

**Executive Summary of Substantive Changes**  
FY 2021 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.

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**State of Georgia Programs Definitions**

Below highlights the changes to the State of Georgia Programs Definitions Regulations, *pending Governor's signature of HB 444*.

- New – Funding Cap means the maximum of 30 semester or 45 quarter hours for which a Georgia high school student may receive payment from the Dual Enrollment funding Program, effective Summer term 2020 (FY 2021). Students who received funding for 18 semester or 27 quarter or less hours, through Spring term 2020, are subject to the Funding Cap, effective Summer term 2020 (FY 2021). Students who received funding for 19 semester or 29 quarter hours or more hours, prior to Summer term 2020 (FY 2021), were granted an additional 12 semester or 18 quarter hours as their Funding Cap effective Summer term 2020 (FY 2021).
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**GSFAPPS**

Below highlights the changes to the GSFC Application for state programs

- Revised – GSFAPPS application valid for 120 months
    - HOPE Scholarship Public and Private
    - Zell Miller Scholarship
    - Hope Grant
    - Zell Miller Grant
    - Tuition Equalization Grant
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**Dual Enrollment**

Below highlights the changes to the Dual Enrollment regulations, *pending Governor's signature of HB 444*.

- New – Eligible approved courses specific to:
  - Core academic areas English, math, science, social studies and world (foreign) languages categories which qualify for the high school HOPE Scholarship eligibility
  - Career, Technical and Agricultural Education (CTAE) courses aligned with GaDOE career clusters and pathways
- New – Grade Level Eligibility
  - 9<sup>th</sup> graders are not eligible to participate

- 11<sup>th</sup> & 12<sup>th</sup> graders may take approved Core or CTAE courses at any participating eligible PSI (USG, TCSG or private)
- Students designated by their public high school, as of Spring term 2020, as pursuing High School Graduation Option B (SB2) may take approved Core or CTAE course at any participating eligible PSI (USG, TCSG or private)
- 10<sup>th</sup> graders may enroll in approved CTAE courses at a TCSG PSI
- 10<sup>th</sup> graders who have SAT/ACT test scores to meet Zell Miller Scholarship eligibility may take approved Core or CTAE courses at any participating eligible PSI (USG, TCSG or private)
- 10<sup>th</sup> graders who participated and received Dual Enrollment funding during the 2019-2020 as a 9<sup>th</sup> grader may take approved Core or CTAE course at any participating eligible PSI (USG, TCSG or private)
- **New – Funding Cap**
  - Based on Dual Enrollment credit hours paid
  - All First-time students as of Summer term 2020 and after are subject to 30 semester/45 quarter hour Funding Cap
  - Students with 18 semester/27 quarter or less hours prior to Summer term 2020 are subject the 30 semester/45 quarter hour Funding Cap
  - Students with 19 semester/29 quarter or more hours prior to Summer term 2020 have an additional 12 semester/18 quarter hours
  - Students designated by their public high school, as of Spring term 2020, as pursuing High School Graduation Option B are not subject to the Funding Cap
- **New – Student may not receive funding to retake a course**
- **New – Student becomes ineligible after 2<sup>nd</sup> course withdrawal**
- **New – Students who wish to retake a course or continue participating after two withdrawals may request an Extenuating Circumstance Exception**
  - Must have experienced serious illness, serious injury or a death of an immediate family member
  - Extenuating Circumstance Exceptions will be presented to the Board of Commissioners quarterly
  - Program Administration will be authorized by the Board to deny requests for Exceptions that fall within the Guidelines for Denial of an Exception Request

### **HOPE Scholarship at Public and Private**

Below highlights the changes to the HOPE Scholarship Regulations.

- **New – Emergency regulation due to CVOD-19 to assist affected students.**
  - Unaccredited home study completers and graduates of non-eligible high schools since March 14, 2020 unable to sit for the ACT or SAT due to cancellations since March 2020 are given the opportunity to test through December 30, 2020
  - Upon earning a qualifying test score, may be retroactively awarded the HOPE Scholarship

## **Zell Miller Scholarship at Public and Private**

Below highlights the changes to the Zell Miller Scholarship Regulations.

- New – Emergency regulation due to CVOD-19 to assist affected students.
    - Eligible high school graduates and accredited home study completers since March 14, 2020 unable to sit for the ACT or SAT due to cancellations since March 2020 are given the opportunity to test through December 30, 2020
    - Students with a qualifying GPA and rigor credits may be awarded HOPE Scholarship initially, upon earning a qualifying test score, may be retroactively awarded Zell Miller Scholarship
    - May apply for a SAL for the Fall term 2020 only totaling the difference between HOPE Scholarship award and Zell Miller Scholarship award
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## **HOPE Grant**

Below highlights the changes to the HOPE Grant Program Regulations, *pending Governor's signature of HB 444.*

- New – Dual Enrollment students, who have reached the Funding Cap, may be eligible for HOPE or Zell Miller Grant and HOPE Career Grant based on student type and GPA
    - Must meet all HOPE Grant eligibility requirements
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## **Zell Miller Grant**

Below highlights the changes to the Zell Miller Grant Program Regulations, *pending Governor's signature of HB 444.*

- New – Dual Enrollment students, who have reached the Funding Cap, may be eligible for HOPE or Zell Miller Grant and HOPE Career Grant based on student type and GPA
    - Must meet all Zell Miller Grant eligibility requirements
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## **REACH Program**

Below highlights the changes to the REACH Regulations.

- Clarified – Annual student selection numbers based on available funding and Participating School System's responsibility of proportionate share per scholar regulation sections to remove the footnotes and reference the 2018-2019 levels within the regulation sections
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## **Student Access Loan**

Below highlights the changes to the Student Access Loan Regulations.

- Revised – Removed the requirement of the Promissory Note being notarized
- New – Emergency regulation due to CVOD-19 to assist affected students.
  - Eligible high school graduates and accredited home study completers since March 14, 2020 with an eligible Zell Miller Scholarship GPA, without the required test score
  - May apply for a SAL for the Fall term 2020 only totaling the difference between HOPE Scholarship award and Zell Miller Scholarship award
  - If the student submits a Zell Miller Scholarship eligible ACT or SAT test score by December 30, 2020, may have the SAL canceled

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### **Georgia National Guard Scholarship Loan**

Below highlights the changes to the Georgia National Guard Scholarship Loan Regulations.

- Clarified – Borrower may enter service cancellation by serving in any branch of the United States Armed Forces
- Revised – Removed the requirement of the Promissory Note being notarized

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### **Scholarship for Engineering Education**

Below highlights the changes to the Scholarship for Engineering Education Regulations.

- Revised – Removed the requirement of the Promissory Note being notarized
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