

Types of Aid

FEDERAL PELL GRANT -- <http://www.studentaid.ed.gov> - a federally funded award to help persons who have not earned a bachelor's degree pay for their education after high school. The amount a student receives will depend on the EFC (Expected Family Contribution) shown on the SAR (Student Aid Report) or ISIR (Institutional Student Information Record), how many registered course credit hours, the cost of attendance, and the size of the federal appropriations. Students must declare a major which is an approved Pell eligible program of study to receive this grant. Lifetime Pell eligibility is limited to 18 semesters.

FEDERAL WORK-STUDY -- <http://www.studentaid.ed.gov> - a federal program that provides jobs for students with financial need, allowing them to earn money to help pay for education expenses. Students must be enrolled in an eligible program to apply. The procedures for applying for Federal Work-Study are as follows:

Once registered for class, interested students come by the Financial Aid Office to let Financial Aid know they are interested in Work-Study.

The Financial Aid Office calculates the student applicant's need according to the federal regulations to determine their eligibility for Federal Work-Study.

The Career Services Office gives applications to those students which are determined eligible for Work-Study.

The Career Services Office forwards eligible student's applications to specific departments who have vacant Work-Study positions.

Work-Study candidates will be contacted by the department hiring for a job interview.

Departments will select those to be employed and notify the Career Services Office.

The Career Services Office then submits Work-Study contract information to the departmental payroll person.

The newly hired student will complete all required payroll paperwork and return it to the departmental payroll person.

On the last day of the month, student employees complete a monthly time sheet signed by their supervisor to be submitted to the departmental payroll person.

The Career Services Office receives hours worked and salary information on student employees.

FEDERAL SUPPLEMENTAL EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITY GRANT -- <http://www.studentaid.ed.gov> -- a federal program that provides assistance for students with exceptional need. Need is determined by the EFC (Expected Family Contribution) shown on the SAR or ISIR. Awards range from \$275 to \$350 per term. Priority is given to students who have a higher cumulative grade point average. Students must not be receiving assistance from any other service or form of Financial Aid other than the Federal Pell Grant and HOPE to get FSEOG. Students must be receiving a Federal Pell Grant to be considered.

GEORGIA HOPE (Helping Outstanding Pupils Educationally) GRANT -- <http://www.GAcollege411.org> - a state-funded award which will pay \$60.75 per semester credit hour for tuition of all students enrolled in diploma and technical certificate of credit programs. Continuing Education courses are not covered by the HOPE Grant. A student must be a Georgia resident in order to receive this grant. There are two eligibility checkpoints, first when a student reaches 30 semester hours and second after 60 semester hours, based on HOPE Grant Paid Hours. To continue receiving HOPE, a student must have a 3.0 HOPE GPA at the 30th hour to remain eligible. Students who lose eligibility at the 30th hour can regain eligibility once at the 60th hour with a 3.0 GPA. Learning support coursework and dual enrollment coursework are excluded from the HOPE GPA calculation and checkpoints. HOPE Paid Hours prior to the implementation of the HOPE Cap (prior to July 2003) do not count in HOPE Grant GPA or checkpoint calculations. Students with a baccalaureate degree cannot receive HOPE. HOPE Grant awards are limited to paying for a total of 63 semester credit hours beginning with courses taken in July 2003.

GEORGIA HOPE SCHOLARSHIP -- <http://www.GAcollege411.org> – a state-funded award that will pay \$60.75 per semester credit hour for tuition of all students seeking an associate degree. A student must be a Georgia resident in order to receive this grant. To be eligible as a first-year student, a student must be a 1993 or later graduate of an eligible high school and earn a "B" average as determined by Georgia Student Finance Commission. A "B" average is a 3.0 cumulative grade point average on a 4.0 scale. If ineligible as a first-year student, a student may gain eligibility maintaining a 3.0 HOPE cumulative grade point average after the school term in which 30 or 60 transferable semester hours of degree credit has been attempted. Students who have not received the HOPE Scholarship prior to July 1, 2011 and who graduated from high school more than seven years ago cannot receive HOPE Scholarship nor gain future eligibility. Active duty military service time does not count against the seven-year period. For students that graduated from a home school program or received a GED, the date of the student's home school completion/graduation or the GED test date will be used as the basis for determining the 7-year expiration date. Students who received HOPE Scholarship prior to July 1, 2011 are eligible to receive HOPE Scholarship until June 30, 2015, regardless of high school graduation date. A student must not have already earned a baccalaureate degree or have attempted more than 127 semester hours of college credit.

Students must maintain a HOPE cumulative grade point average of 3.0 or better at the end of spring semester (unless they are a less-than-full-time student who has taken less than 30 credits) and in the terms in which they have attempted 30, 60, and 90 credit hours. Failure to meet the cumulative GPA requirements at these check points will result in the loss of the HOPE Scholarship. Students can regain eligibility one time after losing it beginning Fall Semester 2011. Any previous gains/losses prior to Fall Semester 2011 will not apply. More detailed information on eligibility and how a HOPE cumulative grade point average is calculated may be obtained from the Financial Aid Office.

ZELL MILLER SCHOLARSHIP – <http://www.GAcollege411.org> – a state funded award that will pay 100% of the standard tuition rate for eligible students seeking an associate degree. Students must have a Georgia High School

GPA of 3.7, as determined by O.C.G.A 20-2-157, and receive a score of at least 1200 combined critical reading score and math score on a single administration of the SAT or an ACT composite scale score of at least 26, or graduated as a valedictorian or salutatorian from an eligible high school. Students must have 3.3 GPA at all checkpoints (30, 60, 90, 3-term, and End of Spring). Students who lose eligibility at a checkpoint may regain eligibility once. Students who lose eligibility for Zell Miller Scholarship but still have at least a 3.0 GPA at a 60 or 90 checkpoint may continue to receive HOPE Scholarship.

HOPE/GED VOUCHERS -- <http://www.GAcollege411.org> - a state grant for \$500 is awarded to Georgia residents who pass the GED Test after July 30, 1993. After passing their GED Test, residents will receive a voucher for \$500 in the mail. Students wishing to use their voucher need to sign it and bring it to the Financial Aid Office. Residents must enroll and attend classes for a certificate or diploma in order to use their voucher.

GEORGIA HERO (Helping Educate Reservists and their Offspring) SCHOLARSHIP -- <http://www.GAcollege411.org> - a state funded award created to give financial assistance for college to members of the Georgia National Guard and U.S. Military Reserves who have served in a combat zone. The children of such service men and women and their surviving spouses are also eligible to receive the scholarship. Recipients may receive up to \$2,000 per academic year. For eligibility criteria and official program regulations, please visit the Paying for College tab on [GAcollege411.org](http://www.GAcollege411.org).

VETERANS' ASSISTANCE -- <http://www.gibill.va.gov> - credit programs at Altamaha Tech are approved for Veterans Affairs Education Benefits. Students eligible for Veterans Affairs Education Benefits should contact the Financial Aid Office. Application forms and assistance in filing for education benefits is available from the Financial Aid Office.

Veterans must attend scheduled classes and continue to show satisfactory progress. Benefit payments will not be made for courses from which the student does not continue to attend.

Receiving Veterans Affairs benefits does not prevent a student from applying or receiving other forms of financial aid.

For specific questions regarding individual eligibility, call the VA Atlanta Regional Processing Office at 1-800-827-1000.

OTHER FINANCIAL AID OPTIONS

WIA: The Workforce Investment Act - the purpose of this act is to prepare economically disadvantaged youth and unskilled adults, or persons facing serious barriers to employment, with the training necessary for entry into the labor force. Contact the Financial Aid Office for more information.

DIVISION OF REHABILITATION SERVICES: Assistance is available for qualifying handicapped students. Students should contact their local office of the Department of Human Resources, Division of Rehabilitation Services for details.

GENERAL AID: Various civic, social, professional, and other organizations provide scholarships for deserving students.

In most cases, financial aid is awarded based upon academic performance, financial need, and availability of funds. Contact the Financial Aid Office for more information.