



PRIVACY POLICY

Last Modified: February 18, 2025

At Southern Scholars Initiative (“we,” “us,” “our”), we understand that privacy is important. We are strongly committed to protecting the privacy of all visitors to southernscholarsinitiative.org (the “Website”). This Privacy Policy (the “Policy”) is designed to help you better understand the information we gather from our Website and through our other services, how we protect the information once we gather it, and whether and how we disclose it.

We may, from time to time, make changes to this Policy. By visiting this Website, you are accepting the practices described in the current version of this Privacy Policy. If you do not agree to the terms of this Policy, do not use the Website.

Please note that this Policy applies only to this Website and our use of information, and not to other companies’ or organizations’ websites, including any websites to which we link. You are advised to consult the privacy policies of other websites that you visit.

INFORMATION COLLECTION AND USE

Our primary goals in collecting personal information are to provide you with a smooth, efficient, and customized experience, send you information upon your request, and thank you for your generosity as a donor. Specifically, we may collect personal information if you:

- Register for and participate in programs, activities, surveys, or events, including applying for a scholarship;
- Send us an email or make a donation;
- Register for an account or sign up to receive email newsletters; or
- Submit an employment application.

AGGREGATE DATA

In addition, when you interact with the Website, we may automatically gather certain usage information, such as the number and frequency of visitors to this Website and what features of the Website are most popular to our visitors. This information may include the URL that you just came from, the URL that you next go to, the browser that you are using, the features that



you click on and read (in whole or in part), and your IP address. This collective data helps us to determine how much our visitors use parts of the Website and conduct internal research on our users' demographics, interests, and behavior so we can better understand and serve you.

PERSONALLY IDENTIFIABLE INFORMATION

If you donate to us, apply for a scholarship, register to participate in programs, activities and events, create an account, request our newsletter, or submit other information to us via our Website or email address, we may request personally identifiable information about you, such as your name, address, phone number, and email address. We seek such information primarily to communicate with you. In addition, we may use such information to market and promote our organization, programs, and activities; analyze Website usage; improve our content and product/services offerings; customize our Website's content, layout and services; and use for other reasons consistent with our mission. If you opt in to communications from us when prompted, we may use personal information to contact you and send you information, such as email updates.

DONOR ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

We may thank our donors by listing them in brochures and marketing materials. If you do not want to be publicly recognized for your contribution, please email us at info@southern scholars.org when you make your donation. We do not sell or rent our donor lists to anyone.

OUTSIDE SERVICE PROVIDERS

If you opt to make a donation or any type of payment through the Website, your personally identifiable information, including your name, address, telephone number, email address and debit/credit card information, will be collected and stored by various third-party providers who process credit card payments on behalf of us. Please review these third-party providers' individual terms and conditions and privacy policies for more information about the collection and storage of your information.

In addition, we may use outside service providers to facilitate our Website and overall operation, and to perform functions on our behalf, such as sending postal mail and email, removing repetitive information from donor lists, analyzing data, and providing customer service. These third parties may have access to your personal information as needed to perform their functions, but they may not use it for any other purpose.



OTHER WEBSITES AND SERVICES

Our Website may contain links to other websites and services. These links are not an endorsement, authorization or representation that we are affiliated with that third party. We do not exercise control over third-party websites or services and are not responsible for their actions. Other websites and services may follow different rules regarding the use or disclosure of the personal information you submit to them. We encourage you to read the privacy policies of the other websites you visit and services you use.

SOCIAL NETWORKING SITES

We may operate and maintain social networking pages and venues on websites or social media platforms, such as Facebook, Twitter, Threads, LinkedIn, Instagram, Google, Snap, TikTok, Tumblr, and Medium. If you post to any of our social networking pages on third-party websites, you are providing information to the public, and do so at your own risk. We will, from time to time, import comments and posts from these third-party websites to this Website. We may use these postings on our Website or social media accounts, in our newsletters, and for other purposes consistent with our mission without further notice or compensation to you. Please visit the privacy policies of any third-party websites before posting to our social media pages or accounts.

COOKIES

“Cookies” are small files placed on your hard drive, and each website can send its own cookie to your browser if your browser preferences allow it. You can configure your browser to accept all cookies, reject all cookies, or notify you when a cookie is set. (Each browser is different, so check the “Help” menu of your browser to learn how to change your cookie preferences.) You are always free to decline our cookies if your browser permits, although in that case, you may not be able to interact with certain features on our Website, and you may be required to re-enter your password more frequently during a session.

Cookies help us to provide customized services and information that is targeted to your interests. We use cookies on the Website to tell us how and when pages on our Website are visited, what our users’ technology preferences are (such as the type of browser used) and whether our website is functioning properly. We also use cookies to temporarily retain the information you enter into a form.

You may encounter cookies or other similar devices on our Website that are placed by third parties. We do not control the use of cookies by third parties.



SECURITY

We care about the security of your transactions and use standard industry practices to safeguard your information. We may use high-grade encryption and the secure https protocol to communicate with your browser software. We may also employ several different security techniques to protect your personally identifiable information from unauthorized access or use. You should be aware, however, that “perfect security” does not exist on the Internet, and that third parties may be able to intercept private communications and/or access your personally identifiable information.

SHARING INFORMATION

In general, we will not sell, share, or rent information about you in ways different from what is disclosed in this Privacy Policy. However, we may be forced to disclose information to the government or third parties under certain circumstances. We cooperate with governments and private parties to enforce laws and the terms of our Privacy Policy, including those regarding intellectual property rights, fraud, unauthorized use or access of our Website, data or information; data privacy, safety, and security; or harmful, unethical or illegal activity. We may (and you authorize us to) disclose any information about you to government officials and private parties as we, in our sole discretion, believe necessary or appropriate in connection with an investigation of fraud or unauthorized use or access; intellectual property infringement; issues involving privacy, safety, or security; harmful, unethical, or illegal behavior; or other activity connected to this Website that is illegal or may expose us or you to liability.

POLICY TOWARDS CHILDREN

Our Website is not intended for children under age 13. If you become aware that a child has provided us with information without parental or guardian consent, please contact info@southernscholars.org to request that we delete such information from our files, which we will do as soon as reasonably practicable.

CHANGES TO THIS PRIVACY POLICY

We reserve the right to modify this Privacy Policy at any time. We encourage you to periodically review this page for the latest information on our privacy practices. If we make material changes to this Policy, we will notify you by updating the date of this Policy and posting it on our websites. We may (and, where required by law, will) also provide notification of changes in another way that we believe is reasonably likely to reach you, such as via



e-mail (if you have an account where we have your contact information) or another manner, which may include posting an announcement on our Website.

Any modifications to this Policy will be effective upon our posting of the new terms on our Website. In all cases, your continued use of our Website after the posting of any modified Privacy Policy indicates your acceptance of the terms of the modified Policy.

GOVERNING LAW

You agree that your use of this Website, this Policy, and any disputes relating thereto shall be governed in all respects by the laws of the State of New York. Any dispute relating to this Policy shall be resolved solely in the state or federal courts located in New York County, New York.

Thank you for visiting our Website. If you have any questions about our Website or this Policy, please contact us at:

Southern Scholars Initiative
197 Viking Circle
Denmark, SC 29042
803.200.1910

info@southern scholars.org (for Privacy Policy questions)

info@southern scholars.org (for general Website questions)