

Sonny Perdue
GOVERNOR



Timothy A. Connell
PRESIDENT

June 20, 2007

RE: New Georgia Residency Policy for HOPE, GTEG, and all other State Scholarships and Grants Programs

Dear Colleague:

The purpose of this letter is to remind you of the new Georgia residency policy for the HOPE Scholarship, HOPE Grant, Georgia Tuition Equalization Grant (GTEG), and all other State Scholarships and Grants Programs that will be effective for the 2007-2008 award year.

The new Georgia residency regulations are the result of a lengthy effort to standardize the policies utilized by University System of Georgia (USG) and Georgia Department of Technical and Adult Education (DTAE) institutions, for determining residency for in-state tuition purposes, with the Georgia Student Finance Commission (GSFC) residency policy utilized by private colleges for purposes of State Scholarships and Grants Program eligibility. The Board of Regents approved the new residency policy for purposes of determining eligibility for in-state tuition rates in June 2006, and the DTAE Board of Commissioners approved the new residency policy in May 2007. GSFC's new residency policy was first presented to and approved by the GSFC Board of Commissioners last November. The actual residency regulations were approved by the GSFC Board along with the 2007-2008 State Program Regulations on May 4, 2007.

The following are the two most significant changes resulting from the new policies:

- Citizenship and Georgia residency determination for the HOPE Scholarship at the First-Tier (freshman) level will be based on the twelve months immediately prior to the first day of classes of the school term in which the student is seeking the scholarship, rather than the twelve months prior to the student's high school graduation.

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- The USG and DTAE out-of-state tuition waiver for military personnel stationed in Georgia and their dependents will be the **only** out-of-state tuition waiver that will also permit a student to qualify for a HOPE Scholarship at the First-Tier (freshman) level or for the HOPE Grant.

The official 2007-2008 Georgia Residency Requirements For State Programs regulations and the official 2007-2008 HOPE and GTEG regulations are now available to view on our website, www.GAcollge411.org

Additional questions regarding residency are being added to GSFAPPS to assist you with determining the eligibility of your students.

If you have any questions, please contact Tracy Ireland, Vice President, Financial Aid Operations, at (770) 724-9066.

Sincerely,



Timothy A. Connell