



Realizing Educational Achievement Can Happen

**REACH Georgia Scholarship Program
For Postsecondary Institutions with Scholars**



GSFC | Georgia Student
Finance Commission

REACH Georgia

- Participating school systems select rising 8th grade students
- Students must meet academic, behavior and attendance performances from 8th to 12th grade
- Based on 8th to 12th grade performance and participation in the REACH Georgia Program, students who qualify as REACH Scholars
 - Must graduate high school with a minimum 2.5 HOPE calculated GPA
 - Must submit FAFSA application annually

REACH Awards

- Full-Time (12 hours) Enrollment required each term of award
- Award Amounts – REACH Regulation 5208.2:
 - \$10,000 lifetime award
 - \$2,500 per award year maximum
 - Maximum per term: \$1,250 per semester or \$834/\$833/\$833 per quarter
 - REACH Scholars awarded less than the maximum amount per semester or quarter may receive the remaining funds in another term of that year.
 - REACH Scholars may receive an award during Summer term

REACH Awards

- REACH Award may be applied towards cost of attendance
- Cannot exceed cost of attendance, in combination with other financial aid awards
- Pell Grant eligibility not required
- The HOPE or Zell Miller Scholarship is separate and applied to tuition

REACH Awards

- Eligible REACH Students must receive an award letter with REACH Scholarship listed
- Some Participating Institutions have agreed to additional financial assistance for REACH Scholars
 - The amount is based on the REACH Georgia Program Agreement signed by the institution
 - Include matching amount on the student's award notice

REACH Length of Eligibility

- Length of Eligibility – REACH Regulation 5207.7:
 - A REACH Scholar must enroll in an Eligible Postsecondary Institution and begin receiving REACH funds no later than June 30, two years after the date of high school graduation
 - A scholar's eligibility to receive REACH awards expires on June 30, five years from the date the scholar began receiving REACH funds

REACH Invoicing

- The Institution's Financial Aid Office invoices GSFC for each term of eligibility for the Scholarship amount
- Invoicing deadline is the same as other State Aid Programs
- Invoicing fund code: **RS**
- Submit invoices in a similar format as other Scholarship programs, either by file or manual entry in SURFER
- Funds are electronically transferred to the Postsecondary Institution

Maintaining REACH Eligibility

- Academic Requirement – REACH Regulation 5207.5:
 - Effective FY 2020, the calculated HOPE GPA from CHECS will be used to determine the REACH Scholar's continued eligibility
 - Scholar must meet SAP and maintain a minimum HOPE-Calculated GPA of 2.00 at the end of each Spring term
 - Includes coursework taken at or accepted transfer credit by any HOPE-eligible Postsecondary Institution
- Scholars who have lost eligibility can regain eligibility the following term where the student has earned a 2.00 or higher HOPE GPA
- Scholar is permanently ineligible after losing eligibility twice

REACH in SURFER

- Notifications

- GAD file field #36

- C = Complete/Approved/Eligible (upon high school graduation)
- IP = In Progress/Preliminary Eligible
- Blank/NE = Not Eligible

- Student Demographics: REACH Scholar = Eligible

- Annually- REACH file will be placed in SURFER Inbox listing 12th and 11th graders for the current academic year

- File will include the student's mailing address id the institution would like to mail information to the student

REACH Georgia

- Program Regulations and Dear Colleague Letters accessible at www.gsfc.org
- REACH Program questions, email REACH@gsfc.org
- REACH Program Invoices, email OandD@gsfc.org
- Other questions: Pennie Strong
pennies@gsfc.org
770-724-9014

Friendly Reminders

- Be social with GSFC
 - Like/Follow us and find tips, resources, event information and much more about planning, preparing and paying for college
- Create a GAfutures account
 - Students can check their high school HOPE GPA, College HOPE GPA and find out information on academic eligibility for the HOPE and Zell Miller Scholarship



GAfutures
Explore. Plan. Succeed.

Our Mission



To promote and increase access
to education beyond high
school for Georgians.