



Annual Report 2018

GSEFC | Georgia Student
Finance Commission

ABOUT THE GEORGIA STUDENT FINANCE COMMISSION

The Georgia Student Finance Commission (GSFC) is the state's single education finance agency and is responsible for administering nearly 20 state- and lottery-funded scholarship, grant and student loan programs. GSFC's mission is to promote and increase access to education for Georgians and works towards its related goals through a number of initiatives. The agency is focused on both successful program administration and sound stewardship of the funds in which it is entrusted. In addition, GSFC provides numerous outreach and education activities related to financial literacy and college planning. Central to these efforts over the last year has been a renewed focus on FAFSA Completion, raising the number of federal financial aid applications submitted by Georgia's students. Each year we work with students, parents, high school counselors, and our postsecondary partners to increase the number of Georgians with access to an affordable postsecondary education.

FISCAL YEAR 2018 HIGHLIGHTS

- ▶ GSFC provided more than **\$817 million in scholarships, grants and loans** to over 232,000 Georgians to help pay for higher education expenses.
- ▶ More than 43,000 students from over 650 public and private high schools participated in **Dual Enrollment**. In total, over 554,000 college credits were taken by Dual Enrollment students, providing them the opportunity to get an early start on completing a college credential.
- ▶ **GAfutures.org** continues to serve as a premiere resource for students in their college planning process. The website had more than 1.5 million visits and more than 254,000 accounts were created in FY 2018. Improved accessibility, new functions and information continue to enhance the user experience.
- ▶ GSFC's **K-12 and postsecondary outreach representatives** conducted nearly 3,000 events/visits at high schools, colleges and community organizations across the state. More than 117,000 students and their families were provided information about federal and state financial aid programs and the application process.
- ▶ Thirty new school districts enrolled in the **REACH Georgia** program for the 2018-2019 school year. As a result, almost 1,800 Scholars will be actively participating in the needs-based scholarship and mentorship program. The **REACH Georgia Foundation** raised \$466,800 in support of the program during FY 2018.
- ▶ More than 18,000 **Path2College 529 Plan** accounts were opened in FY 2018 with contributions of \$347.5 million. Georgia's official college savings plan saw assets under management grow to \$2.7 billion, resulting in a significant reduction in fees. In addition, families utilized more than \$145.6 million in qualified withdrawals to pay for higher education purposes.

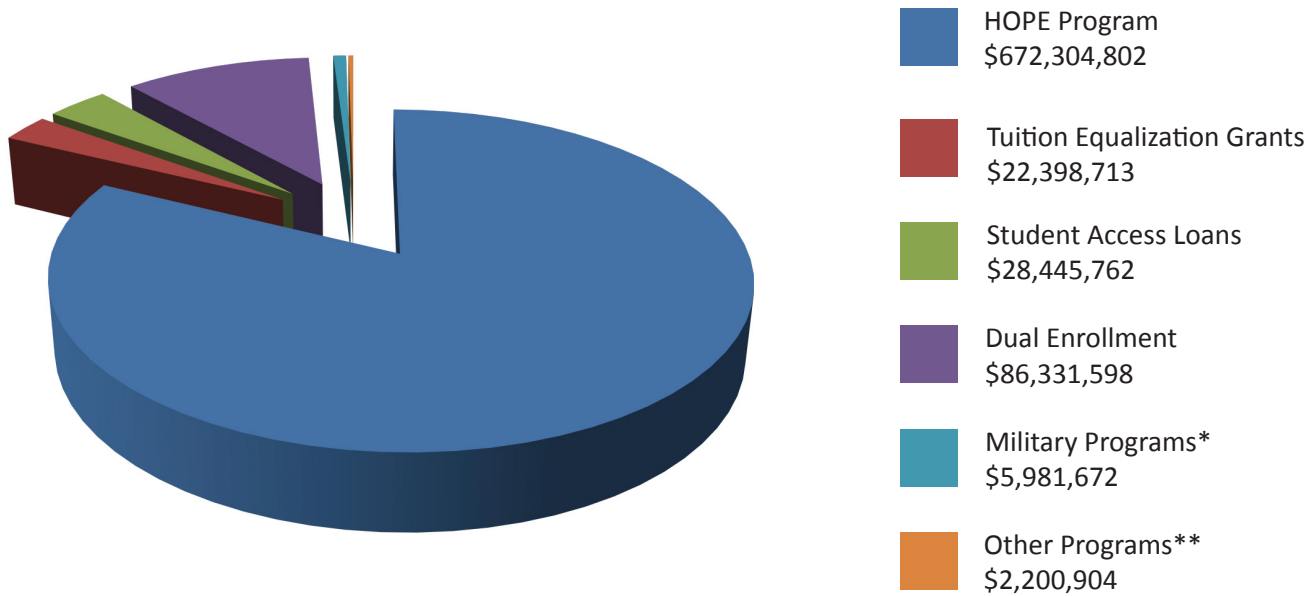
MESSAGE FROM THE INTERIM PRESIDENT

Throughout FY 2018, GSFC remained focused on our mission of increasing access to education beyond high school for Georgians. Our steadfast attention to program integrity and administration combined with our increased efforts on outreach and education have laid a solid foundation for us to enter a new year.

Our mission continues in FY 2019 with the launch of the postsecondary HOPE GPA calculation system (CHECS), a multi-year statewide project, as well as other operational enhancements. We are working to identify new and innovative ways to increase the number of students and families we reach and serve each year with FAFSA Completion, program applications, and other college preparations and are excited to share those initiatives as they develop. As always, none of our goals could be achieved without the support of our Board of Commissioners, staff and statewide partners. Thank you for your ongoing commitment to GSFC and the students of Georgia.

Caylee Noggle


How GSFC Helps Students Pay for College



GSFC Use of Funds for
Fiscal Year 2018:
\$817,663,451

* Military Programs include: Georgia Military College State Service Scholarship, Georgia National Guard Service Cancelable Loan Scholarship, HERO Scholarship, University of North Georgia Military Scholarship, University of North Georgia ROTC Grant, and University of North Georgia ROTC Grant for Future Officers.

** Other Programs include: Scholarship for Engineering Education, Scholarship for Engineering Education for Minorities and Georgia Public Safety Memorial Grant. There were no John R. Justice Student Loan Repayment Program disbursements in FY 2018.

Figures in chart represent awards for FY 2018. The information in this display is presented only to show the general nature of the Georgia Student Finance Commission's business and does not represent its financial position nor conform to generally accepted accounting principles.

HOPE PROGRAM

2017-2018 in Detail

Program	Students	Awards
HOPE Scholarship		
Public Colleges*	90,997	\$375,097,112
Private Colleges	11,035	\$39,083,838
HOPE Grant	35,453	\$31,854,938
HOPE GED	996	\$497,557
Zell Miller Grant	12,033	\$14,812,159
HOPE Career Grant	16,296	\$10,154,251
Zell Miller Scholarship		
Public Colleges*	23,096	\$190,587,354
Private Colleges	2,390	\$10,217,593
2017-2018 Totals**	170,592	\$672,304,802

* University System of Georgia and Technical College System of Georgia institutions.

** 2017-2018 Totals for the HOPE Program are unduplicated. Students who received multiple awards and/or enrolled in more than one type of institution were only counted once.

SERVICES & PROGRAMS

SERVICES

- ▶ FAFSA Completion
- ▶ Financial Literacy
- ▶ GAfutures.org
- ▶ K-12 and Postsecondary Outreach
- ▶ Loan Servicing
- ▶ State Financial Aid Information Services

PROGRAMS

- ▶ Dual Enrollment
- ▶ Georgia Military College State Service Scholarship
- ▶ Georgia National Guard Service Cancelable Loan Scholarship
- ▶ HERO Scholarship
- ▶ HOPE Career Grant
- ▶ HOPE GED Grant
- ▶ HOPE Grant
- ▶ HOPE Scholarship
- ▶ Public Safety Memorial Grant
- ▶ Path2College 529 Plan
- ▶ REACH Georgia Scholarship
- ▶ Scholarship for Engineering Education
- ▶ Scholarship for Engineering Education for Minorities
- ▶ Student Access Loan
- ▶ Tuition Equalization Grant
- ▶ University of North Georgia Military Scholarship
- ▶ University of North Georgia ROTC Grant
- ▶ University of North Georgia ROTC Grant for Future Officers
- ▶ Zell Miller Grant
- ▶ Zell Miller Scholarship

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

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Tenth Congressional District

Donald D. Howard

Eleventh Congressional District

Roy Kilpatrick

Twelfth Congressional District

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Thirteenth Congressional District

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