

2017-2018

REACH Georgia School System
Application



Application for School System Participation in the 2017-2018 School Year

Application Instructions:

- REACH Georgia is currently accepting applications for the 2017-2018 school year.
- REACH Program Regulations governing this program and referenced in this application can be found at: <http://gsfc.georgia.gov/sites/gsfcc.georgia.gov/files/2017-REACH.pdf>.
- Additional information about REACH Georgia can be found at www.REACHGA.org.
- Questions relating to the preparation of the application should be directed to: Keisha Hull, Executive Director, at keishah@gafc.org or 770.724.9070

REACH Georgia Program Overview:

REACH (Realizing Educational Achievement Can Happen) is a needs-based mentorship and scholarship program designed to encourage students to persist in their educational pursuits. Part of the state's Complete College Georgia initiative, REACH school systems identify low income rising eighth grade students who display academic promise and provide them with the academic, social, and financial support they will need to graduate from high school, attend and complete college and achieve success in the workforce.

REACH Scholars sign a contract agreeing to maintain good grades, uphold good behavior and attendance, meet with their assigned mentor at least twice a month, their academic coach once a month, and attend REACH activities throughout each school year until their completion of high school. Their parents or guardians also sign a contract to support their Scholar's educational pursuits. REACH Scholars who complete program requirements will receive a scholarship of up to \$10,000 (\$2,500 a year for up to four years) to be used towards the educational costs at a University System of Georgia, Technical College System of Georgia, or eligible private postsecondary institution.

REACH is Georgia's first public-private needs-based scholarship opportunity. It is locally owned and operated allowing community members to have a stake in student success. Participating schools systems are responsible for designating a REACH coordinator as well as a mentor and academic coach for each of their system's Scholars. These designees support the REACH Scholars and ensure that they are upholding the commitments they made in their signed contract which include maintaining good grades, attendance, and behavior. The school system is also responsible for gaining community supporters who are willing to assist the student academically as well as willing to financially help support the program.



REACH Georgia Program

School System Application

2017-2018 School Year

Applicant Information

School System Name: _____

School System Address: _____

Superintendent Name: _____

Superintendent Phone/Email: _____
Phone *Email*

Superintendent Assistant's Name: _____

Superintendent Assistant's Phone/Email: _____
Phone *Email*

REACH Program Tenet Checklist

REACH is Georgia's first public-private needs-based scholarship opportunity and is locally owned and operated. School Systems should plan to closely align themselves to the following tenets and adhere to program regulations.

REACH Program Tenets

Number of Scholars	<input type="checkbox"/>	5 REACH Scholars <i>(For school systems with less than 5 high schools)</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	8 REACH Scholars <i>(For school systems with 5 or more high schools)</i>
REACH Coordinator	<input type="checkbox"/>	Has someone in mind	<input type="checkbox"/>	Will need to identify
Mentoring	<input type="checkbox"/>	Existing Mentoring Program	<input type="checkbox"/>	Will need to identify
Academic Coach	<input type="checkbox"/>	Has someone in mind	<input type="checkbox"/>	Will need to identify
Fundraising	<input type="checkbox"/>	Tier 1 - \$1,500 per REACH Scholar	<input type="checkbox"/>	Tier 2 - \$2,500 per REACH Scholar
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Tier 3 - \$3,500 per REACH Scholar	<input type="checkbox"/>	Tier 4 - \$5,000 per REACH Scholar
Selection Committee (Civic, Corporate, Community)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Has committee members in mind	<input type="checkbox"/>	Will need to identify

NOTES:

REACH Program Assurances

Please check the appropriate box in response to the following policies, procedures and programmatic requirements.

The school system understands that the REACH Program is locally owned and operated.	<input type="checkbox"/>	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	No
The school system understands that the REACH Program is governed by the REACH Program Regulations and agrees to comply with these regulations.	<input type="checkbox"/>	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	No
The school system agrees to identify students who fit the REACH scholar profile; low income, first generation, and who would benefit academically with the help of an Academic Coach and Mentor. The system understands that students who are already “straight A” students would most likely thrive without the support of REACH and may not be a first choice.	<input type="checkbox"/>	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	No
The school system understands that the REACH Scholar Selection Committee should be comprised of civic, corporate, and community representatives who will select REACH Scholars from the applications submitted. In addition, these members can serve as mentors to the Scholars and provide college and career advice and opportunities.	<input type="checkbox"/>	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	No
The school system will provide REACH staff at the Georgia Student Finance Authority (GSFA) data relating to Scholars’ grades, attendance and behavior as well as academic coaching and mentoring meetings to show student and school system progress in the REACH Georgia Program.	<input type="checkbox"/>	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	No
For the second school year of participation in REACH, and each school year thereafter, the school system will transfer its share of the scholarship funds in accordance with the REACH Program Regulations. Any funds raised must be transferred to GSFA, or its designee, within 10 days of receipt of such funds.	<input type="checkbox"/>	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	No
The school system understands that 100% of the funds raised for REACH will be used to support REACH scholarships.	<input type="checkbox"/>	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	No
I certify that the information reported in connection with this Application is true, correct and complete to the best of my knowledge. I further certify that I have read and understand the REACH Program Regulations.	<input type="checkbox"/>	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	No

School Superintendent’s Signature or Designee

Date

REACH Georgia Representative’s Signature

Date

President, Georgia Student Finance Authority

Date



GETTING STARTED

Next Steps for _____ School System

- ✓ Identify the REACH Coordinator
- ✓ Establish a mentoring program or identify an existing local program
- ✓ Identify the Academic Coach
- ✓ Select a Community Based REACH Scholar Selection Committee
- ✓ Review Student Selection Criteria and distribute applications to 7th grade students
- ✓ Develop a student application, submission and committee review timeline
- ✓ Refer to the following online resources located at www.REACHGA.org

REACH Georgia Regulations

REACH Georgia School System Application Reference Guide

REACH Student Application

REACH Coordinator Handbook

NOTES:



reachga.org



facebook.com/reachga



twitter.com/reachga

The REACH Georgia Team

Keisha Hull

Executive Director

keishah@gsfc.org

o: 770.724.9070

Brad Bryant

Vice President

brad@gsfc.org

o: 770.724.9248

Sara Neeley

Business Development Consultant

sara_neeley@hotmail.com

o: 678.640.3494