2025-2026 SC Need-based Grant Program
Informational Sheet

The purpose of the South Carolina Need-based Grants Program is to provide additional financial aid assistance to South Carolina's neediest students. The program will assist students who wish to attend public or independent colleges or universities in the State.

Eligibility Requirements

- Student must complete a 2025-2026 Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)
- Student must be a U.S. citizen or a lawful permanent resident (eligible non-citizen)
- Student must have been a resident of South Carolina for the past twelve (12) consecutive months.
- Student must be enrolled in an eligible program of study at an eligible public institution in SC.
- Student must be enrolled in a minimum of six (6) credit hours each semester
- Student must review and sign a SCNBG Certification form
- Student must not owe a refund or repayment on a State Grant, a Pell Grant, or a Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant and is not in default on a loan under the Federal Perkins Loan or Federal Stafford Loan Programs (Federal Direct Student Loan)
- Returning students must have a cumulative GPA of 2.0 or above by the end of the term prior to the fall term being awarded. Example: student must have a 2.0 by the end of the 2025 summer term prior to being awarded for the 2025 fall term.
- Students must be in an eligible status in accordance with Title IV regulations for Federal Student Aid Programs. Please refer to the Satisfactory Academic Progress policy.

Awarding Information

- The SCNBG is a block type grant where a college is allotted a specific amount of funds they are allowed to award. For that reason, this grant will be awarded first come first served based on the date the student's SCC financial aid file was completed.
- The maximum aggregate amounts students may receive is $7000 for students seeking their first associate degree and $3500 for students receiving their first certificate or diploma.
- The annual amounts that will be awarded are $3500 ($1750 fall and $1750 spring) for students in an associate degree program and $1750 ($875 fall and $875 spring) for students in a certificate or diploma program.
- Students are normally not awarded for the summer semester. Summer awards are dependent on the availability of funds after the fall and spring semesters have been disbursed.
- SCC's allotment amount is normally received from the State in late July which is well after the college starts awarding students. Therefore, SCNBG award amounts are based on projections from patterns from previous award years. The college reserves the right to change the award amounts up until the time SCNBG is disbursed for the term. Award amounts may be decreased due to but not limited to the reasons listed below.
  - A lower than anticipated allotment amount from the State.

o   A greater number of eligible students being awarded than the previous year.
o   A greater number of students enrolled full-time than the previous year.
o   A greater number of students complete the SCNBG certification form than the previous year.

Award Usage

The SCNBG can be applied towards tuition, fees, books and supplies. Any funds remaining after all college charges have been paid will be sent to the student to help with living expenses. Listed below are the dates direct deposits will be done or physical checks will be mailed to the student.

- 2025 fall semester (2025FA): 10/15/2025
- 2026 spring semester (2026SP): 03/04/2026
- 2026 summer semester (2026SU): 06/10/2026

Continued Eligibility

- Must have a 2.0 cumulative grade point average.
- Must have an eligible satisfactory academic progress status.
- Must have successfully completed the appropriate number of credit hours based on SCNBG disbursed for the award year. See below for the number of credit hours needed to be completed.
    o   Two full-time award amounts: must successfully complete 24 credit hours.
    o   Two part-time award amounts: must successfully complete 12 credit hours.
    o   One full-time award and one part-time award: must successfully complete 18 credit hours.
    o   One full-time award: must successfully complete 12 credit hours.
    o   One part-time award: must successfully complete 6 credit hours
- A student can appeal an ineligible status by completing the SAP Appeal Form found under the Satisfactory Academic Progress section on the Financial Aid Forms page.