

Accel Program
FY2011 Regulations
Executive Summary of Substantive Changes

The following list highlights the major changes to the Accel Program Regulations for FY2011. An attached chart outlines all changes.

- 1) The Attempted Hours definition and the section on the regarding the Impact on Future HOPE Eligibility were updated to indicate that the credits for post-secondary coursework taken prior to high school graduation for students that do not qualify for the HOPE Scholarship as entering freshman based solely upon grade point average must count in the Attempted Hours calculation.
- 2) A definition was created for "Study Away" and definitions for "Alternative Study" and "Study Abroad" were deleted. Alternative study and Study abroad programs are very similar, and so, were combined into one new term. The regulation section addressing these terms was also updated.
- 3) The definition of "Eligible Post-secondary Institution" was updated in reference to the length that a private proprietary institution must be in existence in the state of Georgia in order to meet the definition of "Eligible Post-secondary Institution". The length of time was changed from 10 years to 14 years, pending legislative approval.
- 4) Language was added to the "Submission of Invoices" section to indicate that GSFC will publish invoicing deadline dates by June 30th of each year, and that any invoices not fully submitted and approved before the established deadline of each term may not be honored and the Commission may issue a notice of failure to meet the invoicing deadline date to the President and/or governing body of the Eligible Post-Secondary Institution.
- 5) The Student Refunds section includes new language for how a post-secondary institution shall return funds to the HOPE Program upon a change in a student's enrollment that requires a refund calculation to be performed.
- 6) The term "Appeal" was changed to "Administrative Review". The definition was adjusted so that the use of the word appeal is removed from the regulations. An Administrative Review is a review of an eligibility determination by a Commission staff member to determine if the program laws, regulations, and policies were correctly applied to a student's specific case.