

CLEMSON[®]

INCOMING EXCHANGE STUDENT FACTBOOK

2024-2025



Pam Hendrix Center for
EDUCATION ABROAD

General Information

Mailing Address

Pam Hendrix Center for Education Abroad
E-301 Martin Hall, Box 345714
Clemson, SC 29634-5714
USA

Telephone

+1 (864) 656-2457

Website:

PHCEA: <https://www.clemson.edu/studyabroad>
Exchange Application: <https://bit.ly/IncomingExApp>

Email:

abroad@clemson.edu

Language Requirement:

TOEFL: Internet Based- 80 or higher

IELTS: 6.5 or higher (minimum of 6.0 in each sub score)

DUOLINGO: Undergraduate: 105 or higher
Graduate: 115 or higher
Tip: Take advantage of DUOLINGO's free practice tests to gauge your proficiency

Language requirements are subject to change, please confirm undergrad requirements [here](#) and graduate requirements [here](#).

Transfer applicants attending U.S. institutions who have passed English Composition Courses I and II that are equivalent to Clemson University's ENGL 1030 with a grade of "B" or better are exempt from the TOEFL/IELTS requirement. The test can also be waived for students from countries where English is the primary language or one of the official languages.

Nominations & Applications

Nomination Procedure

Selected students will be nominated by their home university. Pam Hendrix Center staff will contact students with additional information regarding the application process after the nomination deadline.

Application Procedure

The link to our online application will be emailed directly to students after nominations have been received and reviewed. The email will include application instructions and information about term dates, arrival, and orientation.

To complete the application, you will need to identify the courses that you are interested in taking while at Clemson; upload a recent copy of your home university transcript and relevant syllabi, upload a copy of your passport; and provide additional demographic information.

Academic Levels Offered:

Undergraduate & Graduate

Language of Instruction:

English



Important Dates

Deadlines

	FULL YEAR	FALL 2024	SPRING 2025
Nominations	February 1st	February 1st	September 1st
Applications	February 15th *	February 15th *	September 15th
Class Registration Pre-Approval	March 21- April 1	March 21-April 1	October 15-31

Online Self-Registration

Registration Time Tickets (the starting day and time from which a student has access to the online registration system) are auto-assigned by the Registration Services Office. Registration Time Tickets occur over a 2-week period in early April and early-mid November. Our office will notify students of their Registration Time Ticket and provide registration information.

Semester Dates

Fall 2024

Semester Period: August 21 - December 13, 2024

Suggested Arrival: On or before August 18, 2024

Exchange Student Orientation: August 19- 20, 2024

Classes Begin: August 21, 2024

Final Examinations: December 09 - 13, 2024

Spring 2025

Semester Period: January 08 - May 2, 2025

Suggested Arrival: On or before January 5, 2025

Exchange Student Orientation: January 6 - 7, 2025

Classes Begin: January 08, 2025

Final Examinations: April 28 - May 2, 2025

Students should not plan to depart Clemson before final examinations end

Academic Information

Class Selection

The **Academic Course Catalog** lists all classes required for each major. Please note that it is rare for a department to teach all classes every semester; thus, there is no guarantee that a class found in the Course Catalog will be taught in the semester(s) students intend to study at Clemson. Catalogs can be accessed here: <http://catalog.clemson.edu/>

Students should refer to the "**Class Schedule**" for a list of classes that will be available during the semester(s) they will attend Clemson. The "Class Schedule" is posted one semester in advance between mid-January to early February and mid-September to early October.

Class syllabi are publicly available through the following website: <https://syllabus.app.clemson.edu/repository>

Class Registration

Each student is scheduled to register for courses at different times, and should check for their individual time through the process below. This process is also how you will log in on the day of your time ticket to register for courses. Notes concerning registration can be found on page 3 of this document.

To view your registration time ticket:

1. Go to iRoar (www.iroar.clemson.edu)
2. Log in with your Clemson Username and password
3. Select Records and Registration tab
4. Select iRoar
5. Select the student tab
6. Under student tab select student profile
7. In the top right corner click on registration notices
8. It will be listed at the bottom of this under Time Ticket

Notes on course registration

Please note that most academic departments will try to accommodate requests for exchange students, **but placement into classes cannot be guaranteed.**

Not all classes are offered each semester. Please don't forget to check the "[Class Schedule](#)" for the semester you will study at Clemson.

Review prerequisite requirements carefully to make sure you have completed all prerequisite classes before selecting upper-level classes. You **MUST** meet prerequisites in order to enroll in any course that requires them!

Course Requests (to be uploaded at the time of application)

In the U.S. educational system, 1000-level classes are generally designed for 1st-year students, 2000 level for 2nd year, 3000 for 3rd year, and 4000 for 4th year students. Classes numbered 5000-9000 are graduate-level courses.

Our office works with registration coordinators in the relevant academic departments to secure registration overrides. These individuals may contact you directly via email if there are any questions about your selections. In some cases, you may be pre-registered for a course by the department and do not have to register manually. You will be able to make changes to your class schedule until the first week of classes.

Please be aware that some departments request to meet students in person or via Zoom before approving class registrations. Our office will contact you if departments require a meeting. Some departments prefer to meet the student in person upon arrival on campus. This process will not negatively affect your access to classes.

Course Enrollment Overrides:

Many upper-level classes have pre-requisite requirements for which the academic department must grant "override" permission to register for these courses. Our office will submit override requests on behalf of all exchange students. In order to do so, we will need the student's home university transcript, a list of classes currently enrolled in (if not listed on the transcript), course descriptions for any classes taken at the home university that meet Clemson pre-requisite requirements, and a list of classes that you would like to enroll in at Clemson. Please select 7-10 courses of interest in case you are not able to enroll in your first choice(s).

Course Load:

Undergraduate exchange students are required to register for a minimum of 12 credit hours and no more than 19 credit hours per semester. Only 3 of the 12 or any credit hours beyond 12 may include courses that are taught virtually. This is a requirement of their J-1 exchange student visa status.

Graduate exchange students are required to register for a minimum of 9 credit hours and no more than 19 credit hours per semester. Only 3 of the 9 or any credit hours beyond 9 may include courses that are taught virtually. This is a requirement of their J-1 exchange student visa status.

Credit System:

Classes are generally 3-4 credits, meeting for 3-4 hours each week. In the U.S., attendance is part of a student's grade and most professors do not allow unexcused absences.

Examinations:

The final exam schedule for each individual class is posted in the class syllabus, which is provided to students during the first meeting of the semester. Final exams in the U.S. are mandatory on their assigned date and time and cannot be reschedule except under special circumstances with pre-approval of the professor.

Students should NOT plan to depart campus before final examinations end.

Each professor decides the format of their final exam. It may be in the form of a cumulative exam, group/individual project or final paper.

Grading System:

A= 90 and above (Excellent, highest grade given)

B= 80 to 89 (Good, above average work)

C= 70 to 79 (Fair, average work)

D= 60 to 69 (Pass, below average work, lowest pass)

F= 59 and below (Failed, no credit received)

Transcripts:

It is the responsibility of the student to request a transcript at the end of their semester or year at Clemson. Clemson does not automatically send official transcripts to partner universities on behalf of the student. For more information and costs please refer to the [transcript order webpage](#).

Students may request official transcripts in two ways:

1. **Electronic Copy:** Requested online through [Parchment](#). Please check with your home university to ensure that they will **accept an electronic transcript** (access will be received within 24 hours of submitting a request)
2. **Hard Copy:** Request in-person or by mail through Clemson's Registrar's Office (2-6 week processing and mailing)

NOTE: Transcript requests are only eligible after all Clemson account balances have been paid in full.

Visa Information

Exchange, Sister-State, and fee-paying visiting students qualify to obtain a J-1 visa to study as non-degree seeking students at Clemson.

Once a student is admitted to Clemson, they will be able to access Clemson's immigration request system called the "iStart Portal". Through the iStart Portal, students will complete and submit all four sections of the "Request Certificate of Eligibility" e-form located under the "Pre-Arrival" tab. The processing time for this e-form request is currently 10 business days.

Once the e-form has been processed, students will receive an email notification to their Clemson email address from is@clemson.edu to order and pay for courier shipping of their DS-2019 document.

The DS-2019 or "Certificate of Eligibility for Exchange Visitor (J-1) Status" allows students to apply for an interview at a U.S. Embassy or Consulate in order to obtain a J-1 visa to enter the United States.



Image via: <https://www.clemson.edu/financial-aid/residency/>

Insurance Information

IMPORTANT MESSAGE: Clemson University will not allow students to waive out of the University's Student Health Insurance Plan. Thus, please DO NOT purchase insurance in your home country for your time at Clemson unless you are seeking double coverage.

- All international students, including exchange students, are required to be covered by health insurance that meets U.S. Department of State, South Carolina, and Clemson University requirements during their time in the United States. Clemson University will automatically enroll all students in the Clemson University Student Health Insurance Plan for the semester that you are studying here.
- Please watch the introductory videos on the U.S. medical system (including average charges for different types of care) at: <http://www.clemson.edu/campus-life/healthy-campus/international-students.html>

Insurance Rates

2024-2025 insurance rates for the Clemson student health insurance plan have recently been announced.

Fall Semester: \$835

Spring Semester: \$1,157

*Spring semester coverage also includes summer and cannot be prorated to only cover Spring term dates.

You can find additional information on this link <https://clemsonu.myahpcare.com/>

Immunization Information

Submit Your Immunization/Vaccine Forms

- All new students must submit their immunization records to your [myHEALTH-e account](#) by **July 1st** for Fall/Academic Year students and **December 1st** for Spring/Calendar Year students
- It will take you anywhere between 2 weeks – 2 months to complete your immunization forms, depending on how thorough and current your immunizations are.

Please act now on this process so you are certain to meet the **July 1st** or **December 1st** deadline. We recommend that you print this email and take it to your doctor along with the forms mentioned below.

Please do the following ASAP:

- Review the immunization requirements via the [Student Health Services website](#).
- Submit the “**Student Immunization Forms**” and “**Tuberculosis Risk Assessment**” to your medical clinic for completion and/or request a verified copy of your current immunization record. **Only verified records in English will be accepted.**
- **Ensure that your TDAP includes the whooping cough immunization**, which is required in the U.S. If you have not had the whooping cough vaccine, you will be required to get it once you arrive at Clemson (and pay for it out-of-pocket).
- **Ensure that your Meningitis vaccine contains strands of Menactra or Menveo.** Please ask your doctor to write the vaccine strand(s) on your Student Immunization Form. If the strands are not written on the form, you will have to be re-vaccinated when you arrive at Clemson (and pay for it out-of-pocket). If your country’s Meningitis vaccine does not contain Menactra or Menveo, wait until you arrive at Clemson to receive the vaccine (you will have to pay the costs). If you have already been vaccinated without the Menactra or Menveo strands, you will still have to be re-vaccinated when you arrive at Clemson (and pay the associated costs).

- Make arrangements at your medical clinic to receive any required and recommended vaccines that you are lacking in order to complete the required forms. More information about required and recommended vaccines is listed under “Immunization Requirements” in the above link.
- Once your medical forms are complete, upload them to your [myHEALTH-e account](#).
 - Please note that Redfern CANNOT accept medical records by email.
 - Do not fax your documents. Although this is listed as an option, their fax machine does not work very well.

If completion of medical clearance requirements is contraindicated for medical reasons, approval of the healthcare provider is required along with documentation of the need for the exemption and signed [Medical Exemption Form](#).

If a religious exemption is requested, complete the [Religious Exemption Form](#)

Budget Sheet

Clemson University Program Costs

The "Program Costs" tab on the [Incoming Exchange Student Application brochure page](#) includes a detailed list of the fees that will be charged to your Clemson University Bill.

Please note that this webpage lists which fees are paid by the Pam Hendrix Center and which fees are paid by the incoming student, so that you can better understand what you are responsible for paying to Clemson.

Estimated Costs external to Clemson University Per Semester

The costs listed below are based on the [Estimated Cost of Attendance webpage](#) from the Office of Student Financial Aid and represent a single semester of costs for an off-campus student.

- Books and Supplies: \$945
 - Housing: \$4,013
 - Refer to individual apartment complex websites for monthly rent information.
- Utilities: \$500
 - Apartment complexes may include some utilities in the rent cost. Refer to individual apartment web pages for more information.
- Meals: \$774 - \$2624
 - This estimate will vary based on whether or not you elect an on-campus meal plan and which meal plan you select. Find details [here](#).
- Personal Expenses: \$2,114
 - Miscellaneous personal expenses such as entertainment and travel
- Transportation: Varies
 - Clemson University and the City of Clemson have a free bus system providing transportation on campus and around the surrounding cities. Other transportation costs may include Uber/Lyft rides.

Accommodations

Off- Campus Housing Overview

Due to the current on-campus housing shortage, Clemson is unable to offer on-campus accommodations at this time. Understanding the challenges of finding housing as an incoming exchange student, Clemson University has created a dedicated [resource](#) to assist you in securing off-campus accommodations. We've also compiled a list of off-campus properties that are particularly well-suited for international students.

Downtown Clemson

Housing in Downtown Clemson includes Earle, UCenter, Bixby, and Campus View. These apartment complexes are in high demand throughout the year, and students who live there usually have signed their lease a year in advance, and they do not offer short-term leases. While challenging to acquire, you may be able to do so by subleasing another student's room.

Sublease options for both downtown and off-campus housing are found on this Facebook page, and students post daily:

*Subleases tend to be more available in the Spring

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/ClemsonSubleasesRoommates>

Off Campus Communities

When considering off-campus communities in Clemson, there are factors that you need to consider.

- **Furnished Apartment:** Many, but not all, off-campus student apartments offer furnished apartments or furniture packages that can be purchased.
- **Short-Term (5-6 Month) Lease Options:** Some off-campus student apartments offer short-term lease options so that you do not have to sign a 9- or 12-month lease if you are only staying for one semester.
- **Proximity to Campus:** Look for off-campus housing within walking distance to campus, on the CATbus Red bus line, or providing private transportation to campus. Unless you intend to purchase a car, moped, or bicycle, it will be very difficult for you to get to campus if your off-campus housing is not within walking distance, on the bus line, or on a private shuttle route.
- **Proximity to local amenities** (i.e., restaurants, grocery stores, shopping, etc.). Clemson is a rural, decentralized community. Although amenities may not be far in distance, they may not be easily walkable.

In communication with local apartment communities, we are able to provide the information below. Please note that only a select few properties offer one-semester leases. If you will be studying at Clemson for one term, we would encourage you to reach out to these properties to prevent yourself from signing a lease that is longer than your intended duration of stay. Prices indicated are estimates based on previous terms and are subject to change.

One-Semester Leases

**One-semester leases are limited and require early application to secure. During the research and selection process, it's important to clearly indicate that you're an exchange student when contacting apartment complexes. Additionally, please be ready to present a copy of your Clemson University acceptance letter.*

The Collective at Clemson

<https://www.collectiveclemson.com>

- Number of bedrooms: 2, 3, 4, 5
- Rent costs: \$1000- \$1200
- Additional expenses: \$45 - \$60
- Transportation to campus: Community specific shuttle
- Community amenities: Resort style pool and hot tub, gym, individual study rooms, study lounge with printer, game room, volleyball court



Signature Hartwell Village

<https://www.signaturehartwellvillage.com>

- Number of bedrooms: 1, 2, 3, 4
- Rent costs: \$990 - \$1600
- Costs included in rent: electricity, water, wifi, and cable
- Additional expenses: Furniture package
- Transportation to campus: Community-specific shuttle to campus
- Community amenities: Resort-Style Pool, Water-Lounging Deck & Cabanas, Outdoor Jumbotron TV Screen, Outdoor Fire Pits & Grills, Fitness Center, Clubhouse, Media Room, Private Study Rooms, Package Locker System



University Village Clemson

<https://www.universityvillageclemson.com>

- Number of bedrooms: 3, 4
- Please remember to inquire about furnished units, as several of them are unfurnished.
- Rent costs: \$580- \$685 (\$75 additional fee per month for August-May, and \$200 additional fee per month from August-December)
- very limited number of short term leases
- Costs included in rent: None
- Additional expenses: \$40 Furniture Package, Insurance \$12, Hardwood upgrade \$15
- Utilities: \$35 per month for internet, cable, trash service, and an electricity package
- Transportation to campus: CAT bus stop
- Community amenities: 2 Resort Style Pools, Fitness Center, 2 Study Rooms, Computer Lab, Volleyball Court, Basketball Court, Cabana

One-YEAR (August-July) Leases

*If you're at Clemson for just one term, we highly recommend seeking out a short-term lease option. While signing a one-year lease allows for subletting your apartment within the community, there's no assurance that someone will take over your lease. It will be your responsibility to find a sub-lessee and coordinate with the property management to ensure all procedures are followed accordingly. Please note that these options are in high demand but often in short supply.

The Pier at Clemson

<https://www.thepieratclemson.com/>

- Number of bedrooms: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
- Rent costs: \$725- \$1200
- Fully furnished
- Costs included in rent: liability insurance, utilities (water, sewage, trash, wifi)
- Additional expenses: Electricity varies from \$40-\$100
- Transportation to campus: CAT bus stop
- Community amenities: Two pools, lazy river, gym, study rooms, volleyball pits, basketball court, soccer and rugby fields, pier going out onto Lake Hartwell.

The Ridge

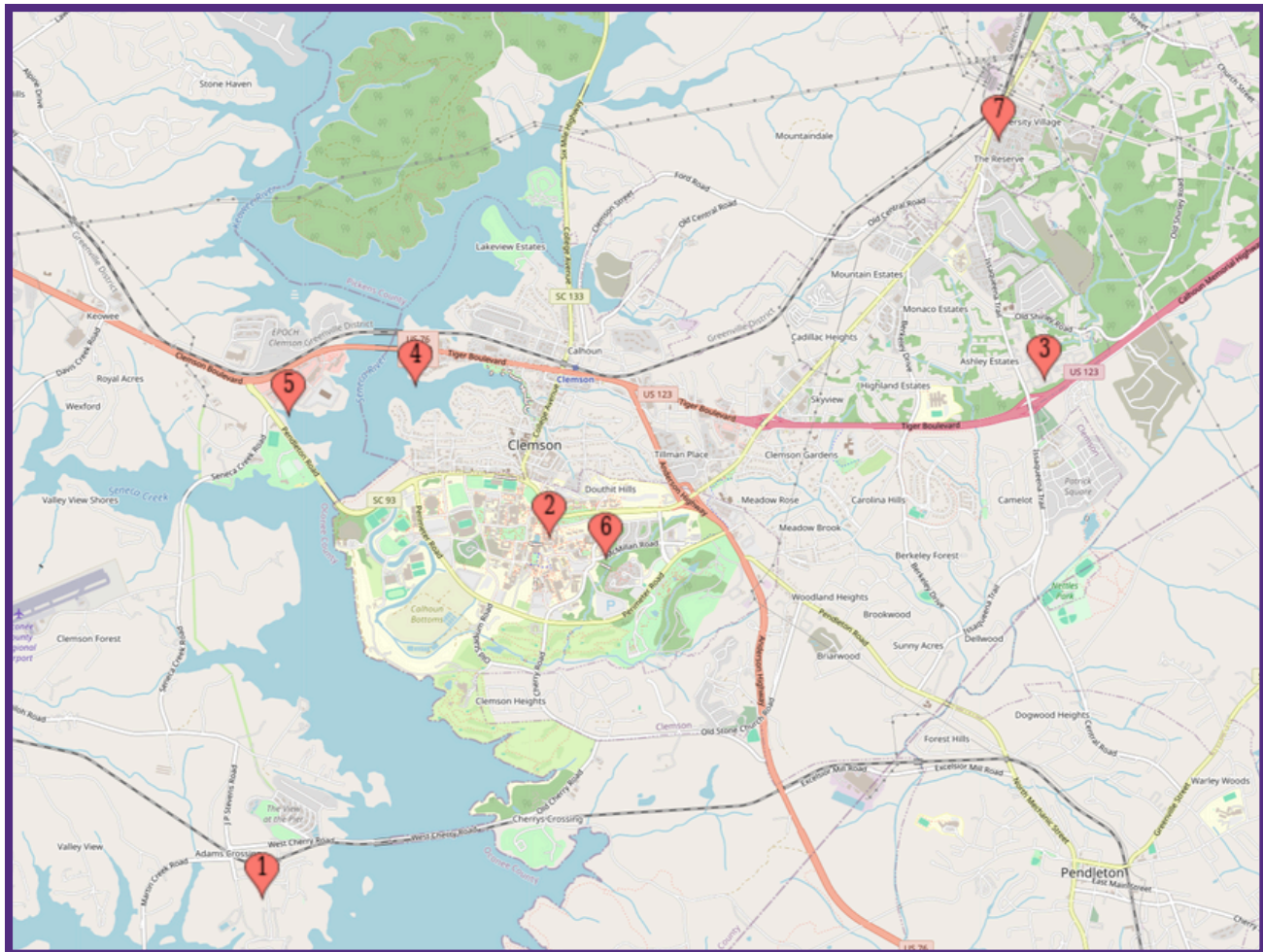
<https://www.theridgeclemson.com>

- Number of bedrooms: 2, 4
- Rent costs: From \$919
- Costs included in rent: Trash pick-up, Internet, and Cable
- Furnished
- Additional expenses: Monthly utilities
- Transportation to campus: Community specific shuttle
- Community amenities: Fitness Center, Pool, Lazy River, Hot Tub, Private Study Spaces, Free Printing

Dockside Clemson Apartments

<https://docksideclemson.com>

- Number of bedrooms: 2, 3, 4, 5
- Rent costs: \$969- \$1,869
- Additional expenses: \$45 - \$60
- Transportation to campus: Community specific shuttle
- Community amenities: Resort style pool and hot tub, gym, individual study rooms, study lounge with printer, game room, volleyball court



Map Link: https://www.mapcustomizer.com/map/Clemson%20Campus?utm_source=share&utm_medium=email

Legend:

- | | |
|-------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1. The Pier | 5. Signature Hartwell Village |
| 2. Clemson Campus | 6. Calhoun Courts |
| 3. The Ridge | 7. University Village |
| 4. Dockside | |

CAMPUS DINING

Should you purchase a meal plan?

Buying a meal plan at Clemson is optional for exchange students. Several plan options are available and vary in price and amount of meals. Many students prefer having the convenience of eating on campus, while others prefer to buy their own groceries. It is completely up to the student. You will have the opportunity to select and purchase a meal plan during orientation.

For more information on meal plan offerings, see the dining website:

https://clemson.campusdish.com/MealPlans/Category?cat=All_Products_6716&lid=6716

For a list of on-campus restaurants and dining halls, see this:

<https://clemson.campusdish.com/en>

What comes in a meal plan?

Meal Swipes

Meal swipes are loaded onto your TigerOne ID card and are used to get into the on-campus cafeteria style dining halls. Swipes may be used three times a day at any point throughout the semester.

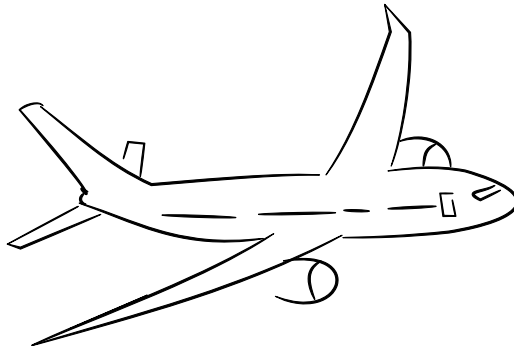
Paw Points

Paw Points come with some meal plan options or can be purchased on their own. These are also loaded onto your TigerOne card and can be used at any of the on-campus restaurants and POD markets. 1 Paw Point = \$1.

Tiger Stripe

Students can open a Tiger Stripe account separately from purchasing a meal plan if they choose to do so. A Tiger Stripe account functions like a debit card and can be loaded with funds and then used at on-campus and some off-campus retailers. for a full list of where Tiger Stripe can be used, see this: <https://www.clemson.edu/campus-life/tigerone/merchant.html>

Transportation



Airport Transportation

Choosing the Best Airport

- **Greenville - Spartanburg (GSP)** - 45 miles from Clemson; about 55 minutes. The most convenient option, offering free shuttle service during Clemson breaks and at the beginning/end of semesters.
- **Charlotte- Douglas International (CLT)** 130 miles from Clemson; about 2 hours (+ depending on traffic). Also offers free shuttle service, but consider traffic and the longer travel time when the shuttle times don't suit your needs.
- **Atlanta - Hartsfield International (ATL)** 130 miles from Clemson; about 2 hours (+ depending on traffic). **No free shuttle service** and traffic can significantly impact travel times. **Avoid this option if possible.**

Ground Transportation Options

From Greenville-Spartanburg (GSP):

- **Free Clemson University Tiger Transit Shuttle**: Available during breaks and at the beginning/end of semesters.
- **Ride-sharing (Uber/Lyft)**: Convenient and relatively affordable.
- **Airport Shuttle Services** (e.g., Airport Shuttle of Clemson and Atchison Transport): Door-to-door service, relatively affordable compared to Charlotte and Atlanta.

Transportation

From Charlotte-Douglas International (CLT):

- **Free Clemson University Tiger Transit Shuttle:** Available during breaks and at the beginning/end of semesters.
- **Amtrak:** Budget-friendly but only offers one train a day, departing late in the evening and arriving in Clemson early in the morning. Additional transportation to/from the train station is also required.
- **Greyhound:** Economical, but does not go to Clemson. It requires additional transportation from the Anderson bus station to Clemson, a 30-minute drive.
- **Airport Shuttle Services:** (e.g., Airport Shuttle of Clemson and Atchison Transport) Door-to-door service, but expensive.
- **Ride-sharing (Uber/Lyft):** Can be limited and expensive for long journeys.

From Atlanta-Hartsfield International (ATL):

- **Free shuttle:** not offered
- **Amtrak:** Budget-friendly but only offers one train a day, departing late in the evening and arriving in Clemson early in the morning. Additional transportation to/from the train station is also required.
- **Greyhound:** Economical, but does not go directly to Clemson. It requires additional transportation from the Anderson bus station to Clemson, a 30-minute drive.
- **Airport Shuttle Services:** (e.g., Airport Shuttle of Clemson and Atchison Transport) Door-to-door service, but expensive.
- **Ride-sharing (Uber/Lyft):** can be limited and expensive for long journeys.

Additional Tips

- **Reserve shuttle space in advance:** Space fills up quickly, especially during peak travel times.
- **Consider traffic:** Factor in extra time for your journey, especially when traveling from Atlanta.
- **Compare costs and convenience:** Evaluate your budget and preferences to determine the best option for you.

TRANSPORTATION

Transportation around Clemson

For additional information about getting to and around Clemson for students, visit the [Parking and Transportation Services website](#).

Transportation from Off-Campus accommodations

Many students utilize the CAT Bus to navigate the Clemson campus and access off-campus housing, grocery stores, and surrounding towns. The CAT Bus service free of charge and offers bike racks for students that would like to combine transportation methods. You can find more information about the CAT bus, including routes here: <https://www.clemsoncity.com/>

Some off-campus apartment complexes offer their own private shuttle to transport residents to and from campus multiple times a day from their housing community.



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