

SC Teachers / Career Changers Loan

Application and Promissory Note

2020-2021

Note: You may apply for both programs, but you may only receive funding from one. State funding is limited and subject to change, so apply early.

The **South Carolina Teachers Loan Program** was established by the State of South Carolina to encourage talented and qualified students to enter the teaching profession and teach in the state in areas of critical need.

The **Career Changers Loan Program** was established by the State of South Carolina to assist individuals wishing to change careers and become certified teachers in the state in areas of critical need.

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA - The following criteria is required of all applicants regardless of whether or not you have received the loan in the past. *Should you not meet the following criteria, you are not eligible for the loan.*

South Carolina Teachers Loan

1. Must be a citizen or permanent resident of the United States;
2. Must be a resident of South Carolina;
3. Must be enrolled in and making satisfactory academic progress at an accredited institution on at least a half-time basis;
4. Must be enrolled in a program of teacher education or have expressed an intent to enroll in such a program;
5. Entering freshmen must have been ranked in the top 40% of their high school graduating class and have a SAT or ACT score equal to or greater than the SC **average** for the year of graduation. Currently, these scores are: SAT (2 parts) 1021, ACT 18;
6. Enrolled undergraduate students, including enrolled freshmen (2nd term of freshman year), must have a cumulative grade point average of at least 2.75 on a 4.0 scale and must have taken and passed the Praxis Core (or Praxis I prior to 07/01/14). **Students with a SAT taken on or after 03/05/16, earning a total score of 1100 or greater (1650 for 3-part exams taken 03/01/05 - 03/04/16) or an ACT score of 22 or greater are exempt from the Praxis requirement. Other Praxis exemptions may apply, check with your college's Education Department.**
7. Entering graduate students must have at least a 2.75 grade point average on a 4.0 scale. Graduate students who have completed at least one term must have a grade point average of 3.5 or better on a 4.0 scale; and
8. If previously certified to teach, must be seeking initial certification in a different critical subject currently listed.

Teachers Loan - Loan Amounts

Freshmen and sophomores may borrow up to \$2,500 per year. All other students may borrow up to \$7,500 per year, up to a cumulative maximum amount of \$27,500.

These loans may not exceed the cost of attendance as determined by the college's Financial Aid Office.

Forgiveness

The SC Teachers and Career Changers loans are forgiven at the rate of 20% or \$3,000, whichever is greater, for each year of full-time teaching in a public school in a critical subject or critical geographic area within South Carolina. Teaching in both a critical subject and critical geographic area simultaneously increases the rate of forgiveness to 33 1/3% or \$5,000, whichever is greater, for each year of full-time teaching. The subject areas deemed critical at the time of application will be honored for forgiveness when teaching begins; critical geographic areas must be deemed critical at the time of employment. **Failure to teach in an area of critical need will require repayment of the full amount borrowed plus accrued interest. Effective for loans disbursed on or after July 1, 2013, the interest rate shall equal the Direct Stafford Loan interest rate charged for unsubsidized loans to undergraduate students plus 2%, not to exceed 8.25%.**

CREDIT REPORTING AGENCY NOTIFICATION:

I understand that information concerning the amount, disbursement, and repayment of my loan will be reported to one or more national consumer reporting agencies.

Due to limited state funding, meeting all criteria and deadlines does not ensure your receipt of a SC Teachers / Career Changers Loan.

Career Changers Loan

1. Must have held a baccalaureate degree for at least three years or worked as an instructional assistant in a SC public school;
2. Must have been employed for a minimum of three years;
3. Must be a citizen or permanent resident of the United States;
4. Must be a resident of South Carolina;
5. Must be enrolled in and making satisfactory academic progress at an accredited institution on at least a half-time basis;
6. Must be enrolled in a program of teacher education or have expressed an intent to enroll in such a program;
7. Enrolled undergraduate students, including enrolled freshmen (2nd term of freshman year), must have a cumulative grade point average of at least 2.75 on a 4.0 scale and must have taken and passed the Praxis Core (Praxis I prior to 07/01/2014). **Students with a SAT taken on or after 03/05/2016, earning a total score of 1100 or greater (1650 for 3-part exams taken 03/01/05 - 03/04/16) or an ACT score of 22 or greater are exempt from the Praxis requirement. Other Praxis exemptions may apply, check with your college's Education Department.**
8. Entering graduate students must have at least a 2.75 grade point average on a 4.0 scale. Graduate students who have completed at least one term must have a grade point average of 3.5 or better on a 4.0 scale; and
9. The requirements listed in #7 above are waived only during the borrower's initial year as an applicant.

Career Changers - Loan Amounts

Students may borrow up to \$15,000 per year, up to a cumulative maximum amount of \$60,000.



Borrower Instructions for Completing the Application and Promissory Note

In order to apply for a South Carolina Teachers Loan and/or the Career Changers Loan programs, the borrower must complete **Section 1** of this application and sign the Promissory Note. **Section 2** must be completed by an authorized official in your college's Education Department who will then submit all pages of the application to the Financial Aid Office. Please submit your application to your college as soon as possible. Signing the Promissory Note does not ensure that you will be awarded a loan nor does it obligate you in any way. Your repayment obligation begins when you accept a loan award by endorsing the award check or when funds are applied to your school account. You will be notified of your application status as soon as funding is made available.

Section 1: To be completed by borrower

IMPORTANT

- This form should be typed or printed carefully with a pen.
- Leave no blanks; incomplete applications cannot be processed.
- Follow the instructions carefully. Instruction numbers correspond to item numbers on the application.
- Upon completion, send the entire application (pages 1 & 2) to the Education Department of the college you will attend. Applications mailed directly to SC Student Loan will be returned. Your school's Financial Aid Office will mail your completed application to SC Student Loan.

Item 3 - Your permanent address must be entered. *A temporary school address is NOT acceptable.*

Item 7 & 8 - These are optional questions asked for demographic purposes.

Item 9 - Check the appropriate box if you are a U.S. citizen. If not, you must have filed a declaration of intent to become a U.S. citizen.

Item 12 - Include the county code from the list below.

Abbeville	1	Greenwood	24
Aiken	2	Hampton	25
Allendale	3	Horry	26
Anderson	4	Jasper	27
Bamberg	5	Kershaw	28
Barnwell	6	Lancaster	29
Beaufort	7	Laurens	30
Berkeley	8	Lee	31
Calhoun	9	Lexington	32
Charleston	10	McCormick	33
Cherokee	11	Marion	34
Chester	12	Marlboro	35
Chesterfield	13	Newberry	36
Clarendon	14	Oconee	37
Colleton	15	Orangeburg	38
Darlington	16	Pickens	39
Dillon	17	Richland	40
Dorchester	18	Saluda	41
Edgefield	19	Spartanburg	42
Fairfield	20	Sumter	43
Florence	21	Union	44
Georgetown	22	Williamsburg	45
Greenville	23	York	46
		Out of State	50

Item 13 - Check the box indicating your intended enrollment status. If you will be attending **less than half-time** you are not eligible for a loan.

Item 14 - You should give the entire loan period for which you are requesting assistance. Month and year is satisfactory (Example: 08/2018 to 05/2019). **Assistance is not available for summer terms.**

Item 17 A - If you anticipate teaching in a critical geographic area as defined annually, check this box. (You can view this information on our website at www.scstudentloan.org by clicking on 'Current Borrowers' then 'Teacher Forgiveness'.)

Item 17 B. If you anticipate teaching in a critical subject area, use the following codes:

Code # / Critical Subject Areas

Code	Subject	Code	Subject
25	Agriculture	43	Literacy
07	Art	01	Secondary Mathematics
17	Business/Marketing/ Computer Technology	26	Middle School Levels (English, Mathematics, Science, Social Studies)
39	Career and Technology Education	30	Music
41	Chinese	27	Physical Education
24	Dance	02	Secondary Science
19	Secondary English	51	Secondary Social Studies
31	English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL)	11	Spanish
12	French	04	Special Education
18	German	28	Speech Language Therapist
03	Library Media Specialist	23	Theatre

Item 19 - Answer only if you are applying for the Career Changers Loan program.

Item 20 - Supply complete information for two references. These should be persons who will know your whereabouts after you leave college. One reference must be a parent or guardian. If your parents are deceased, you must provide your closest living adult relative.

Borrower Instructions for Signing the Application and Promissory Note

Write in the dollar amount you wish to borrow in the "Promise to Pay" section.

Example: "...the sum of \$ 2500 .00"

If an error is made in completing this item, mark a single line through the mistake and correct it above, initialing all changes. **ALL CHANGES MUST BE INITIALED BY THE BORROWER.**

2,000 H.A.
Example: "...the sum of \$ 2500 .00"

After reading the "Promise to Pay" section, sign your **full legal name**, including first name, middle initial, and last name. **Use a ballpoint pen. DO NOT PRINT.**

Fill in the date you are signing the Application and Promissory Note. By signing you accomplish two things: 1) you acknowledge that you have read, understand, and agree to the provisions in the Student Certification on the reverse side; and 2) you agree to repay the loan in full in accordance with all the terms and conditions indicated in the Promissory Note.

After You Have Completed the Application and Promissory Note

- Check to be sure Section 1 is legible and complete.
- Make a copy of the Application/Promissory Note and keep for your records.
- Forward both pages of the Application/Promissory Note to your school's Education Department. Do not mail the application to SC Student Loan without having Sections 2 and 3 completed by the school.
- **FAXED, SCANNED, OR PHOTOCOPIED IMAGES WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.**
- If you have any questions about the processing of your application, contact SC Student Loan at PO Box 102405, Columbia, SC 29224, (803) 798-0916 or (800) 347-2752.

Section 1. To be completed by borrower

Borrower is responsible for forwarding the completed application to the college's Education Department. Please make a copy for your records.

I am applying for: SC Teachers Loan Career Changers Loan (You may apply for both, but receive funding from only one.)

1. Social Security Number _____ - _____ - _____	2. Legal Name _____ <small>(Last) (First) (MI)</small>		
3. Permanent Mailing Address Street _____ Home Phone (____) _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Cell (____) _____	4. Date of Birth (mm/dd/yyyy) ____ / ____ / ____		
5. Driver's License State _____ Number _____	6. Email Address _____	7. Gender (optional) <input type="checkbox"/> Male <input type="checkbox"/> Female	
8. Racial or Ethnic Group (optional) <input type="checkbox"/> African-American <input type="checkbox"/> Asian American <input type="checkbox"/> American Caucasian <input type="checkbox"/> Hispanic American <input type="checkbox"/> American Indian <input type="checkbox"/> Other (specify) _____	9. Citizenship <input type="checkbox"/> U.S. Citizen <input type="checkbox"/> Non-U.S. Citizen <input type="checkbox"/> Permanent Resident Alien ID number: _____	10. Have you ever defaulted on a student loan? (If yes, send copy of paid in full letter) <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	11. Legal resident of what state? _____ Since _____ (mm/dd/yyyy)
12. County Code (See instructions, Item 12) _____	13. Intended Enrollment Status <input type="checkbox"/> Full-time <input type="checkbox"/> At Least Half-time	14. Loan Request Period From (mm/yyyy) ____ / ____ To (mm/yyyy) ____ / ____	15. Anticipated Date of Graduation (mm/dd/yyyy) ____ / ____ / ____
16. Did you participate in the SC Teacher Cadet Program? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	17. Check all that apply. I plan to teach in: A <input type="checkbox"/> A critical geographic area B <input type="checkbox"/> A critical subject area (specify code _____) (See instructions, Item 17B)	18. Have you ever been certified to teach? (If yes, please specify area.) <input type="checkbox"/> Yes _____ <input type="checkbox"/> No	

19. For Career Changers Loan applicants only: (Please complete a-c below.)

(a) Has it been at least 3 years since you completed your baccalaureate degree? Yes No Date Completed _____ (mm/dd/yyyy)

(b) Have you been employed as an instructional assistant in a SC public school? Yes No

(c) Have you been employed for at least 3 years? Yes No

My signature certifies that I agree to the terms of the Promissory Note as summarized on the back of this form, and I am willing to enter into such an agreement if I am chosen as a SC Teachers Loan or Career Changers Loan recipient. In addition, if my school participates in electronic funds transfer (EFT), I authorize the school to transfer the loan proceeds received by EFT to my student account. I hereby certify that I have read and agree to the Borrower Certification and Authorization included with this form and that upon graduation, I plan to teach in a South Carolina public school at the preschool, elementary, or secondary level.

PROMISSORY NOTE: Promise to Pay: I, the undersigned student borrower identified in Section 1, Item 2, promise to pay to you or your order when this note becomes due as set forth in the Agreement on the reverse side of this application, the sum of:

\$ _____ .00.

I understand that this is a Promissory Note. I will not sign this Promissory Note before reading it, including the writing on the reverse side, even if otherwise advised. I am entitled to an exact copy of this Promissory Note, the Notice of Loan Guarantee and Disclosure Statement and any agreement I sign. By signing this Promissory Note, I acknowledge that I have received an exact copy hereof.

Signature of Student (full legal name)

Date

AFTER SIGNING, DELIVER PAGES 1-5 (not a photocopy, scan, or fax) TO THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT OF THE COLLEGE WHERE YOU WILL ATTEND.

11. Default. At the option of SCSLC, or its agents, this loan may be in default after any notice required by law, and SCSLC, or its agents, will have the right to give me notice that the whole outstanding principal balance, accrued interest, and all other amounts payable are due and payable at once. If SCSLC chooses to accelerate this Promissory Note, SCSLC does not give up our right to use another remedy later. I will be in default for any of the following reasons:

- (A) I fail to make required payments by the end of the calendar month in which this loan becomes 180 days past due; or
- (B) I made any materially untrue statement or misrepresentation in applying for this loan or at any time thereafter; or
- (C) I fail to comply with the express purpose and terms of this loan.

12. Collection Costs. If I default on the loan and SCSLC, or its agents file suit or take other action to collect this loan, I agree to pay to SCSLC, or its agents, reasonable collection fees, court costs, and attorney fees subject to the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act and other applicable laws.

13. Waiver. I acknowledge and agree that failure by the holder to exercise any right hereunder with respect to any failure or breach of mine shall not constitute a waiver of the rights as to any subsequent breach or failure. I hereby waive presentment, protest, notice of protest, demand, and notice of dishonor.

14. Governing Law and Notices. The terms of this loan will be interpreted in accordance with South Carolina and federal laws. Any notice required to be given to me will be effective if mailed by first class mail to the latest address I have provided. If I am attending a school in South Carolina, this loan will be treated as entered into in the county of South Carolina in which my institution is located.

15. Credit Bureau Notification. SCSLC, or its agents, may report information about your account to credit reporting agencies. Late payments, missed payments, or other defaults on your account may be reflected in your credit report.

16. Loan Assignment, Sale or Transfer. I may not assign or otherwise transfer my rights under this Promissory Note to anyone else. SCSLC may sell, or otherwise transfer, one or all of my loans without my consent. Should ownership or servicing of a loan be transferred, I will be notified of the name, address, and telephone number of the new holder if the address to which I make my payments changes. Sale or transfer of my loans to a subsequent holder does not affect my rights and responsibilities.

Borrower Certification and Authorization

I declare that the following is true and correct:

1. The information I have provided on this application is true, complete and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief, and is made in good faith.
2. The proceeds of this loan will be used only for expenses associated with the SC Teacher Loan Program or the SC Career Changers Loan Program.
3. I understand that I am required to notify SC Student Loan Corporation (SCSLC) (or any subsequent holder of my loan(s)) in writing if any of the following events occur before the loan is repaid: (a) I change my address; (b) I change my name (e.g., maiden to married); (c) I change my employer or my employer's address changes; or (d) I have any other change in status that would affect my loan status.
4. I acknowledge that this loan is subject to the limitations on dischargeability in bankruptcy contained in the provisions of the United States Bankruptcy Code, including but not limited to, 11 U.S.C. §523.
5. Telephone Communications Privacy Act: If I have listed a cellular phone number in my application, or later provide a cellular phone number to SCSLC, then I authorize SCSLC, its affiliates or agents, to call my cellular phone or send SMS text messages to me using an automatic telephone dialing system or prerecorded message in order to provide account information and services regarding my account or any of the products or services I request from SCSLC. Receipt of cellular phone calls or SMS text messages may be subject to service provider charges. SCSLC may contact me in order to assist me with the completion of any application I begin, to address any technical problems associated with my account or any product or service I request, or to send me notices regarding my account, approval for any products or services for which I apply, payment reminders, or collection efforts. If I do not want to receive cellular phone calls and SMS text messages about my loan, I can unsubscribe by contacting SCSLC at (800) 347-2752, or in writing at PO Box 102402, Columbia, SC 29224. SCSLC, its affiliates or agents, may contact me using any telephone number provided by me.
6. If I provide SCSLC with an email address in this application, or later provide SCSLC with an email address, then I authorize SCSLC, its affiliates, servicers, service providers, or agents to contact me by email in order to provide information to me regarding my loan, this Loan Agreement, or my relationship with you. You may contact me to assist in the completion of a loan, to address any technical issues associated with my loan, or to send me notices relating to my loan. If I do not wish to receive email communications from you, I will contact you by phone at (800) 347-2752 or in writing at PO Box 102402, Columbia, SC 29224. You may contact me by using any email address provided to you.
7. I authorize SCSLC, or its agents, to investigate my credit record and report information concerning my loan status to proper persons and organizations.
8. I authorize the release of information pertinent to this loan (a) to the school and (b) to members of my immediate family unless I submit written directions otherwise; and (c) to other organizations to the extent permitted by law.

South Carolina Student Loan

Student Name _____ (Last) _____ (First) _____ (MI)
 SSN _____ - _____ - _____

The college's Financial Aid Office is responsible for returning the completed application to SC Student Loan. Please make a copy for your records.

Section 2. To be completed by college's Education Department

20. Based on information available to this office, the student is a / an:
 (A) Entering freshman (B) Continuing undergraduate student
 (C) Graduate student who HAS NOT completed one semester/term (D) Continuing graduate student
21. Has the student completed the necessary prerequisites required for entrance into the state approved, regionally accredited teacher education program at your institution? Yes No
22. If the student **has not** completed 60 credit hours of undergraduate study (semester basis), has the student demonstrated to you or a member of your Department a desire and intent to enter the program? Yes No
23. If the student **has** completed 60 credit hours of undergraduate study (semester basis), has the student taken the necessary steps to be admitted into the teacher education program? Yes No

Signature of Authorized Education Department Official _____

Date _____

Title _____

Institution _____

After signing, please forward this application to the college's Financial Aid Office.

Section 3. To be completed by college's Financial Aid Office

Certification sent Electronically
 Paper

24. School Code _____		25. Name of School _____ Address _____		
26. Phone () _____		27. Loan Period (mm/dd/yyyy) <small>(Not to include summer)</small> From _____ To _____		28. Student's Grade Level _____
29. Anticipated Graduation Date (mm/dd/yyyy) _____/_____/_____		30. Enrollment Status <input type="checkbox"/> Half-time or greater <input type="checkbox"/> Less than half-time		
31. SC Resident? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No		32. Certified Amount \$ _____ .00		33. Recommended Date(s) of Disbursement (mm/dd/yyyy) 1 st _____ 3 rd _____ 2 nd _____ 4 th _____
34. High School Class Rank (applicable for freshmen only) Rank: _____		35. SAT / ACT Score (applicable for freshmen only) <input type="checkbox"/> SAT (Critical Reading & Math) <input type="checkbox"/> ACT Score: _____		36. Cumulative GPA _____ on a _____ scale

37. My signature below certifies that I have read and agreed to the "Educational Institution Certification" printed on the back of this form.

Signature of Authorized School Official _____

Printed / Typed Name and Title _____

Date _____

Upon school completion of page 4, return pages 1-5 (not a photo copy, scan or fax) to South Carolina Student Loan, PO Box 102405, Columbia, SC 29224, Telephone: (803) 798-0916 or (800) 347-2752

Borrower Certification and Authorization

I declare that the following is true and correct:

1. The information I have provided on this application is true, complete and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief, and is made in good faith.
2. The proceeds of this loan will be used only for expenses associated with the SC Teacher Loan Program or the SC Career Changers Loan Program.
3. I understand that I am required to notify SC Student Loan Corporation (SCSLC) (or any subsequent holder of my loan(s)) in writing if any of the following events occur before the loan is repaid: (a) I change my address; (b) I change my name (e.g., maiden to married); (c) I change my employer or my employer's address changes; or (d) I have any other change in status that would affect my loan status.
4. I acknowledge that this loan is subject to the limitations on dischargeability in bankruptcy contained in the provisions of the United States Bankruptcy Code, including but not limited to, 11 U.S.C. §523.
5. Telephone Communications Privacy Act: If I have listed a cellular phone number in my application, or later provide a cellular phone number to SCSLC, then I authorize SCSLC, its affiliates or agents, to call my cellular phone or send SMS text messages to me using an automatic telephone dialing system or prerecorded message in order to provide account information and services regarding my account or any of the products or services I request from SCSLC. Receipt of cellular phone calls or SMS text messages may be subject to service provider charges. SCSLC may contact me in order to assist me with the completion of any application I begin, to address any technical problems associated with my account or any product or service I request, or to send me notices regarding my account, approval for any products or services for which I apply, payment reminders, or collection efforts. If I do not want to receive cellular phone calls and SMS text messages about my loan, I can unsubscribe by contacting SCSLC at (800) 347-2752, or in writing at PO Box 102402, Columbia, SC 29224. SCSLC, its affiliates or agents, may contact me using any telephone number provided by me.
6. I authorize SCSLC, or its agents, to investigate my credit record and report information concerning my loan status to proper persons and organizations.
7. I authorize the release of information pertinent to this loan (a) to the school and (b) to members of my immediate family unless I submit written directions otherwise; and (c) to other organizations to the extent permitted by law.

Educational Institution Certification

I hereby certify that the student named on this application is accepted for enrollment or is enrolled half-time or greater and is maintaining satisfactory academic progress. I further certify that, based upon records available at this institution, this student is neither in default nor owes a refund with respect to previous federal financial assistance, and that the information provided in Section 3 is true, complete, and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.