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 outstanding freshman class, those who joined us in the fall of 2018.

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,

David Kuskowski
Director of Admissions
There are plenty of reasons to encourage students who are interested in Clemson to pursue our school, but there’s one that stands above the rest: our commitment to making sure the student experience is an exceptional one.

Academic rigor and 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.

Pursuit of Excellence
Ranked among the Top 25 national public universities by U.S. News & World Report for 11 straight years.
Connect with the future.

Clemson offers 80+ undergraduate degree programs. Students can dual major, major-minor, select concentrations and obtain professional certifications within a challenging core curriculum.

There are many unique paths to reach the same career goal. Start by visiting clemson.edu/degrees to explore the options. Learn which companies have recently hired our grads and what graduate schools they’re attending. Then talk directly with someone who can answer specific questions about coursework.

Not sure what to study? The Center for Career and Professional Development can help students identify the right fit for their interests and talents.
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 students succeed and flourish during college.

- Class of 1941 Studio for Student Communication (pearce.caah.clemson.edu/programs/41-studio)
- I LEAD! Integrated Leadership Education and Development program (clemson.edu/business/current-students/leadership/lead.html)
- Pearce Center for Professional Communication (pearce.caah.clemson.edu)
- 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)
Real-World Learning

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.

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 2017-18, 4,838 students participated in 414 Creative Inquiry projects.

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. Engaging educational opportunities abound, and influential faculty and experienced professionals are here to help guide the way.

**Academic Excellence**

Calhoun 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 2018 freshman honors class:
- 313 students
- 1480 average SAT
- 32 average ACT
- Top 4 percent: average high school class rank

clemson.edu/cuhonors

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

clemson.edu/career

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
Students in a variety of majors have opportunities to enrich their education 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

No. 2. Ranking of Clemson’s career services program, according to the 2019 *Princeton Review.*
**Campus Life**

College is where we make our lifelong friends, the ones we grow old with. That's why, alongside top-ranked academics, Clemson offers a lively and nurturing social environment.

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**Head out.**
Less than an hour from the Blue Ridge Mountains, next door to the S.C. Botanical Garden and Hartwell Lake, outdoor pursuits are enjoyed year-round 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. Here, undergraduates with common academic interests and life experiences share residence hall space, staff, programming and resources dedicated specifically to them.

**Get involved.**
There are more than 500 student clubs and organizations on campus from fraternities and sororities, to international groups, military organizations, religious, service, sports, fitness, performing arts and much more.

**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.

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**No. 7:** Happiest students, according to the 2019 *Princeton Review.*

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**No. 1.** Ranking Clemson received among colleges where their students love these colleges, according to the 2019 *Princeton Review.*
Financial Aid

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.

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

Test scores, class rank, GPA and financial need are all considered when awarding scholarships. Incoming freshmen must apply for admission by December 1 to be considered.

Test scores need to be received by Clemson by December 31 for scholarship consideration. The high school transcript submitted for admission evaluation will be the same transcript used to determine merit scholarship eligibility. Information regarding scholarship packages will be communicated to students in spring 2019. To be eligible for federal and state-based aid, we encourage students to complete the FAFSA located at fafsa.gov by January 2, 2019.

SOUTH CAROLINA STATE SCHOLARSHIPS
All requirements for eligibility, renewal and enhancement listed below apply to the 2018-19 academic year and are subject to change based on review by the SC General Assembly.

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 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 non-renewable. 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 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, 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.

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 2018-19 is 5.05%

Borrower must complete entrance counseling and sign a master promissory note 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 2018-19 is 7.6%.

Parent borrower must be creditworthy, complete an application and sign a master promissory note online at studentloans.gov.
2017 FRESHMAN PROFILE

HIGH PERCENT TOP 10 59 %

TOTAL STUDENTS 24,951

2018 ENROLLMENT

2018 Freshman Class Highlights

- The mean weighted grade point average (GPA) for entering freshmen is 4.44.
- 56 percent of entering freshmen who provide a real class rank graduate in the top 10 percent of their class; 87 percent graduate in the top 25 percent; and 98 percent graduate in the top half.
- The mean SAT score for entering freshmen is 1308. The mean SAT score for South Carolinians is 1292, while out-of-state students average 1339.
- The average ACT score for entering freshmen is 29.4. The average ACT score for South Carolinians is 28.7 and the average for out-of-state students is 30.3.
- 30 percent of freshmen enrolled in the General Engineering program.
- 244 African-American students enrolled as freshmen.

2018 Freshmen by College

- Engineering, Computing and Applied Sciences: 1,325
- Business: 556
- Behavioral, Social and Health Sciences: 535
- Agriculture, Forestry and Life Sciences: 273
- Architecture, Arts and Humanities: 262
- Education: 119

SAT Scores for 2018 Freshmen

The SAT national average is 1068. The SAT SC average is 1070.

ACT Scores for 2018 Freshmen

The ACT national average is 20.8. The ACT SC average is 18.3.

2018 Freshmen Receiving Advanced Placement Credit by Exam

Total Clemson hours awarded: 47,222
Total number of freshmen receiving AP credit (students earned a grade of 3, 4 or 5): 2,708

2018 Bridge Program Highlights

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

In 2017, 788 students were enrolled in the Bridge to Clemson program, and 627 of those students successfully met the requirements to enroll at Clemson in 2018.
Q. I want to apply. What's next?
Admission to Clemson University is competitive. The final deadline to submit an application for the fall semester is May 1, with a priority deadline of December 1.

Students are required to apply for admission electronically. It’s quick and easy to apply online. Find tips, requirements and timelines about admission and acceptance at clemson.edu/admissions/undergraduate. Students can also fill out the Coalition Application by visiting coalitionforcollegeaccess.org.

For freshman applicants, the following factors are considered for acceptance:
- Class standing
- Standardized test scores (SAT or ACT)
- High school curriculum
- Grades
- Choice of major

Q. What are my required high school credits?
Most students accepted to Clemson have taken college preparatory courses in high school. All applicants for freshman admission should have completed the following courses:

English ....................................... 4 credits
Mathematics .................................. 3 credits
Laboratory Science ......................... 3 credits
Foreign Language (same language) .... 3 credits*
Social Sciences ............................... 2 credits
U.S. History ................................ 1 credit
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. Any documentation provided by the high school guidance staff explaining the reason(s) this requirement could not be fulfilled will be considered when reviewing the student’s application.

Additional requirements are necessary for select majors, including production studies and professional golf management.

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.

January 2: Priority FAFSA filing deadline for need-based aid.

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.*

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.
Q. How much is the application fee?
The $70 application fee must be paid by debit/credit card or electronic check when the student applies online.

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

Q. Do I have to interview with someone to be admitted?
Clemson does not require an interview for admission; however, 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. 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. What tests does Clemson require?
SAT/ACT: Standardized test scores (SAT and ACT) are the second major factor of our evaluation. SAT Subject Tests and counselor recommendations serve as additional credentials that, in some cases, provide needed information. Clemson uses the best evidence-based reading and writing I and math scores from different SAT tests or the best composite ACT score. Official scores must be sent directly to us from the SAT or ACT testing agency. SAT II Subject Tests are not required.

Mathematics Placement
All accepted students, both freshman and transfer, must complete the Clemson Mathematics Placement Test (CMPT) in order to register for the first mathematics course required by their major (refer to the Undergraduate Announcements at catalog.clemson.edu to identify the course). Prerequisites for initial math courses can be satisfied either with a satisfactory score on the CMPT or with transfer credit for the appropriate math courses. Transfer credit can be obtained by successfully completing college-level courses at Clemson or elsewhere, through College Board Advanced Placement examinations or through the International Baccalaureate program.

Students who do not achieve a satisfactory score on the CMPT, or those who do not take the test, may be required to take a preparatory math course prior to starting the initial math course required for their major.

A low score on the CMPT does not prevent students from using transfer credit to satisfy course prerequisites. However, if a CMPT score is lower than the minimum required for enrollment in these courses, we recommend that students consult with their academic advisers before accepting transfer credit. The score may suggest that a student will have difficulty in subsequent courses.

Visit clemson.edu/mthsc/CMPT for more information.

Foreign Language Placement
Students whose intended major requires a foreign language and French, German or Spanish is needed to meet that requirement must take the Clemson Modern Language Placement Test (MLPT) online before registering for a foreign language course. Students who have taken an AP or IB exam or the SAT test are still required to take the MLPT. The MLPT is not required of students wishing to begin a new language in which they have no background. Transfer students who have received college credit for a foreign language and who plan to continue with the same foreign language at Clemson are not required to take the MLPT.

The MLPT takes approximately one hour to complete. Preregistration is not required. For more information, including the test schedule, please visit clemson.edu/caah/languages/placement.html or call the Department of Languages at 864-656-3393.
More questions. More answers.

Q. What other factors are considered in an admission evaluation?
GPA: 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 course work. Most also have a cumulative GPA above 3.0 (on a 4.0 scale).

Choice of major: The choice of major and residency may also influence our evaluation. Because some majors attract large numbers of applicants or have limited classroom space, admission requirements vary. In addition, as a public institution, we give S.C. residents priority in our evaluation process. Consequently, we ask students to select two intended majors. If the student is not admissible in the first choice, we automatically consider the second.

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.

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.

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.

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 30-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.
Get your Clemson coordinates.

Come see us.
We’d love to see your students on campus! 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

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.