

# SOUTH CAROLINA Commission on Higher Education

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## 1. Financial Impact of COVID-19 on Public Higher Education Institutions

- Financial models and projections remain tentative because enrollment numbers are hard to pin down; will have firm numbers in a few weeks.
- Each IHE has implemented cost-saving measures to balance operating budgets, seeking to close deficits ranging from \$2-4 million (SCSU), \$9 million (CofC), \$45-60 million (Clemson), \$125 million (UofSC).
- Fall sports: Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference (SCSU) has cancelled all fall sports; ACC, SEC undecided.
  - Clemson projects \$40 million in lost athletic revenue; Carolina about \$48 million.
  - NCAA guidelines require extensive and frequent testing of athletes, as a significant cost.
- If the semester can be taught fully on-campus, through face-to-face instruction, we believe all institutions will weather the crisis through cost-cutting and tapping into available reserves.
  - If wholly online all but MUSC would need additional state or federal support to meet obligations.
  - Online only with no students on campus would mean significant decreases in revenue from housing and other auxiliary revenues.
- A few IHEs project flat or slightly higher enrollment; others project declines ranging from 4% to 15%.
- Each IHE has frozen or plans to freeze tuition for the 2020-2021 academic year.

## 2. Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund (HEERF) Update with breakdown of funds received by HBCUs

- CARES Act spending (mostly as of 6/30/2020). All IHEs received funds from Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund (HEERF). 50% of these dollars had to go directly to students.
  - Most IHEs have dispersed emergency grants to students and used most of allotted funds for institutional expenses (including refunding student fees in spring).
- HBCUs and other Minority Serving Institutions (MSI) received additional funds. The table below **does not include** the \$2.4 million Gov. McMaster recommended for SC HBCUs from GEER, which is currently in court.

CARES ACT FUNDING FOR HBCUs (in addition to HEERF funds)	<u>Strengthening Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs)</u>	<u>Strengthening HBCU Master's Program (HBCU Master's)</u>	<u>Total</u>
Allen University	\$1,701,794		\$1,701,794
Benedict College	\$4,954,282		\$4,954,282
Claflin University	\$4,383,797	\$663,673	\$5,047,470
Clinton College	\$252,000		\$252,000
Denmark Technical College	\$589,315		\$589,315
Morris College	\$1,691,815		\$1,691,815
South Carolina State University	\$4,967,832	\$760,172	\$5,728,004
Voorhees College	\$1,246,577		\$1,246,577

### 3. Status of Higher Education Fall Plans (Bunnie: we could attach the spreadsheet communications has developed)

- See attached for additional information

#### SUMMARY OF SOUTH CAROLINA UNIVERSITY "REOPENING" PLANS

Institution	Plan	Class start date
Clemson University	online until September 21; no students on campus until after Labor Day	19-Aug
Coastal Carolina University	online until Labor Day; students in dorms on normal schedule	19-Aug
College of Charleston	Online until September 14; dorm schedule TBD	25-Aug
Francis Marion University	online until Labor Day; students in dorms on normal schedule	17-Aug
Winthrop University	online until Labor Day; finish by Thanksgiving, remote thereafter	19-Aug
South Carolina State University	online until at least October 1; reconsider bringing students back then	10-Aug
Lander University	Normal fall academic start; finish by Thanksgiving, remote thereafter	17-Aug
Medical University of South Carolina	Normal fall academic calendar; about two-thirds of all course content online (excluding 100% online programs)	
The Citadel	Normal fall academic start; finish by Thanksgiving, remote thereafter	15-Aug
University of South Carolina– Aiken	Normal fall academic start; finish by Thanksgiving, remote thereafter	20-Aug
University of South Carolina– Beaufort	Normal fall academic start; finish by Thanksgiving, remote thereafter	20-Aug
University of South Carolina– Columbia	Normal fall academic start; finish by Thanksgiving, remote thereafter	20-Aug
University of South Carolina– Lancaster	Normal fall academic start; finish by Thanksgiving, remote thereafter	20-Aug
University of South Carolina– Salkehatchie	Normal fall academic start; finish by Thanksgiving, remote thereafter	20-Aug
University of South Carolina– Sumter	Normal fall academic start; finish by Thanksgiving, remote thereafter	20-Aug
University of South Carolina– Union	Normal fall academic start; finish by Thanksgiving, remote thereafter	20-Aug
University of South Carolina– Upstate	Normal fall academic start; finish by Thanksgiving, remote thereafter	20-Aug

- CHE convened a group of institutional representatives, the South Carolina Higher Education Recovery Advisory Group (HERAG), to assess existing and emerging resources, along with the real

time planning efforts of institutions of higher education (IHEs) in the Palmetto State. The plan may be accessed at: [https://www.che.sc.gov/CHE\\_Docs/files/COVID-19/SC\\_Higher\\_Ed\\_Recovery\\_Advisory\\_Group\\_Document\\_FINAL\\_071320.pdf](https://www.che.sc.gov/CHE_Docs/files/COVID-19/SC_Higher_Ed_Recovery_Advisory_Group_Document_FINAL_071320.pdf).

- On August 7, CHE Chair Wes Hayes and Dr. Monhollon submitted a letter of support of higher education institutions

#### **4. Broadband**

- As of August 5, 11,808 hot spots were requested by 27 public, private and technical colleges and universities. CHE worked with ORS and hosted to Zoom calls to explain requirements and timeline.