GSFC Georgia Student Finance Commission

Brian P. Kemp GOVERNOR Georgia Student Finance Commission Georgia Student Finance Authority Georgia Higher Education Assistance Corporation **GA**futures.org Andy Parsons

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Subject: HB 444/Dual Enrollment Program Updates

Dear Colleague:

As you may know, House Bill 444 has now passed both the House and Senate. Upon signature by Governor Kemp, the bill will introduce several changes to the Dual Enrollment program to ensure that it meets stated program goals and that it remains financially sustainable. Relevant program updates and information regarding application updates follow.

We understand that many questions exist, and that high schools, students and colleges are preparing to register for summer and fall term coursework now. Over the coming days, GSFC will be working to update all Dual Enrollment content on its website, GAfutures.org, to reflect the provisions of HB 444, based on the presumed implementation this summer. Additionally, GSFC announced in early 2019 a Dual Enrollment online application project to bring much needed enhancements to the application process. Updates related to the new online application can be found below.

The new online student application for Dual Enrollment funding launched this week. All students, including Home Study, enrolling for Summer term 2020 Dual Enrollment coursework and beyond should complete the new application that is found on the <u>GAfutures.org</u> website homepage. Please note that based on HB 444, ninth grade students are not eligible for Dual Enrollment funding and therefore cannot submit an application.

Program Updates

- Pending Governor Kemp's signature of the bill, and in consideration of updated program regulations by GSFC's Board of Commissioners in May, the provisions of the bill will be effective for Summer term 2020. All Dual Enrollment eligibility determinations for coursework in summer 2020, regardless of course start date, will be subject to the new provisions in HB 444.
- Final program requirements for next year are under review. The official program regulations for Fiscal Year 2021, beginning with summer term 2020, will be announced through a Dear Colleague Letter and posted on GAfutures and GSFC.org upon approval by the Board of Commissioners in early May.
- The Dual Enrollment information found on GAfutures.org related to the new online funding application process has been updated for the 2020-2021 Program Year. Updates related to HB 444 are forthcoming.

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- The GAfutures Postsecondary Functions (PSF) menu for eligible postsecondary institutions is updated to include the new Dual Enrollment module.
- The new GAfutures High School Functions (HSF) menu is now available with the Dual Enrollment module and Resources module (will house documentation for high school professional users). Home Study administrators will also use this tool.
- The GAfutures Dual Enrollment modules in HSF and PSF include the Application Dashboard for high school and postsecondary administrators to view a list of applications and statuses.
- Within the Dual Enrollment module is a "Single View" form for high school and postsecondary professionals to process online student applications effective Summer term 2020. This new form is under development to include all program rules and changes related to HB 444. Tentative release for the Single View is late-April; other functions in this section went live on March 3, 2020.

GSFC will post updates regarding anticipated changes on GAfutures as they are available.

Dual Enrollment Program Training Days

Wednesday, March 11, 2020 at Mercer University Macon Campus - Full Thursday, March 19, 2020 at Mercer University, Atlanta Campus - Full Friday, April 17, 2020 at Kennesaw State University – Registration opens March 9th

Please contact Pennie Strong, Vice President of Program Administration, with any questions at 770-724-9014 or via email at <u>pennies@gsfc.org</u> or <u>dualenrollment@gsfc.org</u>. We appreciate your continued partnership in administering the HOPE and Dual Enrollment Programs.

Sincerely,

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Andy Parsons Interim President