Accelerated Career Education Grant Program

REGULATIONS – 1800.

2026 - 2027 Award Year

Effective Date – July 1, 2026

GSFC | Georgia Student Finance Commission

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Tucker, Georgia 30084

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1802. Program Overview.

The Accelerated Career Education (ACE) Grant Program began State Fiscal Year 2025. ACE provides funding to Georgia public high school students to enroll in an Associate of Applied Science, a Diploma, a program leading to licensure, or two (2) Technical Certificates of Credit in the same program of study or closely related programs of study on the State High Demand Career List at a TCSG Postsecondary Institution. The student must be pursuing graduation through the Georgia Department of Education Accelerated Career Diploma (ACD) by their public high school to receive ACE Grant funding.

State revenues provide funding for this program in accordance with the Dual Enrollment Act, Official Code of Georgia Annotated (O.C.G.A.) §20-2-149.2 et. seq. The total amount of funds appropriated for the program is established each year by the Georgia General Assembly during the prior legislative session and is subject to change during the Award Year.

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1803. Definitions. (Electronic Link)

1804. Program Specific Eligibility Requirements.

1804.1. Citizenship.

1. A student must be a United States Citizen, born or naturalized, or an Eligible Non-Citizen according to the Federal Title IV Regulations immediately prior to the first day of classes of the school term for which funding is sought.

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1804.2. Georgia Residency.

1. A Dependent Student meets the Georgia Residency requirements for ACE Grant if his or her Parent or Legal Guardian has established and maintained Domicile in the State of Georgia immediately prior to the first day of classes of the Postsecondary term for which funding is sought.

2. An Independent Student meets the Georgia Residency requirements for ACE Grant if he or she has established and maintained Domicile in the State of Georgia immediately prior to the first day of classes of the Postsecondary term for which funding is sought.

3. Military Personnel Dependent Children, shall be treated as a Georgia Resident for purposes of ACE Grant funding if:

   a. The Military Personnel is stationed in Georgia on active duty, or lists Georgia as his or her home of record; or

   b. A TCSG institution grants a Military Personnel Out-of-State Tuition Waiver or Exemption.

   c. No other Out-of-State Tuition Waiver, other than for Military Personnel and their dependents, applies to students in the ACE Grant Program.

4. Dependent Children of members of the Georgia National Guard shall be treated as a Georgia resident for purposes of ACE Grant eligibility.

5. Dependent Children of members of a reserve component of the United States Armed Forces, assigned to a reserve unit located in Georgia, shall be treated as a Georgia resident for purposes of ACE Grant eligibility.

6. A student, who was correctly determined to meet the Georgia Residency requirements for purposes of ACE Grant eligibility and began receiving ACE Grant funding, will continue to meet the Georgia Residency requirements for purposes of ACE Grant eligibility, unless he or she has a break in Enrollment of two or more consecutive semesters and resides outside of Georgia.

   a. If such student later returns to Georgia, he or she must re-establish Georgia Residency as defined above before regaining ACE Grant eligibility.

1804.3. General Eligibility.

1. To qualify for the ACE Grant, a high school student must be:

    a. Enrolled at an Eligible Public High School physically within the State of Georgia.

    b. Pursuing high school graduation through the Georgia Department of Education ACD option.

    c. The student must be in the 10th, 11th, or 12th grade.

2. An eligible student must be enrolled in a TCSG institution pursuing an Associate of Applied Science, or a Diploma, or a program leading to licensure, or two (2) Technical Certificates of Credit in the same program of study or closely related programs of study on the State High Demand Career List.

3. A student must not have already received a high school diploma, a High School Equivalency diploma, or completed a Home Study program.

1804.4. Enrollment Status.

1. A public high school student must be classified by the Eligible Public High School at which they are enrolled, as pursuing graduation through the Georgia Department of Education Accelerated Career Diploma (ACD).

2. A student must be admitted and classified as an Accelerated Career Diploma student at a TCSG Institution through the last day of the Institution's drop/add period to be eligible to receive the ACE Grant.

    a. If a student officially or unofficially withdraws or drops out prior to the TCSG Institution's' drop/add period, he or she is ineligible to receive ACE Grant for that school term. Students that drop out during the drop/add period are subject to the provisions in accordance with *Section 1812*.

3. A student may enroll at two or more TCSG Institutions during a single term. An eligible Accelerated Career Diploma student cannot receive ACE Grant funds for hours which exceed the 15 semester hours per term limit, regardless of the number of TCSG Institutions in which the student is enrolled.

4. A student must abide by the rules of the Eligible Public High School and the TCSG Institution the student is attending, and a student can be denied participation at any time in the ACE Grant program for violations of such rules.

1804.5. Age Limit.

1. A student must be less than twenty-two (22) years of age on the start date of the postsecondary term of enrollment for which funding is sought.

a. A student who reaches twenty-two (22) years of age during the postsecondary term may complete the term.

1804.6. Length of Eligibility.

1. A student's length of eligibility concludes at the end of the term in which the student receives a high school diploma, is no longer pursing the Georgia Department of Education ACD option for graduation, is no longer enrolled in a public high school in Georgia, or has reached the age limit, whichever occurs first.

1804.7. Satisfactory Academic Progress.

1. A student must maintain Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP), as defined and certified by the TCSG Institution.

1804.8. Selective Service Registration.

1. A student must be in compliance with Georgia state law requirements of having registered with the United States Selective Service System requirements, in accordance with O.C.G.A. § 20-3-519.1(b).

2. Selective Service registration, by required males, should be completed prior to the program application deadline to be eligible for payment for such school term.

    a. A late disbursement is permitted if the student meets Selective Service requirements any time during the fiscal year.

3. GSFC will maintain Selective Service registration or exemption status information for state aid program applicants/recipients. The registration status is available to the postsecondary institution in which the student is enrolled in order for the institution to determine program eligibility in Postsecondary Functions.

    a. The Institution may collect documentation supporting a student's registration status and submit to GSFC for consideration through Postsecondary Functions.

4. Male applicants required to register with the Selective Service System must have a registered or exemption status on file with GSFC to be eligible for state aid programs and for a disbursement invoice to be paid.

1804.9. Georgia Drug-Free Act.

1. A student convicted of committing certain felony offenses involving marijuana, controlled substances, or dangerous drugs, may be ineligible for ACE Grant funds from the date of conviction to the completion of the following school term, in accordance with the Georgia Drug-Free Postsecondary Education Act of 1990, O.C.G.A. § 20-1-20, et seq.

1805. Participating Schools Eligibility Requirements.

1805.1. Eligible Public High School Responsibilities.

1. The Eligible Public High School must provide counseling to students and their parent/guardian regarding graduating through the Georgia Department of Education ACD option.

2. Agree to accept toward state, local, or high school graduation requirements, the postsecondary credit of an eligible ACD student who successfully completes an approved Associate of Applied Science, Diploma, program leading to licensure, or two Technical Certificates of Credit in the same program of study or closely related programs of study on the State High Demand Career List at a TCSG Institution.

3. Record on the student's high school transcript each postsecondary course name, grade, and amount of credit hours and course unit credits earned for each course taken as an ACD student as follows:

    a. One to two semester credit hours = .5 course unit
    b. Three to five semester credit hours = 1 course unit

4. The TCSG institution will provide to the Eligible Public High School one transcript at the end of each term and provide a final transcript indicating the earned credential(s) before June 30 at no charge to the high school or student.

5. Eligible Public High Schools must complete the annual underclass (9^{th}, 10^{th} and 11^{th} grade) transcript data upload to GSFC.

    a. Underclass transcript data, of the previous Academic Year, must be reported by June 30.

6. Eligible Public High Schools may not adjust a student's enrollment or graduation plans or records to extend a student's ACE Grant eligibility. Doing so may result in loss of state program eligibility and responsibility for repaying ACE Grant state funds.

1805.2. TCSG Eligible Postsecondary Institution Responsibilities.

1. The TCSG Institution must provide academic counseling to ACD students to ensure they are enrolled in the eligible programs and courses needed to graduate using the Accelerated Career Diploma option.

2. The TCSG Institution must adhere to the annually published rates to be paid for Tuition, Mandatory Fees and required books.

3. The TCSG Institution must accept ACE Grant as full payment for Tuition charges up to the 15 semester hours per term limit.

4. The TCSG Institution agrees to waive all mandatory and non-course related fees for eligible high school students receiving ACE Grant.

5. The TCSG Institution agrees to provide required course books to eligible high school students participating in the program at no charge to the student.

6. The TCSG Institution must inform ACE Grant students of any costs which may be their responsibility prior to the payment deadline for each term of enrollment.

7. CLARIFIED Institutions that allow an ACE Grant applicant, whose eligibility has not yet been determined, to remain enrolled in a course after the payment deadline without obtaining the student's affirmative acknowledgment that they may incur tuition, fee, or book charges may not subsequently charge the student for those costs if the student is later determined to be ineligible for ACE Grant.

8. The TCSG Institution has the authority to implement institutional policies of admission acceptances for ACE Grant student participation.

9. The TCSG Institution must notify the Eligible Public High School of each student's enrollment and must provide one transcript at the end of each term and provide a final transcript indicating the earned credential(s) before June 30 at no charge to the high school or student.

10. The TCSG Institution must invoice for ACE Grant payment from GSFC (refer to *Section 1810).*

11. The TCSG Institution must utilize the College HOPE Eligibility Calculation Service (CHECS) to report student transcript data for ACE Grant students.

1806. Eligible Coursework.

1806.1. Eligible Coursework.

1. A high school student who is pursuing an Accelerated Career Diploma may participate and receive ACE Grant for eligible postsecondary credit in courses required for an Associate of Applied Science, or a Diploma, or a program leading to licensure, or two (2) Technical Certificates of Credit in the same program of study or closely related program of study on the State High Demand Career List.

2. All postsecondary coursework must be completed prior to the student's high school graduation date to receive ACE Grant funds. In no case shall ACE Grant be awarded for postsecondary coursework scheduled, per the TCSG Institution's calendar, for a term in which a student may not be awarded Dual Credit toward graduation and not listed on the high school academic transcript from the Eligible Public High School.

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1807. Ineligible Coursework.

1. A student is ineligible to receive ACE Grant funds for courses not specific to their Associate of Applied Science, Diploma, or a program leading to licensure or two (2) Technical Certificates of Credit in the same program of study or closely related programs of study on the State High Demand Career List.

1807.1. Joint Enrollment Coursework.

1. Coursework taken as Joint Enrollment is ineligible for ACE Grant payment.

1807.2. Exemption by Examination Coursework.

1. Coursework that was exempted or given credit by examination, testing, training, or experience is ineligible for ACE Grant payment.

1807.3. Continuing Education and Audit Coursework.

1. Continuing Education or Audited coursework is ineligible for ACE Grant payment.

1807.4. Total Withdrawal from Coursework.

1. An Accelerated Career Diploma student is ineligible to receive ACE Grant for coursework from which he or she totally dropped or withdrew if, as a result, such coursework does not appear on the student's academic transcript as a "W" or any other code or type of identification for such a withdrawal (refer to *Section 1810.1*).

1807.5. Impact on Dual Enrollment Program Eligibility.

1. Public high school students pursuing the Georgia Department of Education ACD and receiving ACE Grant funds, cannot receive Dual Enrollment funding and/or HOPE Grant during the same term.

2. A student who chooses to stop pursuing an Accelerated Career Diploma is ineligible to receive ACE Grant for any terms after they stop pursuing the Accelerated Career Diploma.

    a. If the high school student chooses to enroll in Dual Enrollment funded courses after they stop pursuing an Accelerated Career Diploma, the postsecondary credit hours taken while pursuing an Accelerated Career Diploma, for which the ACE Grant was received by the student are subtracted from the student's Dual Enrollment Program Funding Cap.

1807.6. Impact on HOPE Eligibility.

1. The postsecondary credit hours taken as an Accelerated Career Diploma student, for which ACE Grant was received, are not counted as Attempted-Hours nor are they included in the Combined Paid-Hours limit for purposes of HOPE Scholarship, HOPE Grant, Zell Miller Scholarship, or Zell Miller Grant eligibility at an eligible postsecondary institution.

2. Core courses in English, math, science, social sciences and world (foreign) languages taken as an Accelerated Career Diploma student are included in determining a student's high school Calculated HOPE GPA.

3. Degree-level core courses in English, math, science, social sciences and world (foreign) languages taken as an Accelerated Career Diploma student are eligible for an additional weight in the student's high school HOPE Scholarship GPA calculation.

4. Any postsecondary coursework attempted prior to high school graduation cannot be used to gain HOPE Scholarship eligibility at an Attempted-Hours checkpoint.

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1808. Application Requirements.

1808.1. Application Process.

1. In order to be considered for ACE Grant payment, a public high school student must complete a GSFAPP prior to the end of the term in which they are seeking ACE Grant.

    a. The GSFAPP is a valid application for 120 consecutive months (10 years) once the application is submitted.

1808.2. Application Deadline Date.

1. The GSFAPP must be completed by the student no later than the last day of the term for which funding is sought or the student's withdrawal date, whichever occurs first, to be paid for a specific school term.

    a. The last day of the school term is the last day of classes or exams for the TCSG Institution, whichever occurs later.

    b. The Postsecondary Institution may set an earlier institutional deadline for each student to meet institutional requirements and program regulations.

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1809. Award Amounts.

1. GSFC will annually publish the rates to be paid for Tuition, Mandatory Fees, and required books at TCSG Institutions. Annual rates may vary based on course type, course delivery site, institution sector or term of enrollment.

2. Where the actual Tuition rate charged for a course is less than the annually published rate, the ACE Grant award shall not exceed the approved amount per hour for the institution nor the actual Tuition rate.

3. TCSG Institutions must provide the students with books required for courses taken through ACE Grant at no cost to the student. If the course book and/or course homework delivery method is provided online or online materials are used in lieu of a physical book, the institution must provide the access code at no cost to the student.

    a. The TCSG Institution is permitted to charge ACE Grant students a fine for a lost or damaged book which was loaned to the student. The student may be charged the cost of the book for the specific course or $75.00, whichever is less.

4. For a student who is enrolled at two or more TCSG Institutions during a single term, the student may receive the published ACE Grant rate up to the per term maximum of 15 semester hours.

1809.1. Tuition Amount Reductions.

1. If a student is receiving student aid from a source other than the ACE Grant Program and such aid is required by the donor to be applied to the student's Tuition and Fee charges, and such award plus ACE Grant funds are equal to or greater than the student's Tuition and Fee charges, then the student's ACE Grant award must be reduced, so that the total aid is equal to the Tuition and fee charges.

1809.2. Awards Per School Term.

1. The ACE Grant is available to students for the standard academic terms of Summer, Fall, and Spring semesters.

    a. A TCSG Institution may combine mini-terms or modules to form the equivalent of a standard semester.

    b. A TCSG Institution may offer Non-Standard Terms or Non-Terms, in which courses or modules are taken consecutively to form the equivalent of a standard semester.

2. Regardless of the structure of a TCSG Institution's school terms, a student cannot receive ACE Grant payment for more than three semesters per Award Year.

1809.3. Student Notification of Award.

1. TCSG Institutions must notify each ACE Grant recipient of the amount he or she is awarded for the Award Year and identify such funds as an ACE Grant award.

2. The TCSG Institution must notify the student of charges not covered by ACE Grant.

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1810. Invoicing Requirements.

1810.1. Submission of Invoices.

1. TCSG Institutions may submit ACE Grant invoices to GSFC as early as 15 calendar days prior to the first day of classes for the postsecondary school term.

2. Invoices must be submitted through GSFC's online invoicing system, Scholarship Up-to-date Records for Electronic Reporting (SURFER), processed, and approved by GSFC by the Invoicing Deadline Date as established by GSFC. Each invoice submitted by the TCSG Institution must include Enrolled-Hours, Paid-Hours, Learning Support and the student's program of study major, when applicable to the program.

    a. An invoice for any high school student receiving HOPE Grant, Zell Miller Grant, or ACE Grant at a TCSG institution must include in the invoice data, the major code and if the student is pursuing an Accelerated Career Diploma.

    b. In the event invoices are submitted to GSFC by TCSG Institutions after the Invoicing Deadline Date for a school term, GSFC may issue a notice of failure to meet the Invoicing Deadline Date to the President and/or governing body of the TCSG Institution and the invoices may not be honored.

3. Prior to the beginning of any Award Year and no later than June 30 of each year GSFC shall establish and publish the Invoicing Deadline Dates for each school term for the upcoming Award Year.

4. An Invoice may be honored or paid after the Invoicing Deadline Date if the failure to meet the deadline was due to:

    a. The need for supplemental documentation required by the TCSG Institution or GSFC to support or verify a student's eligibility; or

    b. Late grades, late completions, grade changes; or

    c. Other adjustments made to the student's official academic transcript which resulted in a change in eligibility, and the student met all other eligibility requirements prior to the deadline.

5. The President of GSFC has sole discretion in the determination of invoice deadlines and extensions. The decision of the President of GSFC shall be final.

1810.2. Payment of Invoices.

1. ACE Grant funds are paid to TCSG Institutions by electronic transfer of funds on behalf of eligible students each school term upon submission to GSFC of an ACE Grant invoice.
   a. If the ACE Grant courses are not listed on the student's postsecondary transcript, then no ACE Grant funds may be retained by the postsecondary institution.

1810.3. Crediting of Student Accounts.

1. Upon receipt of ACE Grant payments from GSFC, the TCSG Institution must credit the amount of payment on behalf of an eligible student to the student's Tuition, Mandatory Fees, and book allowance.

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1811. College HOPE Eligibility Calculation Service (CHECS) Reporting Requirements.

1811.1. CHECS.

1. TCSG Institutions must utilize the College HOPE Eligibility Calculation Service (CHECS) to report student transcript data for all ACE Grant students.

2. TCSG institutions must timely submit through CHECS student transcript data records for all ACE Grant students for the purpose of tracking enrollment and academic performance.

3. The TCSG Institution must submit, for the ending term, ACE Grant transcript academic records for CHECS transcript history prior to the upcoming term invoices being paid.

4. Academic transcript data must be submitted regardless of any unpaid balance owed to the Postsecondary Institution.

5. Invoices for any term may be held in a pending status until transcript academic records for the preceding term are submitted and for CHECS transcript history are processed.

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1812. Return of Funds Requirements.

1812.1. Calculation of Return of Funds.

1. If a student officially withdraws, drops out, drops hours, is expelled, or otherwise fails to complete a period of Enrollment, and is entitled to a refund, due to the adjustment of tuition charges, a portion of such refund may need to be returned to the ACE Grant fund.

    a. A student is ineligible for the ACE Grant for coursework from which he or she totally withdrew, and the coursework does not appear on the student's academic transcript as a "W" or any other code or type of identification for such a withdrawal.

    b. If the Eligible Postsecondary Institution invoiced GSFC prior to a student's total withdrawal, in which the coursework does not appear on the transcript, then the Eligible Postsecondary Institution must cancel or return the student's ACE Grant award for that term.

2. To determine any change to the ACE Grant award, the Eligible Postsecondary Institution must apply the institution's refund policy. If tuition is reduced per the Institution's refund policy, the ACE Grant award must be reduced by the same amount as tuition.

3. The amount of the ACE Grant award earned is retained by the Eligible Postsecondary Institution to be applied to the tuition cost of the student for the portion of the school term that the student was enrolled.

    a. The Eligible Postsecondary Institution must adjust the student's invoice in SURFER to the new award amount within forty-five (45) calendar days of the determination.

1813. Reconciliation Requirements.

1813.1. Term-Reconciliation.

1. TCSG Institutions must conduct a Term-Reconciliation by the end of each term.

    a. A Term-Reconciliation consists of an official acknowledgement by an authorized school official through Postsecondary Functions, that the number of students submitted for payment, total invoiced by the TCSG Institution, the number of students awarded, and total issued by GSFC, according to Postsecondary Functions, is accurate on that date.

    b. GSFC will not issue any state scholarship or grant funds for the following term until the Term-Reconciliation is complete.

    c. Funds are not returned to GSFC as part of the Term-Reconciliation process.

1813.2. Fiscal Year End Reconciliation.

1. In addition to the Term-Reconciliations, the TCSG Institutions must conduct the Fiscal Year End Reconciliation through Postsecondary Functions.

    a. The TCSG Institutions must conduct a complete student-by-student Fiscal Year End Reconciliation with GSFC that includes:

        i. Submission of a reconciliation certification form by July 15, immediately following the completion of the Fiscal Year for each State Program, verifying accuracy of each invoice submitted by the TCSG Institutions with respect to Enrolled-Hours, Paid-Hours, Learning Support and the student's program of study information, when applicable to the program; and

        ii. Return to GSFC any funds not utilized according to the Fiscal Year End Reconciliation by August 15 after the beginning of the new Fiscal Year.

    b. GSFC will not issue any state scholarship or grant funds for the Fall term until the previous Fiscal Year End Reconciliation process is complete.

    c. The TCSG Institution must have a procedure in place to ensure that the state scholarship and grant funds do not go to an unintended third party (i.e., state, postsecondary institution).

1814. Records Retention Requirements.

1814.1. Length of Retention.

1. An Eligible Public High School and TCSG Institution shall maintain accurate records, books, documents and other evidence concerning the ACE Grant, including, but not limited to, individual student files for whichever is longer:

    a. Three years after the academic year the student participated or Award Year in which the aid was awarded; or

    b. For such other period as required by an applicable statute, rule, or regulation; or

    c. Such other time as requested in writing by GSFC.

1814.2. Documentation.

1. Documentation contained within an individual student's file or record, which supports the original determination of a student's eligibility, must be retained and available for review by GSFC on the institution's campus, located within the State of Georgia, for at least three calendar years after the most recent Award Year for which the student received ACE Grant funds (refer to *Section 1813*.).

2. Documents are permitted to be maintained in an imaged media format. The imaged media format must be capable of reproducing an accurate, legible, and complete copy of the original document.

    a. Documentation regarding a student's eligibility is not limited to files, records, and other information received and maintained.

    b. Documentation supporting a student's eligibility that is received and maintained by admissions office, registrar's office, business office, or other administrative operations of the high school or institution must be available to GSFC for the purpose of Compliance Reviews.

3. It is the Eligible High School or TCSG Institution's responsibility to resolve any inconsistencies or conflicting information within a student's records, prior to awarding or disbursing ACE Grant funds to the student.

1814.3. Extended Retention.

1. An Eligible Public High School or TCSG Institution may be required to retain student records involved in a Compliance Review Audit or investigation for more than the three-year retention period set forth in *Section 1813.1*. If the three-year retention period expires before the issue in question is resolved, the high school, home study or Institution must continue to retain all associated records until resolution is reached.

1815. Administrative Review and Exceptions.

1815.1. Administrative Review.

1. The ACE Grant Regulations are applied to each student considered for ACE Grant payment by appropriate officials of the TCSG Institution and by the administrative staff of GSFC.

2. If a student believes an ACE Grant rule or regulation was incorrectly applied in his or her case, the student has the right to file a request for an Administrative Review with GSFC.

3. For an Administrative Review to be considered, the student must submit a written request for an Administrative Review to GSFC's office within 45 calendar days of receiving notice of denial. If additional information is requested from the student, it must be provided within the time frame specified by GSFC.

    a. GSFC will review the case and determine whether the rule or regulation was applied correctly and notify the student and TCSG Institution of the determination.

    b. GSFC decides a case based only on documentation provided by the student, rather than a personal presentation.

1815.2. Exceptions.

1. Requests for Exceptions to the ACE Grant Program Regulations cannot be considered, reviewed, or granted under any circumstances.

1816. Compliance Reviews.

1816.1. Compliance Review Policy.

1. GSFC may conduct Compliance Reviews of Eligible High School or TCSG Institutions participating in the ACE Grant to assess institutional administration of the program and compliance with the program's regulations. Compliance Reviews are conducted in accordance with GSFC's *Compliance Review Process and Procedures* document, which is available at gsfc.georgia.gov, under *Information for School Compliance*.

1816.2. Compliance Review Process.

1. GSFC selects a sampling of the Eligible High School eligible students, for the Award Year under review, and the school's files and records for the sample are examined to assure compliance. Records which document and support a student's eligibility must be available for review at the Eligible High School (refer to *Section 1814*.).

2. GSFC selects a sampling of the TCSG Institution's recipients, for the Award Year under review, and the institution's files and records for the sample are examined to assure compliance. Records which document and support a student's eligibility must be available for review at the Georgia campus of the TCSG Institution (refer to *Section 1814*.).

    a. GSFC will exclude SAP determinations, in the selected sample of any TCSG institution, that has submitted a signed certification to GSFC's Compliance Department by the President of the TCSG Institution that:

        i. The TCSG Institution is in compliance with its policies and procedures in the determination and the administration of the financial aid award process relative to SAP requirements; and

        ii. The SAP determinations have been fairly and consistently applied with respect to all students receiving the ACE Grant awards.

    b. Such certification must be submitted annually to the Compliance Department of GSFC.

        i. Failure to provide such certification will result in a review of SAP determinations made for Accelerated Career Education Grant recipients in the selected sample.

1816.3. Corrective Actions and Institutional Repayment.

1. In the event it is determined that a TCSG Institution knowingly or through error certified an ineligible student to be eligible for ACE Grant, the amount of such grant shall be refunded by the TCSG Institution.
2. GSFC may suspend a TCSG Institution from receiving ACE Grant payments if the Institution fails to timely refund any monies deemed due based on the Compliance Review.

3. Any person who knowingly makes or furnishes any false statement, or misrepresentation, or who accepts such statement or misrepresentation knowing it to be false for the purposes of enabling an ineligible student to wrongfully obtain an ACE Grant award shall be guilty of a misdemeanor.

4. If evidence not available at the time of awarding indicates that a student should not have received ACE Grant funds, then all future ACE Grant awards for that student must be canceled.

    a. The TCSG Institution is held harmless by GSFC if the student's file is adequately documented with available evidence, and it is determined by GSFC that the institution was not at fault.

    b. Evidence is considered unavailable at the time of awarding if it is not available in the student's institutional files (i.e., financial aid, admissions, registrar, etc.).

5. The TCSG Institution must notify the student and GSFC of a refund due to GSFC.

6. If GSFC determines the student's file is not adequately documented, then the TCSG Institution may be solely responsible for the repayment.