Now That You Are Accepted
(From Acceptance to Matriculation)

a new state of mind

Office of Admissions, Recruitment and Scholarships
South Carolina State University
Post Office Box 7127
300 College Street, NE
Orangeburg, South Carolina
Tel: 803-536-7186
Fax: 803-536-8990
Greetings,

I am pleased to welcome you to South Carolina State University, an institution where excellence is our commitment. We pride ourselves on providing our students the best educational opportunities. We have a record of distinguished and extraordinary accomplishments as evidenced by the remarkable graduates of our University and the contributions they have made. SC State has a storied history of producing leaders in all fields and we are pleased that you have joined the ranks of the many scholars who have come before you.

SC State University provides a nurturing living and learning environment that fosters student success. Our commitment is to support our students and help them reach their educational goals. The education that you receive here will allow you to work and live in productively in a global society.

I thank you for choosing SC State as your University and welcome to Bulldog Country.

Sincerely,

George E. Cooper
President
Welcome,

I am pleased that you have chosen to pursue your higher education goals here at SC State University. Our academically challenging University has a supportive faculty and staff who provide individual attention as we serve you and help you achieve your career goals. SC State University with its diverse, highly skilled and talented personnel is committed to providing instruction with a focused on your total educational growth and development.

As you read through this brochure, you will find pertinent information which will assist you with the post admission process at SC State University.

I wish you much success in your future endeavors and welcome to the campus of SC State University.

Sincerely,

Antonio Boyle

Antonio Boyle
Assistant Vice President for Enrollment Management
Dear Incoming Student:

It is truly an honor to welcome you to the great and historic South Carolina State University. We both look forward to the positive impact that you will make on our campus. We know that you will continue the legacy that has been passed down by our great alumni.

One of the largest misconceptions made by incoming students is that the college experience will come to you. We challenge you to become proactive, and make the most of your college experience. Establish a rapport with your professors early in the semester, become active within an organization on campus and volunteer at a local church or community center. It will make very positive improvement in your overall college experience.

We also encourage you to take on a leadership role on campus. We have already identified the class of 2013 as the class responsible for the Bulldog Pride initiative. This initiative will be aimed at the promotion of bulldog pride throughout the school term. However, if you are a transfer student please get involved with your particular class initiative. (Class of 2012: The Bulldog Beautification Initiative, Class of 2011: The Bulldog Health and Wellness Initiative, and Class of 2010: The Bulldog "Going Green" Initiative) Our "Royal Court" initiative will be based on Breast Cancer Awareness and overall female self-empowerment for all classes.

Remember in all things exemplify character, be proactive, get involved, and you will have an incredible Bulldog experience. Also, if you have any questions feel free to contact us via email zmiddle1@scsu.edu or zstackh1@scsu.edu. Additionally, visit the SGA Office, room # 102 in the K. W. Green Student Center. We will be glad to assist you. We also encourage you to join our Facebook group entitled "The SC State Facebook Group" to stay up to date on student events and affairs. Again welcome to Bulldog Country.

Sincerely yours,

Zachary Delano Middleton
Zachary Delano Middleton
South Carolina State University S.G. A. President

Zuri Valencia Stackhouse
Zuri Valencia Stackhouse
Miss South Carolina State University
What’s Next?

The Acceptance Packet

You have received your acceptance packet. Included in the acceptance packet are the:

- Acceptance Letter
- South Carolina State University Acceptance Form
- Health History and Physical Examination Record
  S C State University
- Housing Application

Use the following steps to complete each of the items in the Acceptance Packet:

South Carolina State University Acceptance Form

Step I: Fill out the information on the South Carolina State University Acceptance Form.

Step II:

(a) If you are a first time freshman or a transfer student and plan to live on campus, make out your personal check, money order, or cashier’s check in the amount of $160.00. Make it payable to South Carolina State University.

(b) If you are a first time freshman or a transfer student and do not plan to live on campus, make out your personal check, money order, or cashier’s check in the amount of $135.00. Make it payable to South Carolina State University.

(c) If you are a readmit student and plan to live on campus, make out your personal check, money order, or cashier’s check in the amount of $185.00. Make it payable to South Carolina State University.

(d) If you are a readmit student and do not plan to live on campus, make out your personal check, money order, or cashier’s check in the amount of $35.00. Make it payable to South Carolina State University.

Step III: If a personal check is used, write the check owner’s telephone numbers (2 telephone numbers), the driver’s license number, and expiration date of the driver’s license on the check.

Step IV: The South Carolina State University Acceptance Form and the payment should be returned to The Cashier’s Office address listed below:

The Cashier’s Office
South Carolina State University
P. O. Box  7425
300 College Street, NE
Orangeburg, SC 29117
Tel:  803-536-8529, or 536-8885
Fax:  803-536-8136

All forms included in the Acceptance Packet can be returned together in one envelope to the Cashier’s Office address located on the Acceptance Form.

NOTE: All of the above fees are nonrefundable.
What’s Next?

Health History and Physical Examination Record SC State University

Step I: Complete the front side of the Health History and Physical Examination Record SC State University.

Step II: Make an appointment with your family physician or Health Care Provider to have the back portion of the Health History and Physical Examination Record SC State University completed.

Step III: Check your immunization records to make sure that you have taken all of the required immunizations that are listed at the bottom of the back side of the Health History and Physical Examination Record form. If not, inform your family physician or Health Care Provider.

Step IV: Return the completed form to the address listed below:

Brooks Health Center
South Carolina State University
P. O. Box 7178
300 College Street, NE
Tel: 803-536-7053, or 536-7055
Fax: 803-533-3747

The University does offer health insurance coverage for students. All registered students taking six or more credit hours are automatically enrolled in the plan and premium for the insurance will be billed to the students’ accounts. Students may opt-out of the health insurance by visiting the student insurance website and providing proof of comparable coverage. You may obtain further information about the Student Insurance Program and Premium by visiting: www.studentinsurance.com.
What’s Next?

Housing Application

The Housing process for the Fall semester for incoming first-year/transfer students will be available beginning in May. All students must pay all acceptance fees (to include the Housing Room Reservation Fee) to gain access to the Residential Life and Housing Link. Once new students have access to Bulldog Connection:

Step I: Select the Student Resources tab.
Step II: Click on the Residence Life and Housing Link.
Step III: Click on the Incoming Freshman/Transfer student application. (If the housing room Reservation fees are not paid or have not been processed the student will not have access to the Residential Life Housing Link.)
Step IV: Read the application carefully and complete it in its entirety.
Step V: Sign the application electronically.

Students will be able to view their assignments by returning to the application site during early to mid-July. Students who apply for housing during the middle to latter part of the summer must stay tuned to the application site as assignments will be generated regularly.

*The Housing process for the Spring semester takes place from early December to mid-January. Students who wish to apply for housing can do so via the online housing application via Bulldog Connection, Student Resources tab, Residence Life and Housing Link. Then, click on the appropriate application link (Incoming Freshman/Transfer student). The link will be available between December 1 and the Friday prior to the start of classes in January.

Paper housing applications should only be submitted if a student does not have access to the internet. Paper applications will have a longer processing time.

Student Personal Property Plan Insurance Coverage is available. You may request information about the insurance plan from the Housing Office. You may return the Housing Application to the following address:

Housing Office
South Carolina State University
P. O. Box 7385
300 College Street, NE
Orangeburg, SC 29117
Telephone: 803-533-3675, or 536-8560
Fax: 803-516-4742
What’s Next?

Financial Aid

Have you applied for financial aid by completing a FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) application?

If Yes

Did you list South Carolina State University as one of the schools to receive your financial aid information?

If Yes

Was your FAFSA processed by the U. S. Department of Education and an Expected Family Contribution provided?

If Yes

Then

Wait to receive a letter or email from the Office of Financial Aid at South Carolina State University confirming your financial aid status.

If No

Then

Step 1: Go online to the web site: www.fafsa.ed.gov.

Step 2: If you have gathered all information to begin filling out your FAFSA, skip steps 3 & 4 and proceed to step 5. If not, go to step 3.

Step 3: If you are not sure what information is needed, click on each bulleted item under BEFORE BEGINNING A FAFSA and complete each section under that topic. This section requires you to gather required and other information ahead of time. South Carolina State University’s School Code is: 003446.

Step 4: Go back to the Home Page.

Step 5: Begin filling out the FAFSA by clicking on FILLING OUT A FAFSA. Fill out the FAFSA, enter SC State’s school code 003446, save the form, sign the FAFSA electronically with your PIN and have at least one parent to sign with his/her PIN if needed. Print the confirmation page for your records.

Step 6: Review your results online by going to the Home Page (www.fafsa.ed.gov). Under FAFSA FOLLOW-UP, click on the appropriate heading to find the information you need concerning the status of your FAFSA. Once processed, if changes need to be made, open you saved FAFSA to make changes and/or corrections and submit your changes.

Step 7: Allow approximately 2 weeks for processing and then log on to Bulldog Connection to view your financial aid status. To access Bulldog Connection, set your web browser to the following URL: http://luminis.scsu.edu. Then click on the link under “How do I get a user name and password”.

Step 8: Wait to receive a letter or email from the Office of Financial Aid at South Carolina State University confirming your financial aid status.

Observe SC State’s priority date and complete the FAFSA prior to May 1 for the upcoming school year. If you have questions, contact the Office of Financial Aid at:

Office of Financial Aid
South Carolina State University
P. O. Box 7386
300 College Street, NE
Orangeburg, SC 29117-0001
Tel: 803-536-7067, or 536-7042
Fax: 803-536-8420
Email: financialaid@scsu.edu

Get up to date financial aid information, account information, access to email and other University-related information via Bulldog Connection. To access Bulldog Connection, set your web browser to the following URL: http://luminis.scsu.edu. Then click on the link under “How do I get a user name and password”.
What’s Next?

Orientation

The Student Success and Retention Program (SSRP) will mail to you an initial Orientation Packet that will contain the following:

1. A Welcome Letter from the Executive Director for Student Success and Retention
2. Orientation Dates by Majors
3. Description of Key Activities at Orientation
4. Orientation Checklists ñ What to do before Orientation, the day of Orientation, and after Orientation
5. SC State Colleges with their Department Majors

A second letter from the Student Success and Retention Program will follow with an invitation for you to attend the specially designed Orientation that lasts one full day, from 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., along with a CONFIRMATION FORM that must be returned within five (5) business working days.

Step 1: Complete the CONFIRMATION FORM and return it immediately. This allows the Student Success and Retention Program to schedule your orientation according to the major you have chosen.
Step 2: Return the CONFIRMATION FORM to the Student Success and Retention Program.
Step 3: Wait to receive a letter from the Student Success and Retention Program that will inform you of your orientation date and time.

You are encouraged to attend the orientation session specially designed for you. At that session, important information will be provided. In addition, you will:

- meet your College Dean, your department Chair, and other faculty;
- register for your next semester classes;
- secure your residential life (housing) assignment;
- pay all of your University fees;
- take your SC State photo identification (ID) card;
- receive your username and password;
- learn about essential campus resources, policies and procedures to help you chart a course of success from ñorientation to graduation.Ø

You may contact the Student Success and Retention Program at:

Student Success and Retention Program
South Carolina State University
P. O. Box 7013
300 College Street, NE
Orangeburg, SC 29117-0001
Tel: 803-536-7142
Fax: 803-533-3724
What’s Next?

Assessment and Payment of Tuition and Fees

Assessment of fees is performed in the Office of Accounts Receivable. Once you receive your billing statement (assessment) you will be given an opportunity to pay your tuition and fees in the Cashier’s Office. You may pay your tuition and fees with American Express, Visa or Master card. You may also pay with a Cashier’s Check, Money Order or Personal Check. The preferred methods of payment are Cash, Cashier’s Check or Money Order. When using a personal check, you must provide the check owner’s driver’s license number, 2 telephone numbers, and a correct mailing address. Prior to receiving credit for payment, the personal check will be verified through a check clearance system. Your username and password allows you to access your account online. Check your account for the following:

Step 1: Check to see if all charges are correct.
Step 2: If you are living on campus, make sure that Housing, a Meal Plan and Tuition charges are on your account detail.
Step 3: If you are not living on campus, but want to eat your meals on campus, make sure that you have a Commuter Block Meal Plan on your account detail.
Step 4: If there is an error for either of the items in steps 2 or 3, go to the appropriate office to have the correction made:

Bring your assessment (billing) statement with you in order to have excess funds credited to your “Card One” account, should you desire to do so for purchase of books, supplies, etc.

If you wish to pay tuition and fees of any kind at a time other than during an Orientation Session, you may contact the Cashier’s Office and pay with an American Express, Visa, Master card, Cash, Money Order, or Cashier’s Check. You may also access the University website and pay online.

If you wish to set up a “Tuition Pay Plan,” call: 800-635-0120, or visit the website: www.tuitionpay.com. Questions regarding this service may be answered by the Office of Accounts Receivable at 803-536-8077.

You may contact the Cashier’s Office for payment of tuition and fees at:
Cashier’s Office
South Carolina State University
P. O. Box 7425
300 College Street, NE
Orangeburg, SC 29117-0001
Tel: 803-536-8529, or 536-8885, or 536-8546
Fax: 803-536-8158
What’s Next?

Activating Your “My Bulldog Connection” Account

Your “My Bulldog Connection” Account is available through the University’s web portal. All official University communications (e-mail, announcements, system notifications, etc.) will be conducted via this information channel. Your “My Bulldog Connection” Account is also your link to your email, grades, registration information, financial aid, etc. Access to your “My Bulldog Connection” account begins with your Username and Password.

To look up your Username and Password for this account:

1. Go to: http://www.scsu.edu/;
2. Click on “Current Students”;
3. Click on “Bulldog Connection”;
4. Click on “Click Here” located under “How do I get a user name and password?”;
5. You will be prompted to enter the following information: your first and last name, Pin (the last 4 digits of your social security number) and your date of birth (Format: 00/00/0000);
6. Click “Get Network Information”.

You will receive the following information: Banner/Campus ID, Banner Initial Pin, Username, Initial Password, and University e-mail address. Your username and password is to be used to log on to computers on the campus network, sign in to Blackboard, and access My Bulldog Connection. Your email account is automatically activated upon logging in to your Bulldog Connection account. To access your email, click the “email” icon at the top of your Bulldog Connection home page.

If you change your password when logging on to the windows network, this change will change your password for all applications. If you experience any difficulties accessing My Bulldog Connection or getting your Username and Password, please call (803) 516-4933 or send an email to helpdesk@scsu.edu including your username, campus wide id and the error message you received.
What’s Next?

Reporting to Campus for the Opening of School

You will have been informed by the Office of Student Success and Retention Program of the date and time to report to Campus for the opening of school. On the date that you were given to report to school, complete the following steps for moving in your dormitory room:

**Step 1:** Go directly to the Residence Hall to which you have been assigned.
**Step 2:** Upon your arrival, the residence hall staff will greet you. You will check-in to receive your room key and important information.
**Step 3:** Pick up your Orientation itinerary from the Residence Hall director.
**Step 4:** Move your belongings into your room.
**Step 5:** Follow your schedule that is given to you.
**Step 6:** If you are not living on campus, follow the schedule that was given to you at orientation for reporting to class.