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Students get the “411” on how to plan, apply and pay for college

ATLANTA – Over 100 high school students and counselors from DeKalb and Cobb counties, and the cities of Albany and Decatur gathered for GAcademy411 Day at the State Capitol to get hands-on knowledge on how to plan, apply and pay for college. The event, held on February 22, was created to bring awareness among State legislators and students about the free and powerful online resources GAcademy411.org provide to those pursuing higher education.

To kick off the event, Lieutenant Governor Casey Cagle, Senator Seth Harp and Representative Bill Hembree made opening remarks about the valuable information that is accessible on the GAcademy411 website for students and parents. In addition, testimonies on how they use the site's services were given by Susann Livingston, counselor at Eagle's Landing High School, Henry County; Destinee Cherry, a junior at Woodland High School, Henry County; and Jared Smith, Financial Aid Director at Georgia Gwinnett College.

“Preparing to go to a post-secondary institution can be an exciting, but stressful experience for any student. GAcademy411 is not only the official source for all information regarding state scholarships, grants, loans and other financial services, it makes pursuing higher education a much easier process,” said Tim Connell, president of Georgia Student Finance Commission.

Several computer stations were also available for students to explore career options, prepare for college entrance exams, and apply for college admission. Most students in attendance created My411 accounts, which will help them and their families' research, compare and select a Georgia college or university, apply for admission, and plan for financial aid.

“We are glad that the students who attended GAcademy411 Day at the Capitol walked away from the event with great advice and direction on every aspect of pursuing higher education,” Connell added.

Photo caption: Laurel Starling, Senior Regional Representative for the Georgia Student Finance Commission talking to a group of students about how to plan, apply and pay for college during GAcademy411 Day at the Georgia State Capitol, on February 22, 2008.

About GAcademy411.org

Launched in February 2005, GAcademy411.org is the official source for all information regarding state scholarships, grants, loans and other financial services. This powerful online resource is a one-stop shop that helps Georgians plan, apply and pay for college. GAcademy411 is a free service of the State of Georgia provided by the Georgia Student Finance Commission and many of its partners.

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