

Georgia's HOPE Scholarship Program Overview 2012-2013

Overview

Georgia's HOPE Scholarship is available to Georgia residents who have demonstrated academic achievement. The scholarship provides money to assist students with their educational costs of attending a HOPE eligible college in Georgia.

Eligibility

To receive HOPE Scholarship funding, students must:

1. Meet **one** of the following academic requirements:
 - Graduate from a HOPE-eligible high school with a 3.0 grade point average.
 - Complete a HOPE eligible home study program with a 3.0 grade point average.
 - Graduate from an ineligible high school, complete an ineligible home study program, or earn a GED, **and** score in the national composite 85th percentile or higher on the SAT or ACT tests.
 - Graduate from an ineligible high school or complete an ineligible home study program, and then earn a 3.0 grade point average on 30 semester hours or 45 quarter hours of college degree-level coursework. This option allows for payment of the first 30 semester hours or 45 quarter hours *after* they are taken.
 - Earn a 3.0 grade point average at the college level on degree coursework after attempting 30, 60, or 90 semesters hours or 45, 90, or 135 quarter hours, regardless of high school graduation status.
2. Meet HOPE's U.S. citizenship or eligible non-citizen requirements.
3. Meet HOPE's Georgia residency requirements.
4. Be enrolled as a degree-seeking student at an eligible public or private college or university or technical college in Georgia.
5. Be in compliance with Selective Service registration requirements.
6. Maintain satisfactory academic progress as defined by the college.
7. Not be in default or owe a refund on a student financial aid program.
8. Be in compliance with the Georgia Drug-Free Postsecondary Education Act of 1990. A student may be ineligible for HOPE payment if he or she has been convicted for committing certain felony offenses involving marijuana, controlled substances, or dangerous drugs.
9. Meet additional rigor requirements₁, beginning with students graduating from high school on or after May 1, 2015 (list attached).

Award Amounts

The money provided to HOPE Scholars varies and depends on the type of institution you are attending and your specific enrollment.

Public Institutions

Beginning in Fall 2011, students attending public colleges or universities receive a HOPE Award Amount based upon a per hour rate at the institution he or she is attending. To determine your HOPE Award Amount, review the chart found on GACollege411.

Private Institutions

For Fall 2011, Winter 2012, and Spring 2012, students attending private colleges or universities receive the following:

- Full-time students: \$1,800 per semester, \$1,200 per quarter
- Half-time students: \$900 per semester, \$600 per quarter

Award Limits

A college degree-seeking student is ineligible for the HOPE Scholarship if the student has:

- Received payment from any combination of HOPE Scholarship, Zell Miller Scholarship, HOPE Grant, and Accel Program funds (through Spring term 2011) totaling 127 semester (190 quarter) hours of credit; **or**
- Attempted 127 semester (190 quarter) hours of college degree credit, regardless of whether or not HOPE funds were received while attempting the hours; **or**
- Earned a baccalaureate (four-year) college degree, regardless of whether or not HOPE funds were received while earning the degree, **or**
- Reached the Seven Year Expiration of Eligibility date.

Georgia Student Finance Commission (GSFC) - More info about HOPE can be found at www.gsfc.org