

AWARD AMOUNTS

HOPE Scholarship Award Amounts

The HOPE Scholarship award amount at a public college or university covers a percentage of the tuition. At a private college or university, the HOPE Scholarship is a percentage of the base HOPE Private Scholarship amount. Learning support/remedial coursework is not eligible to receive HOPE Scholarship funding. The HOPE award amount is determined annually by the Georgia Student Finance Commission based on projected lottery revenues and expenditures. The HOPE award amount is subject to change each year. For complete tuition rates by institution, please refer to GCollege411.org.

Zell Miller Scholarship Award Amounts

The Zell Miller Scholarship award amount covers full standard-rate tuition at a public college or university. At a private college or university, the Zell Miller Scholarship award is \$4,000 per academic year if you are a full time student (12 hours or more). Learning support/remedial coursework is not eligible to receive Zell Miller Scholarship funding.

HOPE Grant Award Amounts

The HOPE Grant covers a percentage of the tuition at a Georgia public technical college or public college or university. The HOPE award amount is determined by the Georgia Student Finance Commission based on projected lottery revenues and expenditures. The HOPE award amount is subject to change each year. For complete tuition rates by institution, please refer to GCollege411.org.

HOPE GED Grant Amount

The HOPE GED Grant amount is a one-time \$500 HOPE award. This award can be used toward tuition, books and other educational costs at an eligible public technical college or public or private college or university in a degree, diploma or certificate program.

AWARD LIMITS

As a college degree-seeking student, you will become ineligible for the HOPE and Zell Miller Scholarships once you have:

- ▶ Received payment from any combination of HOPE Scholarship, Zell Miller Scholarship, HOPE Grant, and Accel Program (for Accel classes taken through Spring 2011) funds totaling 127 semester hours (190 quarter hours) of credit; or
- ▶ Attempted 127 semester hours (190 quarter hours) of college degree credit, regardless of whether HOPE funds were received while attempting the hours; or

- ▶ Earned a baccalaureate (four-year) college degree, regardless of whether HOPE funds were received while earning the degree;
- ▶ Students who begin college in the fall of 2011 or later, will have seven years from the date of high school graduation to use their HOPE Scholarship or Zell Miller Scholarship. If a student has eligible military service, those years may extend the seven year time limit from date of high school graduation;
- ▶ For students who received the HOPE Scholarship at least once prior to the summer of 2011, students may continue to receive the HOPE Scholarship or Zell Miller Scholarship until June 30, 2015 provided all other eligibility requirements are met.

APPLYING FOR THE PROGRAMS

HOPE Scholarship, Zell Miller Scholarship, and HOPE Grant

At a public college, university or technical college, you may apply for the HOPE Scholarship, Zell Miller Scholarship, and HOPE Grant one of two ways: complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) using either the paper application or electronic application or complete the online GSFAPPS application. At a private college or university, you will need to complete the GSFAPPS application.

Both applications can be found at GCollege411.org. Completing the FAFSA will enable the college to consider you for other financial aid programs in addition to HOPE. Some colleges also require the student to complete the school's financial aid application. Contact the college financial aid office for more information.

HOPE GED Grant

A HOPE GED Voucher is automatically mailed to recipients along with their GED diploma. The voucher may be submitted to a HOPE-eligible college or university at the time of enrollment.

APPLICATION DEADLINES

You must complete the application process by one of these two dates, whichever occurs first:

- ▶ The last day of the academic term, or
- ▶ Before your withdrawal date for the academic term.

If you do not complete the application process by the deadline, you will not receive payment for that academic term. Contact the Office of Financial Aid at your college or university for additional information regarding application deadline dates for the HOPE Program.

Specific Program Requirements

ADDITIONAL HOPE SCHOLARSHIP ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

To be eligible as an entering freshman, you must have or meet the following qualifications:

- ▶ All students entering the scholarship program as freshmen must earn a 3.0 cumulative grade point average (GPA) on a 4.0 scale for all English, math, science, social studies and foreign language coursework in the HS curriculum; or
- ▶ Earn a 3.2 cumulative GPA on a 4.0 scale for all English, math, science and social studies coursework in the career/technical curriculum.
- ▶ All English, math, science, social studies and foreign language (foreign language is part of the college prep curriculum) coursework attempted in the student's high school career (grades 9-12) will be counted toward the HOPE Scholarship cumulative GPA, and unweighted numeric grades will be converted to the 4.0 scale.
- ▶ You are also eligible as an entering freshman if you earned a General Education Development (GED) certificate, completed an ineligible home study program, or graduated from an ineligible high school, and you scored in the 85th percentile or higher on a standardized college admission test, such as the SAT or ACT (currently 26 on the ACT and 1850 on the SAT).
- ▶ If you completed an ineligible home school program or did not graduate from an eligible high school, you may retroactively receive the HOPE Scholarship for the first 30 semester or 45 quarter hours attempted at any eligible Georgia public or private college, university or public technical college, if you have earned a 3.0 postsecondary GPA and met all other requirements.
- ▶ Students enrolling in the ninth grade for the first time during the 2008-2009 school year and after will need a 3.0 cumulative GPA in all English, math, science, social studies and foreign language course work taken during the student's 9-12 grades. Although foreign language credits will not be required for student's high school graduation, the foreign language courses taken by a student will be included in the calculation formula used to determine HOPE Scholarship eligibility. The student's HOPE GPA may differ from their high school GPA. The

HOPE GPA is calculated by Georgia Student Finance Commission and student's can view their HOPE GPA at GCollege411.org.

- ▶ If you were not academically eligible immediately after high school graduation, you may become eligible for a HOPE Scholarship if you enroll at an eligible college or university and earn a 3.0 cumulative GPA at a HOPE checkpoint of 30 semester (45 quarter) hours, 60 semester (90 quarter) hours or 90 semester (135 quarter) hours attempted. The scholarship is not retroactive.

ADDITIONAL ZELL MILLER SCHOLARSHIP ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

To be eligible for the Zell Miller Scholarship, you must have met or meet the following qualifications at the time of High School Graduation:

- ▶ All students entering the scholarship program must earn at least a 3.7 cumulative grade point average (GPA) on a 4.0 scale for all English, math, science, social studies and foreign language coursework attempted between grades 9-12 and score at least a 1200 on the Math and Reading/Verbal portions of the SAT in one test administration or score at least a 26 composite score on the ACT; or
- ▶ Graduate as the Valedictorian or Salutatorian from an eligible High School and meet the eligibility requirements for the HOPE Scholarship. Note: There can only be one Valedictorian and one Salutatorian nominated per eligible high school; or
- ▶ Graduate from an ineligible high school with a 1200 on the Math and Reading/Verbal portions of the SAT or a 26 composite score on the ACT and achieve a 3.3 GPA at the 30 semester/45 quarter hour checkpoint in college. In this instance, the Zell Miller Scholarship would be paid retroactively to the student.
- ▶ All English, math, science, social studies and foreign language (foreign language is part of the college prep curriculum) coursework attempted in the student's high school career (grades 9-12) will be counted toward the HOPE Scholarship cumulative GPA, and unweighted numeric grades will be converted to the 4.0 scale.

HOPE SCHOLARSHIP CHECKPOINTS

The HOPE Scholarship Program has established certain eligibility checkpoints. At these checkpoints you must have a 3.0 cumulative GPA to renew your HOPE Scholarship. The first checkpoint occurs after you have attempted 30 semester hours (45 quarter hours), and at the end of every Spring term for full-time students; or at the end of the first three enrolled terms if you are enrolled as a less than full-time student. The second eligibility checkpoint occurs after you have attempted 60 semester (90 quarter) hours, and at the end of each Spring term. The third eligibility checkpoint occurs after you have attempted 90 semester (135 quarter) hours, and at the end of each Spring term. You can only regain the HOPE Scholarship one time before you will become permanently ineligible for the HOPE Scholarship.

ZELL MILLER SCHOLARSHIP CHECKPOINTS

The Zell Miller Scholarship Program has established certain eligibility checkpoints. At these checkpoints you must have a 3.3 cumulative GPA to renew your Zell Miller Scholarship. The first checkpoint occurs after you have attempted 30 semester hours (45 quarter hours), and at the end of every Spring term for full-time students; or at the end of the first three enrolled terms if you are enrolled as a less than-full-time student. The second eligibility checkpoint occurs after you have attempted 60 semester (90 quarter) hours, and at the end of each Spring term. The third eligibility checkpoint occurs after you have attempted 90 semester (135 quarter) hours, and at the end of each Spring term. You can only regain the Zell Miller Scholarship one time before you will become permanently ineligible for the Zell Miller Scholarship.

HOPE GRANT CHECKPOINTS

The HOPE Grant Program has established certain eligibility checkpoints. At these checkpoints you must have a 3.0 cumulative GPA to renew your HOPE Grant. The first checkpoint occurs after you have attempted 30 semester hours (45 quarter hours). The second eligibility checkpoint occurs after you have attempted 60 semester (90 quarter) hours. You can only regain the HOPE Grant one time before you will become permanently ineligible for the HOPE Grant.

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

More information on the HOPE Program is available at GAcollge411.org. Also, you may call toll-free in Georgia at 1-800-505-GSFC (4732). If you are in the Metro Atlanta area, call (770) 724-9000.

The financial aid office at the college, university, or technical college you plan to attend can provide information about residency determination and coursework eligible for HOPE assistance. Please contact them directly.

HOPE

Helping Outstanding Pupils Educationally

HOPE is Georgia's unique scholarship and grant program that rewards students with financial assistance in degree, diploma, and certificate programs at eligible Georgia public and private colleges and universities and public technical colleges.

The HOPE Program is funded entirely by the Georgia Lottery for Education. Since the HOPE Program began in 1993, over \$5.3 billion in HOPE funds have been awarded to more than 1.2 million students attending Georgia's colleges, universities, and technical colleges.



The Georgia Student Finance Commission is a State of Georgia agency. The HOPE Program is paid for by the Georgia Lottery for Education.



2082 East Exchange Place - Tucker, GA 30084
(770) 724-9000 or 1-800-505-4732



Georgia's HOPE Program FY 2011-2012

expand your opportunities

The **HOPE Scholarship** program is for students who have demonstrated academic achievement and who are seeking a college degree. There are several ways to become eligible for the HOPE Scholarship, either by graduating from high school as a HOPE Scholar or by earning it while in college.

The **Zell Miller Scholarship** program is designed for top Georgia students who are seeking a college degree. To be eligible, a student must satisfy specific academic requirements when he or she graduates high school, in addition to meeting the requirements to be a HOPE Scholar.

The **HOPE Grant** program is for students seeking a technical certificate or diploma, regardless of the student's high school grade point average or graduation date.

The **HOPE GED Grant** is available to students who earned a General Education Development (GED/high school equivalency) diploma awarded by the Technical College System of Georgia after June 30, 1993.

General Program Requirements

ELIGIBILITY

All three HOPE programs require students to meet basic requirements. An eligible student must:

1. Be a legal resident of Georgia;
2. Meet academic achievement standards required by the program or the college;
3. Be registered with the Selective Service, if required;
4. Be in compliance with the Georgia Drug-Free Postsecondary Education Act of 1990;
5. Meet HOPE's U.S. citizenship or eligible non-citizen requirements;
6. Be in good standing on all student loans or other financial aid programs;
7. Not have exceeded the maximum award limits for any HOPE program;
8. Meet enrollment requirements; and
9. Attend an eligible Georgia school.

All of the University System of Georgia, Technical College System of Georgia and many of the private and proprietary Georgia colleges and universities are eligible for the HOPE program. The listing of eligible schools can be found at GAcollge411.org on the Financial Aid Planning tab under the HOPE Program information.