniors & Seniors with high GPAs
- ✓ Expenses outweigh financial support available



# HOW ACADEMIC ADVISORS CAN HELP

- Know that students cannot become eligible for this program after they start college. The student will already be identified in EAB Navigate if they are Gamecock Guarantee or TRIO OSP.
- Remind students to complete their FAFSA for the next academic year when completing advising for each spring. Students can check [studentaid.gov](http://studentaid.gov) or pay attention to school e-mail to see when FAFSA is available.
- Keep an eye out for students not meeting CPOS requirements.
- Always ask students if they have financial aid so to advise them from that lens. Refer students to the Office of Student Financial Aid & Scholarships when they have questions about financial aid. Students can e-mail us at [uscfaid@mailbox.sc.edu](mailto:uscfaid@mailbox.sc.edu). Always remind them to include their USC ID!
  - If you see a 3GG attribute (Gamecock Guarantee), have them send an e-mail to [faidgg@mailbox.sc.edu](mailto:faidgg@mailbox.sc.edu) for financial aid questions.
- If student will not be enrolled full-time during their graduating semester, have them contact us if they have a state scholarship.





# THANKS!

## Student Financial Aid & Scholarships

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