



Publication Date: October 5, 2020
School Update ID: 2021-04

Subject: Zell Miller Scholarship Eligibility Extension for Class of 2020

On September 30, 2020, Governor Brian P. Kemp signed [Executive Order 09.30.20.02](#), extending current COVID-19 restrictions and the public health state of emergency. The new Executive Order also contained additional deadline extensions for the Class of 2020 for Zell Miller Scholarship eligibility.

The GSFC Board of Commissioners will consider State Program Regulation changes necessary to implement the Executive Order's provisions relating to standardized testing on November 6, 2020. A Dear Colleague Letter will be provided the following week with details.

[COVID-19 Updates](#) on GAfutures have been updated.

Zell Miller Scholarship

Eligible high school graduates and accredited home study completers since March 14, 2020 unable to sit for the ACT or SAT due to the cancellation of test dates may submit a qualifying test score until June 30, 2021. Students with a qualifying GPA and rigor credits may be awarded HOPE Scholarship initially. Upon earning a qualifying test score, a student may be retroactively awarded Zell Miller Scholarship.

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 the cancellation of test dates may submit a qualifying test score until June 30, 2021. Upon earning a qualifying test score of the 75th Percentile or 93rd Percentile, a student may be retroactively awarded the HOPE Scholarship or Zell Miller Scholarship respectively.

Student Access Loan (SAL)

Eligible high school graduates and accredited home study completers with an eligible Zell Miller Scholarship GPA and rigor credits, without the required test score, may apply for an SAL (subject to available funding) for the Fall term 2020, Winter term 2020, and Spring term 2021 totaling only the difference between the HOPE Scholarship award and Zell Miller Scholarship award at their postsecondary institution. If the student submits a Zell Miller Scholarship eligible ACT or SAT test score by June 30, 2021, the SAL may be cancelled.

At this time, these updates are specific to the Class of 2020 and no additional changes for the Class of 2021 have been announced.

If you have questions relating to regulations, deadlines, or eligibility, please contact Pennie Strong, Vice President of Program Administration, by email: pennies@gsfc.org or phone: 770-724-9014.

Thanks for your continued support of Georgia students.