



Nathan Deal
GOVERNOR



Georgia Student Finance Commission
Georgia Student Finance Authority
Georgia Higher Education Assistance Corporation
GCollege411

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Georgia Student Finance Authority Approves REACH Foundation, Inc. Board Members

STATESBORO - Today, the Georgia Student Finance Authority Board of Directors voted unanimously to approve 14 members of the newly created Realizing Educational Achievement Can Happen (REACH) Foundation, Inc. Board of Directors who were recently nominated by Gov. Nathan Deal. Governor Deal launched REACH in 2012 as a key initiative of Complete College Georgia. School systems partner with REACH and identify academically promising, low-income eighth grade students to receive REACH Scholarships. These scholars are paired with a mentor and an academic coach through high school. Upon graduation from high school, scholars are awarded up to a \$10,000 scholarship to be used at a Georgia HOPE-eligible two- or four-year college.

“The REACH program is a premier example of how we are working to expand access to higher education to students who otherwise would not be able to afford it,” Deal said. “Through REACH, Georgia’s most promising students can turn their dream of attending college and making a better life for themselves and their families into a reality. This program continues to expand across Georgia because it promotes student achievement from the ground up, rewarding students for self-accountability, involving parents and providing motivation and support.”

The newly appointed members of the REACH Foundation, Inc. Board of Directors are: Chantal J. Bagwell, Susanna Baxter, Stephanie Blank, Chris Carpenter, Barbarella Diaz, James M. Hull, Anne Kaiser, Laura R. Morgan, Jose Perez, Jennifer A. Rippner, Sachin Shailendra, Beth A. Shiroishi, Kessel Stelling and Henry Turner. The REACH Foundation, Inc. is a nonprofit entity that will support the REACH program.

About the Georgia Student Finance Commission

REACH Georgia is administered by the Georgia Student Finance Authority (GSFA), a companion student finance entity of the Georgia Student Finance Commission (GSFC). GSFC is the state agency that administers the HOPE Scholarship and Grant Program as well as other state- and lottery- funded financial aid programs. GSFC also manages the career and college preparation website, GCollege411.org and provides educational services such as free financial aid consultation, default management and financial literacy to elementary, middle and high schools, and postsecondary institutions across the state. Additional information about GSFC products and services is available at www.gsfc.org or www.GCollege411.org or 800.505.GSFC (4732).