



# THE SANTEE-LYNCHES TENANT EMPOWERMENT PROGRAM (S.T.E.P.)



- The program is intended to help individuals (and their families) attain and maintain self-sufficiency by providing temporary assistance with housing.
- The assistance will allow participants to better dedicate themselves to educational and training activities to successfully enter the workforce or move to a higher-wage position.
- One (1) year duration.
- Student progress will be verified on a monthly basis with mandatory monthly appointments.
- The candidates' household must have a low-to-moderate level income, measured as being 80% or less than the median household income for their county of residence, according to HUD regulations.
- Individuals must qualify according to the HUD income requirements, must be enrolled at an approved institution of higher education or in a work/training development program **and meet at least one of following criteria**; 24 years or older, or be a US military veteran, be married, or have a dependent child, or a participant in the Santee-Lynches Regional Reentry Program.
- Assistance must be applied to a new lease.
- The maximum assistance available will be capped at 30% of the candidate's gross household income.
- The program will pay assistance directly to the landlord, and the renter will be responsible for the remaining balance due each month of the lease.

## Approved Educational Providers for STEP

### Assistance:

- Central Carolina Technical College
- University of South Carolina (Sumter and Palmetto College)
- Morris College
- (Training funded by) Vocational Rehabilitation (Sumter, Clarendon, Lee and Kershaw)
- (Training funded by) WIOA/ SC Works
- Francis Marion University
- Midlands MedTech
- Professional Development and Training Services, LLC
- FORTIS- online
- Strayer University- online
- University of Phoenix- online
- St. Leo University
- Troy University

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