

UNIVERSITY OF
South Carolina

CAROLINA ELITE

A Guide to Our Scholar Programs

SOUTH CAROLINA HONORS COLLEGE

Ranked highest among public honors colleges since 2012, the South Carolina Honors College is a small, elite college with the resources of a large research university. As one of the oldest and most comprehensive honors colleges in the country, our retention rates, national fellowship winners and average student academic profile match those of many Ivy League schools.

TOP SCHOLARS

A small community within the South Carolina Honors College, our Top Scholars receive the highest merit scholarships awarded by our university. These students have access to exclusive services to support their academic and professional goals including our National Fellowships and Scholar Programs office, which offers four years of programming.



BENEFITS OF BEING AN HONORS STUDENT

LIMITLESS INQUIRY

Our nearly 600 honors courses are not just regular classes with more assignments. Signature courses are more individualized and were created specifically to meet the unique interests of our honors students.

SMALL CLASS SIZES

With an average class size of 18, our students receive personal attention and form connections with their peers and professors, often leading to research and internship opportunities. Small class sizes also allow students to explore beyond the norm through discussion-based learning.

IN-DEPTH ADVISING

Students are paired with an Honors College advisor who provides direction on Honors College curriculum and requirements, assists with course registration and helps make strategic course selections to meet academic and postgraduation goals. Honors advisors also support our students' pursuit of Beyond the Classroom opportunities, including study abroad, internships, undergraduate research and service-learning courses.

CREATE YOUR OWN CURRICULUM

The BARSC degree allows students to create a custom curriculum by developing a challenging course of study tailored to their interests. The requirements are stringent, but the program is rewarding and lets students create their own path.

SPECIAL FUNDING

Regardless of major, students have access to research grant programs and can compete to receive financial assistance for travel abroad, academic conferences, groundbreaking research and their senior thesis.

BENEFITS OF BEING A TOP SCHOLAR

All the benefits of the Honors College, plus more.

HOLISTIC ADVISING AND TOP SCHOLAR APPOINTMENTS

Students develop strong relationships with scholar programs staff who are available to help them create long-term plans that meet their academic and co-curricular goals.

FIRST-YEAR SCHOLAR PROGRAMS

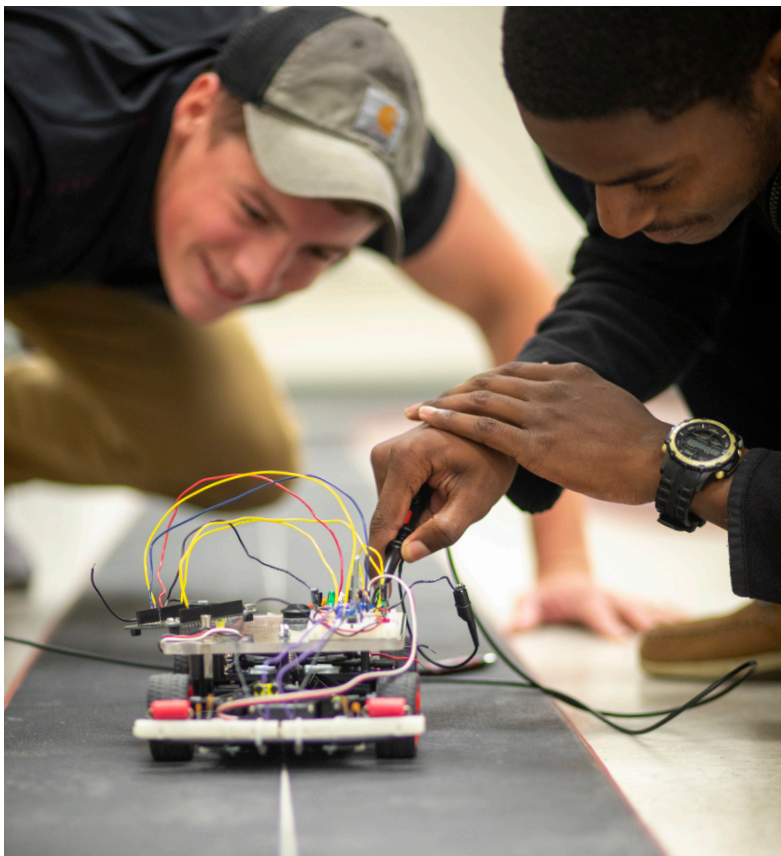
Top Scholars attend a special Orientation and Welcome Reception and participate in a team-building retreat. They are assigned to small groups led by peer leaders who help them transition to campus.

CALENDAR OF PROGRAMS

Students have access to a comprehensive calendar of activities including academic enrichment programming, social events and more.

CAPSTONE SCHOLARS

Capstone Scholars is a two-year, invitation-only academic enrichment program. The Capstone Scholars experience is defined by six areas of emphasis, and students choose those that best match their academic and professional goals. These areas are: common academic experiences, community engagement, diversity and global learning, leadership, research, and career readiness and professional development.



BENEFITS OF BEING A CAPSTONE SCHOLAR

INSTANT CONNECTIONS

Students form relationships in any number of ways, whether it's attending a Capstone Scholars event, participating in a local workshop, or scheduling meetings with Capstone Scholars faculty or staff.

PERSONAL GROWTH

Our students step out of their comfort zone to challenge themselves each semester. They experience new things like joining a student organization, training for a 5K or volunteering at service events.

CAPSTONE SCHOLARS-THEMED CLASSES

Capstone Scholars have the opportunity to take select courses with their fellow scholars like U101, English 101 and 102, hauntings, video games, politics, environment, comedy, and more.

SHORT-TERM STUDY ABROAD EXPERIENCES

"Global classroom" courses allow students to see the world as they gain credit toward their degree.

CAPSTONE SCHOLARS-EXCLUSIVE GRANTS

Students can pursue exclusive grants like the \$1,500 Passport Travel Grant, the \$1,000 Magellan Apprentice Undergraduate Research Grant and the Professional Development Grant.

OPPORTUNITY TO BECOME A CAPSTONE FELLOW

Upperclassmen can apply to earn further distinction based on their academic achievement and beyond-the-classroom experience. Capstone Fellows continue to have access to Capstone Scholars-specific grants, travel and research, and become part of an expanded professional network.

ADDITIONAL SUPPORT FOR CAROLINA ELITE

UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH

As a comprehensive research university, our faculty and students engage in research and scholarly activities that promote innovation across the arts and humanities, mathematics, engineering, and the sciences. Our sponsored research awards have totaled more than \$200 million each of the last 10 years, making a significant impact on both the state and national economy.

PRE-PROFESSIONAL ADVISING

Students work with the Office of Pre-Professional and Graduate Advising to prepare for law, medical, dental, veterinary or other professional schools. Students can take part in career observations, learn to craft unique personal statements, seek guidance on professional school applications and identify their strengths and weaknesses during mock interviews.

FELLOWSHIPS AND SCHOLARSHIPS

Receiving individual attention from award-winning faculty members and researchers has many tangible benefits, including the ability to work together to win national and international awards. Last year, USC students and recent alumni won nearly \$4.5 million for advanced academic study.

INTERNSHIPS AND CO-OPS

Internships are an important part of our Carolina Elite programs. It's not unusual for our students to complete two or more internships during their college career. With the support of internship directors and advisors for both the Honors College and Capstone Scholars, students develop a career plan and find an internship that meets their academic and personal goals.

CAROLINA ELITE FRESHMAN PROFILES

ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE AND STANDARDIZED TEST SCORES* MIDDLE 50%

CAPSTONE
1340 - 1420 SAT
30 - 32 ACT
4.3 - 4.9 HS GPA
4% - 16% Class rank

HONORS COLLEGE
1430 - 1520 SAT
32 - 34 ACT
4.5 - 5.1 HS GPA
1% - 5% Class rank

TOP SCHOLARS
1520 - 1560 SAT
34 - 35 ACT
4.7 - 5.4 HS GPA
1% - 3% Class rank

*Test score ranges only include students who chose to have their test scores considered in the admission and scholarship process.



Nationally ranked
academic programs

350+

Unique combinations
of majors, minors and
areas of study

TOP 1%

of patent-producing
universities in the world
— *National Academy of Inventors*



1 of 64

public universities to receive the
Carnegie Foundation's "highest
research activity" and "community
engagement" designations

1,900+

FULL-TIME FACULTY

87% have the highest terminal
degree in their field

OFFICE OF UNDERGRADUATE ADMISSIONS

Lieber College
902 Sumter Street Access
Columbia, SC 29208
803-777-7700
admissions-ugrad@sc.edu
sc.edu/admissions



UofSCAdmissions

SOUTH CAROLINA HONORS COLLEGE

Harper College
Columbia, SC 29208
803-777-8102
admhonor@sc.edu
sc.edu/honorscollege



SCHonorsCollege

CAPSTONE SCHOLARS PROGRAM

13 Gibbes Court
Columbia, SC 29208
803-777-3912
capstonescholars@sc.edu
sc.edu/capstonescholars



CapstoneScholars



CapstoneScholar

NATIONAL FELLOWSHIPS AND SCHOLAR PROGRAMS

DeSaussure College
Columbia, SC 29208
803-777-0958
nfsp@sc.edu
sc.edu/nfsp



UofSCNFSF



UNIVERSITY OF
South Carolina

The University of South Carolina does not discriminate in educational or employment opportunities or decisions for qualified persons on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, disability, genetics, sexual orientation or veteran status. (2023)