Summer Semester 2016

Effective Summer 2016

Effective Summer 2016, Georgia College Financial Aid Office will no longer require an application/survey to obtain financial aid for the summer semester. The Financial Aid Office will automatically evaluate students’ eligibility that enroll beginning approximately a week after registration for summer semester starts. Students must have a complete financial aid application for 2015-2016. Students with complete files will be evaluated in the order in which they enroll in classes, with students who register first being evaluated first. No additional application/survey is needed for summer term unless noted after the initial review.

I. General Eligibility Requirements

In general, to be considered for student aid you must:

- Be a United States citizen or permanent resident of the United States, and
- Be accepted for admission and classified as a degree-seeker at Georgia College by the Office of Admission; or be currently enrolled in an approved degree seeking program, and
- Be making progress toward the completion of your course of study according to the “Academic Requirements for Receiving Financial Aid,” (found under ‘Policy – Satisfactory Academic Progress’) and
- Not be in default on any loan and have not borrowed in excess of loan limits under the Title IV programs at any institution, and
- Not owe a refund on any grant received under the Title IV programs at any institution, and
- Certify registration with selective service if required.

II. Financial Aid Information

- Students should expect to fund their summer expenses from their remaining eligibility for the 2015-2016 academic year. These sources will include Federal Pell and the Federal Stafford Loan Programs (Subsidized and/or Unsubsidized). In addition, a limited amount of Federal Work-Study (FWS) will be available. Further, the HOPE and Zell Miller Scholarships are available for students who qualify. Federal Direct PLUS loans are available for Parents of Dependent students and Graduate students. In order to receive the PLUS loan, borrowers will need to complete an application and electronic master promissory note (MPN) at the Direct Loan website.
- Eligibility for aid will be based on data and supporting documents submitted for the 2015-2016 award year. Summer Semester is the last term of the academic year.
- Eligibility for Summer Aid is based on the enrolled hours at the time of the initial evaluation for the summer semester. If you are initially enrolled less than half-time and then increase your enrollment status to at least half time (6 hours for
undergraduate and 5 hours for graduate), please notify the Financial Aid Office via email at financialaid@gcsu.edu if you wish to pursue a Stafford or PLUS loan.

- **Pell Grant recipients** that attended full-time for Fall and Spring **will not** qualify for any Federal Pell Grant funds for the Summer term. Award may represent full eligibility but actual disbursement will be adjusted according to actual hours enrolled.

- **Stafford loan borrowers** that accepted and were disbursed their “annual loan limit” (based on class level) from the Subsidized/Unsubsidized programs **will NOT** qualify to receive additional funds for the summer semester.

- HOPE Scholarship funds will be awarded based on the 2015-2016 year’s “per credit hour” rate which is $208 per credit hour. Award may represent full eligibility but actual disbursement will be adjusted according to actual hours enrolled as well as remaining **attempted or paid hours** allowed according to state regulations.

- **All HOPE and Zell Miller awards** are **preliminary** until conclusive determination is made after Spring semester grade processing is completed approximately mid-May. Therefore, adjustments or cancellation of these awards may be necessary if recipients lose eligibility (i.e., GPA, 127 attempted or paid hours reached, etc.) and if already paid will become due immediately at the GC Business Office.

- Students will be notified of their summer semester eligibility via their GC Bobcat email account with instructions for accessing the on-line award letter via their PAWS account. Please note that special messages regarding summer will appear at the top of the award letter in green print.

- The **Financial Aid Office** reserves the right, on behalf of the college, to review and modify, including cancel, awards at any time because of changes in your academic status, academic program, resident status, enrollment status, etc. All Financial Aid awards are contingent upon the availability of funds and the student’s eligibility at the time of disbursement.

- Initial payments for the Federal Loan Programs (Stafford and PLUS) and most Pell Grant awards will **NOT** be made until the student is enrolled at least half-time (6 hours for undergraduate and 5 hours for graduate). However, students may use the authorized Financial Aid to satisfy their bills at the Business Office and to charge purchases at the Barnes and Noble at Georgia College Bookstore during designated dates.