Bring out the best with Clemson

let's begin ® →

Clemson University knows that the decision to apply to college is a major milestone in a student's life. As a counselor, you want the very best for them and want to guide them in the right direction for their bright future.

U.S. News & World Report *ranks us in the top 15 percent of all national public universities, and we consistently challenge students to do great things. We know students will be coming to you for answers to everything from how to apply to how to get financial aid, and we are here to help.*

Give them the answers they need

How to Apply to Clemson

1. **Review important dates and deadlines** (found here).

2. **Complete the application.**

   Submit your application through the *Clemson Application*, *Coalition Application* or the *Common Application*. No preference is given to any application in the admission review process.

3. **Pay the application fee.**

   There is a $70 application fee. Clemson accepts all major credit cards. If you cannot afford to pay the application fee, please fill out the financial sections of the application completely. This information will determine if you meet the level of need we can approve by policy for a fee waiver. If you have other hardships concerning the application fee, please reach out to the Clemson University Admissions *counselor for your state*.

   Clemson participates in the following need-based fee waivers: College Board, ACT and the National Association for College Admission Counseling (NACAC).

4. **Request test scores be sent from The College Board or ACT (optional for 2022-2023 academic year).**

   For the 2022-2023 admissions cycle, Clemson has adopted a test-optional policy. Applicants are not required to submit a standardized test score to be considered for admission to Clemson for the 2022-2023 academic year.

   If a student chooses to submit test scores, they must be sent electronically by the respective testing agency. We will automatically update your application file with any new test scores we receive by our application deadlines. Clemson does not require the SAT or ACT essay.

   Students are asked to self-report test scores on the application as well as have official scores sent by the testing agency. Clemson superscores both the ACT and SAT.
   - Clemson's institutional code for the SAT is 5111.
   - Clemson's institutional code for the ACT is 3842.

5. **Complete the Self-Reported Academic Record (SRAR).**

   All first-year applicants are required to self-report their high school transcripts. After submitting their application, students will access the SRAR system through their Applicant Portal. We strongly encourage students to have an unofficial copy of their transcript available when completing the SRAR.

Q: I want to apply. What's next?

Students are strongly encouraged to submit their application by December 1 for priority consideration for admission and scholarships. May 1 is the final date to apply for the Fall semester.

Students are required to apply for admission electronically. It's quick and easy to apply online, and Clemson has three ways to do it.

1. Apply directly through Clemson University and find tips, requirements and timelines about admission and acceptance at *clemson.edu/admissions/undergraduate*.
2. Students can also fill out the Coalition Application by visiting *coalitionforcollegeaccess.org*.
3. Clemson offers a third way to apply through the Common App at *commonapp.org*.

Q: What gives me the best chance for acceptance to Clemson?

For first-year applicants, the following factors are considered for acceptance:

Academics

Clemson Tigers seek a challenge. The single most important factor we consider in making an admission decision is the high school record. We use the student's GPA and rank in class as expressions of high school performance. Other consideration criteria include the types of courses taken and the student's pattern of performance throughout high school. The vast majority of our applicants present transcripts with college preparatory, honors and AP coursework. Most also have competitive GPAs.

Community Engagement

Clemson Tigers are engaged in their communities. Many people have hobbies and interests. Clemson Tigers have passions and service mindsets that guide them to leadership roles in clubs, organizations, sports teams, volunteer activities, the arts, academic clubs and part-time jobs. Let us know about how you led your team to a championship win, the research you've conducted or the job you've excelled in while maintaining an excellent GPA.

Background and Opportunities

Clemson Tigers come from a variety of backgrounds. We are looking for students who bring varied experiences, knowledge and talents to Clemson. For this reason, diversity, legacy status and first-generation status are considered when reviewing applications. We understand that not everyone has the same opportunities. When reviewing applications, your coursework, activities and curriculum are examined in the context of what is offered in your high school.

Your Unique Story

Clemson Tigers have unique stories to tell. We want to hear about the skills, experiences, challenges and triumphs that have shaped you. Upload an optional personal statement with your application to let us know if there are specific circumstances that impacted your academic performance for a specific period of time or in a particular class. We want to hear your story.

TEST SCORES
Clemson has a test-optional policy for the 2022-2023 admissions cycle. While students are not required to submit scores for admission review, this policy does not represent a devaluation of standardized tests. Our goal is to make the best admissions decisions possible, and we continue to acknowledge that standardized tests can be useful in that process.

Getting down to basics

Q: What are my required high school credits?

Most students accepted to Clemson have taken college preparatory courses in high school. We recommend that applicants for first-year admission complete the following courses:

English..4 credits
Mathematics...................................3 credits
Laboratory Science.......................3 credits
Foreign Language (same language)...........3 credits *
Social Sciences.............................3 credits
Other.…..2 credits
Fine Arts..1 credit
Physical Education/ROTC.............................1 credit

* Students who have completed fewer than three credits of the same foreign language are encouraged to apply. Select majors may have additional requirements.

Q: How does Clemson evaluate standardized test scores (SAT or ACT)?

For the 2022-2023 admissions cycle, Clemson has adopted a test-optional policy. Applicants are not required to submit a standardized test score to be considered for admission to Clemson for the 2022-2023 academic year.

If a student chooses that test scores should be used, the scores must be submitted electronically by the respective testing agency. We will automatically update students' application file with any new test scores we receive by our application deadlines. Clemson does not require the SAT or ACT essay.

Clemson University super-scores both the SAT and the ACT. For the SAT, this means that the overall total SAT score will then be derived by taking the highest of the evidence-based reading and writing/math scores. The super composite ACT score is calculated as the average of the best ACT English, reading, math and science subject scores.

Q: Do I have to interview with someone to be admitted?

Clemson does not require an interview for admission; however, we encourage students to go to *clemson.edu/visit* where they can discover a variety of visit opportunities, including a virtual tour, and different ways to connect with Clemson.

Q: What if I'm not sure of my major?

Applicants to Clemson are required to select a major on their application, but undeclared remains an option for students who are not yet sure what they want to study. The good news is we offer more than 80 cutting-edge degree programs. Check out *clemson.edu/degrees* to connect interests and aptitudes with a possible major and future career.

Q: Does Clemson accept AP credits?

Yes. Advanced Placement (AP) credit is awarded to students earning grades of 3, 4 or 5 on the College Board Examinations. Clemson University strongly endorses the AP program and consistently ranks among top colleges and universities in the nation in the number of students reporting AP grades.

Q: Does Clemson have a preference for AP, IB or dual-enrollment courses?

AP, IB and dual-enrollment offerings vary widely from school to school, so we look at your coursework in the context of what was offered at your high school. Future Clemson Tigers shine by accepting the challenge when AP, IB or dual-enrollment classes are offered in high school. Visit *Transfer Course Equivalency* to gauge how many of your AP, IB and dual-enrollment courses translate to Clemson credit.

Q: I've applied. When do I find out if I've been accepted?

Students who apply by December 1 and have all application materials on file by December 31 will receive a decision the week of February 15. Students who apply after December 1 may hear the week of February 15 or as soon as possible thereafter. Students who receive University scholarships may hear earlier than February 15 once the application file is complete.

CLEMSON UNIVERSITY HONORS COLLEGE

The Honors College combines the strengths of a public, land-grant university with those of a highly selective small college. Here's a snapshot of the 2021 first-year honors class:
- 406 students
- Top 5% average high school class rank
- 3.95 average unweighted GPA

After Applying

HERE'S WHAT YOU NEED TO DO AFTER SUBMITTING YOUR APPLICATION.

We will provide updates on the status of your application via email, but you can also view your application status and updates by visiting your *Applicant Portal*.

Students can review the most up-to-date information about their application, see missing and fulfilled checklist items, upload optional documents such as personal statements, register for virtual events and more through the Applicant Portal.

Submit your Self-Reported Academic Record (SRAR)

Clemson University requires first-year applicants to self-report their high school transcripts. Students who are admitted to Clemson will be required to send official transcripts prior to enrollment.

Submit Standardized Test Scores (Optional)

For the 2022-2023 admissions cycle, Clemson has adopted a test-optional policy. Applicants are not required to submit a standardized test score to be considered for admission to Clemson for the 2022-2023 academic year. However, if you would like your scores to be reviewed, please request that they be sent directly from the testing agency and allow seven to 10 business days for them to be added to their application file.

Complete the FAFSA

The *Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)* is available on October 1. The amount of need-related aid for which you are eligible is determined by the information you supply annually on the FAFSA. To be considered for need-based scholarships, applicants must also submit the FAFSA to the federal processor by January 2.

Explore Financial Aid Options

There is no separate application process for the majority of scholarships and aid at Clemson. Students who want to be considered for academic recruiting or diversity scholarships must apply for admission by December 1 and complete the admissions process by December 31.

Students should contact the *Office of Student Financial Aid* for additional information. Students will receive an email notification about their financial aid award package in the spring. If additional aid is needed, there are federal and private loan options or a *Tuition Payment Plan* available.

Need to edit your application?

Students who need to change their major, edit their personal information, change their application term or withdraw their application should visit their *Applicant Portal*.

Paths to Clemson

There are several paths for admission to Clemson apart from the traditional Fall admit acceptance. Please note that first-year Fall admits have until May 1 to choose whether or not to enroll and that students admitted for Fall may opt-in to the Summer term if they choose.

Incoming first-year students who apply by December 31 will receive an admission decision by mid-February. Incoming first-year students who apply after December 31 may receive a decision by mid-February or soon after, depending on the application submission date.

- **Summer Admit — Clemson Summer Start**

  Some students are admitted to the Summer term through the *Summer Start program.* Students can indicate their interest in being considered for the Summer Start program on the application.

  Summer Start allows students to enroll and make progress toward graduation by completing a challenging academic experience the summer before their first year. Students enroll in two courses to equal six credit hours of instruction. Courses are selected based on a variety of factors, including AP/IB/transfer/dual-enrollment credit, along with requirements for their major.

  Students receive mentoring and academic coaching throughout the Summer term. They have until May 1 to choose whether or not to enroll.

- **Bridge to Clemson**

  Students admitted to the *Bridge to Clemson* program will begin their Clemson experience by taking courses at Tri-County Technical College for their first year.

  Bridge students live on Clemson's campus and have access to Clemson activities and services. Bridge students are assured a seamless transition to Clemson if academic expectations are met (completion of 30 credit hours with a 2.5 GPA).

  Students have until May 1 to pay a deposit to commit to the Bridge program. There is no separate application for the Bridge program. Students are referred through the Clemson admissions process.

- **Transferring**

  Transferring to Clemson can be a great option for students who may want to take some college-level courses at another two- or four-year institution. Note that if students attend any regionally accredited college after high school, they would apply as a transfer. If their only college coursework was taken while in high school and prior to graduation, they would apply as a first-year student. To learn more about how credits transfer to Clemson, visit the *Transfer Course Equivalency List*.

First-Year Student Application Timeline

Fall
Recommended time frame to submit at least one set of scores for the SAT or ACT. Make sure to list Clemson to receive the scores. This is optional for the 2022-2023 admissions cycle.
SAT code is 5111.
ACT code is 3842.

December 1
Submit the undergraduate application for Summer/Fall admission by this date to ensure notification in mid-February.*

December 31
Deadline for submission of self-reported transcript and standardized test scores (optional for 2022-2023) to receive priority consideration for academic recruiting scholarships for Summer/Fall semester (students must submit application by December 1).

January 2
Deadline for students to submit FAFSA for need-based programs and consideration for loans and grants.

Mid-February
Admissions decisions are mailed to students who applied by December 1; students who applied after December 1 may receive a decision at this time or shortly thereafter.*

May 1
Final deadline to apply for Summer/Fall admission.*

*We will notify students by email when we receive their application and keep them updated on the status of their application while it's under consideration.

Financial Aid

Clemson University is among the top schools in the country for best value according to both *U.S. News & World Report* (2022) and *The Princeton Review* (2022). And *Money* magazine and *Best Value Schools* rank Clemson among their top value universities.

Financial aid is usually awarded on the basis of need to supplement the amount students and their parents can contribute to college expenses. The University also awards some scholarships based entirely on academic merit. For more information, visit *clemson.edu/financial-aid*.

Federal Aid

The first step to receiving federal aid is to fill out the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) online (*fafsa.gov*). This must be completed to receive any federal aid (grants, loans, work study). The FAFSA priority deadline is January 2, 2022. The 2022-2023 FAFSA can be completed beginning October 1, 2021. Students enrolling early in the Clemson Summer Start program need to also complete the 2021-2022 FAFSA by June 30, 2022.

Clemson Scholarships for First-Year Students

The Office of Admissions automatically reviews each applicant to Clemson for scholarship eligibility (no additional scholarship application required).

High school performance, test scores and financial need are all considered when awarding scholarships. Incoming first-year students must apply for admission by December 1 to be considered.

Students who choose not to submit test scores for the 2022-2023 admissions cycle will still be considered for academic recruiting scholarships. If students are submitting test scores, they need to be received by Clemson by December 31. Merit scholarship packages will be communicated to students in spring 2022. To be eligible for federal and state-based aid, we encourage students to complete the FAFSA located at *fafsa.gov* by January 2, 2022.

South Carolina State Scholarships

All requirements for eligibility, renewal and enhancement listed below apply to the 2021-2022 academic year and are subject to change based on review by the S.C. General Assembly.

Palmetto Fellows Scholarship

The Palmetto Fellows Scholarship is the state's premier scholarship, valued at $6,700 for the first year and $7,500 for subsequent years. In order to receive the Palmetto Fellows Scholarship, students must apply through their high school guidance counselor and meet all of the following academic requirements:

- Be ranked in the top 6% of the high school class.
- Score a minimum of 1200 SAT or a 27 on the ACT composite.
- Earn a 3.5 GPA on the uniform grading scale.

Alternative criteria for Palmetto Fellows Scholarship are:

- Score a minimum of 1400 SAT or a 32 on the ACT composite.
- Earn a 4.0 GPA on the uniform grading scale.

In order to renew the scholarship, students must:

- Earn 30 credit hours each academic year (Fall, Spring, Summer). Please note that AP/IB classes do not count in credit hours for renewal.
- Earn a 3.0 GPA at Clemson University.

LIFE Scholarship

The LIFE Scholarship is valued at $5,000 per year. In order to receive the LIFE Scholarship, students must meet two out of three of the following academic requirements:

- Graduate in the top 30% of their high school class.
- Score a minimum of 1100 SAT or a 24 on the ACT composite.
- Graduate with a minimum 3.0 GPA on the uniform grading scale.

There is no application process for the LIFE Scholarship. Students will automatically be reviewed and awarded the scholarship by Clemson. To renew the LIFE Scholarship, students must:

- Earn an average of 30 credit hours per academic year (Fall, Spring, Summer) from all colleges attended. AP/IB classes do count in credit hours for renewal.

Hope Scholarship

The Hope Scholarship is valued at $2,800 and is nonrenewable. In order to receive the Hope Scholarship, students must graduate with a minimum 3.0 GPA on the uniform grading scale. After the initial award year, eligibility may be established for the LIFE Scholarship.

Palmetto Fellows/LIFE Scholarship STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics) Enhancement

Students may qualify for the enhancement after their first year if they complete 14 credit hours of approved math and science courses prior to the start of their second year. Students must also be in an approved STEM Enhancement major.

AP/IB courses will count toward the enhancement requirements (but not the credit renewal requirements for Palmetto Fellows Scholarship).

- Palmetto Fellows Scholarship will increase to $10,000 per academic year.
- LIFE Scholarship will increase to $7,500 per academic year.

Private Scholarships

Students can learn about the availability of private scholarships by checking with high school guidance counselors, religious institutions, community organizations and their parents' employers. There are also a number of private scholarship resources available online at *clemson.edu/financial-aid/types/ scholarships/private-scholarships.html*. Students can continue to search for private aid throughout the year.

Loans

Federal Direct Loans

Federal Direct Loans are educational loans for which the student is the borrower.

- Maximum first-year loan amount is $5,500.
- Part of the amount can be subsidized (interest accrues after graduation), which is based on financial need as determined by the FAFSA; the rest will be unsubsidized (interest accrues during school).
- Interest rate for 2021-2022 is 3.73%

Borrower must complete entrance counseling and sign a loan agreement (MPN) online at *studentloans.gov*.

Federal Direct PLUS Loan

Federal Direct PLUS Loans are educational loans for which the parent is the borrower.

- Maximum loan amount is up to the remaining annual cost of attendance.
- Interest rate for 2021-2022 is 6.28%.

Parent borrower must be creditworthy, complete an application and sign a loan agreement (MPN) online at *studentloans.gov*.

Estimated Costs for 2021-2022

S.C. Resident Full Time (per year)

Tuition and Fees*	$15,558
Room and Board (approximate)	$12,234
Books and Supplies (approximate)**	$1,248
Total	$29,040

Nonresident Full Time (per year)

Tuition and Fees*	$38,550
Room and Board (approximate)	$12,234
Books and Supplies (approximate)**	$1,248
Total	$52,032

Other Expenses

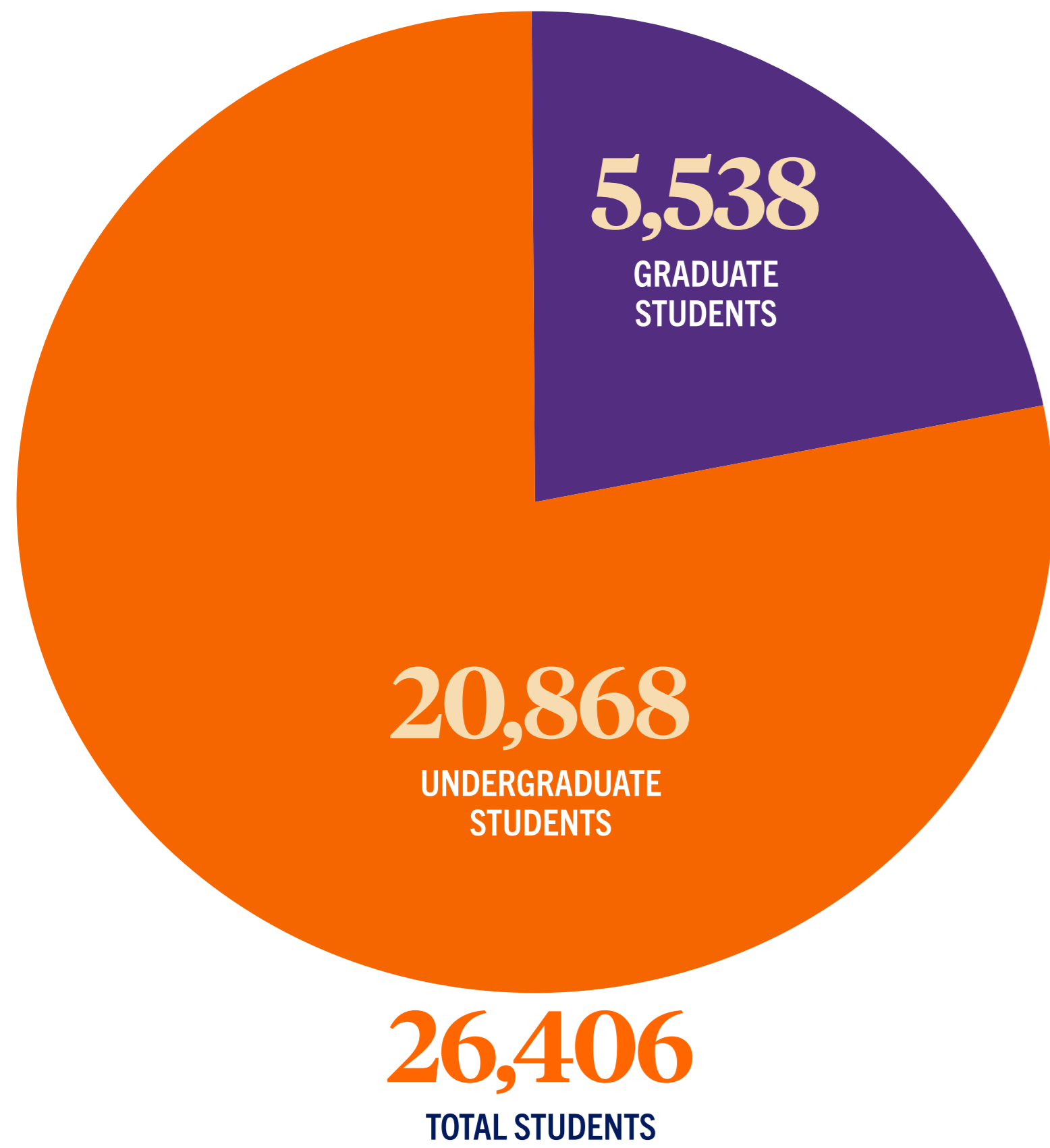|	
Estimated personal/transportation	$5,056
Estimated computer cost**	$1,886

*Assumes health and other mandatory fees (required for all full-time students) and average lab fees. Major enrichment fees apply to some majors and can range up to $2,500.

**All students are required to own a laptop computer. For details, go to *clemson.edu/laptop*.

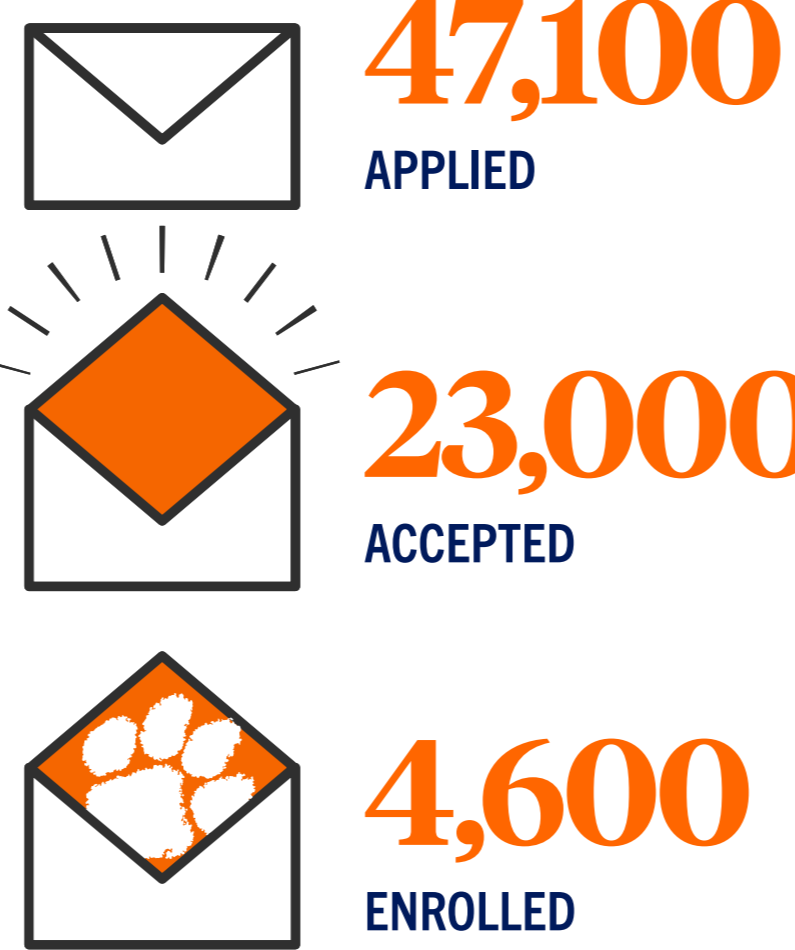All figures are for the 2021-2022 academic year and are subject to change.

Clemson by the numbers

2020 ENROLLMENT

5,538 GRADUATE STUDENTS

20,868 UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS

26,406 TOTAL STUDENTS

50% MALE

50% FEMALE

2021 FIRST-YEAR STUDENT PROFILE*
*Preliminary numbers as of August 2021

47,100 APPLIED

23,000 ACCEPTED

4,600 ENROLLED

1240–1400 SAT MIDDLE 50% OF SCORES*

29–30 ACT MIDDLE 50% OF SCORES*

*For students who reported scores for admission review

HIGH SCHOOL CLASS RANK

55% TOP 10 PERCENT

80% TOP 20 PERCENT

99% TOP 50 PERCENT

2020 UNDERGRADUATE GEOGRAPHIC DIVERSITY

NY: 492
MA: 366
CT: 262
PA: 404
NJ: 785
MD: 406
VA: 516
NC: 1,050
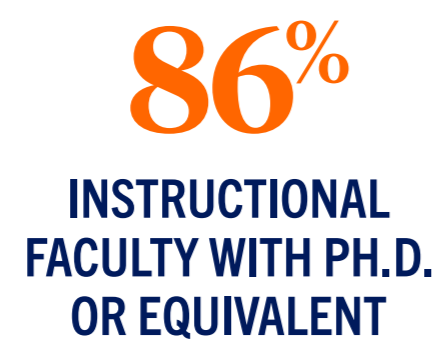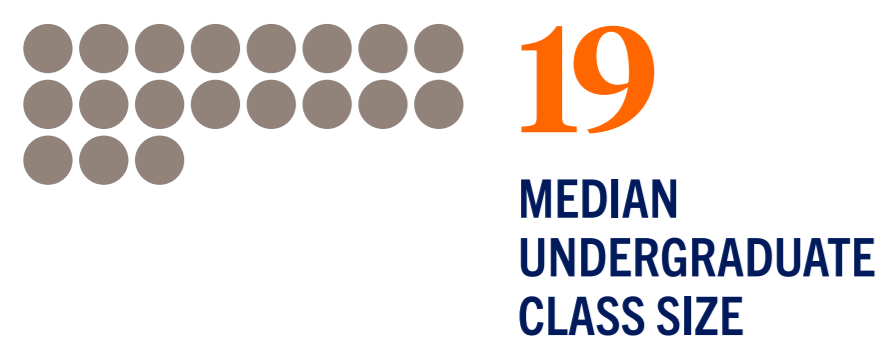GA: 850
SC: 13,419
FLA: 378
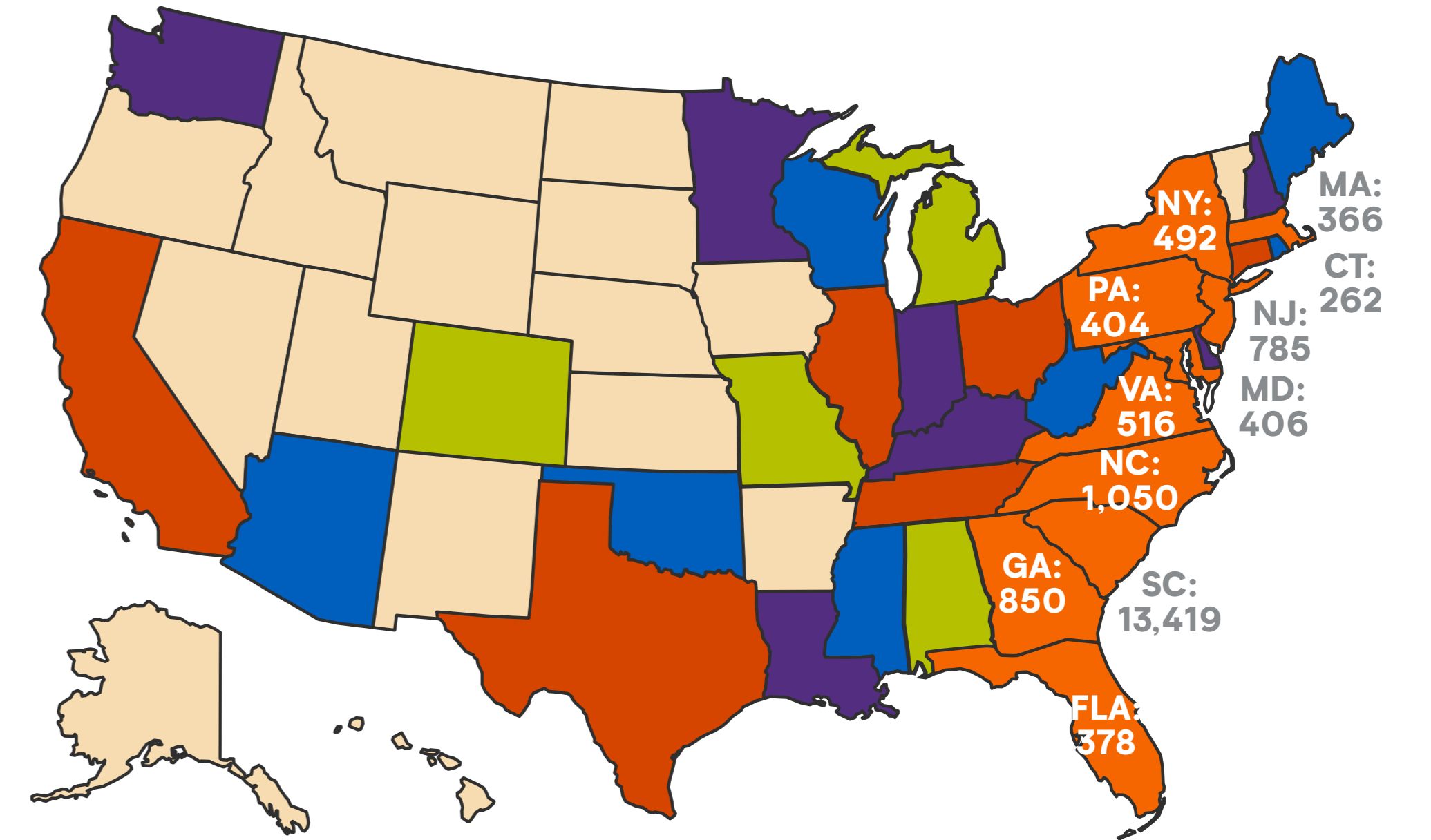
- 250+ students
- 100-250+ students
- 50-99+ students
- 25-49 students
- 10-24 students
- less than 10 students

2021 FIRST-YEAR STUDENT CLASS REPRESENTATION

51% South Carolina Residents

269 South Carolina High Schools

1,383 Out-of-state High Schools

48 States and the District of Columbia

14 Foreign Countries

ACADEMICS REPORT

16:1 STUDENT-TO-FACULTY RATIO

19 MEDIAN UNDERGRADUATE CLASS SIZE

86% INSTRUCTIONAL FACULTY WITH PH.D. OR EQUIVALENT

91% FULL-TIME INSTRUCTIONAL FACULTY

GRADUATION RATE

85% SIX-YEAR GRADUATION RATE FOR 2013 COHORT

94% RETENTION RATE FOR FALL 2018 CLASS

2020 FINANCIAL AID

82% STUDENTS RECEIVE SOME TYPE OF FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE, INCLUDING STATE, FEDERAL AND UNIVERSITY AWARDS

99% FIRST-YEAR STUDENTS RECEIVED STATE SCHOLARSHIPS

Help them find their way

Visit us.
Clemson offers both in-person and virtual tour options. *clemson.edu/visit*

Chat with admissions.
Join undergraduate admissions counselors for virtual office hours on Zoom. Counselors will be available from 1:30 to 3 p.m. EST Monday through Friday on the Zoom platform. To participate, you will need a computer or mobile device along with a strong internet connection. We also recommend that you download Zoom before the information session begins.

Start your virtual conversation. *clemson.edu/admissions* or call 864-656-2287

Connect with a faculty member.
Contact any department of interest directly at *clemson.edu/degrees*.

Apply to Clemson.
Find more information at *clemson.edu/admissions/undergraduate*.

Keeping up with Clemson.

f *facebook.com/clemsonuniv*

Instagram *instagram.com/clemsonuniversity*

Twitter *twitter.com/ClemsonUniv*

TikTok *@clemsonuniv*

YouTube *youtube.com/clemsonuniversity*

LinkedIn *Clemson University*

CLEMSON