**Academic Information**

**Accessing Fall 2015 Final Grades**

Students can view their fall 2015 grades under the “Succeed” tab in eTC.

**Session A Course Add and Drop Schedule for Spring 2016**

The deadline for adding a spring Session A class is listed below. Please review the TCTC academic calendar for more information. Advisors will be available to meet with students who have questions about adding a course. See the drop-in advising schedule below.

Adding a Class: Wednesday, January 13 at 6:30 p.m.
Dropping a Class: Friday, January 15 at 2:00 p.m.

**Bridge Drop-In Advising Schedule, January 11-13**

To assist students with questions about their spring schedule or any other Bridge-related questions, Clemson Bridge advisors will be available on a drop-in basis on Monday, January 11 - Wednesday, January 13 during the following times:

- 12:30-2:30p.m. in 253 Ruby Hicks
- 4:00-6:00p.m. in the Bridge Student Success Center

**Get Connected**

OrgSync is an online portal connecting Clemson and Bridge Students to Clemson Clubs and Organizations. Follow these steps to begin your search!

**Step 1:**
- Create your personal account by going to Clemson.edu/campus-life/student-orgs
- Select “OrgSync@Clemson”
- Login with your Clemson ID number (example: C12345678) and your password

**Step 2:**
- Complete your profile
- Select “Join an Org”
- Browse organization to join

**Mandatory Bridge Meetings**

Students are required to attend only one of these meetings. Important information regarding the Clemson on-campus housing application process, 2016-2017 FAFSA, academic advising, summer school, and the CU in Year 2 program will be shared. Meetings will be held:

- Monday, February 29 (2 times)
- Tuesday, March 1
- Wednesday, March 2
- Thursday, March 3
- Friday, March 4

Times and locations will be emailed to you.

Failure to attend one of these meetings will result in a hold being placed on your TCTC account. A hold means that your transcript will not be processed and sent to Clemson.

**Academic Recovery Workshops, January 10 and 12**

Academic recovery workshops will be held on January 10 and 12 in the Bridge Student Success Center. A letter with detailed information about the workshop will be sent to all students who earned a GPA below 2.3 and/or fewer than 12 Bridge-eligible credits. Attendance at this workshop is **required** for those students. The purpose of the workshop is to provide students with the tools and information they will need to succeed academically in the spring semester. Students attending the workshop will have the opportunity to develop a personal success plan and to meet with a Bridge advisor who can advise the student on changes that may need to be made to his or her spring 2016 schedule.

**Academic Success Resources**

Don’t forget about the academic success resources available to you at both TCTC and Clemson. Some of these services include supplemental instruction for accounting, biology, chemistry, physics, and mathematics at the Bridge Student Success Center and on the TCTC campus. Additional academic success resources are provided at the TCTC Tutoring Center and the Clemson Academic Success Center.
Financial Aid Information

2016-17 LIFE Scholarship Award Process
In order for a student to be eligible for the LIFE scholarship for the 2016-17 academic year, the student must earn at least 30 credits of LIFE-eligible course work with a cumulative GPA of 3.0 or higher by the start of the fall 2016 semester. All college-level coursework completed by the student in high school and college will be reviewed to determine the student’s LIFE eligibility. Students may complete course work during the 2016 summer sessions in order to meet LIFE eligibility requirements for the 2015-16 academic year. Students accepted to Clemson in approved math and science majors will also be reviewed for the LIFE scholarship enhancement. Students in these majors must meet the 14-credit hour math and science course work completion requirement to be eligible for the 2015-16 LIFE enhancement. For additional information about the LIFE scholarship, LIFE enhancement requirements, and the list of LIFE-enhancement eligible majors visit clemson.edu/finaid, review the 2015-16 Bridge Student Academic Guide, or attend a workshop about LIFE scholarship requirements, “Saving Your LIFE,” on February 3 at 6:00 p.m. in the Bridge Student Success Center.

Completing the 2016-17 Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)
Students and parents should begin the process of completing the 2016-17 Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) as soon as possible after January 1, 2016. While Bridge students will not be officially admitted to Clemson until they have successfully completed the Bridge requirements (mid to late May for students completing the requirements in the spring 2016 term), it will be important to submit the 2016-17 FAFSA as soon as possible.

This allows a student to receive maximum consideration for federal need-based grants and student/parent loan programs for the 2016-17 academic year. Clemson’s federal code is 003425. Please visit fafsa.ed.gov for details on the 2016-17 FAFSA requirements. Please visit clemson.edu/finaid for additional information about Clemson financial aid programs and requirements.

Important Dates
Students are required to leave Highpointe for Winter Break by 12 noon on Tuesday, December 8th.
• There will be NO exceptions to this policy.
• Per the lease agreement, students must leave by noon on Tuesday, December 8, 2015, and may not return until 2 pm on Sunday, January 10, 2016.
• Spring semester begins Monday, January 11, 2016.
• Sunday, January 10: Bridge housing re-opens at 2:00 p.m.
• Friday, March 11: Bridge housing closes for spring break at 5:00 p.m.
• Sunday, March 20: Bridge housing re-opens at 2:00 p.m.
• Monday, April 4 - Tuesday, April 5: MANDATORY housing closing meetings (Times TBA) at the Bridge Student Success Center
• Wednesday, April 27 - Tuesday, May 3: Final exams
• 24 hours after last final exam students must check-out of their apartments
• Wednesday, May 4: Bridge housing closes at 5:00 p.m. All students must vacate by this time.

Clemson Housing Information
Bridge students have the opportunity to apply for on-campus student housing at Clemson for the 2016-17 academic year. The application process will occur once students are officially accepted to Clemson in late May 2016. The link to the 2016-17 on-campus housing application will be available on the Clemson University Housing homepage at clemson.edu/campus-life/housing. Additional information regarding the 2016-17 on-campus housing application process will be shared at the all-Bridge meetings.
What requirements must Bridge students meet in order to seamlessly transfer to Clemson for the fall 2016 semester?

Bridge students who, at the conclusion of the spring 2016 semester, have completed 30 credits of Bridge eligible course work at TCTC (post-high school) with a grade of C or higher and earned a 2.5 or higher GPA on those credits are guaranteed admission to Clemson for the fall 2016 semester. For more detailed information, review pp. 10-12 of the 2015-16 Bridge to Clemson Student Planner and Handbook.

What is TCTC's policy for repeating a course? How will repeating a course impact a student's GPA and the number of credits earned?

TCTC's policy for repeating a course can be found in the 2015-16 Bridge handbook on p. 14. A student who chooses to repeat a course at TCTC will receive credit only once for the same course and only the highest grade earned in the course will be calculated into the student's GPA. Both grades, however, will appear on the student's transcript.

If a Bridge student has not earned 30 credits and a 2.5 cumulative GPA by the end of the spring 2016 semester, can he/she still enroll at Clemson for the fall 2016 semester?

Bridge students who do not complete all Bridge requirements by the end of the spring 2016 semester can remain eligible to enroll at Clemson for the fall 2016 semester if they do the following: 1) enroll in TCTC summer school courses and 2) satisfy Bridge Program requirements by the conclusion of the TCTC second summer session. Students who successfully do the following by the conclusion of the TCTC second summer session will still be guaranteed admission to Clemson for the fall 2016 semester: 1) complete 30 credits of Bridge-eligible course work at TCTC with a grade of C or better and 2) earn a cumulative GPA of at least 2.5.

If a Bridge student has to attend summer school in order to meet Bridge academic requirements, must the student attend summer school at TCTC?

Yes. In order to be guaranteed admission to Clemson for the fall 2016 semester, students must complete all remaining course work at TCTC to satisfy Bridge academic requirements. Additionally, students attending summer school are strongly encouraged to live in Clemson summer school housing. At the end of each summer session, TCTC transcripts will be reviewed; those students who have met Bridge Program academic requirements will be notified by the Clemson admission staff of their admission to Clemson.

How does a student figure out the GPA and/or credits he/she needs to earn this semester to meet the 30-credit, 2.5 GPA requirements for Bridge?

A worksheet to assist students in calculating the GPA and credits needed to meet the Bridge academic requirements is included with this newsletter. While academic advisors can assist a student with calculating his/her projected GPA, each Bridge student ultimately is responsible for knowing the number of credits and quality points he/she needs to earn during the spring semester in order to 1) meet Bridge academic requirements and 2) be eligible to matriculate at Clemson for the fall 2016 semester.

How do I know which credits and grades earned in TCTC courses during the fall 2015 or spring 2016 semester count towards Bridge Program academic requirements?

Only credits earned from Bridge-eligible courses (transferrable courses, MAT 101, and/or MAT 102) in which a grade of C or higher was earned will count in the calculation of the Bridge 30-credit hour requirement. All grades earned in Bridge-eligible courses will count in the calculation of the student’s Bridge GPA. The chart on the next page outlines the grades and credits included in the calculation of the Bridge GPA.
# Frequently Asked Questions

## Bridge Requirements: Met or Not Met?

**How do I know if I have met Bridge requirements?**

Students who **meet** Bridge requirements are notified via email by Clemson and are admitted for Fall 2016. Please note the email will be sent to the address provided on the original Clemson application. If that email has changed, students must contact the Admissions Office at Clemson University.

Students who have not met requirements at the end of spring are notified that admission is pending based upon completion of the requirements during the summer. They are notified when requirements are met and they are admitted.

Students who **do not meet** the requirements by the end of summer do not receive notification.

**What happens if I don’t meet Bridge requirements?**

Any student who does not meet the Bridge requirements may elect to stay at TCTC or attend another institution and then apply to Clemson as a transfer student for a later semester. Students who plan to stay at TCTC for the fall 2016 semester must see Kristen Karasek or Katie Dye Beeson in order to complete appropriate paperwork. The paperwork must be completed, or students will not be able to register for the Fall 2016 semester.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Included in calculation of Bridge 30 earned credit hours</th>
<th>Included in calculation of Bridge 2.5 earned GPA</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Transferable (Clemson equivalent or elective) or the two selected non-transferrable LIFE scholarship-eligible (MAT 101 or MAT 102 only) courses attempted at TCTC during Bridge year and a grade of C or higher earned</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transferable (Clemson equivalent or elective) or the two selected non-transferrable LIFE scholarship-eligible (MAT 101 or MAT 102 only) courses attempted at TCTC during Bridge year and a grade of D earned</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transferable (Clemson equivalent or elective) or the two selected non-transferrable LIFE scholarship-eligible (MAT 101 or MAT 102 only) courses attempted at TCTC during Bridge year and a grade of F earned</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Use the highest grade earned for any transferable and/or the two selected non-transferrable LIFE scholarship-eligible (MAT 101 AND MAT 102 only) course(s) repeated at TCTC during Bridge year</td>
<td>Yes (Credit awarded only once for same course)</td>
<td>Yes (Highest grade earned calculated into GPA)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nontransferable (NCT) courses (except MAT 101 and MAT 102 only) attempted at TCTC during Bridge year and any grade earned</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transferable and nontransferable courses completed at TCTC prior to high school graduation and a grade of C or higher earned</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transferable and nontransferable courses completed at any two-year or four year institution other than TCTC and a grade of C or higher earned</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Credit hours Clemson will award based on AP and/or IB examination scores</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Enrolling in Summer Courses at Clemson or Another University

If a Bridge student has satisfied Bridge requirements at the end of the spring 2016 semester, can the student enroll in summer classes at Clemson? How about taking classes at another college or university over the summer?

Only those students who have satisfied all Bridge Program requirements by the end of the spring 2016 semester may enroll in first or second summer session courses at Clemson. Students wishing to enroll in courses for the first summer session at Clemson should contact Gretchen Waugaman at gretchw@clemson.edu or 864-656-1681 as soon as possible so that the student's Clemson academic record can be updated to allow for summer school registration and enrollment. Please review Clemson's academic calendar for more information about registration and enrollment dates for 2016 summer school sessions.

Students who wish to enroll in summer school courses at another college or university should consult Clemson's Transfer Course Equivalency List (TCEL) to ensure the transferability of a particular course. The TCEL can be accessed on the Clemson website at virtual.clemson.edu/groups/tcel/. Students are responsible for ensuring that any courses in which they enroll will transfer to Clemson. Any course credits completed at another institution will first be reviewed by the Clemson admission office to determine whether or not the course will transfer to Clemson. In order for transfer credits to be reviewed, the student must, upon completion of the course(s), arrange for an official transcript to be sent to the Clemson admissions office, 106 Sikes Hall, Clemson, SC 29634. A grade of C or better must be earned in any course submitted for transfer to Clemson. Any credits that transfer to Clemson will be posted to a student's Clemson record upon the student's enrollment at Clemson.

Some institutions require that a student enrolling in summer school courses provide documentation that the credits from the course(s) in which a student wishes to enroll will transfer to Clemson. Students needing this documentation should contact Gretchen Waugaman at gretchw@clemson.edu or (864) 656-1681.

Registering for Clemson Fall Semester Courses

When will Bridge students who have met the Bridge academic requirements register for fall 2016 classes at Clemson?

To register for fall 2016 classes at Clemson, a Bridge student must first be officially admitted to Clemson University. Students who complete Bridge requirements and are admitted to Clemson will attend a Clemson transfer orientation session. During this session, students will meet with a Clemson advisor and then register for their fall classes.

Students admitted to Clemson after the spring 2016 semester may attend the first Clemson transfer orientation session that is specifically designated for Bridge crossers on June 15 or any of the sessions listed below.

Students admitted to Clemson after one of the TCTC summer sessions may attend one of the following Clemson transfer student orientation sessions as follows:

- Completing after MayTerm Session: June 22 or June 29 session
- Completing after Session B: July 13 session
- Completing after Sessions A or C: August 11 session
Spring 2016 Textbook Orders and Delivery
Beginning January 4 at 8 am, textbooks may be ordered online at ishoptctc.com. The Bookstore on the Pendleton campus will be open from 2-6 on January 10 if you would like to pick up your books that day. If you order your books on January 10 or later, please allow 24-36 hours for them to be processed for pick-up. The Bookstore is also selling lab coats and goggles and has added breadboards and templates required in some technology classes. If you plan to rent your text books, a CREDIT card (not debit) is required.

If you have questions regarding book purchases, visit ishoptctc.com.

Summer 2016 Ambassador Positions Available
The Bridge to Clemson program is looking for enthusiastic individuals who have successfully completed Bridge requirements and who want to help future Bridge students and their families get acclimated to the program during summer orientation. If you are interested, pick up an application form from the Bridge office in Anderson Hall suite 111 on TCTC’s campus or see the email that was sent to all Bridge students on December 4. Submit the completed application and a faculty or staff recommendation form by Friday, January 22, 2016. Incomplete applications will not be considered.

The application and faculty or staff recommendation form can be dropped off at the Bridge to Clemson office in Anderson Hall suite 111 or emailed to Katie Dye Beeson at kdye1@tctc.edu.

Fall 2016 New Member Recruitment Process for Clemson Fraternities and Sororities
Any student interested in joining a Clemson fraternity or sorority in Fall 2016 should visit the Clemson Fraternity and Sorority Life website for more information regarding requirements for participating in the new member recruitment process including academic requirements.

2016-17 Bridge RA Positions Available
The Bridge to Clemson program is looking for enthusiastic individuals who are interested in serving as Resident Assistants for the 2016-17 academic year. You must be a Clemson student for Fall 2015, have a minimum 2.5 GPA, and have good judicial and academic standing. Bridge RAs receive housing and utilities at Highpointe and are paid $7.25 per hour/10 hours per week. For more information on how to apply, visit TCTC webpage and click on Bridge to Clemson page. The deadline to apply is Thursday, January 21. If you have questions, contact Tim Jared at tjared@tctc.edu.

Contact Information
TCTC
Bridge Program Office
Kristen Karasek
Anderson Hall Suite 111
864-646-1683
kkarasek@tctc.edu
Katie Dye Beeson
Anderson Hall Suite 111
864-646-1609
kdye1@tctc.edu

Housing
Tim Jared
Highpointe SSC 105
864-646-1681
tjared@tctc.edu

Clemson
Bridge Program Office
Robin B. McFall
E-103 Martin Hall
864-656-6256
rmcfall@clemson.edu
Gretchen Waugaman
E-208 Martin Hall
864-656-1681
gretchw@clemson.edu

Mary Von Kaenel
E-103 Martin Hall
864-656-5276
mkaenel@clemson.edu
Semester GPA Worksheet

1. In the first column below, list the Bridge-eligible courses in which you are enrolled for the fall semester. With the exception of MAT 101 and MAT 102, do not include any other non-transferable courses. As a reminder, while courses in which you earn a grade of "D" or a grade of "F" will count in your GPA, they will not be eligible for earned transfer credit at Clemson (course transferability can be reviewed in the Bridge Student Academic Guide).

   In the next column, project the letter grade you think you will earn for each Bridge-eligible course. Make sure to be realistic and honestly assess the grade you think you will earn in the course.

   In the next column, list the number of credit hours each course is worth. For example, ENG 101 is worth a total of 3 credit hours. Typically, courses with lab components, such as BIO 101, would be worth 4 credit hours.

   Next, enter the quality points listed below that are equivalent to that letter grade. For example, if you think you will earn a grade of "C" in ENG 101 that would serve as a total of 2 quality points.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Quality Points</th>
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<tr>
<td>A's = 4</td>
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<tr>
<td>B's = 3</td>
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<tr>
<td>C's = 2</td>
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<tr>
<td>D's = 1</td>
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<tr>
<td>F's = 0</td>
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</table>

   Next, multiply the credit hours attempted by the quality points. For example, if are currently taking ENG 101 and you think you will earn a grade of "C" in the course, you would multiply 3 (credit hours for the course) by 2 (quality points for a grade of "C") which would earn you a total of 6 projected quality points.

   Finally, total the credit hours attempted and the projected quality points and list in the boxes below. These totals reflect the Bridge-eligible credits and quality points you anticipate earning this semester.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Letter Grade</th>
<th>Credits Hours Attempted</th>
<th>Quality Points (see box above)</th>
<th>Projected Quality Points</th>
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   TOTALS

   2. Using the Step #1 totals, divide your total projected quality points by your total credit hours attempted. This equals the GPA from Bridge-eligible courses earned at the end of the fall semester.

   \[
   \frac{\text{Total Projected Quality Points}}{\text{Total Credit Hours Attempted}} = \text{Projected Cumulative Bridge GPA}
   \]

   \[
   \boxed{\text{_____________}} + \boxed{\text{_____________}} = \boxed{\text{_____________}}
   \]
Cumulative (Academic Year) GPA Worksheet

1. To calculate your total academic year GPA for both your fall and spring semester, you would follow the same steps as listed on the previous worksheet. First, rewrite your fall semester calculation below with the total credit hours attempted and the projected quality points and list in the boxes below.

   **Fall Semester**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Letter Grade</th>
<th>Credits Hours Attempted</th>
<th>Quality Points (see box above)</th>
<th>Projected Quality Points</th>
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   TOTALS

2. Next, follow the same steps listed on the previous worksheet and complete your spring semester GPA calculation below. Make sure to total the credit hours attempted and the projected quality points and list in the boxes below for the spring semester. These totals reflect the Bridge-eligible credits and quality points you anticipate earning for the spring semester.

   **Spring Semester**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Letter Grade</th>
<th>Credits Hours Attempted</th>
<th>Quality Points (see box above)</th>
<th>Projected Quality Points</th>
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   TOTALS

3. Next, add your total credit hours attempted and project quality points for both the fall and spring semester and list in the boxes below.

   Total Cumulative Credit Hours Attempted

   Total Projected Cumulative Quality Points

4. Finally, divide your total projected cumulative quality points by your total cumulative credit hours attempted. This equals your cumulative GPA from Bridge-eligible courses earned at the end of your Bridge academic year.

   \[
   \frac{\text{Total Projected Quality Points}}{\text{Total Credit Hours Attempted}} = \text{Projected Cumulative Bridge GPA}
   \]

5. Repeat worksheet if factoring TCTC summer courses into cumulative Bridge GPA.