

2015 - Study committee created to determine the preservation of the HOPE Program.

2014 - Twenty-three school districts join the five pilot school systems already participating in Realizing Educational Achievement Can Happen (REACH), the state's first public-private, needs-based mentorship and scholarship program administered by GSFC.

2012 - Path2College 529 marketing team moves operations to GSFC offices in Tucker.

2011 - The Zell Miller Scholarship is created, covering 100 percent of tuition for graduates with a 3.7 HOPE GPA and a qualifying SAT or ACT score.

2009 - GAcademy411.org moved to a transitions site with more robust features and functionality including career exploration, assessment tools and the high school planner.

2007 - In accordance with House Bill 1325, the HOPE GPA for all Georgia high school graduates is calculated for the first time by GSFC.

2005 - Gacollege411.org launched as a mentor site.

2004 - To ensure adequate funding for HOPE's future, House Bill 1325 passes the General Assembly. Among the changes, caps are placed on HOPE scholarship and grant hours and GSFC will administer HOPE GPA calculations for high school seniors.

2002 - Path2College, the state's official 529 college saving plan, is established.

2000 - In seven years, over 500,000 students received financial assistance from HOPE, totaling nearly \$1 billion in awards.

1998 - A study by the [National Association of State Student Grant and Aid Programs](#) ranks Georgia number one among 50 states in percentage of full-time undergraduates receiving grant awards due to HOPE.

1995 - HOPE's \$100,000 family income-eligibility cap is removed and students who lose their HOPE scholarships are given a second chance.

1993 - The first HOPE Award is awarded to a student at Gwinnett Technical College.

1992 - Helping Outstanding Pupils Educationally (HOPE) is created. Funded by the Georgia Lottery for Education and administered by GSFC, it provides merit-based financial assistance for degree, diploma and certificate programs at eligible state colleges and universities.

1983 - GSFC implements the PLUS Loan Program.

1980 - Georgia General Assembly creates the Georgia Student Finance Commission to succeed the State Scholarship Commission. The Georgia Student Finance Authority (GSFA), a nonprofit public corporation of the state, is created to succeed GHEAA.

1979 - \$22.5 million is guaranteed in student loans for Georgia residents, a 43 percent increase from the previous year's total.

1976 - GHEAC uses computer systems for calculations and payment of default claims.

1972 - Over \$13 million in student loans for more than 13,000 students is guaranteed by the Georgia Student Loan Program, the most in any fiscal year to date.

1969 - The Georgia Student Finance Authority Act created the Georgia Higher Education Assistance Authority (GHEAA) to administer student loans, grants and scholarship programs.

1966 - The Georgia Legislature makes GHEAC an independent agency and the Board of Directors elect Dr. Donald Payton as Executive Director and Treasurer.

1965 - The General Assembly creates the State Scholarship Commission to assist with Georgia's student aid efforts. At the same time, the Assembly creates the Georgia Higher Education Assistance Corporation (GHEAC) to guarantee student loans.