



Date: May 19, 2023
DCL ID: 2024-01

Subject: 2023-2024 State Scholarship, Grant and Loan Program Regulations
Program Award Charts
Invoice and Reconciliation Deadlines

Dear Colleague:

The following contains information regarding the 2023-2024 (FY 2024) State Scholarship, Grant and Loan Program Regulations, program award charts, and term and year-end invoice and reconciliation deadlines.

2023-2024 State Program Regulations

The Georgia Student Finance Commission (GSFC) and the Georgia Student Finance Authority (GSFA) Boards approved the FY 2024 Program Regulations on May 18, 2023. The Program Regulations are effective July 1, 2023. The 2023-2024 Program Regulations and executive summary will be posted at gsfc.georgia.gov by May 23, 2023; as well as a link on **GAfutures.org** under "Shortcuts."

In addition to the changes made to the Program Regulations for clarity, listed below is an overview of the regulatory changes made to effectuate legislation passed during the 2023 session of the Georgia General Assembly. The 2023-2024 program updates to GAfutures pages are scheduled to be completed by May 26, 2023.

Award Increases

- The HOPE Scholarship and Grant at public institutions (TCSG and USG) award increases effective Fall term 2023 (FY 2024). Increase is 100% of the prior year hourly undergraduate tuition rate.
- The HOPE Scholarship award at eligible private institutions increases to \$2,496 for full time semester enrollment and \$1,664 for full time quarter enrollment, effective Fall term 2023 (FY 2024).
- The Zell Miller Scholarship award at eligible private institutions increases to \$2,985 for full time semester enrollment and \$2,034 for full time quarter enrollment, effective Fall term 2023 (FY 2024).
- The Tuition Equalization Grant at eligible private institutions award amount increases effective Fall term 2023 (FY 2024) to \$500 per semester and \$333 per quarter.
- The HOPE Career Grant award amount increases for the approved Law Enforcement certificate program to a maximum of \$3,750 and Commercial Truck Driving certificate programs to a maximum of \$1,100 effective Summer term 2023 (FY 2024).

New Programs

- The Inclusive Postsecondary Education (IPSE) Grant program provides eligible GA residents with a qualifying intellectual disability and enrolled in an IPSE program at one of the nine eligible institutions may receive an award equal to the standard undergraduate tuition rate at the institution based on the number of credit hours enrolled.
- The Behavioral Health Professions Service Cancelable Loan program provides eligible GA residents in qualifying Behavioral Health advanced degree majors an annual loan amount up to \$20,000 for full time enrollment and \$10,000 for half time enrollment. Borrowers may cancel one year of the loan by working full time 12 months in Georgia in a qualifying behavioral health profession assisting GA residents.
- The Georgia Medical Examiners Loan Repayment program provides eligible Georgia residents employed full time with the Georgia Bureau of Investigation as a medical examiner a student loan repayment for one year of qualifying employment.

Regulation Updates

- The initial academic eligibility for the Zell Miller Scholarship test score requirement will be revised for FY 2025 effective Summer Term 2024. Students must have a 1200 SAT score or the equivalent ACT score per the available concordance as of January 2024. GSFC will post the equivalent score each January.
- Georgia public high school students pursuing their high school graduation through the Accelerated Career Diploma and enrolled in a technical college may qualify for the HOPE Grant prior to utilizing Dual Enrollment funding. The technical colleges must indicate the students in the applicable invoices.

Award Charts

State Program Award Charts for 2023-2024 for HOPE Scholarship and Grant, Zell Miller Scholarship and Grant, and Dual Enrollment, effective Fall Term 2023, will be posted no later than May 22, 2023. Printable award charts will be available on gsfc.georgia.gov and searchable award charts are available on GAfutures.org under "Trending".

FY 2023 Invoicing and Reconciliation Deadlines

The FY 2023 Invoice and Reconciliation Deadlines chart is available as a reminder with the year-end approaching. Year-end Invoice Period is June 1 – 23, 2023. No invoices can be processed for FY 2023 after June 23, 2023.

FY 2024 Invoicing and Reconciliation Deadlines

The Program Regulations require postsecondary institutions to complete term reconciliation and a year-end reconciliation of each state program for which funds were received for the year and submit a year-end reconciliation form by July 15. Year-end Invoice Period is June 1 – 23, 2024. No invoices can be processed for FY 2024 after June 23, 2024.

Prior Year Late Invoice Procedure

Invoices for prior fiscal years will not be paid except under certain extraordinary and narrowly defined circumstances. The Program Regulations allow an invoice to be paid after the fiscal year has closed only if failure to meet the deadline was due to the need for supplemental documentation including, but not limited to, information required for the student's eligibility (e.g., proof of citizenship or residency), late grades, grade changes or other adjustments made to the student's official academic transcript that result in a change in a student's eligibility.

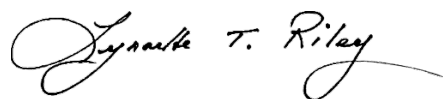
If a postsecondary institution needs to submit an invoice or increase the award amount on an existing invoice after the year-end reconciliation, the director of financial aid must submit the request form through Postsecondary Functions. If you have any questions relating to invoices and year-end reconciliation, please contact Wendel Brown, Sr. Manager of Originations and Disbursements, at 770.724.9249 or wbrown@gsfc.org.

If the request for invoices to be paid after the year-end reconciliation total more than ½ percent of the total amount disbursed to the postsecondary institution for the corresponding program in the current fiscal year, the institution's president must submit a written request to, Executive Vice President, Program Administration & Operations, Pennie Strong at pennies@gsfc.org, including the following:

1. The reason for the prior year invoice request
2. The number of invoices
3. The total dollar amount of the invoices to be submitted
4. A corrective action plan outlining measures that will be taken in the future to meet the published invoicing deadlines which shall include, but not be limited to, the following:
 - a. Staff and/or system changes implemented that ensure timely submission of invoices
 - b. Dates and content of training to prepare staff for timely submission of invoices
 - c. Supplemental documentation relating to delays

The 2023-2024 Program Regulations will be posted at www.gsfc.georgia.gov by May 23, 2023. A link to the Program Regulations can also be found at www.GAfutures.org under "Shortcuts." If you have any questions relating to the revisions of the Regulations or program information, please contact Pennie Strong, Executive Vice President, Program Administration & Operations, at 770.724.9014 or pennies@gsfc.org.

Sincerely,



Lynne Riley