



# State Programs Update & HOPE Changes Training

*May/June 2011*

**Caylee B. French**  
*Director, Student Aid Services*

# State Program Regulations

- **10 sets of regulations affecting state programs and 1 set pertaining to a federal program**
  - Accel
  - HERO Scholarship
  - Georgia Military College State Service Scholarship
  - North Georgia College and State University Military Scholarship
  - North Georgia College and State University ROTC Grant
  - North Georgia College and State University ROTC Grant for Future Officers
  - Public Safety Memorial Grant
  - Residency Regulations
  - Scholarship for Engineering Education (SEE)
  - Tuition Equalization Grant
  - John R. Justice Student Loan Repayment Program

# State Program Regulations

- **Eliminated Programs**
  - LEAP
  - College Opportunity Grant
  - Robert C. BYRD Honors Scholarship
    - Questions pending on if currently enrolled students can continue to receive funding

# State Program Regulations

- **Accel Program**
  - No significant program changes
    - Award amounts (tuition, fees, books) and program eligibility are unchanged
  - The Program Overview was updated to indicate that, beginning with the FY2012 year, the program is funded by State Appropriations
  - Definitions added or updated:
    - Eligible High School: Removed a defunct accrediting agency and provision that expired in December
    - Eligible Post-Secondary Institution: Private Non-Proprietary – removed eligibility for colleges owned and operated by a state other than Georgia

# State Program Regulations

- **Accel Program**

- Definitions added or updated:

- Eligible Post-Secondary Institution: Private Proprietary – updated so that SACS is the only eligible accrediting agency and to require that such schools must have been domiciled and incorporated in the State of Georgia and met all requirements as of January 1, 2011
- Invoicing Deadline Date : Added definition to be congruent with other programs
- Learning Support Coursework: Updated definition to be congruent with other programs
- Paid Hours: Updated to indicate that Accel hours are only counted in the Paid Hours calculation if the coursework was taken through FY2011
- Zell Miller Scholar and Zell Miller Scholarship Program: Definitions added

# State Program Regulations

- **Accel Program**
  - Invoicing Deadline Date
    - Updated to indicate that a student may still be paid after the Invoicing Deadline Date if the student's eligibility changed after the date as a result of a grade change, grade completion, etc.
    - GSFC's President has sole discretion in determining deadline extension requests

# State Program Regulations

- **Tuition Equalization Grant**
  - No Significant Changes
  - Several definitions added or updated
  - Residency
    - Updated to indicate that, beginning in Fall 2011, a student that was not a resident on the date of high school graduation, home school completion, or successful GED test must meet the residency requirements for 24 months prior to the first day of the term

# State Program Regulations

- **Tuition Equalization Grant**
  - Incarceration
    - Updated to indicate that incarcerated students are not eligible for TEG beginning with the Fall 2011 term
  - Paid Hours Limit
    - Beginning with Fall 2011, student are eligible only up to the exact number of paid hours remaining in his or her eligibility during the term in which he or she reaches the cap (Hard cap)
    - A maximum of 12 hours per term will be counted towards the Paid Hours cap beginning with the Fall 2011 term
      - A max of 12 hours should be reported in Field #18, Paid hours in the INU file, while the full number of hours should be reported in Field #34

# State Program Regulations

- **Tuition Equalization Grant**
  - TEG Payment at Out of State Institutions
    - Entire section was deleted, as students attending out of state institutions are no longer eligible to receive TEG payment
  - Award Amounts
    - Amounts updated to reflect projected award rate of \$700/academic year
    - Per hour amount created to accommodate partial awards for students with less than 12 hours remaining in Paid Hours eligibility in the term in which the student reaches the Paid Hours cap

# State Program Regulations

- **Tuition Equalization Grant**
  - Invoicing Deadline Date
    - Updated to indicate that a student may still be paid after the Invoicing Deadline Date if the student's eligibility changed after the date as a result of a grade change, grade completion, etc.
    - GSFC's President has sole discretion in determining deadline extension requests
  - Collection of Refunds
    - Updated to indicate that GSFC has authority to collect refunds via garnishment of pay, loss of professional license, loss of lottery winnings, and loss of state tax refund

# State Program Regulations

- **Tuition Equalization Grant**
  - Compliance Review Policy
    - Language updated to indicate that Compliance Review shall be no less frequent than once every three years
  - Institutional Repayment
    - Updated to indicate GSFC may require an institution to repay funds awarded to ineligible students certified as eligible, either knowingly or erroneously, by the institution
    - GSFC may suspend an institution's participation in the program for failure to refund monies owed
    - Indicates any person that knowingly makes or furnishes any false statement or misrepresentation, or who accepts such statement or misrepresentation knowing it to be false, for the purpose of enabling an ineligible student to wrongfully obtain an award shall be guilty of a misdemeanor

# State Program Regulations

- HERO
- Georgia Military College State Service Scholarship
- North Georgia College and State University Military Scholarship
- North Georgia College and State University ROTC
- North Georgia College and State University ROTC Grant for Future Officers
- Public Safety Memorial Grant
- Scholarship for Engineering Education (SEE)
  - No significant changes
  - Definitions added or updated
  - Program overviews updated

# State Program Regulations

- Residency Regulations
  - No significant changes
  - Several definitions added or updated
  - Military Impact on Residency
    - Regulations updated to indicate, beginning with Fall 2011, military personnel stationed in Georgia on active duty or listing Georgia as his or her home of record, his or her spouse and his or her dependent children shall be considered residents for purposes of HOPE Scholarship, Zell Miller Scholarship, HOPE Grant, HOPE GED, Accel, and TEG

# State Program Regulations

- John R. Justice Student Loan Repayment Program
  - GSFC received approval of the program design and regulations from the Bureau of Justice Administration
  - Program regulations and design fundamentally the same as those presented to the Board in November
    - Federally funded program
    - Georgia allocated \$278,124
    - 58 awards to be made to 29 prosecutors and 29 public defenders around the state
    - Awards are \$4,076 each
    - Applicants ranked on “Ability to Pay” formula
    - Applicants with least “Ability to Pay” will be awarded first
    - Recipients must commit to continued employment as a prosecutor or public defender for 3 years



# HOPE Program Regulations and Implementation

**Caylee B. French**  
*Director, Student Aid Services*

# HOPE Program Regulations

- **5 sets of lottery-funded program regulations for review and pending approval**
  - HOPE Scholarship at Public Institutions
  - HOPE Scholarship at Private Institutions
  - Zell Miller Scholarship
  - HOPE Grant
  - HOPE GED Grant

# HOPE Program Regulations

- **HOPE Scholarship at Public/Private Institutions**
  - The Program Overview was updated to accurately reflect the award amounts for both Summer and Fall, Winter, and Spring terms
  - Definitions added or updated:
    - Combined Paid Hours: Updated to indicate Accel hours are included if taken through FY2011 and all Zell Miller hours are included
    - EFC: Added definition for Estimated Family Contribution, as determined by the FAFSA
    - Eligible High School: Removed a defunct accrediting agency and provision that expired in December

# HOPE Program Regulations

- **HOPE Scholarship at Public/Private Institutions**
  - Definitions added or updated:
    - Eligible Post-Secondary Institution: Private Non-Proprietary – removed eligibility for colleges owned and operated by a state other than Georgia
    - Eligible Post-Secondary Institution: Private Proprietary – updated so that SACS is the only eligible accrediting agency and to require that such schools must have been domiciled and incorporated in the State of Georgia and met all requirements as of January 1, 2011

# HOPE Program Regulations

- **HOPE Scholarship at Public/Private Institutions**
  - Definitions added or updated:
    - Factor Rate: Added definition to mean the percentage determined annually by the Commission against which the previous year's HOPE Award Rate amount is multiplied
    - HOPE Award Amount: Added definition to mean the HOPE Award Rate multiplied by the number of credit hours, up to a maximum of 15, in which in an eligible student is enrolled
    - HOPE Award Rate: Added definition to mean the rate equal to the previous year's HOPE Award Amount multiplied by the Factor Rate, divided by 15
    - Invoicing Deadline Date : Added definition to be congruent with other programs

# HOPE Program Regulations

- **HOPE Scholarship at Public/Private Institutions**
  - Definitions added or updated:
    - ISIR: Added definition to mean the Institutional Student Information Record. A valid ISIR is one for which verification, if required, has been completed and that has no comment codes requiring resolution
    - Learning Support Coursework: Updated definition to be congruent with other programs
    - Paid-Hours: Updated with clarifying language
    - Pell Grant Eligible: Added definition to mean that a student is considered Pell Grant Eligible if the student's EFC would qualify the student for a Pell Grant, if the student were to meet all other requirements

# HOPE Program Regulations

- **HOPE Scholarship at Public/Private Institutions**
  - Definitions added or updated:
    - Postsecondary Cumulative Grade Point Average: Updated to indicate that grades for learning support courses are included only if such coursework was taken prior to Fall term 2011. Updated to indicate that a previous provision requiring degree coursework taken during high school for students that did not meet the requirements to be a HOPE Scholar upon high school graduation to be counted as attempted hours only applies if the coursework was accepted by a postsecondary institution for degree credit after the student graduated from high school but before the Fall 2011 term
    - Spouse: Added definition to mean a person legally married to and recognized as the husband or wife of an active duty military member

# HOPE Program Regulations

- **HOPE Scholarship at Public/Private Institutions**
  - Definitions added or updated:
    - Zell Miller Scholar and Zell Miller Scholarship Program: Definitions added
  - Residency
    - Added clarifying language regarding determining whether or not a student was a resident on the date of high school graduation
    - Updated to indicate, beginning with Fall 2011, military personnel stationed in Georgia on active duty or listing Georgia as his or her home of record, his or her spouse and his or her dependent children shall be considered residents for purposes of the HOPE Scholarship

# HOPE Program Regulations

- **HOPE Scholarship at Public/Private Institutions**
  - Enrollment Status
    - Updated to indicate that, beginning Fall 2011, a student is eligible only up to the exact number of paid hours remaining in his or her eligibility during the term in which he or she reaches the cap (Hard cap)

# HOPE Program Regulations

- **HOPE Scholarship at Public/Private Institutions**
  - Hard Hours Cap Implementation
    - Field #18, Paid Hours, in INU file should be populated with the exact number of hours for which payment is being sought and for which the student is eligible
      - Payment is capped at 15 hours for Public and 12 hours for Private, so this field should never be greater than 15 for Public and 12 for Private
    - Field #34, Enrolled Hours, in INU file should be populated with the students full number of enrolled hours
      - If student is enrolled in 18 hours, report 18 hours in Field #34, but only 15 hours in Field #18
      - If student attends a public institution and enters a term with 125 semester hours, but is enrolled in 15 hours, Field #18 should have 2 reported in it, while Field #34 should have 15 reported in it

# HOPE Program Regulations

- **HOPE Scholarship at Public/Private Institutions**
  - Academic Rigor
    - New section
    - Requires that students graduating in 2015 must pass at least 2 courses from a list of academically rigorous courses in order to meet the requirements to be a HOPE Scholar upon high school graduation
    - Students graduating in 2016 must pass at least 3 courses from the list
    - Students graduating in 2017 must pass at least 4 courses from the list

# HOPE Program Regulations

- **HOPE Scholarship at Public/Private Institutions**
  - Attempted Hours Limit
    - Updated to indicate that beginning with Fall 2011 students may not receive payment once they have reached the attempted hours limit, even if their specific program of study requires additional hours
  - Attempted Hours Calculation
    - Updated to indicate that a previous provision requiring degree coursework taken during high school for students that did not meet the requirements to be a HOPE Scholar upon high school graduation to be counted as attempted hours only applies if the coursework was accepted by an eligible postsecondary institution for degree credit after the student graduated from high school but before the Fall 2011 term

# HOPE Program Regulations

- **HOPE Scholarship at Public/Private Institutions**
  - Attempted Hours Calculation, continued
    - Updated to indicate that Learning Support coursework is only included in the calculation if it was taken and/or accepted for degree credit prior to the Fall 2011 term
  - Combined Paid Hours Limit
    - Updated to indicate that only Accel hours taken through FY2011 and all Zell Miller hours are included
    - Updated to indicate that a maximum of 15 credit hours per term for Public and 12 credit hours per term for Private will be included in the limit, beginning with Fall 2011
    - Updated to indicate that payment beyond 127 semester hours or 190 quarter hours for programs requiring additional hours is only allowed through Summer 2011

# HOPE Program Regulations

- **HOPE Scholarship at Public/Private Institutions**
  - Seven Year Limit
    - Effective beginning with the Fall term
    - A student that received HOPE Scholarship payment at least one time prior to Summer 2011 is eligible to continue receiving the HOPE Scholarship until June 30, 2015
    - A student receiving the HOPE Scholarship for the first time during Summer 2011 or later is eligible to receive the HOPE Scholarship through June 30<sup>th</sup> of the 7<sup>th</sup> year following the student's date of high school graduation, home school completion, or successful GED test date
    - A student that served on active duty in the military following his or her date of high school graduation, or equivalent, may request that such active duty service time be added back to his or her 7 years of eligibility

# HOPE Program Regulations

- **HOPE Scholarship at Public/Private Institutions**
  - Seven Year Limit Implementation
    - GSFC will query current S&G (our internal database that feeds SURFER) and identify all students with a H1-H4 or S1-S4 invoice and populate a new field called “Expiration Date” with 6/30/15
    - For all students that do not have a paid Scholarship invoice, GSFC will calculate an expiration date based on the date of HS graduation or GED test on file, if such a date is on file
    - Colleges should send HS grad date/GED test date to GSFC in GAU file
      - New field, #13, formatted as MMYYYY

# HOPE Program Regulations

- **HOPE Scholarship at Public/Private Institutions**
  - Seven Year Limit Implementation
    - GSFC will respond in GAD file, field #98, with:
      - Y: The HS grad date or GED test date GSFC has on file matches the date sent in the GAU file
      - N: The date sent in the GAU file does not match what GSFC has on file
      - U: GSFC did not have a date on file, so GSFC's system has been updated with the date sent in the GAU file
    - GAD file will also include HS grad date/GED test date GSFC has on file, either as already stored, or as added from the GAU file
      - Field #99, MMYYY

# HOPE Program Regulations

- **HOPE Scholarship at Public/Private Institutions**
  - Seven Year Limit Implementation
    - GAD file will also include the calculated “Expiration Date”
      - Field #100, MMYYYY
    - INU file sent by college should also contain HS grad date/GED test date
      - Field #33, MMYYYY
    - If sent blank, GSFC will use date on system
    - If HS grad date in INU does not match GSFC’s date, invoice is rejected

# HOPE Program Regulations

- **HOPE Scholarship at Public/Private Institutions**
  - Seven Year Limit Implementation
    - If invoice is submitted for a student whose “Expiration Date” has passed, invoice is rejected
      - If student is enrolled for a term prior to the expiration date, but invoice is submitted after the expiration date, payment can be allowed, but will need to be coordinated through GSFC
    - GSFC will have internal ability to update expiration date in instances of corrections and credit of time due to active duty military service

# HOPE Program Regulations

- **HOPE Scholarship at Public/Private Institutions**
  - Ineligibility After Losing HOPE at Two Checkpoints
    - Indicates that a student may only lose and regain the HOPE Scholarship one time beginning Fall term 2011
      - Only lose and regain one time
    - Implementation
      - Clock starts with Fall
      - No gains or losses prior to Fall count
      - Not having the scholarship and then earning it for the first does not count as starting with a loss
        - > Gains and losses start after a student earns it
      - GAU file updated with 2 new fields, #103 and #104
      - Colleges should send dates, MMYYYY, of when a student loses HOPE Scholarship at a GPA checkpoint
        - > 1<sup>st</sup> loss in field #103, date of 2<sup>nd</sup> loss in field #104

# HOPE Program Regulations

- **HOPE Scholarship at Public/Private Institutions**
  - Learning Support Coursework
    - Updated to indicate that payment for Learning Support coursework is allowed through Summer term 2011 only
      - Colleges should report the number of Learning Support hours for a which a student is enrolled in the INU file, Field #32
  - First Professional Degree
    - Updated to indicate that, beginning in Fall term 2011, student enrolled in a First Professional Degree program are eligible for the HOPE Scholarship only up to the limit of 127 semester or 190 quarter hours

# HOPE Program Regulations

- **HOPE Scholarship at Public/Private Institutions**
  - Application Forms – Public only
    - Updated to require the FAFSA to be completed for any student seeking the full book allowance for the Summer term
  - Tuition and Mandatory Fees – Public only
    - Updated to indicate that the HOPE Scholarship pays full tuition and mandatory fees for the Summer 2011 term only
    - Beginning with Fall 2011, the HOPE Award Amount, as determined by the Commission, will be paid in lieu of full tuition and mandatory fees
      - Rate tables are posted on HOPE Program Changes webpage on [GAcollege411](http://GAcollege411)

# HOPE Program Regulations

- **HOPE Scholarship at Public/Private Institutions**
  - Full-time Awards and Half-time Awards Beginning Fall 2011 – Private only
    - Updated to indicate the new award rates for Fall, Winter, and Spring terms
    - Rate tables on HOPE Program Changes webpage on GAcollege411
  - Per Credit Hour Awards
    - New section
    - Indicates that beginning with Fall 2011 students that reach the Attempted Hours or Combined Paid hours limit during a term are only eligible to receive payment for the exact number of hours remaining before they reach the caps

# HOPE Program Regulations

- **HOPE Scholarship at Public/Private Institutions**
  - Private Award Rates
    - Flat award rates for most terms:
      - 6-11 hours: \$900/semester & \$600/quarter
      - 12 or more: \$1800/semester & \$1200/quarter

# HOPE Program Regulations

- **HOPE Scholarship at Public/Private Institutions**
  - Private Award Rates
    - During the term a student will reach the Paid Hours cap of 127/190, student receives a per hour rate
      - If student is actually enrolled in 12 or more hours, \$150 semester hour & \$100 quarter hour for any remaining hours up to 127/190
      - If student is enrolled in 6-11 hours, \$75/semester hour & \$50/quarter hour for any remaining hours up to the cap
        - > If a student enters a term with 123 Paid hours (4 hours remaining in cap), but is enrolled in 15 semester hours, student is eligible for \$600 (4 hours x \$150/hr)
        - > If a student enters a term with 124 Paid hours (3 hours remaining), but is enrolled for 7 semester hours, student is eligible for \$225 (3 hours x \$75/hour)

# HOPE Program Regulations

- **HOPE Scholarship at Public/Private Institutions**
  - Book Allowance Awards – Public only
    - Updated to indicate that book allowance awards are only available during the Summer 2011 term
    - Students that are Pell Grant Eligible are eligible to receive the full book allowance for Summer 2011
      - Again, Pell Grant eligible does not mean that a student is actually receiving the Pell Grant, but that his or her EFC would hypothetically qualify him or her if all other requirements were met
      - Student **MUST** complete a FAFSA and verification must be completed, if required
    - Students that are not Pell Grant Eligible will receive half of the normal book allowance rate for Summer 2011

# HOPE Program Regulations

- **HOPE Scholarship at Public/Private Institutions**
  - Book Allowance Awards – Public only
    - Pell Grant Eligible:
      - At least Half-Time (6 or more hours):
        - > \$150/semester & \$100/quarter
      - Less than Half-time (5 or fewer hours):
        - > \$75/semester & \$50/quarter
    - Not Pell Grant Eligible
      - At least Half-Time (6 or more hours):
        - > \$75/semester & \$50/quarter
      - Less than Half-Time (5 or fewer hours):
        - > \$37.50/semester & \$25/quarter

# HOPE Program Regulations

- **HOPE Scholarship at Public/Private Institutions**
  - Book Allowance Awards – Public only
    - Implementation
      - INU file must have “Y” in field #25 if requesting the full book allowance award for a Pell Eligible file
        - > If field is blank or has “N”, invoice will reject if requesting the full awards
      - Transient form being updated with a Pell Eligible checkbox so that Home institution can indicate to Host institution if student is eligible for Pell Grant/Full book award

# HOPE Program Regulations

- **HOPE Scholarship at Public/Private Institutions**
  - Invoicing Deadline Date
    - Updated to indicate that a student may still be paid after the Invoicing Deadline Date if the student's eligibility changed after the date as a result of a grade change, grade completion, etc.
    - GSFC's President has sole discretion in determining deadline extension requests
  - Collection of Refunds
    - Updated to indicate that GSFC has authority to collect refunds via garnishment of pay, loss of professional license, loss of lottery winnings, and loss of state tax refund

# HOPE Program Regulations

- **HOPE Scholarship at Public/Private Institutions**
  - Compliance Review Policy
    - Language updated to indicate that Compliance Review shall be no less frequent than once every three years
  - Institutional Repayment
    - Updated to indicate GSFC may require an institution to repay funds awarded to ineligible students certified as eligible, either knowingly or erroneously, by the institution
    - GSFC may suspend an institution's participation in the program for failure to refund monies owed

# HOPE Program Regulations

- **HOPE Scholarship at Public/Private Institutions**
  - Institutional Repayment, continued
    - Indicates any person that knowingly makes or furnishes any false statement or misrepresentation, or who accepts such statement or misrepresentation knowing it to be false, for the purpose of enabling an ineligible student to wrongfully obtain an award shall be guilty of a misdemeanor

# HOPE Program Regulations

## HOPE Scholarship at Public/Private Institutions: Q&A

- Q. Sally will graduate from Tucker HS in May 2011. Does she have to score a 1200 on the SAT to get the HOPE Scholarship?**
- A. No, the initial eligibility requirements for the HOPE Scholarship are unchanged until 2015.
- Q. Billy will be a sophomore HOPE Scholarship recipient at Georgia College and State University next year. How much will his award be?**
- A. His award will be a per hour amount multiplied by the number of hours in which he is enrolled, up to a maximum of 15. The per hour rate is approximately 90% of the standard undergraduate tuition rate charged in 2010-2011 and will cover approximately 87% percent of his tuition charges in 2011-2012.

# HOPE Program Regulations

## HOPE Scholarship at Public/Private Institutions: Q&A

- Q. Susan will be a Senior at the University of Georgia next Fall. She lost HOPE at her first End-of-Spring (EOS) checkpoint, regained it at the 30 hour checkpoint, lost it at the next EOS, and then regained it at the 60 hour checkpoint. Since she has already lost HOPE twice, is she still eligible to receive payment?**
- A. Yes.** The provision that a student may only lose and regain HOPE once will start in the Fall term, without regard to previous gains and losses.

# HOPE Program Regulations

## HOPE Scholarship at Public/Private Institutions: Q&A

- Q. Must a student be enrolled full-time in order to receive the HOPE Scholarship?**
- A.** No. At public institutions, a student will be paid on a per hour basis. At private institutions, a student must be enrolled for at least 6 hours to receive the half-time award or at least 12 hours to receive the full-time award.

# HOPE Program Regulations

## HOPE Scholarship at Public/Private Institutions: Q&A

- Q. Jerry graduated from high school in 2000 as a HOPE Scholar. He has received the HOPE Scholarship several terms since enrolling at Berry College. Since his graduation date is longer than 7 years ago, is he still eligible for the HOPE Scholarship this fall?**
- A. Yes. Since he had received the HOPE Scholarship for at least one term prior to Summer 2011, his eligibility will be extended until June 30, 2015.**

# HOPE Program Regulations

## HOPE Scholarship at Public/Private Institutions: Q&A

- Q. Randy, Jerry's brother, also graduated from high school in 2000 as a HOPE Scholar. He delayed entering college and will enter Valdosta State University for the first time this Fall. Since his graduation date is longer than 7 years ago, is he still eligible for the HOPE Scholarship this fall?**
- A. No. Since he did not receive the HOPE Scholarship for at least one term prior to Summer 2011, the 7 year expiration of eligibility applies. His eligibility has expired.**

# HOPE Program Regulations

## HOPE Scholarship at Public/Private Institutions

Questions?

# HOPE Program Regulations

- **Zell Miller Scholarship at Public/Private Institutions**
  - Completely new set of regulations
    - One set covers both Public and Private Institutions
  - Major premise of the program is that a student must meet all the requirements to be eligible for the HOPE Scholarship
    - Much of the regulation language for Zell Miller is the same as HOPE Scholarship

# HOPE Program Regulations

- **Zell Miller Scholarship at Public/Private Institutions**
  - Initial eligibility as a high school graduate in 2011 or beyond:
    - Graduate from an eligible high school with a 3.7 HOPE GPA and a 1200 on the Math and Reading portions of the SAT or a 26 composite score on the ACT
      - Or
    - Graduate as the Valedictorian or the Salutatorian from an eligible high school
      - Or
    - Graduate from an ineligible high school with a 1200 on the Math and Reading portions of the SAT or a 26 composite score on the ACT and achieve a 3.3 GPA at the 30 semester/45 quarter hour checkpoint in college

# HOPE Program Regulations

- **Zell Miller Scholarship at Public/Private Institutions**
  - Eligibility for students that first entered college in 2007 or later
    - Must have been “Academically Eligible” at the time of high school graduation
      - Defined as graduating high school with a 3.7 GPA and 1200 SAT or 26 ACT test score or having graduated as the Valedictorian or Salutatorian
    - Must have had a 3.3 Postsecondary GPA at the most recent checkpoint
  - If a student did not or does not graduate from high school Academically Eligible for Zell Miller, then the student can never earn Zell Miller

# HOPE Program Regulations

- **Zell Miller Scholarship at Public/Private Institutions**
  - Implementation
    - Students will either get awarded Zell or HOPE, but not both
    - Invoice codes Z1-Z4 for Publics and X1-X4 for Privates
    - STARS (the high schools' version of SURFER) has been updated to allow high schools to report their Val and Sal data for current and past years
    - GSFC has used archived GPA data since 2007 and ACT/SAT test score data to identify a set of students that may be currently enrolled in college and may be eligible
      - File is in SURFER inbox; contains 20,000 records
      - If student feels they should be eligible but not in the file, they can complete a request for evaluation form soon

# HOPE Program Regulations

- **Zell Miller Scholarship at Public/Private Institutions**
  - Implementation
    - Colleges may use this file of prior year graduates to identify any students that may be enrolled at their college
      - Then, check student's GPA at most recent checkpoint to see if 3.3 requirement was met
    - Final HOPE GPA files for current year graduates will be updated to indicate Zell eligibility
      - Field #18 is the Zell indicator and will be populated with:
        - > Y – Student has the GPA/Test score combo or was designated as Val/Sal and meets academic requirements
        - > N- Student does not meet ZM requirements
        - > U – GSFC does not have sufficient data to determine ZM eligibility (data mismatch, no test scores, etc)
          - > Indicator may update over time for some students

# HOPE Program Regulations

- **Zell Miller Scholarship at Public/Private Institutions**
  - Implementation
    - GSFC will have manual ability to add or update ACT/SAT test scores internally
    - GAD file will include ZM Indicator Flag, Field #102 (same response options: Y, N, U)
    - GSFAPPS will be updated to provide a Zell Miller Application type
      - If a student has already completed a HOPE Sch/HOPE Grant/TEG app, the app will suffice as a “valid app type” for Zell. Students seeking Zell do not have to reapply with the Zell app.

# HOPE Program Regulations

- **Zell Miller Scholarship at Public/Private Institutions**
  - A student must maintain a 3.3 GPA in college at all checkpoints to keep the Zell Miller Scholarship
    - If a student loses the Zell Miller Scholarship at any checkpoint, the student can still get the HOPE Scholarship, assuming all requirements, including the 3.0 GPA, are met
  - A student may regain the Zell Miller Scholarship after losing it at a checkpoint only one time
    - If a student loses the Zell Miller Scholarship a second time, the student may still keep the HOPE Scholarship, assuming all requirements continue to be met

# HOPE Program Regulations

- **Zell Miller Scholarship at Public/Private Institutions**
  - Losing and Regaining Zell Only Once
    - At a checkpoint where a student loses Zell Miller eligibility and simultaneously loses HOPE Scholarship eligibility, by dropping below a 3.0 GPA, the student would be considered as losing both Zell and HOPE
    - If a student loses Zell, retains HOPE, but then loses HOPE twice, the student would no longer be eligible to regain Zell
  - Implementation
    - Same as HOPE Scholarship
    - 2 new fields for Zell Miller Loss Date added to GAU file
      - Date of 1<sup>st</sup> ZM loss and date of 2<sup>nd</sup> ZM loss to be reported by colleges

# HOPE Program Regulations

- **Zell Miller Scholarship at Public/Private Institutions**
  - Award Amounts
    - Public Rates
      - Full, standard undergraduate tuition rate during the then current year, without regard for specific program of study
    - Private Rates
      - \$2,000/semester
    - Rate tables available on HOPE Program Changes webpage on GAcollege411
  - Eligibility Limits
    - Same Paid Hours and Attempted Hours Limits as HOPE Scholarship
      - 127 semester hours/190 quarter hours
      - Paid hours and Enrolled hours reporting in GAU file same as for HOPE Scholarship

# HOPE Program Regulations

## Zell Miller Scholarship at Public/Private Institutions: Q&A

**Q. Bobby will graduate from Tucker HS in May 2011. He scored a 27 on the ACT and has a 3.8 HOPE GPA. Is he eligible for the Zell Miller Scholarship?**

**A. Yes.**

**Q. If Bobby enrolls at Columbus State in the fall, how much will his award be?**

**A. His award will be a per hour amount multiplied by the number of hours in which he is enrolled. The per hour rate will be 100% of the standard undergraduate tuition charged per hour. His tuition charges will be covered in full, unless he enrolls in a specific program of study that charges a higher tuition rate.**

# HOPE Program Regulations

## Zell Miller Scholarship at Public/Private Institutions: Q&A

**Q. Sarah is a Junior HOPE Scholarship recipient at Georgia Tech. She graduated from a Fulton County HS with a 3.8 GPA and a 1350 on the math and reading portions of the SAT. She had a 3.35 GPA at her most recent checkpoint. Is she eligible for the Zell Miller Scholarship?**

**A. Yes.**

- If GSFC already has her information on file, we will provide such data to the post-secondary institutions.

# HOPE Program Regulations

## Zell Miller Scholarship at Public/Private Institutions: Q&A

- Q. Beth is a sophomore HOPE Scholarship recipient at Georgia State. She graduated from a Dacula HS with a 3.8 GPA and a 1190 on the math and reading portions of the SAT. She had a 3.35 GPA at her most recent checkpoint. Can she go retake the SAT now in an attempt to qualify for the Zell Miller Scholarship?**
- A. No. An eligible student must have had the qualifying HOPE GPA and test score at the time of high school graduation. She may continue receiving the HOPE Scholarship though.**

# HOPE Program Regulations

## Zell Miller Scholarship at Public/Private Institutions

Questions?

# HOPE Program Regulations

- **HOPE Grant**
  - The Program Overview was updated to accurately reflect the award amounts for both Summer and Fall, Winter, and Spring terms
  - Numerous definitions and sections, similar to HOPE Scholarship, added or updated
  - Learning Support coursework is still eligible coursework for payment
  - Enrollment Status
    - Updated to indicate that payment for the full number of hours in which a student is enrolled in during the term in which the student reaches the Paid Hours limits is only available through Summer (hard cap)
      - Implementation of hard cap is same as HOPE Scholarship

# HOPE Program Regulations

- **HOPE Grant**
  - Postsecondary GPA
    - Beginning Fall 2011, all HOPE Grant recipients must have a 3.0 GPA on all HOPE Grant coursework, excluding dual enrollment and learning support courses, at the 30 hour and 60 hour checkpoint
      - Students will be evaluated at their first checkpoint after Fall 2011
    - Students that lose eligibility at the 30 hour checkpoint may regain eligibility at the 60 hour checkpoint if the student achieves a 3.0 GPA at that point

# HOPE Program Regulations

- **HOPE Grant**
  - Postsecondary GPA
    - The 30 and 60 hour checkpoints are determined by HOPE Grant Paid hours calculation
    - At each checkpoint, all coursework taken during a term is included in the GPA calculation, excluding dual-enrollment and learning support
      - Some terms may only have 15 “Paid Hours” though the student was enrolled for 20. The 15 hours determines when the checkpoint occurs, but all 20 are used in the GPA calculation

# HOPE Program Regulations

- **HOPE Grant**
  - Postsecondary GPA
    - If a student loses the HOPE Grant at the 30 hour checkpoint, the 60 hour checkpoint will occur based upon what normally would count as HOPE Grant Paid Hours, had the student been receiving payment
      - All coursework that would normally have been paid for by HOPE Grant if the student was eligible would be used in calculating the GPA, except for dual-enrollment and learning support

# HOPE Program Regulations

- **HOPE Grant**
  - Paid Hours Calculation
    - Regulations updated to document that a maximum of 12 hours per semester or quarter were counted towards the Paid Hours cap through Fall 2008
    - Regulations also update to document that a maximum of 15 hours per semester or quarter are counted towards the Paid Hours cap beginning in Winter 2009

# HOPE Program Regulations

- **HOPE Grant**

- Attainment of a Baccalaureate Degree

- Beginning with the Fall 2011 term, students that already possess a Baccalaureate degree, or the equivalent, from any institution are ineligible to receive the HOPE Grant
- Invoices will be rejected for HOPE Grant if student indicates on GSFAPPS that they have a baccalaureate degree

- Tuition and Mandatory Fees

- Updated to indicate that the HOPE Grant pays full tuition and mandatory fees for the Summer 2011 term only
- Beginning with Fall 2011, the HOPE Award Amount, as determined by the Commission, will be paid in lieu of full tuition and mandatory fees

# HOPE Program Regulations

- **HOPE Grant**
  - Book Allowance Awards
    - Updated to indicate that book allowance awards are only available during the Summer 2011 term
    - Students that are Pell Grant Eligible are eligible to receive the full book allowance for Summer 2011
    - Students that are not Pell Grant Eligible will receive half of the normal book allowance rate for Summer 2011
    - Rates are same as HOPE Scholarship

# HOPE Program Regulations

## HOPE Grant: Q&A

- Q. Lindsay attends Georgia Northwestern Tech and has a 2.9 GPA with 35 semester hours at the beginning of the Fall term. Can she receive the HOPE Grant?**
- A. Yes, for the fall term. The GPA requirement applies at the first checkpoint a student reaches after the fall term. If she reaches the 60 semester hour checkpoint at the conclusion of the fall term, she must then have a 3.0 GPA, or lose eligibility.**

# HOPE Program Regulations

## HOPE Grant: Q&A

- Q. Mark graduated with a Baccalaureate degree from the University of Kentucky in 2005. He was laid off in 2009 and had been attending Dekalb Tech for the past two years. Can he continue receiving the HOPE Grant in the Fall term?**
- A. No. Since he already has a Baccalaureate degree, he is no longer eligible for HOPE Grant payment.**

# HOPE Program Regulations

## HOPE Grant

Questions?

# HOPE Program Regulations

- **HOPE GED Grant**
  - Award amount and basic program eligibility are unchanged
  - Numerous definitions and sections added or updated to match other programs
  - Only significant changes will be operational

# HOPE Program Regulations

## HOPE GED Grant

### Questions







