

BRIDGE TO CLEMSON *Frequently Asked Questions*

CLASSES, ENROLLMENT, AND CREDITS

Will AP, IB, or dual enrollment credits earned in high school count toward the 30-credit Bridge requirement?

- No. All 30 credits must be earned at TCTC during the students Bridge year. AP, IB, and dual enrollment credits may apply once admitted to Clemson but not toward Bridge requirements.

What if I already have college credit before starting the Bridge program?

- Students transferring more than 18 credit hours should contact the Bridge Office to review course options and confirm that the Bridge program is the best fit.

Which TCTC courses count toward the 30-credit requirement?

- Courses listed as transferable on Clemson's Transfer Course Equivalency List (TCEL), as well as MAT 101 and MAT 102, count toward the 30-credit requirement.

TCTC says they need my high school transcript but I submitted it to Clemson already. Can they send it to you?

- Unfortunately, no. Students will need to request their final, official transcript to be sent directly to TCTC from their high school.

Do Comprehensive Studies courses count toward the 30-credit requirement?

- No, except for MAT 101 and MAT 102. Other Comprehensive Studies courses are nontransferable and should be completed before starting the Bridge year, preferably during summer.

If I earn a D in a transferable course, does it count toward the 30-credit requirement?

- No. Only courses completed with a grade of C or higher count toward the 30-credit requirement.

Can I take summer classes at TCTC to meet the 30-credit and 2.5 GPA requirement?

- Yes. Students who complete 30 transferable credits with a 2.5 GPA by the end of the summer session will be invited to attend Clemson's transfer orientation before the fall semester.

Can Bridge students take Clemson classes during the Bridge year?

- No. Bridge students must take all courses through TCTC during their Bridge year.

What types of courses or delivery methods are offered at TCTC?

- Courses may be face-to-face, hybrid, or distance learning (with live or recorded lectures). Students are required to take at least one standard face-to-face class each semester (fall and spring); a fully online schedule is not allowed.

Can I change my major during the Bridge year?

- Yes, unless the new major is listed as closed or restricted.

PLACEMENT TESTING

What is the TCTC placement test, and why is it required?

- All students must complete the Accuplacer placement test by June 1. Scores determine appropriate course placement. Students may retest once, and the higher score will be used. Preparation materials are available at tctc.edu/placement

CAMPUS LIFE AND ACTIVITIES

Can Bridge students join Clemson ROTC programs?

- Yes. Bridge students may participate in Clemson's Army or Air Force ROTC programs. Course credit will be awarded by TCTC.

BRIDGE TO CLEMSON *Frequently Asked Questions*

Can Bridge students join Clemson bands or choral groups?

- Yes. Bridge students can participate in Clemson bands or choral groups, though some require an audition. Course credit will be awarded by TCTC.

Can Bridge students participate in Clemson club sports?

- Yes. Most Clemson club sports allow Bridge student participation. Check with individual clubs to confirm eligibility.

Are Bridge students eligible for student football tickets?

- Yes. Bridge students are eligible for the student ticket lottery during their Bridge year. After officially enrolling at Clemson, they are eligible to purchase season tickets or earn student IPTAY points. Visit Clemson Athletic site for details.

Can Bridge students join a Clemson fraternity or sorority?

- No. Bridge students cannot participate in fraternity or sorority recruitment during their Bridge year due to national organization policies. After completing Bridge requirements (30 transferable credits, 2.5 GPA, and Clemson acceptance), students may participate in recruitment. Those finishing Bridge courses in Summer Sessions A or C at TCTC will not meet the July 30, 2025, recruitment deadline.

FINANCIAL AID

I submitted my FAFSA to Clemson; can Clemson send TCTC my FAFSA information?

- Unfortunately, no. Students will need to log back into their FAFSA and add TCTC (school code: 004926) to the list of schools and resubmit the FAFSA. It will then take approximately 2-3 business days for TCTC to receive the FAFSA information.

My FAFSA said I qualified for student loans, but they are not on my account. How do I request my student loans?

- TCTC does not automatically add student loans to student aid packages. To confirm your need for a loan, login to your MyTCTC student portal and then select the 'My Financial Aid' tile. You may access the Loan Confirmation Form [here](#) and submit. Once submitted, complete the supplemental items: 1) Loan Entrance Counseling and 2) Master Promissory Note (MPN) at www.studentaid.gov. It will take 3-5 business days for the loan to show on your bill/schedule as aid AFTER you request the loan and complete the loan counseling and MPN.

Can Bridge students apply for a Foundation Scholarship?

- Yes, but the application for Foundation Scholarships is only open for a limited time during 2 different windows:
 - For Fall term awarding, the application generally opens February 1 and closes mid-March.
 - For spring term awarding, the application generally opens October 1 and closes October 31.
- Watch your TCTC email, campus screens, and our TCTC Foundation Scholarship webpage for updates.

Can I defer (save) my LIFE Scholarship and use it later when I go to Clemson?

- A student can only defer the LIFE Scholarship if the student is enrolled in remedial coursework and is not in at least 12 hours of non-remedial coursework. Otherwise, once a student enrolls in college after high school graduation, their LIFE Scholarship "clock" begins.

I am in an eligible LIFE Scholarship Enhancement major. How do I get this added to my account?

- LIFE Scholarship Enhancement is only available at 4-year institutions and only for sophomore, junior & senior years of college. Eligible students will be able to receive this enhancement only at Clemson if the eligibility criteria are met. Eligibility information is located in the Student Academic and Advising Guide.

Who do I contact about getting LIFE Scholarship at Clemson?

- While TCTC Financial Aid can help you with information related to meeting the eligibility criteria, students need to contact the Clemson University Financial Aid Office to specifically ensure that LIFE Scholarship funds are awarded while a student at Clemson University.

BRIDGE TO CLEMSON *Frequently Asked Questions*

How many credit hours do I need to be enrolled in to receive my LIFE Scholarship?

- Students need to be enrolled in at least 12 non-remedial credit hours.

What is the difference between Subsidized Loans and Unsubsidized Loans?

- Subsidized loans do not accrue interest while a student is enrolled in school whereas Unsubsidized loans do accrue interest. The FAFSA results determine whether a student is eligible for Subsidized Loans.

I requested a loan and only received Unsubsidized Loans. How do I request the Subsidized Loan?

- The student's FAFSA results determine whether a student is eligible for Subsidized Loans. TCTC will add Subsidized Loans during the loan evaluation if the student is eligible for those loans based on FAFSA results.

I need a larger loan to cover my balance. What are my options?

- A student may consider a federal parent PLUS loan or a private student/parent educational loan. Review TCTC's loan webpage for more information on those options.
- NOTE: Effective 7/1/2026, new PLUS loan borrowers may only borrow up to \$20,000. Additionally, there is an aggregate lifetime limit of \$65,000 per dependent student.

What is the amount of the SC LIFE Scholarship for eligible students?

- Available to South Carolina residents, the SC LIFE Scholarship is \$5,000 for the academic year (\$2500 in the fall and \$2500 in the spring). The final high school transcript will be used to determine eligibility.

I am receiving an outside scholarship, and I had them send it to Clemson. How can I get that sent to TCTC?

- Work with the Outside Scholarship organization to get that corrected. Once TCTC does get that check, the TCTC cashier's office (Business Office) receipts outside scholarship checks to student accounts daily. You may have your outside scholarship sent to the following address for processing on your TCTC student account:

Tri-County Technical College
Attn: Cashier Office
PO Box 587
Pendleton, SC 29670

MILITARY AND VETERAN BENEFITS

I am eligible for military/veteran benefits. How does that work at TCTC for Bridge to Clemson students?

- TCTC does accept Veteran Affairs (VA) benefits. Students are required to apply for educational benefits and submit a Certificate of Eligibility (COE). In addition, the VA Certification Request Form should be completed after registering for classes each semester. The VA Certification Request Form can be submitted online and the COE can be uploaded to the form. The VA Certification Request form can be found under the Student Forms tile in MyTCTC.

The tuition amount paid by the VA is determined by the student's entitlement percentage that is reflected on the student's Certificate of Eligibility form. All College correspondence will be through TCTC email. Each chapter's benefits have different rules and regulations. Please visit the Veterans Students' Benefits Portal or TC Central staff for your specific VA benefits to review approved and unapproved fees.

As a general rule, classes outside your major cannot be certified.

As a Bridge to Clemson student, VA benefits do not cover the student's Clemson University Housing and Dining fees, or any digital course content fees, exemption fees, registration fees, the program nonrefundable advance deposit, late fees, penalty fees or campus fines, and thus must be paid by the associated deadlines and/or by payment deadlines listed on the TCTC Academic Calendar. Students are responsible for reviewing their student bill and schedule for their tuition and fees balance.

Questions? Feel free to email: veterans@tctc.edu