

Nathan Deal
GOVERNOR



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

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REACH Georgia Program expands to 134 School Districts

Students in 31 additional school systems have now become REACH Scholars. Launched by Governor Deal in 2012, the REACH Georgia Program is a needs-based mentorship and scholarship program designed to encourage students, starting in middle school, to persist in their educational pursuits. Students in the program are provided with the academic, social, and financial support needed to graduate from high school and earn a post-secondary education.

“The REACH Georgia program provides students across the state with greater access to higher education while also preparing them for an academic journey that will culminate in personal and professional success,” said Gov. Nathan Deal. “This investment in the future of our state helps to improve educational outcomes for students from low-income communities and further strengthens our classroom-to-career pipeline. With the expansion of this critical program to 31 additional school systems, we are changing lives for the better and opening doors of opportunity for some of Georgia’s most promising young minds.”

With the addition of these 31 new school systems, the REACH Program now serves nearly 1,700 students in 134 systems across the state. New systems joining the REACH Program in the 2018-2019 school year include:

Appling County
Atkinson County
Brantley County
Candler County
Charlton County
Chickamauga City
Clayton County
Columbia County
Emanuel County
Glascock County
Gwinnett County
Jackson County
Johnson County
Lanier County
Lincoln County
Long County

McDuffie County
Miller County
Mitchell County
Pelham City
Pickens County
Pierce County
Polk County
Pulaski County
Schley County
Telfair County
Treutlen County
Ware County
Washington County
Wheeler County
Wilkes County

“We are excited for the 31 new school systems joining the REACH Program this year,” stated Caylee Noggle, Interim President of the Georgia Student Finance Commission (GSFC). “Thanks to the continued support of our public and private partners, we are on track to meet our goal of having 3,000 students in the program by 2020.”

New students participating in the REACH Program participated in a REACH signing ceremony during which they officially signed their “commitment” forms. These special events are coordinated by the local participating school systems and are held each year during REACH Signing Week. New REACH scholars sign contracts pledging to meet academic and attendance requirements and to meet with academic coaches, while remaining crime, drug, and behavior issue free. Parents and guardians also sign contracts to support these efforts along with community members, REACH Coordinators, volunteer mentors and academic coaches who commit their time and energy to helping these students achieve educational success. If you are interested in becoming a mentor or would like to learn more about the REACH Program, please visit reachga.org.

About the REACH Georgia program

REACH Georgia is a program of the Georgia Student Finance Commission and its companion student finance entity, the Georgia Student Finance Authority. The REACH Georgia needs-based scholarship and mentorship program was designed to assist students who demonstrate true academic promise, but may not currently have the academic preparation or financial support needed to graduate high school and earn a postsecondary credential. Additional information about REACH is available at reachga.org or 800.505.GSFC (4732).