

HOPE Grant Program  
FY2011 Regulations  
Executive Summary of Substantive Changes

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

- 1) 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.
- 2) The Georgia Residency section was amended to indicate a Dependent Child of Military Personnel who is Stationed in Georgia on active duty shall be treated as a Georgia Resident for purposes of HOPE Grant eligibility.
- 3) The Mandatory Fees section was updated to clarify how the Mandatory Fees were capped in January 1, 2004. A new section was added to the end of the program regulations to include tables of the approved Mandatory Fees, as capped, for each USG and TCSG institution.
- 4) The Student Notification of Award section was amended to indicate that if a student chooses to decline his or her HOPE Scholarship award, then such decision becomes final and irrevocable on the last day of the term for which the award was intended.
- 5) Language was added to the “Submission of Invoices” section to indicate that GSFC will publish invoicing deadline dates by June 30<sup>th</sup> 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.
- 6) 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.
- 7) 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.
- 8) The Exceptions section now includes a list of reasons on which a request for an Exception will be automatically denied before being presented to the Board.
- 9) The Compliance Review section now indicates that residency and satisfactory academic progress eligibility decisions will not be reviewed by Commission Staff.