

HOPE and Zell Miller Scholarships

Academic Eligibility from High School

HOPE Scholarship

- Minimum 3.0 HOPE GPA as calculated by the Georgia Student Finance Commission (GSFC) in core curriculum courses (English, math, science, foreign language, social science)
- *Rigor requirements

Zell Miller Scholarship

*Rigor requirements and one of the following:

Designated valedictorian or salutatorian	OR	Minimum 3.7 HOPE GPA as calculated by GSFC in core curriculum courses
		AND
		total test score of 1200 SAT on a single national administration or composite test score of 26 ACT on a single national or state/district administration

*Academic Rigor courses are determined by the course number. Refer to the full Academic Rigor Course List on GAfutures.org.

What are Rigor Requirements?
Rigor courses: Advanced Math, Advanced Science, Foreign Language, Advanced Placement (AP) in core subjects, International Baccalaureate (IB) in core subjects, degree-level Dual Credit Enrollment courses in core subjects taken at an eligible postsecondary institution.
Students graduating from high school must earn four full credits from the above list.

Award Amounts

	HOPE Scholarship*	Zell Miller Scholarship*
Public Institution	Portion of standard tuition [†]	Full standard tuition [†]
Private Institution Full-time	\$2,152 per semester (fall, spring, summer) \$1,436 per quarter (fall, winter, spring, summer)	\$2,808 per semester (fall, spring, summer) \$1,914 per quarter (fall, winter, spring, summer)
Private Institution Half-time	\$1,077 per semester (fall, spring, summer) \$719 per quarter (fall, winter, spring, summer)	\$1,404 per semester (fall, spring, summer) \$957 per quarter (fall, winter, spring, summer)

*Complete award amounts available on GAfutures.org. [†]Up to 15 credit hours.

Maintaining

HOPE Scholarship

Students must maintain a minimum cumulative 3.0 calculated HOPE GPA* at designated checkpoints (end of every spring semester and at 30, 60 and 90 attempted semester hours; end of every spring quarter and at 45, 90 and 135 attempted quarter hours). If a student's calculated HOPE GPA falls below a 3.0, they will lose the HOPE Scholarship and will only be eligible to regain it once.

Zell Miller Scholarship

Students must maintain a minimum cumulative 3.3 calculated HOPE GPA* at designated checkpoints (end of every spring semester and at 30, 60 and 90 attempted semester hours; end of every spring quarter and at 45, 90 and 135 attempted quarter hours). If a student's calculated HOPE GPA falls below a 3.3, they will lose the Zell Miller Scholarship but may still be eligible for the HOPE Scholarship. Students can regain the Zell Miller Scholarship only once.

*Calculated HOPE GPA refers to all attempted hours after high school graduation. Approved postsecondary STEM courses taken fall 2017 and later receive .5 weight to grade B, C or D. Approved courses can be found at GAfutures.org. STEM courses taken during high school are not given the STEM weight for postsecondary GPA calculation.

Losing Eligibility

A student will lose eligibility for the HOPE Scholarship and the Zell Miller Scholarship due to one of the following:

- Calculated HOPE GPA requirement not met
- Maximum attempted and/or paid hours reached (127 semester/190 quarter)
- Funds not used within ten years of high school graduation or equivalent
- Bachelor's degree received
- On the second loss, a student becomes permanently ineligible

HOPE Grant

Academic Eligibility

- No high school graduation requirement
- Must be enrolled in a certificate or diploma program at a participating University System of Georgia (USG) or Technical College System of Georgia (TCSG) school

Award Amount

- Portion of standard tuition, up to 15 credit hours; award amounts available on **GAfutures.org**

Maintaining

- Minimum 2.0 cumulative calculated HOPE GPA or higher at designated checkpoints (30/60 paid semester hours)
- Only eligible to regain the HOPE Grant once

Losing Eligibility

- Calculated HOPE GPA requirement not met
- Maximum paid hours reached (63 semester)
- Bachelor's degree received

Zell Miller Grant

Academic Eligibility

- No high school graduation requirement
- Must be enrolled in a certificate or diploma program at a participating University System of Georgia (USG) or Technical College System of Georgia (TCSG) school
- First term awarded retroactively after earning a minimum 3.5 or higher cumulative calculated HOPE GPA

Award Amount

- Full standard rate of tuition, up to 15 credit hours; award amounts available on **GAfutures.org**

Maintaining

- Minimum 3.5 cumulative calculated HOPE GPA required at the end of every semester/quarter
- Eligible to regain Zell Miller Grant if minimum 3.5 cumulative calculated HOPE GPA earned at the end of the next term

Losing Eligibility

- Calculated HOPE GPA requirement not met
- Maximum paid hours reached (63 semester)
- Bachelor's degree received

HOPE Career Grant

Academic Eligibility

- Enrolled in specific high-demand certificate and diploma programs at a participating University System of Georgia (USG) or Technical College System of Georgia (TCSG) school
- HOPE Grant and Zell Miller Grant eligibility requirements apply

Award Amount

- Awards are a fixed amount per term based on the program and number of hours enrolled
- Approved programs and award amounts available on **GAfutures.org**

For more information on the HOPE Programs, visit GAfutures.org.

HOPE GED Grant

Academic Eligibility

- Earned a GED diploma from Technical College System of Georgia (TCSG)

Award Amount

- \$500 voucher that can be used for tuition, books or other educational costs at an eligible postsecondary institution
- Voucher expires 24 consecutive months after issue date

Students eligible for any of the HOPE Programs must complete a GSFAPP or current year FAFSA.

Other State Financial Aid Programs

In addition to the HOPE Program, GSFC administers other state financial aid programs for the state of Georgia. These programs are designed to assist students with the cost of their postsecondary education.

- Dual Enrollment
- Georgia Military College State Service Scholarship
- Georgia National Guard Service Cancelable Loan
- Georgia HERO Scholarship
- Georgia Public Safety Memorial Grant
- REACH Georgia Scholarship
- Scholarship for Engineering Education
- Student Access Loan
- Georgia Tuition Equalization Grant
- University of North Georgia Military Scholarship
- University of North Georgia ROTC Grant
- University of North Georgia ROTC Grant for Future Officers

For more information on state financial aid programs, visit GAfutures.org.

Additional Eligibility Requirements

In addition to meeting the requirements for specific state financial aid programs, students must meet the following basic eligibility requirements:

- Be a legal resident of Georgia
- Meet academic achievement standards required by the program or college
- Be registered with the Selective Service, if required
- Be in compliance with the Georgia Drug-Free Postsecondary Education Act of 1990
- Meet U.S. citizenship or eligible non-citizen requirements
- Be in good standing on all student loans or other financial aid programs
- Not have exceeded the maximum award limits for any state financial aid program
- Meet enrollment requirements
- Attend an eligible postsecondary institution

GAfutures.org
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800.505.4732

