

Nathan Deal
GOVERNOR



Georgia Student Finance Commission
Georgia Student Finance Authority
Georgia Higher Education Assistance Corporation
GAfutures.org

Tricia P. Chastain
PRESIDENT

Publication Date: October 12, 2016

DCL ID: 2017-09

Subject: 11th Grade Unverified HOPE GPA File

Dear Colleague:

The Georgia Student Finance Commission (GSFC) continues to seek ways to assist in the communication to high school students as they plan for college. With the U.S. Department of Education's implementation of the Early FAFSA initiative involving the 2017-2018 FAFSA being made available this month, GSFC will provide earlier information of the HOPE/Zell Miller Scholarship Grade Point Average (GPA) for high school students completing the eleventh grade.

In early October each year, GSFC will provide a file of the unverified GPA records for 11th graders that have been reported by the high schools for HOPE and Zell Miller Scholarship purposes. The GPA information provided in the file is unverified and typically includes coursework through the end of the 11th grade. This is information received before the 12th grade preliminary GPA file is provided during the 12th grade and the Final GPA file provided after high school graduation.

Universities and colleges choosing to use the 11th grade unverified progress GPA data, should consider the GPA as only an indicator the student may possibly have the required HOPE or Zell Miller Scholarship GPA upon high school graduation. The 11th grade unverified file does not contain information of the student's status for meeting the academic rigor requirements for HOPE/Zell Miller Scholarship.

The 2016 file will be provided by October 13, 2016 in the SURFER inbox. The file layout is available in the User Guides section of SURFER.

The file name format: 11GRADE_PROGRESS_UNVERIFIED_GPA_YYYY.TXT

If you have questions about the 11th Grade Progress Unverified GPA file, please contact Pennie Strong, Vice President, Student Aid Services, at 770.724.9014 or email at pennies@gsfc.org.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Tricia P. Chastain".

Tricia P. Chastain