Dear counseling friends:

I want to thank you for the many things you do to support and assist students. We especially appreciate the help you provide as these young learners confront the complexities of the college-selection process.

This guide is one of the ways we try to assist you, by providing up-to-date information about Clemson and answering commonly asked questions related to our admissions program. We also use this opportunity to share highlights from our newest freshman class, those who joined us in the fall of 2016.

They are a great group, and we look forward to welcoming even more outstanding students with the next incoming freshman class.

Thank you again for your guidance and expertise, and please don’t hesitate to contact my office with questions, feedback or concerns. We are here to support you.

Sincerely,
Robert Barkley
Director of Admissions

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No. 23: Clemson’s ranking among top national public universities
(U.S. News & World Report, 2017)
There are plenty of reasons to encourage students who are interested in Clemson to pursue our school, but there’s one that stands heads above the rest: Our commitment to making sure the student experience is an exceptional one.

Rigorous academics and a commitment to student engagement have earned Clemson accolades as one of the nation’s top public research universities. But it’s also been lauded as a great return on investment and a “best value” in public colleges.

Then there’s student life here. It’s as idyllic as it gets, surrounded by incredible natural beauty — national forests, beautiful lakes and rolling mountainside all just minutes from campus. No wonder Clemson students are among the nation’s happiest.

Most impressive, though? Nearly nine out of 10 seniors say they would choose Clemson if they were in your students’ shoes — making the decision to attend college here all over again.

18-1: Average student-to-faculty ratio
Clemson invests in student success at every turn, through a wide array of educational, pre-professional, research and service-learning programs, all designed to nurture curiosity, creativity, understanding and accomplishment.

Academic Success Center
Housed in a 35,000-square-foot space, the ASC provides peer-assisted learning, academic coaching and tutoring, and is designed to help students stay in school and maintain their state scholarships. More than 50 percent of freshmen use the ASC during their first semester.

Academic Student Services
The University offers academic advising centers in each college, as well as a variety of other services designed to help you succeed and flourish during college.

- Class of 1941 Studio for Student Communication (clemson.edu/1941studio)
- I LEAD! Integrated leadership and development program (clemson.edu/cecas/ose/leadership/ilead.html)
- Pearce Center for Professional Communication (clemson.edu/centers-institutes/pearce)
- PEER (Programs for Educational Enrichment and Retention) and WISE (Women in Science and Engineering) (clemson.edu/cecas/departments/peer-wise)
- Rutland Institute for Ethics (clemson.edu/ethics)

Academic Success Center

Q. Do I have to interview with someone to be admitted?
Clemson does not require an interview for admission; however, students must attend a two-day Orientation program during the summer prior to the beginning of classes. Students may make other visits, with or without an appointment, during normal business hours (Monday–Friday, 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.). We encourage students to come see our campus! The Visitors Center conducts guided tours during fall and spring semesters Monday through Friday. Contact the Visitors Center at 864-656-4789 to confirm specific dates and times. Or encourage your students to go to clemson.edu/visit where they can discover a variety of visit opportunities and different ways to connect with Clemson.

Q. What if I’m not sure of my major?
Applicants to Clemson are required to choose a major, so that students can then be accepted into one of the University’s seven colleges. The good news is we offer more than 80 cutting-edge degree programs from those colleges. List a second choice to improve your chances of acceptance. Whether you know exactly what you want to major in or you need some suggestions, Clemson’s degrees website provides a sneak peek into what your future might hold. Check out this dynamic search engine to connect your interests with a possible major and future career. clemson.edu/degrees

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 February 1 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.
Creative Inquiry

At Clemson, we’re committed to world-class undergraduate research. Why? Because it’s one of the best ways to give students the hands-on, real-life experiences they need to succeed in work and life.

That’s where Creative Inquiry (CI) comes in. CI is open to every Clemson student, and it’s one of the unique ways that we encourage motivated learners to keep learning. Team-based investigations are led by faculty mentors, and students often find themselves presenting their work at national conferences — fielding questions in front of professors and professionals alike. In 2015-16, 4,917 students participated in 421 Creative Inquiry teams. The CI program offers small-group learning for more than 18,000.

clemson.edu/ci

More than half of Clemson classes have fewer than 20 students. The average undergraduate class has 31 students.
At Clemson University students can expect to find state-of-the-art facilities — places where high-caliber learning happens and thrives. Hands-on educational opportunities wait at every turn, and influential faculty and experienced professionals are here to help guide the way.

Clemson’s student retention rate is consistently more than 90 percent. It’s no wonder our students’ accomplishments stand heads above the rest.

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. (For a complete listing of credits received in 2015, see page 14.)

Q. Does Clemson accept International Baccalaureate Credit?
Clemson recognizes the academic challenges of the International Baccalaureate (IB) Diploma Programme. IB graduates who score well on their higher-level exams will be awarded college credit. Be sure to include your IB candidate number in the space provided on the Clemson application. (For more on credits received in 2015, see page 15.)

Calhoun Honors College
Nearly 1,500 of Clemson’s most academically competitive students call our Calhoun Honors College home. 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 2016 freshman honors class:
- 307 students
- 1440 average SAT
- 33 average ACT
- Top 3 percent: average high school class rank
clemson.edu/cuhonors

Co-op
The Cooperative Education Program provides an opportunity for students to alternate semesters of academic study with semesters of paid, career-related, engaged-learning experiences to bridge the gap between academic study and its application in professional practice.
clemson.edu/coop

Study Abroad
In 2015, 1,456 students enriched their education by studying abroad. Students in a variety of majors have opportunities at the Archbold Center in Dominica; the Daniel Center in Genoa, Italy; the Clemson University Brussels Center in Belgium; and numerous other locations around the globe.
clemson.edu/studyabroad

More than $215,000 was awarded to students in travel and research grants in 2015-16 by the Calhoun Honors College.

Center for Career and Professional Development
A variety of services and partnerships with employers, faculty and staff all are designed to empower and employ students, including providing access to internships and for-pay cooperative education opportunities.
clemson.edu/career

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clemson.edu/studyabroad

More than $215,000 was awarded to students in travel and research grants in 2015-16 by the Calhoun Honors College.
Q. Do I have to live on campus my freshman year?
Yes. Clemson University policy stipulates that all unmarried freshmen who are under the age of 21 at the time of enrollment, who do not live with a parent within a 50-mile radius of campus are required to live in University-owned housing for the fall and spring semesters. Transfer students are housed on a space-available basis.

Q. What about my car? Can a freshman have one on campus?
Freshmen are permitted to have cars on campus at Clemson. Anyone who parks a car on campus must obtain a parking permit from Parking Services and park in designated areas for the permit that is issued. Freshmen who plan to live on campus must know their housing assignment before applying for a parking permit.

No. 5. Ranking of Clemson’s career services program, according to the 2017 Princeton Review.

91 percent: Percentage of first-year students who rated their overall educational experience as good or excellent. (2015 National Survey of Student Engagement)

Get involved.
There are more than 400 student clubs and organizations on campus from fraternities and sororities, to international groups, military organizations, religious, service, sports, fitness, performing arts and much more.

Head out.
Less than an hour from the Blue Ridge Mountains, next door to the S.C. Botanical Garden and Hartwell Lake, outdoor pursuits abound at Clemson.

Live it up.
All of Clemson’s residence halls and apartment complexes are within a 10- to 15-minute walk to class. For an even more enriching residential experience, check out our nationally recognized Living-Learning Communities — home to more than 1,500 students. Here, undergraduates with common academic interests and life experiences share residence hall space, staff, programming and resources dedicated specifically to them.

Play hard.
As a member of the Atlantic Coast Conference, Clemson boasts 19 NCAA athletic teams. Admission to regular-season events played on campus is included in University fees for full-time students, including football, basketball, soccer, baseball, diving, cross-country, track and field, golf, volleyball, tennis and rowing.

No. 3. Ranking Clemson received among colleges where their students love these colleges, according to the 2017 Princeton Review.

No. 1: Best tailgate tradition in the South (Southern Living magazine)
FINANCIAL AID

**Q. When can I apply for a scholarship at Clemson?**
The Office of Admissions automatically reviews each freshman applicant to Clemson for scholarship eligibility. No additional application is required.

**FINANCIAL AID**

Eighty-four percent of first-time students were offered some form of financial aid at Clemson totaling more than $154 million. Seventy-two percent (100 percent of in-state) were offered some type of scholarship, including about $21 million in state scholarships; 63 percent were offered a Clemson University scholarship.

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

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

Freshman scholarships range from $500 to $15,000 per year. Test scores, class rank and GPA are all considered when awarding scholarships. Incoming freshmen must apply for admission by December 1, with the admissions process completed by December 31 to be considered.

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**Test scores need to be received by Clemson on or before March for scholarship consideration.**

The high school transcript submitted for admission evaluation will be the same transcript used to determine merit scholarship eligibility.

**Resident Merit Scholarships**
South Carolina residents who rank in the top 10% of their high school class and score a minimum of 1320 (EBRW+M) on new SAT or a 27 on the ACT composite will receive a merit scholarship of $2,500.

**Non-Resident Merit Scholarships**
Domestic out-of-state students who are ranked in the top 10% of their high school class and score a minimum of 1320 (EBRW+M) on new SAT or a 27 on the ACT composite will receive a merit scholarship. Scholarships range from $7,500 to $15,000 annually.

To maintain eligibility for non-resident merit scholarships, students must earn a 3.0 Clemson GPA and earn 24 credits per year (fall, spring, summer).

These non-resident merit scholarships will be reduced or removed for students who become South Carolina residents or receive other tuition-specific scholarships.

**Clemson Non-Resident Grant**
A $2,500 grant is available to domestic out-of-state students who meet the following criteria:

- Score a minimum of 1320 (EBRW+M) on new SAT or 28 on the ACT composite
- Demonstrate substantial financial need on the FAFSA
- File the FAFSA by March 1

To maintain eligibility for non-resident grants, students must earn a 2.5 Clemson GPA and earn 24 credits per year (fall, spring, summer). These non-resident grants will be reduced or removed for students who become South Carolina residents or receive other tuition-specific scholarships.

**Presidential Scholarship**
Students with the Palmetto Fellows Scholarship who score a minimum of 1450 (EBRW+M) on new SAT or a 32 on the ACT composite will receive an additional renewable scholarship of $2,500.

**Non-Resident Merit Scholarships**
Domestic out-of-state students who are ranked in the top 10% of their high school class and score a minimum of 1320 (EBRW+M) on new SAT or a 27 on the ACT composite will receive a merit scholarship. Scholarships range from $7,500 to $15,000 annually.

To maintain eligibility for non-resident merit scholarships, students must earn a 3.0 Clemson GPA and earn 24 credits per year (fall, spring, summer).

These non-resident merit scholarships will be reduced or removed for students who become South Carolina residents or receive other tuition-specific scholarships.

**Clemson Non-Resident Grant**
A $2,500 grant is available to domestic out-of-state students who meet the following criteria:

- Score a minimum of 1320 (EBRW+M) on new SAT or 28 on the ACT composite
- Demonstrate substantial financial need on the FAFSA
- File the FAFSA by March 1

To maintain eligibility for non-resident grants, students must earn a 2.5 Clemson GPA and earn 24 credits per year (fall, spring, summer). These non-resident grants will be reduced or removed for students who become South Carolina residents or receive other tuition-specific scholarships.

**SOUTH CAROLINA STATE SCHOLARSHIPS**
**Please note students may only receive one South Carolina state scholarship per year. SAT and GPA minimums are expected to increase for 2018-19.**

**Palmetto Fellows Scholarship**
The Palmetto Fellows Scholarship is the state’s premier scholarship, valued at $6,700 for the freshman 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 (EBRW+M) 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 (EBRW+M) 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)
- Earn a 3.0 GPA at Clemson University (Please note that AP/IB classes do not count in credit hours for renewal.)

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

- Graduate in the top 10% of their high school class
- Score a minimum of 1100 SAT (EBRW+M) 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 must be in the top 5% of their high school class and score a minimum of 1270 (EBRW+M) on new SAT or a 27 on the ACT composite.

To renew the LIFE Scholarship, students must:

- Earn a 3.0 all-college GPA (AP/IB classes do not count in credit hours for renewal)
- Be ranked in the top 6% of the high school class
- Earn an average of 30 credit hours per academic year (fall, spring, summer) from all colleges attended
- Earn a 3.0 all-college GPA (AP/IB classes do not count in credit hours for renewal)

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

Students may qualify for the enhancement after their freshman 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, churches, 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.

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

- **Maximum freshman 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 2016-17 is 3.76%.**

**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 2016-17 is 6.31%.**

**Interest rates are subject to change for 2017-18.**

**Parent borrower must be creditworthy, complete an application and sign a master promissory note online at studentloans.gov.**
International Baccalaureate
Clemson University recognizes the academic challenges of the International Baccalaureate (IB) Diploma Programme. IB graduates who scored well on their higher-level exams were awarded 1,637 hours of college credit in 2016. Students taking these courses should be sure to include their IB candidate number in the space provided on their Clemson application.

IB Test Number of Students Receiving Credit Per Test

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>Biology</th>
<th>Chemistry</th>
<th>Computer Science</th>
<th>Dance</th>
<th>Design Technology</th>
<th>Economics</th>
<th>French</th>
<th>History: Europe and Mid East</th>
<th>History: The Americas</th>
<th>English Language and Lit</th>
<th>English Literature</th>
<th>Mathematics</th>
<th>Music</th>
<th>Physics</th>
<th>Psychology</th>
<th>Spanish</th>
<th>Theatre Arts</th>
<th>Info Tech in Global Society</th>
<th>Visual Arts</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>1,718</td>
<td>4,027</td>
<td>1,268</td>
<td>350</td>
<td>73</td>
<td>837</td>
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<td>15</td>
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IB Test

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>Calculus AB</th>
<th>Calculus BC</th>
<th>Statistics</th>
<th>Psychology</th>
<th>Science</th>
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<tr>
<td>Biology</td>
<td>586</td>
<td>416</td>
<td>101</td>
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<td>Chemistry</td>
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<td>Computer Science A</td>
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<tr>
<td>Environmental Science</td>
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<td>Physics 1</td>
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<td>Physics B</td>
<td>250</td>
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<tr>
<td>Physics C: Electricity and Magnetism</td>
<td>126</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>14</td>
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<tr>
<td>Physics C: Mechanics</td>
<td>136</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>14</td>
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</table>

IB Diploma Programme

2016 Freshmen Receiving Advanced Placement Credit by Exam

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Total Clemson hours awarded</th>
<th>42,092</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total number of freshmen receiving AP credit (students earned a grade of 3, 4 or 5)</td>
<td>2,532</td>
</tr>
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</table>

**SAT Scores for 2016 Freshmen by Percentile**

(Middle Range 50%)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SAT Scores for 2016 Freshmen by Percentile</th>
<th>2016 Freshman Class</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>S.C. Residents</td>
<td>1250</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Out-of-State Residents</td>
<td>1300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All S.C. College-Bound Students</td>
<td>1120</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All U.S. College-Bound Students</td>
<td>1100</td>
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<table>
<thead>
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<th>ACT Scores for 2016 Freshmen by Percentile</th>
<th>2016 Freshman Class</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>S.C. Residents</td>
<td>28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Out-of-State Residents</td>
<td>36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All S.C. College-Bound Students</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>All U.S. College-Bound Students</td>
<td>34</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**2016 Freshmen by Decile Rank and SAT Scores**

<table>
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<tr>
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<th>400</th>
<th>800</th>
<th>1200</th>
<th>1600</th>
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<td>17</td>
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<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>0</td>
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<td>2</td>
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<table>
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<tr>
<th>SAT Score</th>
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<th>1200</th>
<th>1400</th>
<th>1600</th>
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<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
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</tbody>
</table>

**2016 Freshmen by Decile Rank and ACT Scores**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ACT Score</th>
<th>600</th>
<th>800</th>
<th>1000</th>
<th>1200</th>
<th>1400</th>
<th>1600</th>
<th>TOTAL</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>3</td>
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<td>12</td>
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**2015 Bridge Program Highlights**

This distinctive academic transfer program provides targeted advising, student support services, and a student life component for freshmen. You must apply for regular admission to Clemson, and it is an invitation-only program. Students are notified February 15.

In 2015, 786 students were enrolled in the Bridge to Clemson program, and 632 successfully met the requirements to enroll at Clemson.

**2016 Freshman Class Highlights**

- The mean weighted grade point average (GPA) for entering freshmen is 4.37.
- 57 percent of entering freshmen graduated in the top 10 percent of their high school class; 82 percent graduated in the top 20 percent, and 99 percent graduated in the top half.
- The mean SAT score for entering freshmen is 1,243.* The mean SAT score for South Carolinians is 1,322, while out-of-state students average 1,262.
- The average ACT score for entering freshmen is 28.4. The average ACT score for South Carolinians is 27.8 and for out-of-state students is 29.3.
- 32 percent of freshmen are majoring in engineering.
- 284 African-American students enrolled as freshmen.

*Based on a total SAT score of 1,600

No. 7: Ranking of freshman ACT scores among all national public universities (U.S. News & World Report, 2017)
Application Timeline

**Fall:** Deadline to take the SAT if the student hasn’t already done so. The student should list Clemson to receive his or her scores. (Clemson’s institutional code for SAT is 5111; the code for ACT is 3842.)

- **December 1:** Application deadline for fall admission to ensure February 15 notification.*
- **December 15:** Application deadline for spring admission (January enrollment).*
- **December 31:** Deadline for completion of application file to receive consideration for academic recruiting scholarships for the fall semester.
- **Mid-February:** Admission decisions mailed to students who applied for admission by December 1. Students who applied after December 1 may receive a decision at this time or shortly thereafter.*
- **March 1:** Deadline to submit the FAFSA for loans and grants.
- **May 1:** Final deadline to apply for fall admission. *

*We will notify students via email when we receive their application and keep them updated on their status while it is under consideration. Students will receive a Clemson application number via email, as well. They should use this number in any official correspondence with the University.

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Get Your Clemson Coordinates.

Come see us.
Your students have probably been to campus, but we’d love to see them again! Tell them to let us know they’re coming by visiting clemson.edu/visit first or call 864-656-4789. Check the website for special, on-campus visitation events held throughout the year.

Talk with admissions.
Open Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. No appointment necessary. clemson.edu/admissions or call 864-656-2287

Follow us.
Encourage your students to follow @BeAClemsonTiger on Twitter for admissions updates, campus information and more.

Meet with a faculty member.
While your students are on campus, they can contact the department they are interested in directly. Find specific majors by visiting our website at clemson.edu/degrees.

More information:
clemson.edu

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youtube.com/clemsonuniversity
instagram.com/clemsonuniversity

Written Requests:
Office of Admissions
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Clemson, SC 29634-5124

Ranked No. 12 Best Public Colleges (Money, 2017)