Financial Aid 101:

Federal and State Aid

Anna R. O'Brien

aroberts@gsfc.org

GSFC Georgia Student Finance Commission

GAfutures.org

Explore. Plan. Succeed.

Agenda

- Define Financial Aid
- Types of aid
- Federal Programs
- Georgia's Financial Aid Programs
- Application Process FAFSA
- Financial Aid Package

Financial Aid

Financial Aid

- Helps pay for educational expenses
 - Direct and Indirect Costs
- Costs of Attendance (COA)



Direct and Indirect Costs

- Direct Costs
- Tuition and fees
- On-campus housing
- Meal plan
- Parking permits
- Indirect Costs
- Books
- Rent for off-campus housing
- School supplies
- Groceries



Cost of Attendance (COA)

- Tuition and fees payable to the institution
- Books and supplies
- Room + board and meal plans
- Personal costs
- Transportation to and from the institution



Types of Financial Aid

Financial Aid Types and Sources

Forms of Financial Aid:

- Scholarships
- Grants
- Loans
- Work-study programs
- Sources of Financial Aid:
 - Federal and state government
 - Colleges and universities
 - Private foundations
 - Professional and service organizations
 - Employers and private companies



Types of Financial Aid

- Merit-based (HOPE Scholarship)
- Need-based (Pell Grant)
- Non-need based (HOPE Grant)
- Student or parent loans
- Employment opportunities (Federal Work Study)
- Military aid and grants (Georgia National Guard Service Cancelable Loan; UNG ROTC Grant)
- Savings plan (Path2College 529; traditional savings)



GAfutures Scholarship Search

Scholarship Search Tips

- Start search early
- Don't stop at one, two, or three
- Be creative
 - Consider family, hobbies, career interests, medical history, or college major
- Look for scholarships even after beginning college
- DO NOT PAY ANYONE TO HELP FIND OR APPLY FOR SCHOLARSHIPS!



Federal Aid Programs

How to Get Federal Student Aid

- Be a U.S. citizen or eligible non-citizen
- Be a high school graduate or GED recipient
- Be enrolled in an eligible degree/certificate program
- Have a valid Social Security number
- Maintain Satisfactory Academic Progress



Federal Financial Aid Programs Grants

- Pell Grant
 - Undergraduate student with financial need
 - Maximum amount for 2024-2025 is \$7,395

- Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant (FSEOG)
 - Undergraduate student with exceptional financial need
 - Pell Grant recipients receive priority
 - Up to \$4,000

Federal Financial Aid Programs Grants

TEACH Grant

- Undergraduate, post-baccalaureate, or graduate student
- Enrolled in coursework to begin a career in teaching
- Must agree to serve as a full-time teacher in a high-need field in a public or private elementary or secondary school that serves low-income students
- Up to \$4,000; becomes a loan if you do not teach as required

Federal Financial Aid Programs Grants

- Federal Work Study Program
 - Full-time or part-time undergraduate or graduate student
 - Earn at least minimum wage
 - On-campus positions
 - Campus tour guide
 - Library
 - Sporting events
 - Office assistant



Federal Financial Aid Programs Federal Direct Loans

Direct Subsidized Loan

Direct Unsubsidized Loan

 Federal PLUS Loan – for parents of dependent undergraduate students

Grad PLUS Loan – for graduate and professional students

Federal Financial Aid Programs Direct Subsidized Loans

- Direct Subsidized Loan
 - Available to undergraduate students with financial need
 - Interest is paid by the government while enrolled (at least half time)
 - Amount determined by institution and based on COA, financial need, other aid and loan limits
 - Current interest rate 6.53% (undergraduate)

Federal Financial Aid Programs Direct Unsubsidized Loans

- Direct Unsubsidized Loan
 - Available to undergraduate/graduate students
 - Institution determines the amount based on COA, other financial aid awarded, and loan limits
 - Student responsible for paying the interest
 - Can choose to defer interest while enrolled at least half time, but interest will be added to the principal amount of loan
 - Current interest rate 6.53% (undergraduate)
 - Current interest rate 8.08% (graduate/professional)

Federal Financial Aid Programs Direct Plus Loans

- Parent PLUS loan for a parent of dependent
 - Only one parent will be the borrower
 - Can have more than one loan for additional dependent student
- Grad PLUS loan for graduate or professional student
- Approval based on credit history
- Maximum amount is COA minus any other financial aid awarded
- Current interest rate is 9.08%

Federal Loan Program Limits

2023-2024 Academic Year

Initial Loan Amount for Dependent Students whose Parents are Eligible for a PLUS Loan	Base	Additional Unsubsidized	Annual Maximum Amount
Freshmen	\$3,500	\$2,000	\$5,500
Sophomore	\$4,500	\$2,000	\$6,500
Junior/Senior	\$5,500	\$2,000	\$7,500

Independent Students and Dependent Students whose Parents were Denied a PLUS Loan	Base	Additional Unsubsidized	Annual Maximum Amount
Freshmen	\$3,500	\$6,000	\$9,500
Sophomore	\$4,500	\$6,000	\$10,500
Junior/Senior	\$5,500	\$7,000	\$12,500

Georgia's Financial Aid Programs

Helping Outstanding Pupils Educationally Program



HOPE Program

- General Eligibility Requirements
 - Be a legal resident of Georgia
 - Be registered with the Selective Service, if required
 - Be in compliance with the Georgia Drug-Free Postsecondary Education Act of 1990
 - Meet U.S. citizenship or eligible non-citizen requirements
 - Be in good standing on all student loans and other financial aid programs
 - Attend an eligible postsecondary institution
 - Must be working toward the first undergraduate program

Eligible Institutions

PUBLIC	PRIVATE	TECHNICAL
Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College	Agnes Scott College	Albany Technical College
Albany State University	American InterContinental University	Athens Technical College
Atlanta Metropolitan State College	Andrew College	Atlanta Technical College
Augusta University	Art Institute of Atlanta	Augusta Technical College
Clayton State University	Berry College	Central Georgia Technical College
College of Coastal Georgia	Brenau University	Chattahoochee Technical College
Columbus State University	Brewton-Parker College	Coastal Pines Technical College
Dalton State College	Clark Atlanta University	Columbus Technical College
East Georgia State College	Covenant College	Georgia Northwestern Technical College
Fort Valley State University	DeVry University	Georgia Piedmont Technical College
Georgia College & State University	Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University	Gwinnett Technical College
Georgia Gwinnett College	Emmanuel College	Lanier Technical College
Georgia Highlands College	Emory University	North Georgia Technical College
Georgia Institute of Technology	Georgia Military College	Oconee Fall Line Technical College
Georgia Southern University	Herzing University	Ogeechee Technical College
Georgia Southwestern State University	LaGrange College	Savannah Technical College
Georgia State University	Life University	South Georgia Technical College
Gordon State College	Mercer University	Southeastern Technical College
Kennesaw State University	Morehouse College	Southern Crescent Technical College
Middle Georgia State University	Oglethorpe University	Southern Regional Technical College
Savannah State University	Paine College	West Georgia Technical College
South Georgia State College	Piedmont College	Wiregrass Georgia Technical College
University of Georgia	Point University	
University of North Georgia	Reinhardt University	
University of West Georgia	Saint Leo University	
Valdosta State University	Savannah College of Art & Design	
•	Shorter University	
	South University	
	Spelman College	
	Thomas University	
	Toccoa Falls College	
	Truett McConnell University	
	Wesleyan College	
	Young Harris College	
		Undated 05/19

Updated 05/19

HOPE Scholarship

HOPE Program

HOPE Scholarship Zell Miller Scholarship HOPE Grant Zell Miller Grant

HOPE Career Grant

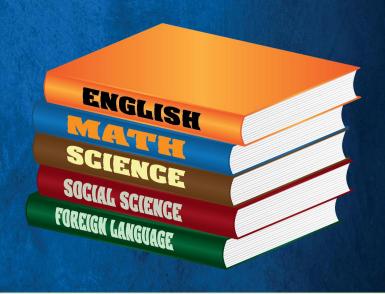
HOPE Scholarship Eligibility Requirements

- Students must pursue an associate or bachelor's degree
- Graduate with a 3.0 high school HOPE GPA
 - After high school graduation, may also be earned in college
- 4 academically rigorous course credits



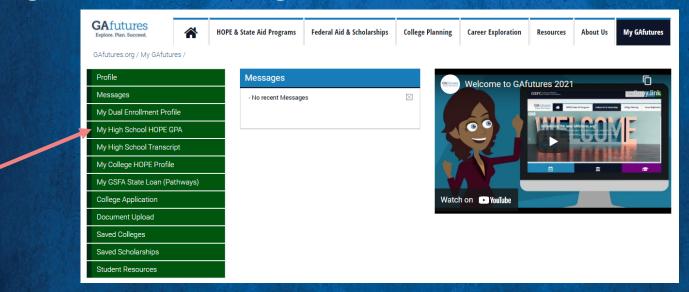
Academically Rigorous Courses

- Courses must be on Academic Rigor Course List. This includes:
 - Advanced Placement (AP)
 - International Baccalaureate (IB)
 - Dual Enrollment in degree level core subjects
 - Advanced math
 - Advanced science
 - Foreign language II or higher



My High School HOPE GPA

- ONLY calculated by GSFC
- Only core courses from 9th through 12th grade
- Transcripts are uploaded by the high school
- 4 academically rigorous course credits
- Log into GAfutures.org account to access HOPE GPA



My High School HOPE GPA

The HOPE GPA Calculation is used for HOPE Scholarship and Zell Miller Scholarship eligibility upon graduating high school.

Student Information

Report Type: Preliminary

Name:

SSN: XXX-XX-

Student ID:

As of the most recent transcript data received at

Based on your preliminary GPA calculation, you may be eligible for the HOPE Scholarship or Zell Miller Scholarship. A final GPA will be calculated when the high school submits your final transcript. If you have a minimum 3.7 calculated GPA and required ACT or SAT scores at the time of high school graduation, you may be academically eligible for the Zell Miller Scholarship.

Date High School Submitted Transcript Record:

Factors Determining Your Scholarship Eligibility

The following information is based on the most recent transcript record provided by your high school:

HOPE Calculated GPA: 3.789

Academic Rigor Credits earned (4 credits are applicably High School Graduation

Valedictorian: No Salutatorian: No

To qualify for the Zell Miller Scholarship, acceptable SAT or ACT scores must have been earned prior to high school graduation and submitted to GSFC. To be eligible you must have at least a 26 composite score on the ACT or have at least a 1200 for Math and Reading on the SAT on one date.

Standardized test score report(s) received:

Date: Type: Score:

No test scores
currently
available.

Contact your high school with questions about your transcript record or grades and courses.

Your chosen college or university will determine final eligibility for the HOPE Scholarship or Zell Miller Scholarship.

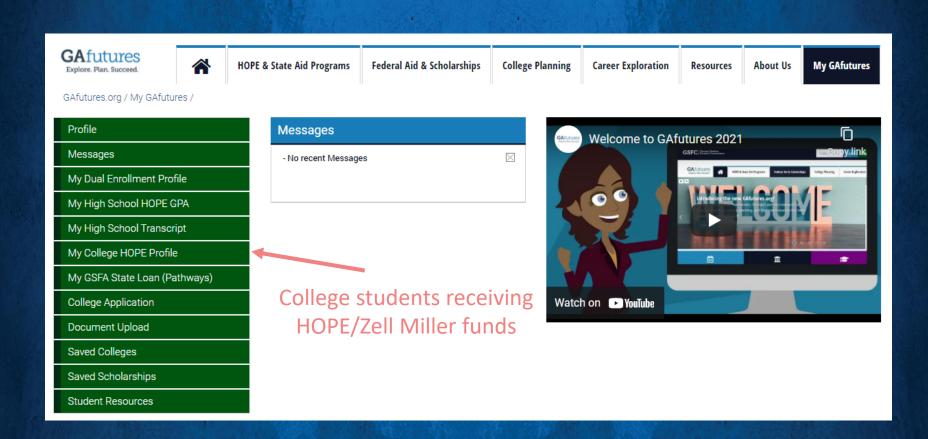
View Your Detailed GPA Report

Maintaining the HOPE Scholarship

- Students must maintain 3.0 college HOPE GPA at all checkpoints including:
 - End of every Spring semester/quarter
 - 30/45 attempted semester/quarter hours
 - 60/90 attempted semester/quarter hours
 - 90/135 attempted semester/quarter hours
 - Three-Term Checkpoint, if enrolled less than full-time for first three semesters/quarters



College HOPE GPA



College HOPE GPA

- ONLY calculated by GSFC
- Calculated every semester/quarter
- STEM courses are weighted .5 for all grades except an A and F
- High school Dual Enrollment courses are not included



Zell Miller Scholarship

HOPE Program

HOPE Scholarship

Zell Miller Scholarship HOPE Grant Zell Miller Grant

HOPE Career Grant

Eligibility Requirements

Rigor Requirements and one of the following:

Designated valedictorian or salutatorian

AND

Meet minimum HOPE eligibility requirements



 Minimum 3.7 high school HOPE GPA, as calculated by GSFC, in core curriculum courses

AND

1200 SAT total test score

OR

• 25 ACT composite score

Maintaining the Zell Miller Scholarship

- Students must maintain 3.3 college HOPE GPA at following checkpoints:
 - End of every Spring semester/quarter
 - 30/45 attempted semester/quarter hours
 - 60/90 attempted semester/quarter hours
 - 90/135 attempted semester/quarter hours
 - Three-Term Checkpoint, if enrolled less than full-time for first three semesters/quarters



HOPE & Zell Miller Scholarships

- Students lose eligibility due to one of the following:
 - GPA requirement not met (3.0 for HOPE; 3.3 for Zell Miller)
 - Reaching maximum attempted hours
 - 127 semester
 - 190 quarter
 - Failing to use funds within ten years of high school graduation or equivalent
 - Exception for active duty military service in United States Armed Forces
 - Received bachelor's or first professional degree









Grants

HOPE Program

HOPE Scholarship

Zell Miller Scholarship

HOPE Grant **Zell Miller** Grant

HOPE Career Grant

HOPE Grant

- Eligibility Requirements:
 - Enrolled in certificate or diploma program
 - High school diploma/GED not required
 - High school GPA and/or test scores not considered



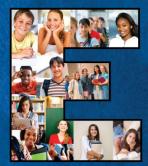
Maintaining the HOPE Grant

- Students must maintain a 2.0 college cumulative GPA at the following checkpoints:
 - 30 HOPE Grant paid semester hours
 - 60 HOPE Grant paid semester credit hours
- Maximum 63 paid semester hours









Zell Miller Grant

- Eligibility Requirements:
 - Minimum 3.5 college cumulative GPA
 - Checkpoints occur at the end of every term of enrollment
 - Must be a HOPE Grant recipient initially
 - May be paid retroactively for first term
 - Maximum 63 combined paid hours Zell Miller and HOPE Grants



Award Amounts

	HOPE Scholarship	Zell Miller Scholarship		
Public Institutions	portion of tuition	full standard tuition		
Private Institutions Full-time	\$2,496 per semester (fall, spring, summer)	\$2,985 per semester (fall, spring, summer)		
	\$1,664 per quarter (fall, winter, spring, summer)	\$2,034 per quarter (fall, winter, spring, summer)		

	HOPE Grant	Zell Miller Grant
Public Institutions	portion of tuition	full standard tuition

HOPE Career Grant

 HOPE Grant and Zell Miller Grant recipients eligible for HOPE Career Grant

- Movie Production and Set Design
- Computer Programming
- Computer Technology
- Practical Nursing
- Early Childhood Care and Education
- Welding and Joining Technology
- Precision Manufacturing
- Certified Engineer Technician
- Commercial Truck Driving
- Health Sciences

- Diesel Equipment Technology
- Industrial Maintenance Technology
- Automotive
- Aviation
- Construction
- Electrical Line Worker
- Logistics
- Law Enforcement

HOPE Career Grant

All Programs

Enrolled Semester Hours	Award Amount
1-2 hours	\$125
3-8 hours	\$250
9+ hours	\$500

Truck Driving (CSQ1, CT61, CZTD or CT81)*

Enrolled Semester Hours	Award Amount
1-5 hours	\$333
6-8 hours	\$667
9+ hours	\$1,000

Other State Programs

- Georgia National Guard Service Cancelable Loan
 - Provides tuition assistance to eligible members of the Georgia National Guard for undergraduate and graduate programs; member agrees to service repayment
- Public Safety Memorial Grant
 - Provides assistance to the dependent children of Georgia public safety officers who were permanently disabled or killed in the line of duty
- Tuition Equalization Grant (TEG)
 - Provides grant assistance toward educational costs to Georgia residents enrolled full-time at an eligible private college or university

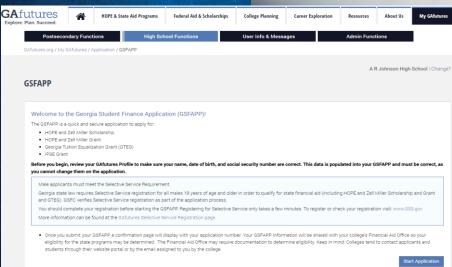
Other State Programs

- Georgia Military College State Service Scholarship
- HERO Scholarship
- REACH Scholarship (scholars selected during middle school)
- University of North Georgia Military Scholarship
- University of North Georgia ROTC Grant
- University of North Georgia ROTC Grant for Future Officers

Completing the FAFSA

Application and Process







The Georgia Student Finance Application (GSFAPP)



- Determine eligibility for state aid only
- One time application
- GAfutures account

HOPE Eligible Institution



GAfutures.org

GA State Aid



Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)

Studentaid.gov



Federal Aid

FUND



GA State Aid





- Renew annually
- Determines eligibility for federal and state aid
- List up to 20 institutions
- Will be available on December 1st 2024

HOPE Eligible Institution

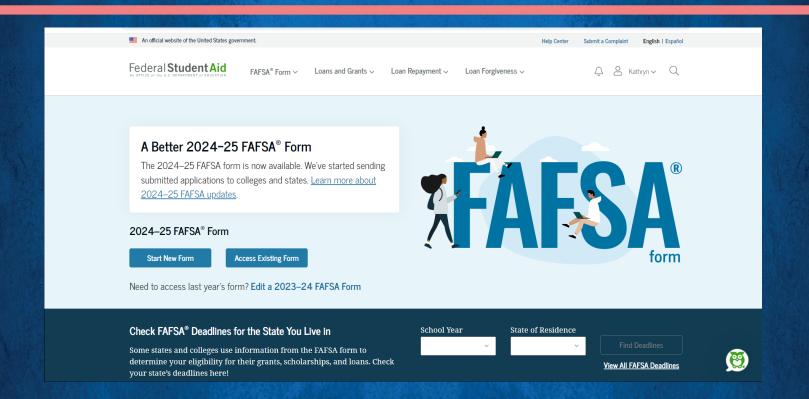


Completing the FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid)

- First step in financial aid search
- Application is free
- Begin by creating FSA ID
 - Use to sign your FAFSA
 - If dependent student, parent will also need an FSA ID
- Find a FAFSA Completion event for help
 - Check with school counselor for financial aid nights or FAFSA workshops
 - Visit Gafutures.org for events nearby
- Do not pay anyone to complete FAFSA



Completing the FAFSA



www.studentaid.gov website

When to Submit the FAFSA

FAFSA 2024-2025

If attending:

Fall 2024

Spring 2025

Summer 2025

Use 2022 tax returns

Available December 31st 2023 FAFSA 2025 - 2026

If attending:

Fall 2025

Spring 2026

Summer 2026

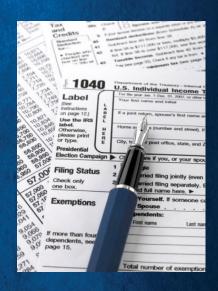
Use 2023 tax returns

Available December 1st 2024



What Is Needed to Complete the FAFSA

- Social Security number (Alien Registration Number, if not a U.S. citizen)
- Federal income tax returns, W-2s and other records of money earned
- Bank statements and investment records (if applicable)
- Records of untaxed income (if applicable)
- An FSA ID to sign electronically



Steps to Creating an FSA ID

- Go to studentaid.gov and click the link to create an FSA ID
- Create a username and password, and enter email
- Enter demographic information and select challenge questions and answers
- Review information and read and accept the terms and conditions
- Confirm cell number and email address by using the secure code
- For additional help, visit StudentAid.gov/fsaid

FSA ID Tips

- Create your own FSA ID
- Never share FSA ID
- Keep and remember FSA ID
- Use FSA ID each year to fill out FAFSA and for lifetime of any loans
- Parents may need to create FSA ID as well
- Email address can be associated with only one FSA ID



Comparing Financial Aid Packages

Comparing Financial Aid Packages

- To receive a Financial Aid Package, a student must:
 - List the institution on the FAFSA
 - Complete verification process, if selected
 - Apply for admission
 - And at some institutions, be accepted

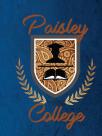
 Each institution is different. For more information, check with the Institution's financial aid office.

Financial Aid Award Offers

- Financial aid awards will all have basically the same information included:
 - How much it will cost to attend the institution for the year
 - The amount of financial aid the institution is providing
 - The amount family is expected to contribute
 - Any additional need to be funded through other sources

Compare Award Offers





Gotham University					
Housing: On Campus Estimated Cost of Attendance (CoA) 2 Semesters \$28,086 Residency: In-State Expected Family Contribution (EFC) - 1000				. ,	
	Establis	hed Financial N	leed (EFN)		\$27,086
Type of Aid	Fall	Spring	Summer	Total	Accept?
Pell Grant	\$3,247	\$3,248	\$0	\$5,395	Yes or No
HOPE Scholarship	\$3,840	\$3,840	\$0	\$7,680	Yes or No
Band Scholarship	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$0	\$2,000	Yes or No
Volunteer Organization	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$0	\$2,000	Yes or No
Something Church	\$200	\$200	\$0	\$400	Yes or No
Subsidized Loan	\$1,750	\$1,750		\$3,500	
Unsubsidized Loan	\$1,000	\$1,000		\$2,000	
Total for Academic Year \$22,975					

Paisley College						
Housing: On Campus Residency: In-State	Estimated Cost of Attendance (CoA) 2 Semesters Expected Family Contribution (EFC) Established Financial Need (EFN)				\$19,035 - 1000 \$18,035	
Type of Aid	Fall	Spring	Total	Accept?		
Pell Grant	\$3,247	\$3,248	\$0	\$5,395	Yes or No	
Federal Supplemental Education Opportunity Grant (FSEOG)	\$2,000	\$2,000	\$0	\$4,000	Yes or No	
Federal Work Study	\$790	\$790	\$0	\$1,580	Yes or No	
HOPE Scholarship	\$1,335	\$1,335	\$0	\$2,670	Yes or No	
Volunteer Organization	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$0	\$2,000	Yes or No	
Something Church	\$200	\$200	\$0	\$400	Yes or No	
Subsidized Loan	\$1,070	\$1,070	\$0	\$2,140		
Unsubsidized Loan	\$500	\$500	\$0	\$1,000		
Total for Academic Year				\$19,185		

The Best Order to Accept Aid

1. Scholarships and Grants

- Understand all the conditions
- Make sure it is truly free

2. Work Study

- Doesn't have to be paid back
- Money is paid through a paycheck based on hours worked
- · Consider class schedule and study time

3. Federal Student Loans

- Must be paid back with interest
- Consider a subsidized loan first interest doesn't accrue until repayment

4. State Government or College Loans

- Must be paid back with interest
- Understand all the conditions

5. Private Loans

- Must be paid back with interest
- Usually higher interest and less favorable terms
- Understand all the conditions



Additional Resources

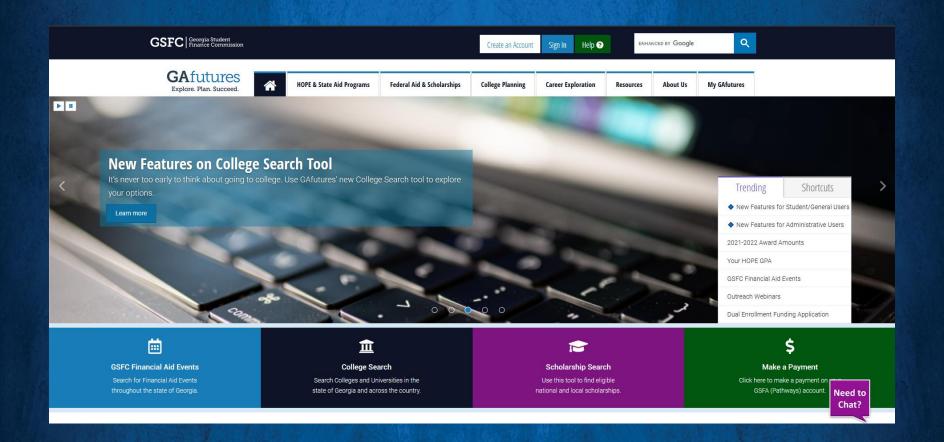


Additional Resources

- GAfutures.org
- GSFC.org
- StudentAid.gov
 - Prepare for College
 - Complete FAFSA
 - Types of Aid
 - Who Gets Aid
 - Apply for Aid
 - Repay Your Loans

		HORIONIU ZINING SINI	
	CHATTAHOOCHEE TECHNICAL COLLEGE	KENNESAW STATE UNIVERSITY	UNIVERSITY OF WEST GEORGIA
Tuition & Mandatory Fees	\$ 3,540	\$ 6,948	\$ 5,610
Books & Supplies/Living Expenses (Food & Housing)	\$ 11,484	\$ 20,670	\$ 22,349
Annual Cost of Attendance	\$ 15,024	\$ 27,618	\$ 27,959
HOPE & Zell Miller Scholarship	\$ 3,000	\$ 5,562	\$ 5,464
HOPE & Zell Miller Grant	\$0	\$0	\$0
HOPE Career Grant	\$0	\$0	\$0
Tuition Equalization Grant (TEG)	\$0	\$0	S Ne
Average Institutional Aid	\$0	\$0	\$ 0

GAfutures.org



Your Next Steps

- Create account at GAfutures.org
- Check your HOPE GPA to see if you are on track to be eligible for the HOPE or Zell Miller Scholarship
- Seniors: Complete the FAFSA beginning October 1



Contact Me!









aroberts.gsfc

Be Social