

Open Admissions

Horry-Georgetown Technical College (HGTC) operates on an open admission policy as required by the 1976 Code of Laws of South Carolina, as amended. Horry-Georgetown Technical College makes every effort to minimize geographic, financial, and scholastic barriers to the post-secondary programs and services offered by the technical colleges. As such, the College admits all qualified individuals who meet appropriate academic age and verified legal presence requirements.

A minimum eighth grade reading, writing and math level is required for college admission. A high school diploma (or GED Certificate), though desirable, is not a prerequisite for college admission, but may be required for specific program admission. While Horry-Georgetown Technical College does not refuse admission to the College based on academic history or test scores, other than a minimum eighth grade reading, writing and math level requirement, entry into the College does not constitute admission to particular programs of study. Admission to specific programs at HGTC may require additional documentation, due to licensure or accreditation requirements. For additional information, please contact the Office of Admissions at admissions@hgtc.edu.

It is the policy of HGTC that applicants for admission to the College must be eighteen (18) years of age or older. Under certain circumstances, an applicant under the age of eighteen (18) who has not graduated from high school may be considered for enrollment through special agreement between the college and the principal or appropriate school official of the school where the applicant has been, or is, attending.

- High school students participating in the Program for Accelerated College Enrollment (PACE) or Early College are subject to admissions requirements as outlined in the PACE section of this catalog.
- An applicant who is less than 18 years old, and who does not have a high school diploma or its equivalent, must present, prior to admission, the following: Written permission to attend HGTC from the principal of the high school last attended or currently attending. Homeschooled students must have written permission from the state affiliation or local school district; and, written parental/guardian permission to attend HGTC. Married or legally independent applicants are excluded from this requirement.

HGTC maintains open admission to fulfill the educational mission of the College and to promote achievement of individuals with varied potential. Open admission supports the College commitment to assess student potential and provide developmental education or appropriate referrals as necessary. However, open admission does not guarantee admission. Also, pursuant to South Carolina law, to be considered for admission, applicants to the College must be U.S. citizens or be legally present in the United States.

Lawful Presence

In compliance with South Carolina Law (South Carolina Illegal Immigration Reform Act), students admitted to the College must be lawfully present in the United States. The Office of Admissions verifies lawful presence in the United States at the time of the application to the College.

Lawful Presence is verified through the following methods.

Lawful Presence of US Citizens

Students who have submitted a FAFSA application and identify as US citizens have their lawful presence verified by the Federal government.

If a student does not submit a FAFSA application and identifies as a US Citizen on the admissions application, he or she must submit proof of lawful presence by providing one of the following: SC issued Driver's License valid after 2002; SC Identification Card valid after 2002; or a copy of their Social Security Card.

Lawful Presence of Non-US Citizens

Permanent Residents and non-resident alien students are verified through the Department of Homeland Security Systematics Alien Verification for Entitlements ("SAVE").

One of the following items is required to complete verification of Permanent Residents and non-resident alien students; Lawful Presence Documents for Non-US Citizens; Current Permanent Resident Card; current Visa documentation; or any other appropriate which verifies lawful presence in the United States in accordance with the SAVE system.

