University of South Carolina Upstate
Fall 2020 Program Application

“Teamwork makes the dream work!”
A Teacher-Leadership Program in Education
Call Me MiSTER is leading the way in recruiting African American male teachers for South Carolina’s classrooms. The program is designed to provide a pipeline of African-American male teachers, mentors, and role models to South Carolina’s public schools and communities. African-American men make up less than two percent of public-school teachers in the United States and less than one percent of teachers in South Carolina's public elementary schools.

**Call Me MiSTER Vision Statement**

"I am a dedicated Servant Leader who is perpetuating a sorely needed concept - Servant-Leaders as role models in elementary schools. I am devoted to planting seeds of dignity and respect in children and inspiring them to cultivate those seeds, producing a crop of unprecedented success. I will teach reading, writing and arithmetic and progress to self-esteem, imagination and determination. Because of my immeasurable promise, not only have I earned your respect, I demand it! A title is only important if ones' character and integrity dictate its use. When you address me, please verbalize my destiny... please do not call me by my first name... call me in reference to my great vision... call me MiSTER!"
Guidelines and Requirements for Participation

The Call Me MiSTER (CMM) program is a collaboration between Clemson University and other colleges and universities, including the University of South Carolina Upstate (Upstate). The purpose of the program is to increase the pool of available teachers from a diverse background, particularly among the lowest performing public schools. Student participants are generally selected from among underserved, socio-economically disadvantaged and educationally at-risk communities. Call Me MiSTER will only accept students who major in Elementary, Early Childhood, or Special Education.

The program is HIGHLY competitive and provides financial assistance in the form of scholarships towards tuition & fees and a stipend each semester.

- Non-Praxis Core Completion: $5,000 towards tuition & fees
- Praxis Core Completion: $10,000 towards tuition & fees

MiSTERs are expected to teach in a South Carolina public school for EACH year they receive funding after they graduate.
Program Guidelines & Requirements

Program participants must meet the following guidelines and requirements:

- Be accepted for enrollment at Upstate.
- Apply for financial aid by completing a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) form.
- Apply for the CMM program found at the official Call Me MiSTER website at www.callmemister.clemson.edu AND on the Call Me MiSTER page found on www.uscupstate.edu/mister.
- Major in elementary, early childhood, middle or special education.
- Participate in an in-person interview.
- Make continued satisfactory progress towards becoming accepted into the professional education program once accepted into Call Me MiSTER and ultimately, meet all necessary requirements for graduation and certification.
  a. MiSTERs who fail to make adequate progress in the matriculation process and/or program participation may be released from the program.
- Actively participate in weekly or bi-weekly seminars, as well as, conferences, summits, institutes, workshops, retreats, and other activities sponsored by the program.
- Participate in field experiences under a mentor teacher at an elementary or middle school, service learning activities, special programs and/or projects throughout the school year.
- Complete various assignments made by the CMM Program Coordinator.
- Room on campus and live together as roommates with other MiSTERs where feasible.

Once your teaching obligation with Call Me MiSTER has been completed, your funds provided by CMM will be forgiven. If you break the contract, change your major, fail to complete the teacher certification program, or decide not to teach in the state of South Carolina, you will be required to pay back the funds to Call Me MiSTER.
Admission

For admission to the Call Me MiSTER Program:

1. Complete Upstate’s Call Me MiSTER cohort application, which can be found on the next page.

2. Complete the official Call Me MiSTER online referral application at www.callmemister.clemson.edu.

3. Submit the following items:
   a. SAT and/or ACT score(s) official high school transcript, and official college transcript (if applicable).
   b. Two letters of recommendation:
      i. One (1) from a teacher, guidance counselor, or principal at the high school from which the diploma was earned.
      ii. One (1) from a person of your choice who can express the student’s involvement in the community and/or potential for becoming an effective teacher.
   c. Two essays: one entitled, “Why I Want to Teach,” which will address your motivation for entering the teaching profession and the contributions you hope to make to the profession and the community as a teacher, and a second essay titled, “How do I believe the Call Me MiSTER program will benefit me as a student?”
      i. Each essay should be at least one page in length.
   d. A University of South Carolina Upstate CMM application submitted to Dr. Walter Lee, Program Coordinator.

4. Following the submission of the above items, an interview will be scheduled with the prospective program participants to ascertain their potential for teaching and their motivation for participation in the program, as well as to provide an opportunity for clarification of any information submitted through the application process.
Upstate Call Me MiSTER Application

Priority deadline for submission is May 11th
Final deadline June 1st

Full Name ________________________________________________
Address __________________________________________________
City ______________________ State ________ Zip ______________
Campus Address (if known) ____________________________________
Email ______________________________________________________
Home Phone ___________________________ Mobile Phone ___________
Date of Birth ___________________________ City of Birth ___________
Marital Status (check one): Single Married Divorced

Intended Major at USC Upstate __________________________________
Current University (if applicable) ________________________________

Educational Achievement

High School Name & City ________________________________________
SAT Score  Verbal ________ Math _____ Date Taken _____________
ACT Score  Verbal ________ Math _____ Date Taken _____________
Praxis Score Reading ________ Math _____ Writing _____________
Graduation/GED Date ________________ High School GPA __________
Total College Credits ________________ College Classification ______

List any honors, awards, or recognitions received while in high school/college,
including extracurricular activities: (may provide attachments)____________

__________________________________________

__________________________________________

__________________________________________

Send the application, both essays, official transcript(s), and two letters of
recommendation to:

Dr. Walter A. Lee
Call Me MiSTER, Program Coordinator
800 University Way
Spartanburg, SC 29303

Note: The aforementioned guidelines for participation in the Call Me MiSTER
Program are subject to change.