

Brian P. Kemp GOVERNOR Georgia Student Finance Commission Georgia Student Finance Authority Georgia Higher Education Assistance Corporation **GA**futures.org Lynne Riley PRESIDENT

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Georgia Student Finance Commission Encourages Students to Participate in Financial Literacy Month

TUCKER (April 8, 2021) | The Georgia Student Finance Commission (GSFC) is pleased to join the state of Georgia in recognizing April as *Financial Literacy Month*. As the administrator of Georgia's nationally recognized scholarship and grant programs, the Georgia Student Finance Commission remains committed to ensuring Georgia students have the necessary knowledge to make informed financial decisions when planning for education beyond high school.

GSFC President Lynne Riley encourages all students and their families to learn about the wide variety of federal, state and private financial aid programs available to students, and high school seniors should complete the **FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid)** for the 2021-2022 school year to begin planning for postsecondary expenses after high school.

"Georgia is uniquely positioned with a robust economy that requires a dynamic workforce," **said GSFC President Lynne Riley**. "Investing in higher education through financial aid for our state's students is a top priority in meeting this demand. However, federal aid goes unused each year as a result of qualifying students not submitting the FAFSA. Educating students about the multitude of financial options available for college and ensuring students complete the FAFSA is a critical step toward making certain that Georgia students have a thorough understanding of financial literacy. I encourage all students to learn as much as possible about the college financial aid process throughout April by visiting <u>GAfutures.org</u> – our one-stop-shop, where students can plan, apply, and pay for college."

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To further promote financial literacy, GSFC outreach representatives will continue hosting FAFSA completion and financial aid events across the state throughout April. To learn more about GSFC's outreach initiatives and view upcoming events, visit: https://www.gafutures.org/about-us/outreach/gsfc-financial-aid-events/.

April has been officially recognized as Financial Literacy Month by Governor Brian P. Kemp. To view the Governor's proclamation, visit: <u>https://gov.georgia.gov/contact-us/proclamations/2021-proclamations</u>.

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About the Georgia Student Finance Commission: The Georgia Student Finance Commission (GSFC) is a companion student finance entity of the Georgia Student Finance Authority (GSFA) and Georgia Higher Education Assistance Corporation (GHEAC). Together, they administer nearly 20 state- and lottery-funded scholarships, grants and service cancelable loans, including the nationally renowned HOPE programs. Founded in 1965, GSFC strives to ensure Georgians have an opportunity to access education beyond high school. GSFC also provides free financial aid and college planning counseling to K-12 students, parents, counselors, postsecondary institutions and community organizations across the state. To learn more about our programs and services or to find an Outreach Representative in your area, visit www.gsfc.org or gafutures.org, or call 1-800-505-GSFC (4732).