

Page 2009-10	Page 2010-11	Section	Change, Add, Delete, or Move
5 of 36	5 of 45	302. Program Overview	<p>*Change "The HOPE Grant Program was created beginning with the 1993-1994 Award year (State fiscal year 1994). The program is fully funded by the Georgia Lottery for Education and administered by the Georgia Student finance commission, referred to in these regulations as the "Commission". Eligible students seeking a technical Certificate or Diploma from a Technical College System of Georgia institution or University System of Georgia institution may receive HOPE Grant funds covering the full cost of Tuition, certain HOPE-approved Mandatory Fees, and a Book Allowance of up to \$100 per quarter or \$150 per semester. Unlike the HOPE Scholarship Program, students are not required to graduate from high school with a specific grade point average or maintain a specific grade point average at the postsecondary level in order to be eligible for the HOPE Grant Program. The purpose of the HOPE Grant Progm is to encourage Georgians to obtain technical training in order to increase the knowledge and skills of Georgia's workforce. The Official Code of Georgia Annotated § 20-3-519.11 authorizes the Georgia Student Finance Commission to promulgate fules and regulations relating to the HOPE Grant Program that are not inconsistent with the provisions of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated §20-3-510 et. seq., in its entirety." to "The HOPE Grant Program provides grant assistance to residents of Georgia pursuing Certificates or Diplomas at Georgia's public postsecondary institutions. Unlike the HOPE Scholarship Program, students are not rquired to graduate from high school with a specific grade point average or maintain a specific postsecondary grade point average in order to be eligible for the HOPE Grant. The purpose of the HOPE Grant Program is to encourage Georgians to obtain technical training in order to increase the knowledge and skills of Georgia's workforce. An eligible student seeking a Certificate or Diploma from a Technical College System of Georgia or University System of Georgia institution may receive HOPE Grant funds covering the full cost of Tuition, certain Mandatory Fees, and a Book Allowance of up to \$100 per quarter or \$150 per semester. The HOPE Grant Program was created beginning with the 1993-1994 Award Year (State Fiscal Year 1994). The program is fully funded by the Georgia Lottery for Education and administered by the Georgia Student Finance Commission, in accordance with the Official Code of Georgia Annotated § 20-3-519 et. seq., in its entirety."</p>
6 of 36	6 of 45	Definition of "Academic Year"	<p>*Change "would normally be expected to complete the equivalent of two semesters or three quarters of instruction." to "is expected to complete the equivalent of two semesters or three quarters of postsecondary coursework."</p>
6 of 36	6 of 45	Definition of "Accel Program" or "Accel"	<p>Change "Accel Program" means to "Accel Program" or "Accel" means</p>

6 of 36	6 of 45	Definition of "Administrative Review"	*Add definition "Administrative Review" means a review by Commission staff of an eligibility determination made by an eligible post-secondary institution or by the Commission to determine if a HOPE rule, policy, or regulation was applied correctly in a student's specific case. A formal, written request from a student must be submitted to the Commission within 45 days of the notice of eligibility or determination for which an Administrative Review is sought.
6 of 36	6 of 45	Definition of "Alternative Study"	*Retiring use of the term "Alternative Study"
6 of 36	6 of 45	Definition of "Appeal"	*Retiring use of the term "Appeal"
6 of 36	6 of 45	Definition of "Associate Degree"	*Change "unified program of study in an academic discipline or major at the Undergraduate level" to "unified Undergraduate program of study in an academic discipline or major."
6 of 36	6 of 45	Definition of "Baccalaureate Degree"	*Change "upon completion of a unified program of study in an academic discipline or major at the Undergraduate level." to " upon completion of a unified Undergraduate program of study in an academic discipline or major."
7 of 36	7 of 45	Definition of "Certificate"	*Change "means a credential indicating satisfactory completion of training in a technical program of study offered by a postsecondary educational institution, which is not an Associate or Baccalaureate Degree." to "means an academic credential granted by a postsecondary institution indicating satisfactory completion of training by a student in an organized technical Undergraduate program of study which is not a Diploma program of study, an Associate Degree, Baccalaureate Degree, Graduate Degree, or Continuing Education." *Add "A Certificate program of study typically requires fewer credit hours than a Diploma program of study."
7 of 36	7 of 45	Definition of "Combined Paid-Hours"	*Change "has accumulated from any combination of the HOPE Scholarship , plus HOPE Grant , plus Accel Program" to "has accumulated as a result of payment from any combination of the Hope Scholarship Program, plus HOPE Grant Program, plus Accel Program"
7 of 36	8 of 45	Definition of "Degree"	*Change "means a two-year Associate Degree or four-year Baccalaureate Degree " to "means an Associate Degree or Baccalaureate Degree"
8 of 36	8 of 45	Definition of "Dependent Child"	*Change "whose federal or state income tax return" to "whose most recent federal or state income tax return"
8 of 36	8 of 45	Definition of "Diploma"	*Change "means a credential indicating satisfactory completion of training in a technical program of study offered by a postsecondary institution, which is not an Associate or Baccalaureate Degree" to "means an academic credential granted by a postsecondary institution indicating satisfactory completion of training by a student in an organized technical Undergraduate program of study which is not a Certificate program of study, an Associate Degree, Baccalaureate Degree, Graduate Degree or Continuing Education." *Add "A diploma program of study typically requires more credit hours than a Certificate program of study."

8 of 36	8 of 45	Definition of "Dual Credit Enrollment"	*Change "means Enrollment by a student in a postsecondary course in which an agreement has been established between his or her Eligible High School and an Eligible Postsecondary Institution wherein the student earns Carnegie Units of credit that count toward high school graduation requirements and also earns postsecondary credit hours for such coursework" to "means an arrangement whereby a high school student is Enrolled in postsecondary coursework with a postsecondary institution and earning postsecondary credit hours while continuing to pursue a high school diploma, and the student's high school has agreed to accept the postsecondary coursework toward the student's high school graduation requirements"
8 of 36	8 of 44	Definition of "Eligible High School"	*Change "educational institution in the State of Georgia" to "educational institution located within the state of Georgia" *Change "Any high school not meeting the definition of an "Eligible High School" is considered to be an ineligible high school for purposes of the Hope Program." to "Any high school not meeting the definition of an "Eligible High School" is considered to be an ineligible high school."
9 of 36	9 of 45	Definition of "Eligible Postsecondary Institution"	*Delete sections (3) and (4) referring to private institutions
9 of 36	9 of 45	Definition of "Exception"	*Change "GSFC Board of Commissioners" to "Board" *Change "Appeals and Exceptions" to "Administrative Reviews and Exceptions"
10 of 36	9 of 45	Definition of "Full-Time"	*Change "means Enrollment for the equivalent of at least 12 quarter or 12 semester hours per school term at a postsecondary institution" to "means Enrollment for the equivalent of at least 12 quarter or 12 semester credit hours during a term at a postsecondary institution"
10 of 36	10 of 45	Definition of "Georgia Resident" or "Georgia Residency"	*Delete "and is domiciled in the State of Georgia" *Delete "or for students attending private Eligible Postsecondary Institutions, meets the criteria of the Georgia Residency Requirements for State Programs Regulation, as specified and limited by these regulations."
10 of 36	10 of 45	Definition of "Half-Time"	Change "per term at a postsecondary institution" to "during a term at a postsecondary institution"
10 of 36	10 of 45	Definition of "Home Institution"	*Change in which the student is normally Enrolled" to "in which the student is Enrolled"
12 of 36	11 of 45	Definition of "Joint Enrollment"	*Change "with an Eligible Postsecondary Institution" to "with a postsecondary institution" *Change "pursue his or her high school diploma" to "pursue a high school diploma" *Change "but the student's high school has not agreed" to "and the high school has not agreed"
12 of 36	11 of 45	Definition of "Learning Support"	*Change postsecondary level coursework" to "postsecondary coursework"

12 of 36	11 of 45	Definition of "Mandatory Fees"	*Change "charged by an Eligible Postsecondary Institution" to "charged by a USG or TCSG Eligible Postsecondary Institution" *Change "amount allowed for the 2003-2004 Award Year at each institution" to "amount allowed for the 2003-2004 Award Year at each eligible Postsecondary Institution." *Add "For a USG or TCSG institution established after January 1, 2004, the Mandatory Fees award amount is equal to the amount initially approved for the new institution for its first year of operation, by action of the Board of Regents or the Technical College System of Georgia." *Add "Refer to Section 315.1 and 315.2."
12 of 36	12 of 45	Definition of "Non-Standard Term"	*Change "means a school term" to "means a term"
13 of 36	12 of 45	Definition of "Parent"	*Change "the natural mother or father" to "the natural/biological mother or father"
N/A	13 of 45	Definition of "Stationed"	*Add Definition " "Stationed" means the permanent place of military duty to which Military Personnel are officially assigned or attached by official military orders. Military Personnel are not considered Stationed when the military orders are for temporary duty assignments."
13 of 36	13 of 45	Definition of "Study Abroad"	*Retiring the use of the term "Study Abroad"
N/A	13 of 45	Definition of "Study Away"	*Add " "Study Away" means postsecondary credit-earning coursework approved by an Eligible Postsecondary Institution for its students in locations outside the state of Georgia, including locations in foreign countries."
13 of 36	13 of 46	Definition of "SURFER"	*Change "HOPE award information" to "award information"
13 of 36	13 of 45	Definition of "Term-Reconciliation"	*Change "at the end of each school term" to "at the end of each term"
14 of 36	13 of 45	Definition of "Transient"	*Change "has agreed to accept toward a Degree, Diploma, or Certificate" to "has agreed to accept as transferable postsecondary credit"
14 of 36	13 of 45	Definition of "Tuition"	*Change "for instruction" to "for postsecondary academic instruction"
14 of 36	14 of 45	Definition of "Withdrawal Date"	*Change "as determined by the institution" to "as determined by the institution in accordance with the procedures set forth for determining Withdrawal Date under the Higher Education Act of 1965, as amended." *Delete "The postsecondary institution must determine the withdrawal date in accordance with the procedures set forth for determining withdrawal date under the Higher Education Act of 1965, as amended."
15 of 36	15 of 45	304.2.a. Georgia Residency	*Change "Military Personnel stationed in Georgia" to "Military Personnel who is stationed in Georgia"
16 of 36	16 of 45	304.4. Satisfactory Academic Progress	*Change "as certified by" to "as defined and certified by"

20 of 36	20 of 45	306.1. Joint and Dual Enrollment Coursework	*Reverse the order of "c" and "d" so that Section 306.1.d. in the 2009-2010 regulations is Section 306.1.c. in the 2010-2011 regulations and 306.1.c. in the 2009-2010 regulations is Section 306.1.d. in the 2010-2011 regulations *Add to 306.1.d. "1. The credit hours for which a student receives HOPE Grant funds for Dual Credit Enrollment coursework must not count if the student is a current student attending an Eligible Postsecondary Institution on or after July 1, 2008; and 2. The student requests a waiver of the July 1, 2008 requirement specified in 306.1.c; and 3. GSFC approves the waiver request.
21 of 36	21 of 45	306.5. Transient Coursework	*Add 306.5.c. The Home institution is liable for the return of funds the student receives at the Host institution, if the Home institution erroneously certifies the student's eligibility to the Host institution.
21 of 36	22 of 45	306.6 Study Abroad Coursework	Change "Study Abroad Coursework" to "Study Away Coursework" in the Heading and Body of this section.
21 of 36	22 of 45	306.7. Alternative Study Coursework	*Delete this section completely
21 of 36	22 of 45	306.8. Continuing Education and Audit Coursework	*Renumber this section to 306.7. based on the deletion of the Alternative Study Coursework Section
21 of 36	22 of 45	306.9. Total Withdrawal from Coursework	*Renumber this section 306.8. based on the deletion of the Alternative Study Coursework Section
23 of 36	23 of 45	307.1.c. Application Forms	*Change "submitted to and accepted by the Commission prior to the 2009-2010 Award Year" to "submitted to and accepted by the Commission prior to the 2008-2009 Award Year"
24 of 36	24 of 45	307.3. Application for Subsequent Years	*Change "as provided for in Section 307.1.b. and c." to "as provided for in Section 307.1.a.3. and 307.1.b."
25 of 36	25 of 45	308.1.c. Tuition and Mandatory Fees Awards	*Change "Technical College System of Georgia" in last sentence to "TCSG" Add "See Section 315.1. Approved Mandatory Fees Table"
26 of 36	26 of 45	308.2.e. Book Allowance Awards	*Change "Book allowance funds cannot be applied by the Eligible Postsecondary Institution to the student's direct charges, such as fees, room, and meals, unless the institution obtains written or electronic authorization from the student to do so." to "These funds must be awarded directly to the students and not through a third party vendor such as a bookstore unless the student can request that the funds credited to the bookstore be made personally available to the student at the end of the first day of classes based on enrollment status. These funds cannot be applied to a student's direct charges, such as fees, room, and meals, unless the institution obtains written or electronic authorization from the student to do so."

26 of 36	27 of 45	308.4. Student Notification of Award	<p>*Change " An Eligible Postsecondary Institution must notify each HOPE Grant recipient of the amount of HOPE funds he or she is awarded for the Award Year, and identify such funds as a HOPE Grant award." to "308.4.a. An Eligible Postsecondary Institution must notify each HOPE Grant recipient of the amount of HOPE funds he or she is awarded for the Award Year, and identify such funds as a HOPE Grant award."</p> <p>*Add 308.4.b. A student who wishes to decline a HOPE Grant award must do so actively. The institution must maintain a record of the student's notification to the institution that he or she is declining the award. A student's decision to decline a HOPE Grant award becomes final and irrevocable on the last day of the term for which the HOPE Grant award was made."</p>
27 of 36	28 of 45	309.1. Submission of Invoices	<p>*Change 309.1. from "Eligible Postsecondary Institutions may submit HOPE invoices to the Commission as early as 15 days prior to the first day of classes for the school term." to "309.1.a. Eligible Postsecondary Institutions may submit HOPE invoices to the Commission as early as 15 calendar days prior to the first day of classes for the school term."</p> <p>*Add 309.1.b. "Invoices must be submitted, processed and approved by the Commission by the Invoicing Deadline Date as established by the Commission. In the event invoices are submitted to the Commission by Eligible Postsecondary Institutions after the Invoicing Deadline Date for a school term, 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 and the invoices may not be honored."</p> <p>*Add 309.1.c. "Prior to the beginning of any award year and no later than June 30 of each year the Commission shall establish and publish the Invoicing Deadline Dates for each school term for the upcoming Award Year."</p>
27 of 36	28 of 45	309.4. Book Allowance Payments	<p>Change "Book Allowance funds cannot be applied by the Eligible Postsecondary Institution to the student's direct charges, such as fees, room, and meals, unless the institution obtains written or electronic authorization from the student to do so." to "These funds must be awarded directly to the students and not through a third party vendor such as a bookstore unless the student can request that the funds credited to the bookstore be made personally available to the student at the end of the first day of classes based on enrollment status. These funds cannot be applied to a student's direct charges, such as fees, room, and meals, unless the institution obtains written or electronic authorization from the student to do so."</p>
28 of 36	29 of 45	310.1.a. Calculation of Refunds	<p>*Change "to be returned to the HOPE fund" to "to be returned to the HOPE Grant fund"</p>

28 of 36	29 of 45	310.1.c. Calculation of Refunds	<p>*Change "The Eligible Postsecondary Institution must determine the amount of the HOPE refund for Tuition and Mandatory Fee charges, post the refund on the student's record in the Commission's system within 45 days of the determination, and return that amount to the Commission at the time of the End-of-Year Reconciliation. The remainder of the HOPE award for Tuition and Mandatory Fees is retained by the institution to cover the institution's cost for the portion of the school term that the student was Enrolled." to "The Eligible Postsecondary Institution must determine the amount of the refund due back to the HOPE program. The amount of the HOPE Grant award not determined to be owed back to the HOPE program is retained by the institution to cover the institution's cost for the portion of the school term that the student was enrolled."</p> <p>*Add 310.1.c.1. "The Eligible Postsecondary Institution must adjust the student's invoice in SURFER to the new award amount remaining after the refund is calculated within 45 days of the determination."</p> <p>*Add .310.1.c.2 "If the student only received HOPE funds, the Eligible Postsecondary Institution should return the funds determined to be owed to the HOPE Grant program within 45 days of the refund determination. The Eligible Postsecondary Institution would then collect the refund amount from the student. However, the student should not be reported with a "Refund Due" status to the Commission since the funds have been repaid to the Commission."</p> <p>*Add 310.1.c.3. "If the student received a combination of federal Title IV funds and HOPE Grant funds, the Eligible Postsecondary Institution may not have sufficient funds on hand from the student's award disbursements to return to the Commission the refund owed to the HOPE program, after applying the Federal Title IV Return of Funds policy. In this instance, the student is considered to have a "Refund Due" to the Commission and the institution must report the student to the Commission with a "Refund Due" status."</p>
30 of 36	31 of 45	311.2. Award-Year Reconciliation	*Change "August 1" to "July 15"
30 of 36	31 of 45	311.3. Return of Funds	*Change "This includes Book Allowance Funds" to "This includes Book Allowance Funds for which students were ineligible."
31 of 36	32 of 45	312.2.a. Documentation	*Change "HOPE funds" to "HOPE Grant funds"
31 of 36	32 of 45	312.3. Extended retention	*Change "An institution" to "An Eligible Postsecondary Institution"
35 of 36	33 of 45	313. Appeals and Exceptions	*Change "Appeals" to Administrative Review" in heading and body of this entire section

36 of 36	38 of 45	314.2. Compliance Review Process	<p>*Change the numbering of this section so that the the 2009-2010 terminology becomes Section 314.2.a. in the 2010-2011 Regulations</p> <p>*Add 314.2.b. "The Commission will exclude from review the Residency determinations and Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) determinations, as they relate to Sections 304.2.a. and 304.4. of these regulations, made for HOPE Grant recipients in the selected sample for any Eligible Postsecondary Institution which has submitted to the Compliance Department of Georgia Student Finance Commission a certification signed by the President of the Eligible Postsecondary Institution that the Eligible Postsecondary Institution is in compliance with its policies and procedures in the determination and the administration of the financial aid award process relative to Residency requirements and Satisfactory Academic Progress, and that the Residency and SAP determinations have been fairly and consistently applied with respect to all students receiving the HOPE Grant awards. Such certification must be submitted annually to the Compliance Department of Georgia Student Finance Commission in the format required by the Commission. Failure to provide such certification will result in a review of Residency determinations and SAP determinations made for HOPE Grant recipients in the selected sample."</p>
36 of 36	39 of 45	314.3. Institutional Repayment	<p>*Change "If the student's file is determined not to be adequately documented by the Commission while conducting a Compliance Review" to "If the student's file is determined not to be adequately documented by the Commission"</p>
N/A	40 of 45	315. Appendix Approved Mandatory Fees Table	<p>*Add Approved Mandatory Fees Tables for TCSG and USG</p> <p>*Add "University System of Georgia" to Heading on that fees table</p>