



Georgia Student Finance Commission Georgia Student Finance Authority Georgia Higher Education Assistance Corporation GAcollege411 Tricia P. Chastain PRESIDENT

Publication Date: March 11, 2016

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Subject: Move On When Ready (MOWR) Updates for Eligible High Schools

Dear Colleague:

The first year of the Move On When Ready Program (MOWR) has been widely popular with Georgia high school students. As you know MOWR provides tuition, mandatory fees and course books for eligible students who are enrolled in postsecondary courses and earning credit towards either high school graduation or home study completion requirements.

The program is embarking on the first summer term of dual enrollment. Eligible high school students who meet admissions requirements may participate in MOWR during summer term at eligible Postsecondary institutions.

Program Regulations for the 2016-2017 academic year (FY 2017) will be released in May 2016 upon GSFC Board of Commissioners' approval. The Regulations are announced through a Dear Colleague Letter each year and hosted on <u>GAcollege411.org</u> and <u>GSFC.org</u>.

## **MOWR Approved Course Directory**

The MOWR Approved Course Directory located on <u>GAcollege411.org</u> has been updated to include summer and fall terms. Additionally, a search option is available. The course listing has been updated to eliminate the use of generic course listings. Effective Summer term 2016, college courses that do not have a clear match with a GaDOE high school course will have a course name and number that reflects it as a dual enrollment course. Please see the Course Directory located on <u>GAcollege411.org</u>.

## STARS and SURFER (electronic systems)

Please be advised some enhancements have been made to STARS and SURFER as a result of input from high schools and postsecondary institutions during summer and fall workshops. Enhancements include more search options and the option for email notifications regarding application processing. A list of the participating schools and institutions is provided in each system. Additionally, an updated MOWR User Manual for STARS and SURFER is available in STARS under the Documentation section.

## **Participation Agreement**

Each eligible high school (public and private high schools organized and existing under the laws of the State of Georgia as defined by O.C.G.A. 20-2-161.3(a)(4)) that chooses to participate in MOWR must sign a <u>MOWR High School/Home Study Program Participation Agreement</u>. The new Agreement is available on <u>GAcollege411.org</u> and in STARS, under the Documentation section. A link to the agreement is also included in the email for your convenience.

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The High School Participation Agreement now covers Academic Years 2016-2017 through 2019-2020 (FY 2017 – 2020).

All MOWR High School Program Participation Agreements (FY 2017-2020) should be submitted to GSFC by July 1, 2016. Until the applicable Participation Agreement is received the school or institution cannot process or approve MOWR applications for their students or applicants; therefore, please submit the agreement as soon as possible. You will be able to see a list of your pending student applications in STARS but you will not be able to access any student MOWR Applications until the applicable Participation Agreement is submitted to GSFC.

Participation Agreements must be signed by an authorized individual from your school and sent to GSFC by email, fax or mail. Note: The agreement does not need to be notarized.

Email:SAS@gsfc.orgFax:770.724.9249Mail:GSFC, Student Aid Services<br/>2082 East Exchange Place Tucker, GA 30084

## **MOWR** Application

- The MOWR application is available on <u>GAcollege411.org</u>. Please keep in mind:
  - Eligible public and private high school students must complete the MOWR **online application**.
  - Home study students and students with no SSN must complete the MOWR **paper application**.
- The application must be completed by the student/parent (Part I), the high school or home study program (Part II) and the postsecondary institution (Part III) and submitted to GSFC.
- The **application deadline** to submit to GSFC has been revised. Effective Spring Term 2016, the completed application must be submitted to GSFC by the last day of the term or the student's withdrawal date, whichever occurs first.
- High schools and postsecondary institutions may set an earlier deadline in order to approve students for dual enrollment and for MOWR funds.
- Applications received by GSFC after the deadline dates will not be funded.

Thank you for your participation in MOWR. If you have questions or concerns related to the MOWR Program, please email <u>SAS@gsfc.org</u> or contact Pennie Strong, Vice President of Student Aid Services, at 770.724.9014 or <u>pennies@gsfc.org</u>.

Sincerely,

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Tricia Chastain

Attachment