Student Financial Aid in Georgia

Caylee Noggle
President

September 27, 2019
GSFC Overview

- Mission: to promote and increase access to education beyond high school for all Georgians
- Originally established in 1965 as the State Scholarship Commission
- Administers 20 state- and lottery-funded scholarship, grant and loan programs
  - FY 2020 program budget: $976M
How GSFC Helps Students Pay for College

GSFC Use of Funds for Fiscal Year 2019
$888,954,688

- HOPE Program: $724,513,925
- Tuition Equalization Grants: $22,612,213
- Student Access Loans: $28,777,836
- Dual Enrollment: $104,649,882
- Military Programs*: $5,971,576
- Other Programs**: $2,429,255

* Military Programs include: Georgia Military College State Service Scholarship, Georgia National Guard Service Cancelable Loan, HERO Scholarship, University of North Georgia Military Scholarship, University of North Georgia ROTC Grant, and University of North Georgia Grant for Future Officers.

** Other Programs include: Scholarship for Engineering Education, Scholarship for Engineering Education for Minorities, Georgia Public Safety Memorial Grant, REACH Georgia Scholarship, Georgia Veterinary Education Loan Repayment Program, and John R. Justice Student Loan Repayment Program.

Figures in chart represent awards for FY 2019. The information in this display is presented only to show the general nature of the Georgia Student Finance Commission’s business and does not represent its financial position nor conform to generally accepted accounting principles.
Programs Administered by GSFC

HOPE Programs (Lottery Funded) – six programs with distinct eligibility requirements.
Programs Administered by GSFC

• Other State Programs
  • Georgia Tuition Equalization Grant (GTEG)
  • Georgia Public Safety Memorial Grant
  • HERO Scholarship
  • Student Access Loan (SAL; Lottery funded)
  • Dual Enrollment (formerly known as Move On When Ready)
  • Scholarship for Engineering Education (SEE) Service Cancelable Loan
  • Scholarship for Engineering Education for Minorities (MSEE) Service Cancelable Loan
  • Realizing Educational Achievement Can Happen (REACH) Scholarship Program
  • Georgia Military College State Service Scholarship
  • University of North Georgia Military Scholarship
  • University of North Georgia ROTC Grant
  • University of North Georgia ROTC Grant for Future Officers
  • Veterinary Education Loan Repayment Program

• Other Programs
  • John R. Justice Student Loan Repayment Program (Federally funded)
# Financial Aid & Educational Services

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Program Administration</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>FAFSA Completion</td>
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<tr>
<td>GAfutures.org</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>K-12 and Postsecondary Outreach</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Loan Servicing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Path2College 529 Plan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Financial Literacy</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The $80 Million Question: FAFSA Completion in Georgia
Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) - [www.fafsa.gov](http://www.fafsa.gov)

- Used to apply for federal and state aid
- Students need to complete a FAFSA every year
- Complete as soon as possible after October 1
Why is FAFSA Completion Important?

• Impact on enrollment
• Correlation to postsecondary degree attainment
• Increase the talent pipeline
• Addresses needs-based aid
The Leaky FAFSA Pipeline

Pathway of Low-Income Students through the FAFSA Process

Of 1.8 million low-income high school seniors
(1 figure represents 100K students)

- 962K will submit a FAFSA
- More than 45% of low-income seniors may not submit a FAFSA
- 813K will complete a FAFSA
- 416K 51% are selected for verification

104K or 25% of those selected for verification will experience “verification melt.”

709K students are awarded a Pell Grant

155K or 22% of those who are awarded a Pell Grant will experience “summer melt.”

555K

Top Reasons for not submitting a FAFSA

1: Do not know how or that they could
2: Are debt averse or think credit is too low
3: Are not pursuing college
4: The form is too complicated

Only 31% of low-income students enroll using a Pell Grant
## FAFSA Completion in Georgia

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>FAFSA Cycle</th>
<th># of Seniors Completing FAFSA</th>
<th>% Seniors Completing FAFSA</th>
<th>National Rank - % Seniors</th>
<th>% Year over Year (YOY) Change</th>
<th>National Rank YOY Completion</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2017/18</td>
<td>65,299</td>
<td>63.8%</td>
<td>23rd</td>
<td>12.7%</td>
<td>11th</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2018/19</td>
<td>67,392</td>
<td>58.3%</td>
<td>22nd</td>
<td>3.2%</td>
<td>9th</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2019/20</td>
<td>65,654</td>
<td>56.1%</td>
<td>25th</td>
<td>-0.1%</td>
<td>14th</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2019/20 National</td>
<td>2,173,096</td>
<td>57.0%</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-0.5%</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: [https://formyourfuture.org/fafsa-tracker/](https://formyourfuture.org/fafsa-tracker/)
Georgia Public School District 2019-20 FAFSA Completion Rates

2019-20 Cycle
FAFSA Completion Rates
Through 9-6-2019

Estimated High School Graduates Completing the FAFSA by School District

- Missing/Insufficient Data
- <20%
- 20-24%
- 25-29%
- 30-34%
- 35-39%
- 40-44%
- 45-49%
- 50-54%
- 55-59%
- 60-64%
- 65-69%
- 70-74%
- 75-79%
- >=80%

Upcoming GSFC Initiatives

• Individual Appointments (Live FAFSA completion assistance via WebEx)

• Webinars
  • FAFSA Basics, Financial Aid 101, GAfutures overview and HOPE programs

• Events
  • Example: Peach State Tour (4767 attendees)
    • GSFC attended 23 new events in Sept. 2019

• FAFSA Completion Events hosted at:
  • State Universities
  • United Way
  • GA Public Libraries
REACH Georgia
REACH Georgia

• Launched in 2012 as a critical part of the “Complete College Georgia” initiative
• AT&T provided an initial investment of $250,000
• REACH is Georgia’s first statewide needs-based scholarship and mentoring program
• Students selected as rising 8th graders and matched with a mentor and academic coach
• Students must meet program requirements related to academic achievement, behavior, and attendance in exchange for $10,000 scholarship upon graduation
REACH Georgia

• FY 2020
  • 154 school districts
  • 2,410 Scholars

• FY 2021
  • 16 new school districts
  • 750 new Scholars

• Goal by FY 2022
  • All 180 school districts
  • 4,000 Scholars

*Updated 6/19
REACH Georgia: Our Successes

• 138 High School graduates - Class of 2017, 2018, & 2019

• Average GPA 3.34

• 98 Scholars also eligible for HOPE or Zell Miller Scholarships

• Attending 32 different Georgia colleges
REACH Georgia
Early College Access: Dual Enrollment
Dual Enrollment

• Current Dual Enrollment program created in 2015 session as *Move On When Ready* (renamed Dual Enrollment in August 2017)

• Streamlined and combined multiple early college programs

• Allows students to take college courses to earn both high school and college credit

• Available to public, private, and home school students

• Students may attend any participating “HOPE-eligible” institution

• Any course that could count towards high school graduation requirements (Core, CTAE, etc)
Dual Enrollment FY 2019 Award Amounts

- Tuition
  - Public: standard undergraduate rate per semester hour (max. 15 hours)
  - Private: $250 per semester hour; $187 per quarter hour

- Books
  - $25 per semester hour/$15 per quarter hour per term

- Fees
  - $50 per term; applied to mandatory fees

- Postsecondary institutions cannot charge tuition, mandatory fees or books to students
Dual Enrollment

• Unprecedented program growth and concerns identified in a 2018 Special Examination by DOAA prompted House Bill 444 during 2019 legislative session

• Intended to codify program goals and intent and to provide some controls on expenditures, quality, and future growth

• HB 444 did not receive final passage; however, budget act included an appropriation less than the projected need

• Through regulatory authority, GSFC reduced book and fee payments to $0 in an effort to balance the program budget
Dual Enrollment FY 2020 Award Amounts

• Tuition
  • Public: standard undergraduate rate per semester hour (max. 15 hours)
  • Private: $250 per semester hour; $187 per quarter hour

• Books
  • $25-$0 per semester hour/$15-$0 per quarter hour per term

• Fees
  • $50-$0 per term; applied to mandatory fees

• Postsecondary institutions can not charge tuition, mandatory fees or books to students
Dual Enrollment: Student Growth

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>ACCEL</th>
<th>HOPE Grant Dual Enrollment</th>
<th>MOWR</th>
<th>Dual Enrollment</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
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<td>2016</td>
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<td>2018</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>2019</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Projected FY 2020</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>62,510</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Projected FY 2021</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>73,742</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

GSFC Georgia Student Finance Commission
Dual Enrollment: Dollars Growth

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>ACCEL</th>
<th>HOPE Grant Dual Enrollment</th>
<th>MOWR</th>
<th>Dual Enrollment</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$0</td>
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<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$0</td>
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<td>$0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$86.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$104.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2019</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$123.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Projected FY 2020</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$107.2</td>
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<tr>
<td>Projected FY 2021</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$123.3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Free tuition in Georgia: HOPE Career Grant
HOPE Career Grant

• Program aimed at workforce development – providing funding for training in high demand and critical shortage career fields

• Launched in FY 2014 by Governor Deal with $5M

• Increases in awards and funding each year

• Today, 17 eligible career fields spanning hundreds of programs and majors

• Award is a flat rate based on hours of enrollment
  • Currently covers 100% of tuition
# Strategic Industry Areas

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
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<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Commercial Truck Driving</td>
<td>Computer Programming</td>
<td>Certified Engineer Assistant</td>
<td>Industrial Maintenance</td>
<td>No new programs added.</td>
<td>Automotive Technology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Early Childcare &amp; Education</td>
<td>Computer Technology</td>
<td>Movie Production / Set Design</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Aviation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Practical Nursing</td>
<td>Diesel Equipment Technology</td>
<td>Precision Manufacturing</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Construction</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health Science</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Electrical Line Worker</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Welding &amp; Joining Technology</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Logistics</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

GSFC | Georgia Student Finance Commission
HOPE Career Grant: All Students

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fiscal Year</th>
<th>TCSG</th>
<th>USG</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>7,206</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>13,697</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>14,807</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>15,372</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>16,296</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2019</td>
<td>21,189</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
HOPE Career Grant: Dollars

Dollars (millions)

Fiscal Year

2014: $4,752,230
2015: $8,905,454
2016: $9,801,707
2017: $9,983,941
2018: $10,152,404
2019: $13,163,543

TCSG
USG
HOPE Career Grant Industry Areas: FY 2019 Students
Our Mission

To promote and increase access to education beyond high school for Georgians.
Questions?

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President

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