

Summary of Substantive Changes FY 2025 State Program Regulations

The below summarizes substantive changes to each program regulation and is not indicative of minor edits for consistent regulatory language and regulation formatting.

State of Georgia Programs Definitions

- **New** – Peace Officers means an agent or officer who is an employee of the State, or a city, county, or railroad of Georgia and is authorized to exercise the power to arrest and whose duties include the preservation of public order, the protection of life and property, and the prevention or investigation of crime. Additionally, maintains certification by the Peace Officer Standard and Training (POST) Council.
- **New** – High Demand Career List means a list of programs designated as leading to careers in high demand fields in Georgia. The High Demand Career List is published by the State Workforce Development Board.

Accelerated Career Education (ACE) Grant Program

- Provides a tuition award for eligible Georgia public high school students pursuing their high school graduation with the Accelerated Career Diploma (ACD) and are enrolled in an associate degree of applied science, a technical diploma, or two (2) technical certificates in a High Demand Career Field at a TCSG Postsecondary Institution.
- The TCSG Postsecondary Institution must accept the ACE Grant as full payment for tuition, mandatory fees, and required books.
- Cannot receive Dual Enrollment funding or HOPE/Zell Miller Grant during term ACE Grant is received.

Georgia Peace Officers Loan Repayment Program

- Provides a loan payment to eligible Peace Officers who have student loan debt from earning a previous bachelor's degree and began working in Georgia as a Peace Officer January 1, 2024 or later.
- Provides a loan payment to eligible Peace Officers working in Georgia and are currently enrolled in a criminal justice bachelor's degree program at an eligible postsecondary institution.
- The postsecondary institution must certify enrollment and the employer must verify employment.
- Recipients must work full-time as a Peace Officer in the State of Georgia for twelve consecutive months to qualify.
- Annual maximum loan repayment amount is \$4,000.
- Aggregate maximum limit is \$20,000 with five years of qualifying employment.

Dual Enrollment funding Program

- Public high school students receiving ACE Grant funds cannot receive Dual Enrollment funding during the same term.
- If a student discontinues pursuing ACD and enrolls in Dual Enrollment, the postsecondary credit hours attempted while pursuing ACD, in which ACE Grant funds were received, are subtracted from the student's Funding Cap.

HOPE & Zell Miller Grant Programs

- Public high school students receiving ACE Grant funds cannot receive HOPE or Zell Miller Grant funding during the same term.

IPSE Grant Program

- Increase the maximum IPSE Grant award per eligible institution based on the current year's standard undergraduate tuition amount, mandatory fees for all students, and the IPSE program fee.

REACH Scholarship Program

- Participating School Systems' annual allotment of students is based on available funding.
- Previous unfilled numbers must be filled in the FY 2025 cohort or be forfeited.
- Participating School Systems' proportionate share of each scholarship is \$1,000. State funding provides for the remaining scholarship.
- REACH Scholars academic eligibility when enrolled at an eligible Postsecondary Institution will use the HOPE Checkpoints. REACH Scholars must have 2.0 calculated HOPE GPA at each Checkpoint.
- REACH Scholars may lose their scholarship at a Checkpoint and may regain the scholarship one time.
- Length of eligibility is 10 years from high school graduation, earned bachelor's degree, or max out the \$10,000 scholarship, whichever occurs first.

TEG Program

- Increase annual award amount from \$1,000 to \$1,100
- Semester award increase from \$500 to \$550 per semester
- Quarter award increase from \$333/\$333/\$334 to \$367/\$367/\$366 per quarter

Service Cancelable Programs

UNG Military Service, GMC Service, Georgia National Guard, Mercer Engineering (SEE)

- Simplify the deferment and forbearance options.

Military Service Cancelable Programs

UNG Military Service, GMC Service, Georgia National Guard

- Provide service cancellation for any military service in the US Armed Forces or Guard.