HOPE/ZELL SCHOLARSHIP INFO

Chattahoochee High School

AGENDA

Georgia Student Finance Commission
Hope/Zell Grant
Hope/Zell Scholarship
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Rigor Requirements
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SAT/ACT Test Score Submission
QUESTIONS

GEORGIA STUDENT FINANCE COMMISSION

www.gafutures.org

GSFC

GSFC | Georgia Student Finance Commission

- GSFC is one of the most successful state student aid operations in the nation.
- The organization handles all the state and lottery funded scholarships, grants, service cancelable loan programs.
- They provide free financial aid consultation.
- Mission is to ensure Georgians have an opportunity to access education beyond high school.

HOPE & ZELL GRANTS

www.gafutures.org

HOPE AND ZELL MILLER GRANTS

- These Grants are different from the Hope or Zell Scholarship.
- Designed mainly for students who intend to enter a diploma or certificate program through a technical college.
- No GPA requirement out of high school
- Must maintain a 2.0 GPA in the college diploma or certificate program for HOPE GRANT (portion of tuition)
- Must maintain a 3.5 GPA in the college diploma or certificate program for ZELL MILLER GRANT (full tuition)

ELIGIBLE INSTITUTIONS FOR HOPE/ZELL GRANTS

PUBLIC	TECHNICAL
Atlanta Metropolitan State College	Albany Technical College
Columbus State University	Athens Technical College
Dalton State College	Atlanta Technical College
Middle Georgia State University	Augusta Technical College
University of North Georgia	Central Georgia Technical College
	Chattahoochee Technical College
	Coastal Pines Technical College
	Columbus Technical College
	Georgia Northwestern Technical College
	Georgia Piedmont Technical College
	Gwinnett Technical College
	Lanier Technical College
	North Georgia Technical College
	Oconee Fall Line Technical College
	Ogeechee Technical College
	Savannah Technical College
	South Georgia Technical College
	Southeastern Technical College
	Southern Crescent Technical College
	Southern Regional Technical College
	West Georgia Technical College
	Wiregrass Georgia Technical College

HOPE & ZELL SCHOLARSHIPS

www.gafutures.org

HOPE AND ZELL MILLER SCHOLARSHIPS

- Available to Georgia residents who have demonstrated academic achievement - merit-based scholarship
- There are specific eligibility requirements to qualify for the scholarship program.
  - Meet US Citizenship or eligible non-citizen requirements
  - Meet college Georgia Residency requirements
  - Be enrolled as a degree seeking student at a USG, TCSG, or eligible private college in Georgia
  - Comply with Selective Service registration requirements
  - Meet academic achievement standards
  - Be in good standing on all student loans or other financial aid programs
  - Comply with the Georgia Drug Free Post Secondary Education Act of 1990
  - Not have exceeded the maximum award limits for any HOPE program

HOPE SCHOLARSHIP

- For HOPE Scholarship students must graduate with a 3.0 as calculated by GSFC.
- The GPA is calculated by Georgia Student Finance Commission, not Fulton County Schools.
- At least 4 rigor requirements must be met.
- Chattahoochee High School is an eligible accredited high school who will upload final transcripts to GSFC.
- A portion of tuition is paid. It does not include books, fees, housing, meals, etc. It is just a portion of tuition. The award amount can fluctuate from year to year. This information is available on the Ga Futures website. For any private institutions, it is a typically a flat award amount per semester, not a percentage of tuition.

ZELL MILLER SCHOLARSHIP

- For HOPE Scholarship students must graduate with a 3.7 as calculated by GSFC.
- The GPA is calculated by Georgia Student Finance Commission, not Fulton County Schools.
- At least 4 rigor requirements must be met.
- Students must also earn a required test score prior to high school graduation
  - ACT - composite of 26 or higher on a single national administration
  - SAT - total test score of 1200 on a single national administration
- Chattahoochee High School is an eligible accredited high school who will upload final transcripts to GSFC.
- Tuition will be paid to public Georgia college if a student is Zell Miller eligible, and a small portion will be paid if it is a private school. Check the website for specific award amounts. It does not include books, student fees, meal plan, housing, etc.

GPA CALCULATION

www.gafutures.org

GPA CALCULATION

- GPA for HOPE/Zell is different than what is shown on a Fulton County transcript.
- GSFC does the calculation, not Fulton County Schools
- Students can check their Ga Futures account for the most accurate GPA calculation, it is updated every semester
- Includes all grades earned 9th - 12th grade years that could be used to satisfy a core course graduation requirement.
- Converted to a 4.0 scale: A=4.0; B=3.0; C=2.0; F=0
- An additional .5 is added to the weight if it is an AP, IB, Dual Enrollment course.
  Example: Student took AP Environmental Science and earned a 93 on the transcript. Remove the 7 points to get the unweighted average (86), then that would be a B which equals 3.0, but because it was an AP class = 3.5 quality points.
- No student can have higher than a 4.0 HOPE/ZELL GPA. GSFC does not give additional .5 for an A.

GPA CALCULATION - MORE

- Check the HOPE GPA Report regularly
- HOPE GPA does not include middle school courses or most electives
- Some electives are considered academic/core electives and DO count towards the HOPE GPA.
  - Example: Algebra 1 Support
  - Example: AP Psychology
  - Example: Essentials of Healthcare

The eligible core courses begin with the following prefixes:

- English - course numbers beginning with 23
- Mathematics - course numbers beginning with 27
- Science – course numbers beginning with 26 or 40
- Social studies – course numbers beginning with 45
- Foreign language – course numbers beginning with 60 – 64
- Specific fourth science courses from GaDOE's Fourth Science List

GPA CALCULATION - AND MORE

- The HOPE GPA calculation is a great way for a student to see where they stand on a 4.0 scale without all the electives and weighted points.
- It is a good way for students to get an idea of where they MIGHT stand in terms of college admission, however, it is not entirely accurate with college admissions because every college may calculate the admission GPA differently. It is just a good indicator.
- Reminder that the HOPE GPA calculation is only used for HOPE eligibility.
- HOPE and ZELL calculations are done the exact same way, the only difference is that Zell is higher expectations.

RIGOR REQUIREMENTS

www.gafutures.org

RIGOR REQUIREMENTS FOR SCHOLARSHIPS

- Students who are trying to be HOPE or ZELL MILLER eligible must meet a minimum of 4 rigor classes during their four years in high school.
- Most students will meet these requirements without much effort because Chattahoochee students are likely to take these classes.
- Rigor List - https://www.gafutures.org/media/kswotdbu/rigor-list-november-2021-print-ready.pdf

DEADLINES

www.gafutures.org

WHEN & WHERE DO YOU HAVE TO APPLY?

- Students apply during their senior year.
- Deadline is the LAST DAY OF THE SCHOOL TERM, but do not wait - get it done earlier. The earlier you apply the earlier your college can determine your eligibility and awards
- Students have two ways to apply:
  - Complete the FAFSA - Free Application for Federal Student Aid
  - Complete the GSFAPP
- (Both are available on the www.gafutures.org website)

SAT/ACT SCORE SUBMISSION

www.gafutures.org

ZELL MILLER SCHOLARSHIP - TEST SCORE SUBMISSION

- This only applies to Zell Miller Scholarship eligibility, not HOPE Scholarship.
- Students must upload test score documents to Ga Futures student account under the "student document upload" tab.
- Please make sure you submit your scores as soon as you receive a qualifying score. Only the minimum is needed to qualify for Zell Miller.

SPECIFIC DOCUMENT UPLOAD DIRECTIONS

Submitting Test Scores for Zell Miller Scholarship

Students with a College Board SAT score report may upload a copy of the score report to GSFC. Students with an ACT score may request ACT electronically send their score report to GSFC. Student records are updated with received test score reports within 3-5 business days.

To upload your SAT score report using the GAfutures' Document Upload feature, follow these steps:

1. Print your test score report from College Board's website for the SAT.
2. Sign, date and write this statement on the report: "This is a true and exact copy of the original score report."
3. Save your document(s) as one file (Acceptable file types: pdf, jpg, jpeg, png, bmp, tif, tiff).
4. Sign into your GAfutures account and select **Document Upload**, located on the left-hand side of the page.
5. Select the Document Type: SAT scores.
6. Attach your document file and select the submit button.

To request ACT to submit your score report to GSFC electronically, follow these steps:

1. Go to ACT.org and sign into your account.
2. Select your ACT score report be sent to GSFC by entering the recipient code: 2225
3. ACT will then send GSFC an electronic file to update the student's record.

Georgia public and private high school students are able to track their HOPE or Zell Miller Scholarship status from high school through their GAfutures account at *My High School HOPE GPA*. It will display when an acceptable test score is received. Once a document is uploaded, student records are updated within 3 to 5 business days.

QUESTIONS?