



## South Carolina Humanities Student Scholarship Guidelines

South Carolina Humanities seeks to encourage students to explore humanities fields as they pursue their academic careers. The humanities invite us to enrich our minds. They foster the development of cultural understanding, diverse perspectives, and appreciation for our shared past. The humanities lift our spirits and foster engagement in our communities and the world.

### Scholarships for Undergraduate and Graduate Students

#### Undergraduate Students:

Scholarships are available and awarded on a competitive basis to undergraduate college or university students.

#### Eligibility:

- Applicants must have declared a major in a humanities discipline.
- Applicants must be in their sophomore or junior year at the time of application and have at least a year of undergraduate work to complete before graduation.
- Applicants must be enrolled at an accredited university or college in the State of South Carolina. Verification of registration and enrollment (Enrollment Verification Form) will be required prior to the allocation of scholarship funds.

#### Graduate Students:

Scholarships are available and awarded on a competitive basis to graduate students.

#### Eligibility:

- Applicants must be enrolled in a Master's degree or PhD program in a humanities discipline OR be a college or university senior who has been accepted to a graduate degree program in a humanities discipline.
- Be in good academic standing at a regionally accredited South Carolina College or University OR be a South Carolina resident with a permanent legal address who is enrolled in an out-of-state master's degree program in a humanities discipline. Priority will be given to students pursuing graduate degrees in South Carolina. Verification of registration and enrollment

(Enrollment Verification Form) in the graduate program will be required prior to the allocation of the scholarship funds.

### **Humanities disciplines**

Majors may be in the following humanities disciplines: history, philosophy, ethics, literature, linguistics, languages, jurisprudence, cultural anthropology, archaeology, comparative religions, art history, art criticism, folklore, or an interdisciplinary major (such as American Studies or Cultural Studies).

### **What does a Student Scholarship fund?**

Scholarships are paid in a lump sum as a stipend to the student. A scholarship recipient may utilize the funds toward tuition; the purchase of books, research materials, specialty software, or supplies; travel for research or presentations; or other purposes in the pursuit of a humanities degree, as determined by consultation with the faculty mentor/advisor.

### **Do I need to provide official transcripts?**

A current Official or Unofficial Transcript is required for both the undergraduate and graduate applications. We also require a completed Enrollment Verification Form that has been signed and stamped by the Registrar. (Note: the graduate scholarship applicants should submit an official transcript of their completed undergraduate coursework.)

### **What is the role of the faculty mentor/advisor?**

The faculty mentor/advisor may provide guidance for the application process and will write a letter of recommendation that describes why the applicant deserves a SC Humanities Student Scholarship. The faculty mentor/advisor should teach in a humanities discipline and have knowledge of the applicant's abilities in the discipline. He/she will advise the student on appropriate use of the funds awarded by SC Humanities and should review the final report before the student submits it to SC Humanities.

### **Budget**

Explain how you will allocate the funds. For instance, you may want to use the funds toward tuition at your college or university; for the costs of books, research materials, specialty software, or supplies; travel to do research or presentations; or for other purposes as advised by the faculty mentor/advisor.

### **How many scholarships are awarded each year?**

SC Humanities is a nonprofit organization that relies on fundraising for programming, so the number of scholarships may fluctuate annually. Generally, one undergraduate scholarship and one graduate scholarship are awarded.

### **When should I submit the application?**

Submit your application to SC Humanities no later than the deadline listed. SC Humanities staff are happy to review draft applications prior to the deadline and make suggestions on how the application might be strengthened before the committee reviews it.

### **What supporting material must I include with my undergraduate application?**

With the completed application, attach the following:

- An abbreviated curriculum vitae or resume (two pages maximum)
- A writing sample of approximately 750 – 1,500 words
- A recommendation letter from the faculty mentor/advisor that describes why the applicant deserves a SC Humanities Student Scholarship
- The Enrollment Verification Form

- A current Official or Unofficial Transcript

**What supporting material must I include with my graduate application?**

With the completed application, attach the following:

- An abbreviated curriculum vitae or resume (two pages maximum)
- A writing sample of approximately 750-1,500 words
- A recommendation letter from a faculty member/advisor that describes why the applicant deserves a SC Humanities Student Scholarship (Note: Enrolled graduate degree students should request a graduate faculty mentor/adviser to write the letter of recommendation. An undergraduate faculty mentor/advisor may write the required letter of recommendation if the student is a college or university senior at the time of application; however, a graduate faculty mentor/advisor will need to be identified if a scholarship is awarded.)
- The Enrollment Verification Form
- A current Official Unofficial Transcript (Note: if the applicant is a college senior who has been accepted to a graduate program in the humanities, they should provide their undergraduate transcript.)

**If I receive a student scholarship, what else is required?**

A month before the end of the award period, the recipient will submit a Final Report to SC Humanities that has been reviewed by the faculty mentor/advisor. The document should be 1-3 pages in length and should include (1) a reflection on the value of this scholarship as it was applied toward study of the humanities and (2) a record of expenses. Additional materials, such as copies of research papers, senior theses, videos, PowerPoint presentations, poster presentations, etc. may be attached, but this is not required. However, if these are provided and the product is exemplary, we may seek the student's permission to publish them on our website.