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GEORGIA COLLEGE

GEORGIA'S PUBLIC LIBERAL ARTS UNIVERSITY

PARENTS' GUIDE

GEORGIA COLLEGE 2017

NEW STUDENT PROGRAMS • GCSU.EDU/ORIENTATION • 478-445-0948

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Directory
of Georgia College Phone Numbers

When calling outside of Georgia College, dial 478-445-and the extension below

Academic Advising Center	2361
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Athletics	6341
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Bobcat Card Office	CARD (2273)
Business Office	5254
Campus Life	4027
Career Center	5384
Center for Engaged Learning	1248
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Counseling Services	5331
Dining Services	FOOD (3663)
Financial Aid	5149
Health Services	5288
Honors Program	4025
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Ina Dillard Russell Library	4047
Learning Center	1179
New Student Programs	0948
Old Governor's Mansion Gift Shop	SHOP (7467)
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Public Safety	4400
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Study Abroad	4789
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Welcome, Parents!

As the state's designated public liberal arts university, Georgia College is committed to combining the educational experiences typical of esteemed private liberal arts colleges with the affordability of public higher education. Georgia College is a residential learning community that emphasizes undergraduate education and offers selected graduate programs. The faculty are dedicated to challenging students and fostering excellence in the classroom and beyond. Georgia College seeks to endow its graduates with a passion for achievement, a lifelong curiosity and exuberance for learning.

Georgia College aims to produce graduates who are well prepared for careers or advanced study and who are instilled with exceptional qualities of mind and character. These include an inquisitive, analytical mind; respect for human diversity and individuality; a sense of civic and global responsibility; sound ethical principles; effective writing, speaking and quantitative skills; and a healthy lifestyle.

Welcome to Georgia College!

Dr. Bruce Harshbarger

I love college campuses. I like the feeling you get when you're strolling across one – a feeling that you're in a place in which everyone is dedicated to making lives and communities better. But I've never been to a college campus that I like as much as Georgia College.

What makes Georgia College unique? For me, it's the collective influence of a lot of little things:

- the smiles and eye contact as members of the campus community pass one another;
- the students and faculty checking into The MAX to "do lunch" together;
- the way that volunteers are eagerly invited into organizations and positions of leadership;
- the faculty and staff mentoring that gives students all the responsibility they can handle, but provides support when they ask for it.

Georgia College is a special place, one that has seen an increase in student quality and applications grow at an astonishing rate. It's a place that tends to attract students for its friendliness and support, but challenges those same students to become autonomous critical thinkers. It's a good place in which to grow.

As a parent of an entering Georgia College student, you're playing a key role in your student's growth as well. We hope that you'll find information here that will help you to provide the challenge and support on the home front that your student will find on campus.

Cordially,

Dr. Bruce Harshbarger
Vice President for Student Affairs

Parent Adjustment

Dear GC Parents,

Congratulations! Your child is now a university student. There are many changes on the horizon. This developmental period of young adulthood will be a significant transition time for your son or daughter.

For your child, this will be a time of intellectual growth and exploration, making decisions and plans for the future, developing increased autonomy, an ability to govern himself or herself, developing a greater sense of identity and clarifying values and beliefs. The process of clarifying values and beliefs will require an examination of self, of family and friends, of the many values and beliefs that are shared with you and of those that are different. Part of the growing process means that your child will go through periods of questioning, sometimes questioning values you hold dear.

Sending a child off to the university is also a new stage of life for you, the parent. Whether your child plans to continue living at home or will move onto campus, or whether this is your first child or your last child to leave home, this time requires an adjustment for you as well as for your child. It is a time of "letting go." Your role as a parent is to understand these changes. With change, there is often a sense of loss. Even though you expect the outcome will be positive, temporary losses, such as a child being away at school, are losses, nonetheless. It may be helpful to realize that change and growth are inevitable. The relationship between you and your child will change as your child meets the challenges of developing autonomy and creating a life of his or her own. This is the major developmental task of young adulthood.

This transition, while exciting, can at times be a trying experience. As parents and guardians, you have fears and concerns that are quite normal. You may fear that the cultural and family values you have worked hard to instill in your child may be lost or diluted. You may fear “losing” your children as they become increasingly autonomous. You may wonder if they really can take care of themselves and have enough discipline to deal with alcohol, drugs or sex. You may wonder how your child’s success or performance will reflect on you as a parent.

How will your child make sense of the new experiences he or she encounters and how can he or she deal with them in a productive, positive way? We all make sense of the world through the lens of our life experiences, our family values and history, and our cultural and ethnic identity. It may be helpful to understand that your child's response to this new situation is the culmination of a lifetime of responses to other situations. All the learning they have received from you up to now is a part of who they are; it is a part of what they bring to any new situation. Your child will need time to adjust to the new situation, need time for "trial and error," for exploration and experimentation. You may notice new clothes, music, ideas or beliefs. You may notice your child forging a new identity, questioning and challenging old values and beliefs, keeping many, yet taking on new ones. Much in the same way your child might try on new clothes, looking for the best fit, your child may "try on" some new ideas or perspectives. As a parent you are in the best position to help your child through this period of adjustment.

What can you do to help?

1. Support your child's growing sense of autonomy and offer guidance.

2. Communicate regularly and with loving support. How openly do you and your child discuss feelings, concerns and differences in opinions?

3. Listen. Get to know your child's reactions to his or her new world. Your child's reactions are not the same as yours. Your child is not you and may have different needs, likes, skills and desires than you have.

4. When you problem-solve with your child, encourage him or her to take an active and equal role in the problem-solving. Do not immediately tell your child how to resolve a problem. Instead, ask your child "What ideas do you have? How would those ideas work?" Teach your child to problem-solve for himself or herself.

5. Be alert to signs of stress in your child. Experiencing some stress when entering a new situation is quite normal. You can reassure your child of this. If, however, the

One of the most important things you can do as a parent is to trust your child. You've spent 18 years raising your child, and now it is their turn to prove they have been listening. Be supportive, not overwhelming.

– Katherine Schinella

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stress persists over time, encourage your child to seek help from the many student support services that are available on campus.

6. Expect your child will make many changes during his or her academic study. The average college student changes academic majors four different times.

7. Expect there will be changes in your relationship with your child. Change is inevitable. It is best to understand this and to facilitate positive changes within the relationship rather than attempt to prevent change from occurring.

8. There may be some conflict, but the things you have given your child over the past 17-18 years are very much a part of him or her and will always be there.

Times of transition are exciting yet difficult.
Please give yourself and your child the gift of patience.

2016 Orientation Leaders

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Just Like Clockwork: The Rhythm of College Life

Used with permission. Mullendore, R. H., & Hatch, C. (2000). *Helping Your First-Year College Student Succeed: A Guide for Parents*. Columbia, SC: University of South Carolina, National Resource Center for The First-Year Experience and Students in Transition. Pages 7 & 8, "Just Like Clockwork: The Rhythm of College Life"

Certain times in the academic year tend to be universally challenging to students. Parents who understand the ups and downs of the first college year are better able to help their students negotiate the challenges of transition to college. Below are some typical adjustment issues faced throughout the first year:

AUGUST/SEPTEMBER

- Excitement
- Testing new-found freedom
- Frequent calls and visits home
- Homesickness and loneliness
- Anxiety about roommates, professors, classes
- First exams

OCTOBER

- Roommate problems begin to arise
- Students question: "Do I fit here?"
- First test grades returned

- Midterm Exams
- Love relationships from home remain strong
- Consequences of decision-making experienced

NOVEMBER

- Midterm grades returned
- Roommate challenges become more clear
- Many papers and exams due before Thanksgiving
- Excitement and/or anxiety regarding going home for Thanksgiving
- First series of campuswide illness (cold, flu, strep, etc.)

DECEMBER

- Anxiety over preparations for finals
- Excitement and/or anxiety regarding going home for the holidays
- Sadness about leaving new friendship and/or love relationships
- Roommate challenges continue

JANUARY

- "Fresh Start" mentality sets in with new term
- Satisfaction and/or disappointment with fall term grades
- Homesickness
- Loneliness for love relationship back home
- Relief being away from home and back at school

FEBRUARY

- Feelings of claustrophobia and depression set in with winter
- Potential increase in alcohol and other substance abuse
- Challenges with love relationship back home
- Valentine's Day brings out loneliness, isolation

MARCH

- Anxiety regarding finding roommate(s) for next year
- Excitement and/or disappointment regarding Spring Break plans
- Midterm exam stress
- Concern over summer employment
- Concern over winter weight gain

APRIL

- Excitement with arrival of spring
- Concern over declaring major
- End of semester pressure

MAY

- Final exam anxiety
- Apprehension about returning home for summer
- Sadness over leaving new friendships and/or love relationships at school
- Realization of how college influences life decisions

In addition to these more predictable stressors, students may experience the following concerns throughout the academic year.

- Missing family birthday and holiday celebrations
- Missing participation in family traditions
- Wanting involvement with family maintained, but expecting their desire for complete freedom to be respected.

Be ready to listen and laugh. Don't take it personally when they make decisions without you, but be willing to give advice when they do ask for it.

– Valerie Scott

Top 10 Tips for Parents
from current Georgia College students:

1. **Trust the job you did in raising your student.** There's no need to call three times a day to make sure they are all right. At Georgia College, they're in good hands.

2. **Be a good listener.** There will be moments when your child just wants to vent to you about their problems but wants to solve them on their own.

3. **Extra money always helps!**

4. **Remind them to stay healthy.** Georgia College provides many opportunities for students to stay healthy. Encourage them to take advantage of intramural sports and exercise facilities, make smart choices with their dining options and get enough sleep.

5. **Make plans for campus visits in advance.** Give advanced notice if you are planning to visit them here at Georgia College. This lets them arrange their schedule so they have time to hang out with you (not to mention cleaning up their room).

6. **Prepare for your child's visits home.** When your students plan to come home, make the visit special. Have their rooms ready for them, fix some of their favorite meals and be prepared for a new timetable in their schedule.

7. **Put yourself in your student's shoes.** Remember, they are on their own for the first time. They're in a new environment with new experiences, and they're trying to balance everything by themselves.

8. **Keep in touch!** Just because your student isn't home anymore doesn't mean they don't want Halloween treats, Valentine's cards and Easter baskets. Email, send care packages, send cards, write letters…treats in the mail can brighten a day!

9. **Talk about money.** Work out a budget before they come to Georgia College. Whether they're spending their money or yours, it's important they know how to manage their money (a great lesson for their financial future!). The Bobcat Card can help by being a very handy tool for managing student funds.

10. **Be there when they need you.** As with tip No. 7, remember that your student is becoming an adult during their time here at Georgia College. They can handle most things on their own, though they will need your help from time to time. Whatever happens, be there when asked for help. On graduation day, it's all going to be worthwhile!

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University Housing

You and your student will want to prepare during the summer for your student's upcoming departure to college. Encourage your son or daughter to contact their new roommate and begin discussing plans for living together. Who will contribute what to the room? What expectations does each have for their roommate relationship? You can refer your student to the "Roommate and Suitemate Agreement," which is posted on the University Housing website, for a starting point.

Many of our students take advantage of online searches and social networking sites such as Facebook to research their roommates prior to arrival. Please remember that online information is often misleading and can result in rash judgments. We strongly encourage students to meet their roommate in person before making any decisions about how they will get along. Remember, they will be researching your student, too.

The university's housing program is designed to enhance students' development as they move from the start of their first year through preparation for the post-collegiate world as seniors. The university's requirement that all first-year students are to live on campus exists to provide a foundation for new students and aid them in their transition to the college experience—both inside and outside the classroom. We expect students to live on campus for at least their first two years at Georgia College and require all first-year students to reside in either the residence halls on Central Campus or The Village Apartments at West Campus. As students return for their

sophomore year they are able to select single rooms on Central Campus, but are strongly encouraged to take advantage of the Village apartments at West Campus. The programs in these buildings provide independent living under the umbrella of the university with the advantage of campus support, services and programs.

All new students should plan to check into their buildings for the start of Week of Welcome activities on Thursday, Aug. 17. To assist in the process of moving in 2,000 students, you will be asked to check in during a designated block of time, which will be announced during Orientation and in the move-in mailer that will arrive mid-July.

If you or your student has any specific questions prior to their arrival on campus, do not hesitate to contact our office. Please contact us at 478-445-5160 or email housing@gcsu.edu.

Frequently Asked Housing Questions

When should my student check in?

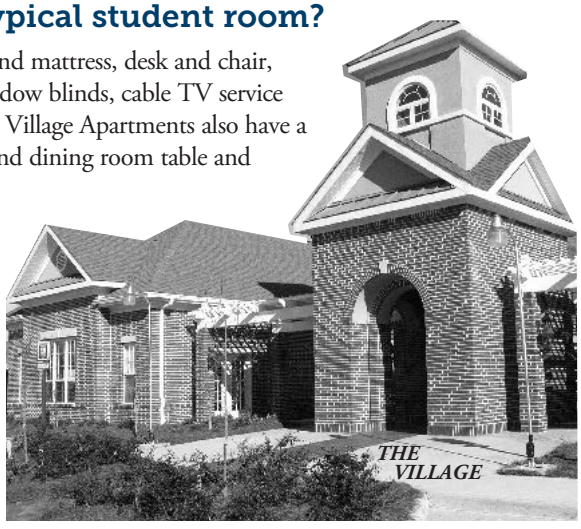
All students are encouraged to check in on Thursday, Aug. 17, between 7 a.m. and 10 a.m. Specific check-in times have been assigned to students based upon the first letter of their last name. Your specific check-in time will be announced during Orientation and in the move-in mailer that will arrive mid-July.

What is provided in a typical student room?

Each resident is provided with a bed and mattress, desk and chair, dresser, lockable closet, bookshelf, window blinds, cable TV service and high-speed wireless Internet. The Village Apartments also have a full kitchen, a furnished living room and dining room table and chairs.

What should my student bring to campus?

Items to bring include a pillow, blanket, bedspread, mattress pad, sheets, shower curtain and rings,


THE VILLAGE

towels, plunger, laundry bags, hangers, umbrella, items to personalize the room, TV and a computer. At The Village, items to use for cooking in the kitchen are useful. We suggest that you wait to purchase these until you discuss supplying the kitchen with your apartment-mates. A full list of items is available at gcsu.edu/housing.

What should my student not bring to campus?

Weapons and firearms, halogen or lava lamps, toaster ovens, hot plates, space heaters, indoor grilling appliance (i.e. George Foreman grill), extension cords, candles and incense, coffee pots with exposed heating elements and any items or appliances the university or the Fire Marshal may deem potentially dangerous should all stay at home. Full list of items available at gcsu.edu/housing.

What kinds of appliances can I bring?

A refrigerator no larger than 4.3 cubic feet and 2 running amps, and a microwave no larger than 800 watts are allowed. Cooking appliances with exposed elements should stay at home. Fire safety regulations allow cooking only in kitchens provided in each residence hall.

What size are the mattresses?

Mattresses are 80-inch "extra long" twin size in the residence halls and are standard full-size at The Village.

Can students bunk or loft their beds in the residence halls?

Yes. The beds in Bell Hall are already lofted. The beds in the rest of the residence halls can be bunked or lofted. Hardware is available from the housing staff. Loft kits are available to rent during Orientation. Homemade lofts are not permitted.

Can a housing contract be canceled during the year?

The residence hall housing contract is a legal agreement and is binding for the fall and spring semesters. Contracts at The Village are for 12 months (August – July).

Can my student change his or her meal plan?

Meal Plans can be lowered until Aug. 16 for the fall semester and until Jan. 12 for the spring semester by contacting the Bobcat Card Office if you are a commuter students or through University Housing if you are living on campus. You may upgrade your meal plan at any time.

How does a student request a room change?

After the first two weeks of the semester, room changes can be requested online.

What is a "CA?"

CAs (Community Advisers) are experienced students employed by University Housing and are key resources for you. There is a CA on each wing.

What is a Community Director?

Each hall has a Community Director (CD)—either a full-time professional or graduate student—who lives in the hall with the students and provides leadership to the building and the development of a supportive functioning community throughout the hall. The CD supervises the CAs and is also a key resource for your student.

Where can I learn more about Move-In?

Visit the housing website, www.gcsu.edu/housing, for details on move-in day, packing lists, room dimensions and more. You can also like GC Housing on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter.

GC Dining Services

Welcome to GC Dining Services, operated by Sodexo Campus Services, where you'll find great customer service and the freshest and highest quality food in an atmosphere that promotes fun and excitement with innovative ideas to keep you involved. The camaraderie created each school year among students, faculty and staff enhances the dining program.

We encourage student feedback through various means – e.g., comment cards, surveys and one-on-one sharing with dining staff. We're always responsive to customer suggestions, and our menu is ever-evolving, following dining trends regionally, nationally and internationally.

There are six meal plans from which to choose, as well as four opportunities to eat daily, Monday through Friday (breakfast, lunch, light lunch and dinner). Brunch and dinner are served daily on the weekends. Four meal plans come with "Dining Dollars" and "CatCash" (see details in the Bobcat Card section of this guide).

The following meal plans are offered:

The Unlimited Plan allows students to eat at The MAX as many times as they choose each day. This plan is for the student who enjoys dining often and without limitations. It includes $150 Dining Dollars and $50 CatCash.

The 14 Meals Per Week Plan provides for any 14 meals during each one week period, and averages two meals a day. It includes $200 Dining Dollars and $100 CatCash.

The 12 Meals Per Week Plan offers students 12 meals during a one week period. It comes with $200 Dining Dollars and $100 CatCash.

The 150 Block Plan is for the student who is on the run. This plan averages approximately 10 meals per week – that's less than two meals per day. This plan includes $250 Dining Dollars and $150 CatCash.

The 100 Block Plan averages about six meals per week.

The 25 Block Plan is traditionally purchased by commuters.

Block plans allow students to enter The MAX an unlimited amount of times daily. They expire at the end of each semester (exception: 25 Block rolls from fall to

spring only.) Please keep in mind that only block meal plans allow students to use their meals for guests. Dining Services offers **three meal plans for freshmen residents at Central Campus:** the Unlimited Plan and the 14 Meals Per Week Plan. We offer **four meal plans for freshmen residents at West Campus:** the Unlimited Plan, the 14 Meals Per Week Plan, the 12 Meals Per Week Plan and the 150 Block Plan. **Upperclassmen may choose from any of the six meal plans offered.** All meal plans automatically renew, and the associated fees are assessed for spring semester unless University Housing (for residents) or the Bobcat Card Office (for commuters) is notified of a desired change by Dec. 1.

GC's main dining hall, "The MAX," is located in Maxwell Student Union. Included in The MAX are several all-you-care-to-eat dining venues including the 441 Diner and Grill, Milla d'Villa Italian eatery, Magellan's Mongolian Grill, Vidalia's Vegetarian and Vegan fare, Sinclair's Sandwiches and Azul y Verde.

On-campus retail dining includes Chick-Fil-A Express, Einstein Bros. Bagels, Subway, Books & Brew and The Lunch Box. Hours for retail dining locations vary from 7:30 a.m. until 11 p.m.

We are excited about this upcoming school year and look forward to serving you.

Student Health Services

The Student Health Clinic is located on the first floor of the Wellness and Recreation Center at West Campus. The clinic services are available to students for most illnesses, minor injuries, Women's Health Care, sexually transmitted disease (STD) testing/treatment, laboratory testing and many other things. The clinic is staffed by nationally certified Nurse Practitioners.

Students are seen by appointment and should call 478-445-5288 to schedule a time to be seen. There are few walk-in slots available. Clinic hours are Monday-Friday, 8:15 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Appointments can be made online by logging into Unify, then selecting Medicat.

The Bobcat ID card is the student's official Georgia College ID and is **required** for entrance into the clinic and is required in order to obtain services in the clinic. The student should bring the Bobcat ID card and insurance card to every visit. Insurance is filed for visits to the clinic but there is no balance billing. Insurance plan information offered by the University System of Georgia/Board of Regents is available at www.uhcsr.com

If you need medical attention on weekends or after hours, there is Fast Track Urgent Care located on Hwy 441 (N. Columbia St.) next to Firehouse Subs, and there is the Oconee Regional Medical Center Emergency Room located at 821 N. Cobb St., Milledgeville. These facilities are not part of Georgia College. For any emergency students should call GC Public Safety at 478-445-4400 or 911.

For additional information about the clinic, visit our website at gcsu.edu/studenthealth/

If you have specific questions or concerns, call the clinic at 478-445-5288.

Barnes & Noble at Georgia College

Barnes & Noble at Georgia College serves students, faculty and staff, as well as the local community. The bookstore is located half a block off the main campus in the heart of downtown Milledgeville, right next to the courthouse in the Campus Theatre building. Barnes & Noble at Georgia College is a full-service bookstore, offering a large general reading section, GC clothing and gift items. The lower level includes textbooks and school supplies. Barnes & Nobles at Georgia College also offers "ShopGC.com," our convenient online storefront, which allows students to order textbooks as they register for class. Orders placed online are available via UPS shipping or for in-store pickup within one business day of order. New, used and electronic textbooks are available, and the store offers a textbook rental program for select titles as well.

The GC Bookstore accepts cash, checks, major credit cards and CatCash (the Bobcat Card's debit account) for all purchases. The bookstore does not maintain charge accounts for individuals. Students may authorize financial aid funds to be used at the bookstore.

The GC Bookstore is typically open Monday through Friday 8 a.m. – 5:30 p.m. and Saturday 10 a.m. – 3 p.m. Extended hours are offered during the first-of-semester rush.

Innovation Station

The Innovation Station is Georgia College's premier location for all things tech. Located in Russell Library, Innovation Station features Mac and PC laptops and tablets, and accessories for all your devices.

Students receive educational discounts when shopping through Innovation Station and the staff has worked with academic departments to ensure students get exactly what they need.

Serve, the GC help desk, is housed in Innovation Station so tech support is on site and ready to help.

Innovation Station includes a demo room that serves as a digital sandbox where students, faculty and staff can try out the latest technology and find new applications in and out of the classroom.

The Bobcat Card:
Your Campus One-Card Solution

The Bobcat Card is an essential key to campus life and a handy tool for managing your money. As your official Georgia College identification card, the Bobcat Card gives you access to facilities, services and fun! You can also use your Bobcat Card for making purchases at participating locations around town. The Bobcat Card is truly an all-inclusive card, serving as your:

- Personal debit card to access available funds for purchases in a CatCash account
- Meal plan card
- Retail dining card (for purchases at on-campus retail dining facilities)
- Library card
- Access card to residence halls (select buildings)
- Laundry vending card
- Snack and beverage vending card (select vending areas)
- Copier vending card
- Bookstore debit card
- Computer lab pay-for-print card
- Debit card for use with select off-campus merchants

How to Get a Bobcat Card

Bobcat Cards are produced at the Bobcat Card Office next to Einstein's Bagels (lower level of MSU). Photo identification, such as a driver's license or passport, is required to obtain your initial Bobcat Card. The initial card is issued free of charge, but there is a $25 fee for replacement cards. Photographs for student cards are taken during orientation. *Students who were unable to have their ID photo made at orientation should come to the Bobcat Card Office prior to checking in with University Housing.*

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Dining Dollars and CatCash

"Dining Dollars" (money that comes with the purchase of a 150 Block, 14 Meals Per Week, the 12 Meals Per Week or Unlimited Meal Plan) allow you the flexibility to purchase from the entire menu selection of any on-campus dining location. Purchase what you want, when you want, at a great value! These facilities include The Max, Chick-fil-A Express, Books & Brew, Subway, Einstein Bros. Bagels and The Lunch Box.

"CatCash" (all money personally deposited to a cardholder's Bobcat Card) may be used for purchases anywhere the Bobcat Card is accepted, both on and off campus.

CatCash funds in any amount may be added any time via check, cash, money order or credit card at the Bobcat Card Office, the GC Business Office, the Online Card Office (gcsu.edu/bobcatcard), or at PHIL (Payment Headquarters In Location) machines in the GC Library with cash.

Dining Dollars and CatCash act as automated debit accounts. Each time you make a purchase with your Bobcat Card using Dining Dollars or CatCash, the amount is automatically deducted from your account – and you never have to choose which account you wish to pay from. When a purchase is made at any on-campus dining location, the Bobcat Card system will automatically look first to the Dining Dollars account for payment, and if that account is depleted, it will automatically look to the CatCash account. It couldn't be easier!

All Dining Dollars and CatCash funds "roll forward" indefinitely (even across semesters and academic years), and balances are always available for a full refund upon graduation or official withdrawal from GC. You never have to worry about losing your money!

Contact Information

Bobcat Card Office
Georgia College
Lower Level—Maxwell Student Union

Telephone: 478-445-CARD (2273)

www.gcsu.edu/bobcatcard

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Business Office Services

Parks Hall 111 • Campus Box 022 • 478-445-5254
businessoffice@gcsu.edu

The Business Office is located on the first floor of Parks Hall and is open Monday - Friday from 8 a.m. until 5 p.m.

The online Student Account Center allows students and parents to view college bills and recent account activity as well as make payments and store payment profiles. Parents or guardians can be set up as an authorized user to access bills and make payments. All student statements are viewed through the Student Account Center. **No paper bills are mailed.** After each registration, an email notification will be sent to students and authorized users notifying them a statement is ready for viewing. Login to the PAWS website at paws.gcsu.edu to access the Student Account Center.

Student accounts must be paid by the early payment deadline or the account will be assessed **a $75 late fee**. The late fee will not apply to accounts that are enrolled in the NELNET payment plan or accounts with active financial aid applications. The early payment deadline can be found in the university calendar as well as other pertinent semester dates and deadlines.

Student Accounts

Students are strongly encouraged to manage their student account through the Student Account Center. Here are a few of the features offered:

- Direct Deposit enrollment
- Credit card and WebCheck payments
- View or print account summary
- Add authorized users
- Add additional email accounts

After three years of my daughter attending Georgia College, I truly believe it is the best decision we could have made. One piece of advice I think is important is to establish a budget upfront with your student and help them learn to manage their finances.

– Sherry Ellis

Payment Options

CREDIT/DEBIT CARD:
Credit/debit card payments for tuition, fees, housing and meal plans **must be made online** through the Student Account Center in PAWS. A convenience fee of 2.75 percent applies to all credit/debit card transactions. Please note, the Business Office does not accept credit/debit card payments in person, by phone or via fax for payment of tuition, fees, housing and meal plans.

WEBCHECKS:
WebChecks can be made online at no charge through the Student Account Center. Personal checking or savings accounts only. No credit card checks, business accounts or lines of credit are accepted. Please make sure you enter the correct routing and account numbers. All returned or rejected transactions are subject to a $25 service charge.

OTHER:
The Business Office accepts check, cash or CatCash transactions in person or check payments by mail.

PAYMENT PLAN:
To help you meet your educational expenses, Georgia College is pleased to offer Nelnet Business Solutions (NBS) as a convenient budget plan. NBS is a tuition payment plan offered by Nelnet Business Solutions that provides students and families with a low-cost option for budgeting tuition and other educational expenses, including

university housing and meal plans. **It is not a loan program. There are no interest or finance charges assessed, and there is no credit check. The only cost to budget monthly payments through NBS is a non-refundable Enrollment Fee. Payment plans must be renewed each semester.**

Account Holds

The Business Office collects fines or charges for parking, infirmary, housing and library. Holds are placed on the student's account until the charge/fine has been paid; the student will not receive a bill for account holds. Parking fines can be paid on the Parking and Transportation website. All other fines must be paid at the Business Office. We accept cash, checks, MasterCard, Visa, Discover, American Express and CatCash for payment of fines and miscellaneous charges.

Refunds

Refunds for excess financial awards are processed by the Business Office approximately 10 days after the first day of class. Direct Deposit is now available for student refunds. Access the Student Account Center to enroll. Students must present their Bobcat ID in order to receive their checks at the Business Office. Mailing requests should be made to the Business Office in person, by phone or by email request through the student account center.

Check Cashing

Personal checks of $50 or less can be cashed at the Business Office during the hours of 8 a.m. until 4 p.m. The student must present his/her Bobcat ID, and their account must be clear of any holds or balances. Checks should be made payable to "Cash," and the limit is one per day.

CatCash

CatCash deposits or balance inquiries can be made at the Business Office, the Bobcat Card Office or by logging on to the *Bobcat Card* website.

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Financial Aid Tips

Welcome to Georgia College. The Office of Financial Aid and Scholarships strives to help students reach their educational goals by providing appropriate financial aid resources to do so. These resources include scholarships, grants, work study and loans. Below is information regarding applications and additional information about several programs.

Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)- www.fafsa.gov

This application must be completed each year after Oct. 1 for the upcoming academic year. HOPE and Zell Miller Scholarship considerations are made from this application.

Once students' aid has been packaged, he/she will be notified via email. Students may review their financial aid awards on the Georgia College online award letter.

Georgia Student Finance Applications (GSFAPPS) - www.GAfutures.org

This application may be completed if a student wishes only to be considered for the HOPE or Zell Miller Scholarships.

Once a students' aid has been packaged, he/she will be notified via e-mail. Students may review their financial aid awards on the Georgia College online award letter.

HOPE Scholarship

Georgia residents who graduated from an eligible Georgia high school with a 3.0 cumulative grade point average on all core coursework, may qualify for the HOPE Scholarship. The HOPE Scholarship Program provides assistance toward tuition. Students may apply for the HOPE Scholarship by completing the FAFSA or the GSFAPPS application. Students must maintain a B average at periodic checkpoints to continue their eligibility. All full-time freshmen will be reviewed at the end of spring semester.

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Zell Miller Scholarship

Zell Miller Scholarship pays full tuition charges for students who graduated from an eligible Georgia high school with the required 3.7 G.P.A. (unweighted) for all core coursework in high school classes and a 1200 or higher score (from one sitting) on the Math and Verbal section of the SAT, or an ACT score of 26 or higher OR if the student is the valedictorian or salutatorian of their high school as reported to the HOPE office. Students may apply for the Zell Miller Scholarship by completing the FAFSA or the GSFAPPS application. Students must maintain a 3.30 GPA at the periodic checkpoints to continue their eligibility. All full-time freshmen will be reviewed at the end of spring semester.

Student Loans

Students who wish to accept students loans as part of their aid package must complete a Master Promissory Note (MPN) and participate in Loan Entrance Counseling. Both may be done electronically and are accessible from the Georgia College online award letter or at www.studentloans.gov.

Important Dates for 2017-2018

Oct 2017 – Mid-Spring 2018
Early Estimate Award Notifications will be made by the Financial Aid Office. Students will be notified via their university email account when their award is made. Awards can be viewed on their Bobcat DEN (Detailed Eligibility Notification) via PAWS.

Mid-Spring 2017
Official Award Notifications will be made and students will be notified via email.

July 1, 2017
Student Financial Aid files must be complete by this date in order to have funds to pay fees by the fall semester payment deadline. Files complete after this date will be processed as time permits, and students will be reimbursed any funds awarded.

Aug. 14, 2017
Until the end of drop/add period, remaining funds will be available for use toward the purchase of books at GC Bookstore once the Business Office bill for Fall Registration has been settled.

Approximately Seven to 10 Days After Classes Begin
Any funds remaining after fall semester fees are satisfied will be available to students by the Business Office. Please refer to the Business Office's "Refund" section for further details.

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What Are My Options for Financing My Student's Education If They Lose the HOPE Scholarship?

Georgia College offers our students the quality liberal arts education usually found at private colleges at the cost of a public college. The Office of Financial Aid has many financial options available to students in addition to the HOPE Scholarship. ***By completing the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA), students are considered for all types of federal assistance.*** Some programs are available to students regardless of the family's income.

Listed below are some examples of available resources:

NEED BASED AID PROGRAMS:

Name of Aid Resource	Type	Award Amount
Federal Pell Grant	Grant	Maximum $5,920
Federal Work Study	Work	Maximum $2,800
Federal Subsidized Stafford Loan	Loan	$3,500 Freshmen $4,500 Sophomore $5,500 Junior and Senior

NON-NEED BASED AID PROGRAMS:
(Students may qualify for these resources regardless of income)

Name of Aid Resource	Type	Award Amount
Federal Unsubsidized Stafford Loan	Loan	**Dependent Students** (Includes subsidized limits) $5,500 Freshmen $6,500 Sophomore $7,500 Junior and Senior **Additional for Independent Students** (Does not include subsidized limits) $6,000 Freshmen and Sophomore $7,000 Junior and Senior
Federal Parent Loan for Undergraduate Students (PLUS)	Loan	Cost of Attendance (COA) minus other aid received

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In order to apply for these programs, please complete the free application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) online at www.fafsa.ed.gov. Please list Georgia College & State University in the school section (Code 001602) so that we may receive the results of the application electronically.

If additional funding is needed after these resources, please contact the Financial Aid office for details.

How do I regain eligibility for the HOPE Scholarship?

Students who lose the HOPE scholarship after a check-point may regain eligibility one time if they have a "B" average at the point of attempting 30, 60 or 90 semester hours. End-of-spring check-points are only to determine continued eligibility and not considered a point to regain eligibility.

HOPE Eligibility Check-points
Students are evaluated to ensure they attained a "B" average at the following checkpoints:

- 30 attempted semester hours
- 60 attempted semester hours
- 90 attempted semester hours
- At the end of every spring Semester (except for beginning Freshmen enrolled below full time)

HOPE attempted hours include:

- All regular coursework attempted after high school graduation
- All attempted transfer coursework, withdrawals and dropped courses

HOPE Cumulative Grade Point Average (GPA) Calculation
HOPE GPA includes:

- All earned grades after high school graduation (including both grades when a course is repeated)
- Grades from all transfer work (even if courses are not accepted at GC)

HOPE GPA does not include:

- Grades given of S, U, IP, W
- Grades earned in college courses prior to high school graduation
- Grades earned by examination (i.e., AP credit and CLEP)
- Grades for non-credit coursework when given.

Student Employment

We currently have two student employment programs on campus—Federal Work Study and College Work Study.

Federal Work Study (FWS) is a federally subsidized program, which is awarded to undergraduate students, and in some cases graduate students, based on established financial need and at least half-time enrollment. An undergraduate student must be enrolled in at least (6) six credit hours whereas a graduate student must be enrolled in at least (5) five credit hours. Jobs are located on-campus and work schedules are planned around your class schedule. If you are approved to receive Work-Study awards, it will be included as a part of your financial package. When school is in session, student employees may work up to 1,300 hours in a 12 consecutive month period from their original hire date, which averages out to about 25 hours per week. Contact Financial Aid at 478-445-5149 for more information.

College Work Study (CWS) provides additional opportunities for students to secure campus employment. This program assists students who do not qualify for FWS funds but express a desire to work on campus. While financial need is often not a factor, earnings under this program could affect other aid received. CWS employment opportunities depend on money available in each department and wages will be at least the current federal minimum wage. Students are employed on an hourly basis for such work to be computed by the hour unless otherwise classified by the Office of Human Resources and Employee Relations. Students in the CWS must be currently enrolled at GC at least half-time during the semester of employment. When school is in session, student employees may work up to 1,300 hours in a 12 consecutive month period from their original hire date, which averages out to about 25 hours per week. Student employment and budgeting is limited to a period of time coincident to the academic semester. Formal cooperative work agreements extending for periods in excess of one academic semester may be initiated as an exception to the one-semester limitation on student employment. Students may be employed at GC as a student employee subject to need and availability of funding; therefore when funds are no longer available, the position will end and the student will no longer work. Students in the CWS program are provided the title of **Student Assistants**. Contact the Office of Human Resources and Employment Relations at 478-445-5596 for more information or visit www.gcsujobs.com

What To Do When Hired

If you are hired by a campus department, please keep in mind that you must complete a two-part orientation before you can begin working. **Part-One:** Online pre-orientation must be completed prior to start date of employment. The Office of Human Resources and Employee Relations will email you the link and ADP number for registration.

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Part-Two: You must report to the Office of Human Resources and Employee Relations. Please contact the Office of Human Resources and Employee Relations at extension 5596 to schedule an appointment on or before your first day of employment. During the HR appointment a representative will collect pre-orientation materials and employment I-9 documents. The Office of Human Resources and Employee Relations Representative will need to view **original** documents to establish your employment eligibility: Passport, Driver's License, School ID, Social Security Card and/or Birth Certificate. Please contact the Office of Human Resources and Employee Relations for a complete list of acceptable documents. Note: New students should not start work until Orientation has been completed.

Georgia College Public Safety

The Department of Public Safety takes the well-being of your child very seriously. Our police officers and support staff go to great lengths to provide our students, faculty, staff and visitors with a safe and comfortable living, learning and working environment. Named the safest campus in the state of Georgia for 2011 by stateuniversity.com, our department is proud of its safety record, and we do everything we can to maintain our reputation.

Our 20 full-time certified police officers patrol all of the university's facilities, grounds and parking lots 24 hours a day. Our officers remain highly visible on foot and in their marked patrol vehicles. Our Crime Prevention Unit provides monthly education and training sessions on relevant topics, ranging from self-defense classes to drug and alcohol awareness seminars.

Georgia College has implemented many resources to help enhance your child's safety. We have 65 emergency call boxes strategically placed around our campus. Each residence hall room is equipped with a panic button that is received by our 24/7 police dispatch center. We have also installed 340 cameras throughout campus to aide in Public Safety efforts.

Public Safety also has the ability to alert all students, faculty, staff and visitors of any potentially dangerous situations through various emergency alert systems. These systems include but are not limited to: GC ALERT, outdoor emergency notification system, email alerts and Alertus Desktop. For more information on our emergency alert system, please visit gcsu.edu/alert.

We are glad that you have chosen to become a part of the Georgia College family, and we are honored to be entrusted with the safety of your child. Please know that Public Safety is here to "protect, serve and educate."

Georgia College Emergency Information:

Georgia College Police Department	478-445-4400
Student Health Services	478-445-5288
Counseling Services	478-445-5331
Student Affairs	478-445-2091

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Parking and Transportation

Georgia College Parking and Transportation Services, a unit of Auxiliary Services, implements the university's parking plan and campus shuttle service 365 days per year. All vehicles parking on Georgia College property must be registered and display a valid GC parking permit. There are more than 3,600 spaces available for student, faculty and staff parking. However, the location of Georgia College within the historic and business district of Milledgeville allows for very limited parking close to classes. The primary spaces available to students are allocated throughout the Centennial Center area and West Campus in designated lots. These parking lots are serviced by frequent and scheduled shuttle buses, which will transport students to the Maxwell Student Union and around the Central Campus core.

Student fees include a parking and transportation fee. This fee provides a student permit valid for designated lots depending upon the students status as an on-campus resident or off-campus commuter. The fee also allows students unlimited access to the shuttle system serving the campus. The shuttles from West Campus run every eight minutes during the daytime school hours and every 15 minutes after 5 p.m. There also is a weekend shuttle, which services Central and West Campus on a one-hour continuous route and makes routine runs to the Walmart shopping center and the Milledgeville Mall.

Parking regulations are strictly enforced. Enforcement times are posted at each lot and on the Parking and Transportation Services website. Citations for infractions of GC parking regulations may be issued by GC parking enforcement officers and GC public safety officers. Additionally, the city of Milledgeville police department may also issue citations for infractions involving safety related areas. Fines, immobilization and towing are authorized as disincentives to ensure that parking operations run as effectively as possible.

An appeal process is in place for those individuals who feel there are exigent circumstances and disagree with an issued citation. The individual may detail his/her case online and submit it to the Parking Appeals Committee. The committee is composed of members from the student body, faculty and staff. They review the individual appeals and render decisions on a monthly basis. For more information, please visit www.gcsu.edu/parking or contact the Parking and Transportation Services office at 478-445-RIDE (7433).

Counseling Services

College is a time when students develop their ability to function independently in the world. Sometimes students experience roadblocks in this process and counselors are here to help. Counseling Services provides free and confidential short-term professional counseling to enrolled students for a wide range of issues, including:

- **Personal issues:** Through individual, couples and group counseling, we help students with an array of personal concerns, such as relationship issues, anxiety, and depression, as well as the stresses of adjusting to college and life away from home.
- **Academic skills:** Time management, study skills, test-taking, test anxiety
- **Psychiatric Services:** Short term medication management
  Alcohol and Other Drug Education: Education, screening and referral for treatment, if needed
- **Referral:** Assistance in locating additional sources of help, both on and off campus, including times when issues require long term or specialized care
- **Consultation:** We consult with students, faculty, staff and family members who have concerns about others.

Counseling Services is located in Suite 210 in the Wellness and Recreation Center at West Campus. We see students by appointment Monday through Friday 8 a.m.-5 p.m. For more information, visit gcsu.edu/counseling or call 478-445-5331.

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The Academic Advising Center

Second Floor, Lanier Hall
Telephone: 478-445-2361
gcsu.edu/success

The Academic Advising Center is committed to helping students successfully transition to Georgia College. All undergraduate students are advised by professional advisors in Lanier Hall for the duration of their time at GC. We offer guidance that is intended to provide quality advisement to assist all students in making sound choices about majors and academic pathways.

Advisor assignments are listed on the student's Tranguide in PAWS. If an incoming student is not informed regarding his/her advisor assignment, he or she should contact the Advising Center in Lanier Hall.

Advisement and Registration

Advising at Georgia College is a shared responsibility between students and advisors. Through a centralized advising system utilizing professional advisors and a network of resources and support, students receive information and guidance aimed at the student's successful completion of degree requirements and preparation for post baccalaureate opportunities. The Academic Advising Center helps students to gain self-understanding that will inform their decisions regarding academic, career and life goals.

Centralized Advising

All undergraduate students are advised by professional advisors in the Academic Advising Center in Lanier Hall. The Advising Center provides quality advisement through both the core curriculum and the major, as well as provides exploration opportunities for students to assist them in making sound choices about majors and career directions. In addition to the professional advisors in the Academic Advising Center, upper-level students may also have faculty mentors within their academic department.

Registration Periods

Students and advisors should note that while advisement can occur at any point during the term, the registration period for classes usually occurs around the mid-point of the semester and continues until the end of the Drop/Add period. During that time, students can go

online and register for classes, provided they have met with their academic advisor to plan coursework for the upcoming term and had the Advisor Hold lifted from their file. Traditionally seniors and graduate students have access to the registration system for the first day of the registration period, and then the process opens on a rolling basis during the remainder of the first week for juniors through freshmen. Final opportunities for schedule adjustment occur during the first five days of the new term in a period referred to as Drop/Add. Schedule adjustments made during this five-day period have no bearing on the number of attempted hours for the HOPE scholarship, but may have implications on the student's invoice. Should a student elect to drop a course after the five-day period, however, these hours are considered attempted hours and will be counted toward assessment of eligibility for the HOPE scholarship. Along this same topic, it is important to note that students may only drop a course (outside of the initial five-day Drop/Add period) a total of five (5) times during their academic career at Georgia College.

Core Curriculum

Georgia College, in cooperation with other institutions of the University System of Georgia, has adopted a Core Curriculum to allow the transfer of credit from one institution to another without penalty to the student. Each institution establishes the courses required to meet its Core requirements but will accept the completed Core requirements of another System institution. Listed in the online Undergraduate Catalog are the areas of distribution for the Core Curriculum with Georgia College's approved courses for Areas A, B, C, D and E. (Courses not listed there are not approved for those areas.) A PDF version of a Core Curriculum checklist can be found on the Center for Student Success website: www.gcsu.edu/advising/registration.

Credit Hours

In college, each class your student takes will be worth a certain number of credit hours. These "hours" are usually allocated based on how many hours of instruction the student receives each week. The typical student will take five classes a semester, which usually means he or she will be taking 15 hours. A student may, however, take up to 18 hours. While 12 hours is the minimum for full-time status, we strongly encourage first-year students to "Think 30" – to utilize fall and spring combinations of 15/15, 14/16, 16/14, 17/13, etc…, so that they finish their first year with sophomore standing and are progressing on-schedule toward graduation.

There is no specific minimum credit hour limit required for HOPE Scholarship eligibility, however the value of the HOPE award each semester depends on the number of credit hours for which the student is registered. Decreasing a course load can result in a HOPE student owing a balance. It is important to touch base with a financial aid advisor if a HOPE student elects to reduce credit hours during the drop/add period.

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A Student's Role as an Advisee

Academic advising takes the advisor and the advisee working together to achieve optimal success for the student. A student should share information with the advisor about interests, goals, educational and career plans. In addition, students should share personal information that has a bearing on their academic careers, such as the number of hours spent at work, responsibilities to family, financial aid status and any limitations; such topics can be helpful to advisors.

Students should be familiar with the Catalog and the Student Handbook. These are vital sources of information. It is recommended that students monitor their degree requirements in DegreeWorks (students access DegreeWorks through their PAWS account) and be familiar with deadlines. A successful student is the one willing to contact the appropriate student support services available on campus.

Georgia College advisors prepare the fall semester class schedules for freshmen through the POUNCE process. During the First Year Academic Seminar and through their first advising appointment in the fall, students will learn how to plan a schedule and will prepare to self-register in October for the upcoming spring semester. In March, students will register themselves for the subsequent fall (and summer, if applicable) semester(s).

Therefore, students should be prepared for meetings with the advisor. Students should review what courses are necessary for the degree program and have an idea of what courses they would like to take. Encourage your student to alert the advisor immediately if he/she begins to have difficulties that are affecting class work or continued enrollment. Students must be an active participant in their advising sessions!

A SOUND STUDENT APPROACH TO ACADEMIC ADVISING

Parents: Below is important advice we hope all students will follow in regards to academic advising. It is written below as it appears to the student, but we share it with you in the hopes you can reinforce the message.

Preparation – A student should:

- Know your advisor's name
- Check your Bobcats email every day
- Review the curriculum of your major program. Helpful sources of information: the University Catalog, DegreeWorks, the Registration Schedule, the online Class Schedule and the program of study worksheet
- Be mindful of the calendar; It's your responsibility to schedule an appointment with your advisor during an advising period

- Develop a written list of questions or topics to cover with your advisor
- Make an appointment with your advisor to discuss advisement and registration well ahead of your registration time
- Mark your calendar with the day and time of both your advising appointment and your registration time assignment
- Plan your schedule; Make sure you mark any times that are already set for you, such as work
- Check mid-term grades through PAWS

The Advising Appointment – A student should:

- Be on time
- Help your advisor help you. If you're having trouble with a specific course or all of them, be prepared to discuss this and be open to your advisor's suggestions for using the Learning Center, Writing Center, etc.
- Discuss courses for the upcoming semester, and listen carefully to your advisor's recommendations; Check all prerequisites for the courses you want to take
- Ask questions about your progress toward meeting CORE, major prerequisites and major and minor requirements; Review your progress toward graduation.
- Consider carefully the balance between your work responsibilities and your academic course load
- Discuss plans for graduate/professional school, or beginning a career
- Be sure that you understand how to register through PAWS

Follow-up – A student should:

- "Think 30" -- register for a full course schedule via the PAWS system.
- Utilize course wait-lists if needed. The wait list in how departments monitor need/demand.
- Let your advisor know if you are unable to register for any of the courses or alternates suggested.
- Verify your schedule through the web before the semester begins. Do not rely on an outdated paper/printed schedule. Classroom locations or instructor assignments can change.

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The Learning Center

Second Floor, Ina Dillard Russell Library
Telephone: 478-445-1179
gcsu.edu/learningcenter

The Learning Center offers tutorial assistance to any Georgia College student enrolled in core curriculum subjects such as math, science and economics. We understand the challenges students encounter when a learning situation arises in which they don't feel completely prepared to perform optimally. Our Tutors, Undergraduate Learning Assistants (ULAs) and Supplemental Instructors (SIs), aim to enhance the academic lives of students. We also offer several computers with tutorial programs in various areas as well as an inviting atmosphere for individual or group study.

For more information about The Learning Center tutorial services and schedule of availability, please visit our website.

Study Abroad

Seize the opportunity to become a global citizen at Georgia College! Study abroad programs provide ample opportunity to see the world and gain international experience.

- Explore your World: Experience new cultures firsthand, both in and outside of the classroom
- Academic Enrichment: Gain a new perspective on your course of study
- Personal Growth: Discover new strengths and abilities, conquer new challenges and solve new problems
- Learn a Language: Immerse yourself in a culture that speaks the language you are studying
- Connect: Meet not only locals to the culture in which you are studying, but also other international students from around the world

Georgia College offers a vast array of study abroad opportunities during the summer and semester, which vary in length from 14 days to yearlong programs, in more than 75 different countries and virtually every discipline. With the HOPE Scholarship and financial aid packages available, study abroad can be affordable for every academically eligible student.

Study abroad may also qualify students for the opportunity to receive a "Bachelor's Degree: International Plan," which is recorded on Georgia College transcripts and demonstrates a significant level of international education and experience.

International Education Center

The Bone House, 141 S. Clarke St.
Telephone: 478-445-4789
studyabroadinfo@gcsu.edu
www.gcsu.edu/studyabroad

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The University Career Center

Lanier Hall, Room 110 • 478-445-5384
www.gcsu.edu/career

Prior to graduation, undergraduate students at Georgia College are expected to complete a set of career planning benchmarks that follow a four-year career planning model. Known as the GC Career Planning Milestones, these benchmarks provide students an opportunity to engage in career development activities on an annual basis so that they are prepared for internships as well as transitions to a career or to graduate / professional school.

1. **Career Exploration:** First, GC students complete the Focus 2 career assessment and review it with a career advisor as part of their First Year Academic Seminar course. Students also register with the Career Connection Job and Internship Database.
2. **Career Preparation**: Next, students participate in resume review sessions that include an introduction to LinkedIn.
3. **Career Planning:** Once students have completed a career assessment and have identified their transferable skills through resume writing, students complete a career planning appointment. In this appointment, students work with a career advisor to discuss career plans and complete a mock interview focused on articulating transferable skills gained through their liberal arts education.
4. **Career Implementation:** In their final year, students complete a senior-year check-in in which they consult with career advisors on their resumes or CVs, LinkedIn profiles, and career plans. Students also upload their final resume to Career Connection to be included in Employer Resume Books.

The Career Center staff communicates regularly with students via their GC email to promote opportunities for completing the Career Planning Milestones. Activities include Resume Review Days, Mock Interview Days and Senior Check-In activities. For details on how to complete the Milestones, visit gcsu.edu/career/milestones.

The Career Center also hosts a variety of career planning meet-ups and over 10 different career fairs each year, which includes the Part-time Job Fair, Fall and Spring Career and Internship Expos, a Summer Camp Job Fair and a Graduate and Professional School Fair. Students should access their Career Connection account through Unify to view the calendar of events.

The Career Center is located in Lanier Hall, Room 110. Hours of operation are 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday. The Center staff can also be contacted at 478-445-5384, or through their website at gcsu.edu/careercenter.

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The HUB

Blackbridge Hall – 111 S. Clarke Street
478-445-8519

The HUB (Honoring, Uniting, Building) at Georgia College strives to honor and unite the intersectional identities of our campus community while challenging identity-based oppression through education and support. We offer a multitude of programs and opportunities for involvement, as well as a physical, welcoming space for students to gather and be in community with one another.

The HUB is home to the Cultural Center, LGBTQ+ Programs, the Women's Center and Project BRAVE. We are organizationally located under the Division of Student Affairs – Campus Life.

Cultural Center

Campus Box 06
Phone 478-445-8155 • Fax 478-445-1287

The Cultural Center works within the Office of Student Affairs-Campus Life to ensure that there are adequate programs and initiatives, which provide support and advocacy for underrepresented populations, enhance awareness and appreciation of cultural and racial diversity and promote a campus climate that celebrates all differences. We work collaboratively with student organizations such as the Black Student Alliance, Latino Student Association, Artists Actualizing Change and Pride Alliance, in addition to faculty, staff and the local community to integrate an appreciation of diversity into university and civic life.

Minority Support Programs – Student Oriented Activities and Resources (SOAR); Mentoring African-Americans for Leadership and Education (MALE Connection Program)
We incorporate programs such as SOAR and MALE Connection to provide support for GC's minority students. Various studies that have shown that minority students on predominantly-White campuses face unique barriers that often include lack of familiar networks, inadequate relationships with faculty and feelings of exclusion, resulting in meager use of campus resources that are important to their retention and successes. SOAR is a multitiered mentorship program that matches incoming minority students with GC professional faculty/staff mentors. The program, which currently involves more than 240 participants, helps to form a network of resources and support to ensure the student's successful transition and completion of their collegiate experience. MALE Connection is part of the University System of Georgia's African-American Male Initiative; this program provides support and empowerment for GC's underrepresented population of Black male students and connects them with valuable campus and community resources.

For more information, please contact us at 478-445-8155 or visit gcsu.edu/culturalcenter.

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Women's Center

Campus Box 06
Phone 478-445-8156

The Women's Center at Georgia College strives to create a dynamic campus community that challenges gender-based oppression through education, support, and advocacy. Utilizing a feminist and intersectional lens, we work to achieve our mission through:

- Creating programming promoting healthy sexuality and relationships;
- Providing opportunities for leadership development and personal empowerment;
- Collaborating across campus and community for social change;
- Driving power-based interpersonal violence prevention efforts at GC;
- Supporting members of our campus community in times of crisis.

The Women's Center (WC) is a place where anyone can come to learn about gender-based issues. We are here because we believe women should be able to live life free from fear of partner violence, sexual assault and sexual harassment. We believe women should be paid equitably, enjoy healthy self-esteem and have confidence that comes from within. For more information, please contact us at 478-445-8519 or visit gcsu.edu/womenscenter.

LGBTQ+ Programs

Campus Box 06
Phone: 478-445-8575

LGBTQ+ Programs works closely with the Georgia College Pride Alliance to support the students, staff and faculty at Georgia College who identify as LGBTQ+. The office is also home to our Safe Space program, a training series that educates our community on LGBTQ+ identities and ways in which to be an ally. For more information, please contact 478-445-8575 or visit gcsu.edu/lgbt.

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Project BRAVE

Campus Box 06
Phone: 478-445-8519

The mission of Project BRAVE (Bobcats Rising Against Violence Everywhere) is to:

- implement comprehensive prevention education programs surrounding power-based interpersonal violence (PBIV; i.e. sexual assault, dating/domestic violence, stalking and other sexual violence)
- provide advocacy and support for campus victim/survivors
- create a community where violence prevention is everyone's responsibility

Project BRAVE has several trainings open to the campus community including our Be BRAVE: Step Up bystander intervention training and BRAVE Ally training. We also work closely with BRAVEheart, the student organization arm of Project BRAVE who host many awareness raising events on campus, and our Project BRAVE Peer Facilitators who are responsible for bringing a number of educational programs and trainings to our campus community. Project BRAVE also offers confidential victim advocacy services to campus victim/survivors of PBIV of all genders. For more information, please contact us at 478-445-8519 or visit gcsu.edu/BRAVE.

Student Disability Resource Center

Russell Library, Room 109
Phone 478-445-5931 • Fax 478-445-1959

The mission of the Student Disability Resource Center is to partner with the campus community in creating inclusive and sustainable learning and working environments and facilitate access, discourse, and campus community involvement. We provide accommodations and other related services to Georgia College students with documented disabilities to fulfill our institutional commitment of equal access to facilities, courses, programs and activities. The Student Disability Resource Center also serves as a resource for students, faculty, staff and the community regarding disability issues.

Academic accommodation, as required by law, is intended to remove barriers and create access for students with disabilities to the learning environment and to be evaluated fairly. In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), students with disabilities who seek accommodations at Georgia College must self-identify by contacting the Student Disability Resource Center, provide documentation of their disability and request services and accommodations.

For more information about requesting academic accommodations, please contact the Student Disability Resource Center at 478-445-5931 or disability@gcsu.edu.

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The Department of Campus Life

http://campuslife.gcsu.edu

The Department of Campus Life seeks to further the liberal arts mission of Georgia College by extending student learning outside the classroom and by fostering lifelong connections to the university. We do this by exposing students to diverse social, cultural, multicultural, global, physical and intellectual opportunities; inspiring students to be active participants in meaningful learning opportunities in the areas of recreation, community service, leadership, activities and student organization governance; and coordinating traditional events and activities that create a sense of pride and belonging. The Department of Campus Life is composed of the following units: Student involvement, Fraternity and Sorority Life, Office of Community Engagement, Recreational Sports and Campus Life Business Office.

Through the office of **Student Involvement,** student organizations provide a great way to get involved. There are over 170 recognized student organizations (RSOs) ranging from academic interests to religious groups to governance to service and activity organizations. If there is not a group that fits a need or interest, a student may start a new group by working with the Student involvement staff. Whether through academic, Greek or traditional organizations, Student involvement invites all students to get involved, learn a lot and have fun! For more information, visit our website: http://orgs.gcsu.edu.

Fraternity and Sorority Life at Georgia College is a great way to be involved on campus and in the community. Joining the Greek community is considered one of the most rewarding collegiate experiences students will ever have. Our organizations provide an environment that gives students a home away from home. Fraternities and sororities uphold core values of scholarship, leadership, service and friendship. We invite you to be a part of something bigger than yourself. We invite you to be a part of an active community of students who share the same core values. Students interested in joining a fraternal organization are encouraged to explore the many options available to them at Georgia College. Our community is represented by 27 organizations that make up four governing councils. Fraternities and Sororities take new members at various times of the year and the membership process looks different for each organization. Our Interfraternity Council and Panhellenic Council participate in a collaborative recruitment process known as "council coordinated recruitment." Our National Pan-Hellenic Council and United Greek Council's member organizations independently host recruitment or intake, known as "chapter coordinated recruitment." For more information about the Fraternity and Sorority Life community can be found at fsl.gcsu.edu.

Office of Community Engagement serves as the service clearinghouse, empowering and inspiring students to make a difference in our community by linking them to needs of our community. The Office of Community Engagement has four cornerstones which are; volunteerism, leadership, collaboration and legacy. It is through this center in which Georgia College students, faculty, and staff become involved in campuswide service events,

as well as local, state and national endeavors. This Office works with students who have a passion for service and help them to hone in on their leadership skills so they can reach their full potential while making the world a better place. This office can assist students with reporting and tracking their service hours so they will realize the impact they are having on our community. The Office of Community Engagement is located on the first floor of the Maxwell Student Union. For more information, you can reach us at 478-445-5700 or you can visit our website at gcsu.edu/give-center.

The **Recreational Sports** office offers students the opportunity to participate in various structured individual and team sports ranging from recreational to competitive. These activities are designed to meet the creative interest of a diverse university community and to offer students opportunities to develop both physical and social skills. They are provided in a recreational atmosphere in which students can pursue a healthy and constructive lifestyle and develop contacts, group affiliations and leadership skills in recreational activities that may become life-long avocations. Many opportunities are also available through **Sports Club** programs that are made up of individuals who have a desire to compete or participate in sports throughout their college career. For more information on Recreational Sports, visit our website: recsports.gcsu.edu.

The Campus Life Business Office manages the financial, facilities, event planning and customer service operations of the Student Activities Center (commonly known as the Student Center). The **Student Center** is home to "the DEN," which is a fun-filled space for students to play video games, billiards, board games and ping pong. It hosts state-of-the-art technology, which consists of a Mac Bar, eight large-screen TVs and surround sound. For students looking to relax, two full-body massage chairs are available along with a number of comfortable sitting areas. While the DEN is an exciting place, the Student Center is also home to meeting rooms and the very popular Magnolia Ballroom, which are all available for student organization use. Finally, the Student Center is home to the Student Government Association, Campus Activities Board, Office of Fraternity and Sorority Life, Campus Life Business Office and Department of Campus Life. The Department of Campus Life is located in Room 214. For more information, our telephone number is 478-445-4027 or you can visit the Campus Life website: campuslife.gcsu.edu.

The West Campus Center, aptly named, offers students a number of different spaces and accommodations. The "WCC" boasts a newly renovated classroom with modern furniture and projection/computer technology that provides organizations with a collaborative and innovative environment. The WCC is also home to the "west DEN," a relaxing and innovative lounge for students to play billiards, table tennis, or relax on the outdoor patio overlooking the Village Field. Not to be confused with "the DEN" on main campus the west DEN is a sister site, created to emulate the inviting atmosphere found in the main campus location. In addition, the west DEN hosts The Village Market, a convenient market for students to grab a quick snack on their way to class or to enjoy a tasty milkshake after a long day.

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Georgia College Athletics

Georgia College has an outstanding tradition in intercollegiate athletics. Bobcat Nation fields 11 varsity sports competing at the NCAA Division II level in the Peach Belt Conference, which is widely recognized as one of the best in the nation. Georgia College students get to enjoy all the games free of admission by showing their student I.D.

The men's and women's cross country teams compete in the fall and have re-written the school record books over the last few years. Both teams advanced to the NCAA Regional meet in 2016. The Bobcats hosted the Peach Belt Conference Championship race in 2016.

Women's soccer is a great spectator sport in the fall. The Bobcats compete at West Campus, and in addition to watching great soccer matches in covered chairback seating, fans can win all kinds of prizes in various halftime promotions while watching the action.

Bobcat volleyball was our newest varsity sport with its first season in 2013. Head coach Gretchen Krumdieck brings experience from the NCAA Division I level to Georgia College and will guide this great spectator sport into season three for the Bobcats. Georgia College hosted the conference tournament in Volleyball in 2016.

The GC basketball teams compete in the Centennial Center, which is one of the finest facilities in the Southeast. In addition to great games, facilities and promotions, the Bobcat cheerleaders and dance team the Sassy Cats also provide plenty of entertainment.

Georgia College's fast-paced men's basketball team has won four Peach Belt Championships, two PBC Tournament Championships and have appeared in the NCAA Tournament six times.

The GC women's basketball team has enjoyed tremendous success. The Bobcat women have gone to the NCAA Tournament seven times. In head coach Maurice Smith's five seasons, they've won a PBC Tournament title, and finished as runners up twice.

In the spring, the GC men's and women's tennis teams play at the Centennial Center courts. The women's tennis team has been to the NCAA Tournament for 23 straight years. The men's tennis squad has also reached the NCAA Tournament for 11 straight seasons.

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The GC softball team plays its games at the Peeler Complex on West Campus. The recently-renovated complex is fan friendly with a great view of the game from stadium chairback seating. The Bobcats set a school record in wins during the 2015 season, reaching as high as sixth in the nation. The two-time NCAA World Series participants advanced to the NCAA Super Regional in 2015 after making their third-straight NCAA Tourney appearance.

The Bobcat baseball team is a two-time Division II College World Series participant, and has been to the NCAA Tournament 11 times. The Bobcats have won four conference titles and two PBC Tournament Championships. John Kurtz Field is also located at West Campus and offers fans a great view right behind home plate, or plenty of room on the third base hill.

The GC golf team rounds out the Bobcat athletic teams. GC made an appearance in the NCAA Tournament for 20th season in 2017. The Bobcats advanced to the National Quarterfinals in 2012, two wins away from competing for the National Championship.

Twitter/Instagram/Facebook: @GCBobcats #BobcatNation

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Wellness and Recreation Center

The Georgia College Wellness and Recreation Center opened Oct. 24, 2011. It is located at the West Campus Center near the housing complex, intramural fields and athletic department fields. The Center cost $28 million to construct and equip and is 100,000 square feet.

Four university programs are housed in the center and include Wellness Programs, Recreational Sports, Student Health Services and Counseling Services. The center, which is Leadership in Energy & Environmental Design (LEED) certified, provides part-time employment for approximately 100 students.

The Wellness and Recreation Center has one classroom for academic and other use to support the educational mission of the university. The College of Health Sciences' kinesiology and other departments conduct academic and activity classes in the center. Students in community health, exercise science, athletic training and outdoor education use the center as a working laboratory.

The center has a three-court gym equipped for basketball, volleyball and badminton. The multipurpose court is also equipped for indoor soccer and roller blade hockey. A variety of intramural sports and open recreation activities take place the gym and natatorium. One hour credit courses are available to students and include swim lessons, team handball, weight training, jogging, group fitness, volleyball, lifeguard certification, SCUBA and much more.

The center's natatorium has two pools for classes, recreation and individual fitness. The recreation pool is a 25-yard competition pool and the leisure pool is a shallow warm water pool for fun and relaxation. The natatorium has a 150-seat spectator seating area, two 12-feet climbing walls, water polo nets and diving boards. Registered Student Organizations are able to reserve spaces in the center for their group activities.

The Wellness and Recreation Center has socialization areas for students, a one-tenth mile indoor track, more than 100 pieces of state-of-the-art exercise equipment and a group fitness studio. The 29-feet-high climbing rock wall is managed by the Outdoor Education Department and provides learning experiences for students.

The center gets as many as 1,500 student visits per day and is open seven days each week. Access is with your Bobcat Card, which opens a turnstile.

The operating hours of the center vary by semester and are posted on the wellness website.

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Directory of Academic Offices

area code 478-445- and the extension listed below:

DEPARTMENT	LOCATION	PHONE
Accounting	Atkinson Hall 402	4023
Art	Blackbridge Hall	4572
Athletic Training	Parks Memorial 122	2136
Biology	Herty Hall 201	0809
Chemistry and Physics	Herty Hall 301	5769
Community Health	Parks Memorial 118	4072
Computer Science	Atkinson Hall 301	5721
Criminal Justice	Arts and Sciences 2-03	4562
Early Childhood Education	Kilpatrick 228	5479
Economics and Finance	Atkinson Hall 402	4210
English	Arts and Sciences 3-03	4581
Environmental Science	Herty Hall 201	0809
Exercise Science	Parks Memorial 104	4072
French	Terrell Hall 113	4415
History and Geography	Humber White House	5215
Honors Program	Terrell Hall 215	4025
Liberal Studies	Terrell Hall 325	5221
Management	Atkinson Hall 432	4324
Management Information Systems	Atkinson Hall 301	5721
Marketing	Atkinson Hall 301	5721
Mass Communication	Terrell Hall 211	8260
Mathematics	Arts and Sciences 1-29	5213
Middle Grades Education	Kilpatrick 126	5479
Music and Music Education	Porter Hall 202	4226
Music Therapy	Health Sciences 130	2645
Nursing	Parks Memorial 235	1076
Outdoor Education	Health Sciences 334	1226
Philosophy	Terrell Hall 325	5221
Political Science	Arts and Sciences 2-03	4562
Pre-Engineering	Herty Hall 301	5213
Psychology	Arts and Sciences 1-03	4574
Rhetoric	Arts and Sciences 3-03	4581
Secondary Education	Kilpatrick 137	7368
Sociology	Arts and Sciences 2-03	4562
Spanish	Terrell Hall 113	4415
Special Education	Kilpatrick 217	4577
Theatre	Black Box Theatre Fourth Floor, Room 218	8290

Georgia College Lingo:
A reference guide to all new GC Parents

Soon after your son or daughter arrives at GC, they may begin using words or phrases that seem strange to you. In reality, they are talking about the buildings, programs and places around campus. The list below should help you and your student speak the same language.

Bobcats Email – The official means of University communication with students. A student's email address of the student will typically be first.last@bobcats.gcsu.edu, with some adjustments made for students who share the same name. Students can access their email through the student GMAIL link found on paws.gcsu.edu, and should check it daily.

CA – (Community Advisor) *n.* The CA is a current student, employed and trained by University Housing who lives in the residence halls with the residents. The CA is a valuable resource and connects students to the campus resources they need. In addition to answering questions and assisting with everyday needs, CAs also build community in the residence halls by hosting events and activities.

CLAWS – (Cross-Listing for Available Work for Students) *n.* This listing is available for students in the PAWS main menu as a starting point in their search for employment, both part-time and full-time. The listing offers Federal Work Study, College Work Study and general employment opportunities.

PAWS – *n.* This secure site provides students with access to personal information, including class schedules, financial aid information, registration and grades. This is where you can check email, register for courses and explore the internet. The email address of the student will typically be first.last@bobcats.gcsu.edu, with some adjustments made for students who share the same last name and first name. Students may also use PAWS to access services formerly available in **PAWS** (**P**ersonal **A**ccess to **W**eb **S**ervices). Those services include access to all personal information, including registration, grades, financial aid, their class schedule, undergraduate and graduate catalogues, course catalogue, etc.

MSU – (Maxwell Student Union) *n.* A building located on Front Campus that houses the The MAX, mail room, Colonnade *(*newspaper), Chick-fil-A Express, Subway, Einstein Bros. Bagel Co., The Give Center, the Bobcat Card office, Midsouth Community Federal Credit Union and the office of Auxiliary Services.

CD – (Community Director) *n.* The CD is a professional staff member who lives in the residence halls and works with the CA staff to build hall community and assist residents. CDs are experienced staff members with extensive training who supervise the CA staff and ensure issues within their buildings are addressed in a timely manner.

RSO – (Recognized Student Organization) *n.* These are the organizations on campus that are registered with Student Activities, and receive the benefits of having a mailbox housed in the office of Student Activities, the use of university facilities and equipment, the use of GC in their title and the ability to solicit memberships and raise funds on campus.

SERV *n.* – This one actually doesn't stand for anything, but it is the last four digits of the phone number that reaches the technology help center on campus 478-445-7378, which provides assistance to students with any computer problems.

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SNAP – (Student Night Auxiliary Patrol) *n.* The program enables students to patrol the campus via foot and golf carts and provide safety escorts to the university community during the evenings and at night. Anyone who is on or within the immediate proximity of the GC campus is encouraged to call the GC Department of Public Safety at 478-445-SNAP (7627) and ask for a safety escort to their residence hall. The service is free of charge and will be available most weeknights.

TAIL *n.* – **Transfer Articulation Information Locator**
Visit www.gcsu.edu/admissions/undergraduate/transfersdefault.html to access information on transferring credit from another institution to Georgia College.

The Village *n.* – Short for The Village at West Campus, GC's apartment community located on West Campus.

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Academic Calendar

The following dates are subject to change and should be confirmed before plans are made. For additional calendar information or to view calendars for Maymester and summer session, please visit **catalog.gcsu.edu/en/2016-2017/Undergraduate-Catalog/Academic-Calendars** or read The Info Page at info.gcsu.edu.

FALL SEMESTER 2017

Payment deadline for Fall 2017 courses..... August 11
Late fee to be added for non-paid Fall 2017 fees.....August 14
Fall 2017 Registration begins for TAP and Amendment 23 students..... August 14
Residence Halls open for Fall 2017..... August 17
Last day to withdraw (drop all Fall 2017 classes)
and receive 100% refund..... August 18
Classes begin.....August 21
Last day to add a course..... August 23
Last day to drop a course (reduce course load) without fee penalty.....August 25
Labor day holiday..... September 4
Midterm Feedback due..... October 13
(for all 1000 - 2000 level core classes due no later than 9 a.m.)
Fall break (no classes).....October 9-10
Last day to drop a course or withdraw from ALL courses with a "W" grade (Unless previously assigned an "F" by instructor for absences or if maximum number of dropped courses has been exceeded)..... October 19
Spring 2018 Registration begins for Continuing, Degree-Seeking Students.
Registration times: 7 a.m. - midnight each day.....October 23-26
Graduate students, Seniors, priority registration.....October 23
Juniors..... October 24
Sophomores.....October 25
Freshmen.....October 26
Spring 2018 Registration begins for Transient Students..... November 6
Thanksgiving holidays..... November 22-24
Last day of classes.....December 11
Final exams..... December 12-15
Last day for December 2017 graduation candidates to complete coursework for degree requirements..... December 15
Residence Halls close..... December 15
Fall 2017 Commencement Ceremony.....December 16
Grades due no later than 9 a.m..... December 20

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SPRING SEMESTER 2018

Initial payment deadline for Spring 2018 classes.....January 5
$75 late fee added for outstanding Spring 2018 balances.....January 8
Last day to withdraw (drop all classes for Spring 2018)
and receive 100% refund.....January 12
Residence Halls open for Spring 2018.....January 15
Martin Luther King, Jr. holiday.....January 15
Classes begin.....January 16
Final payment deadline for Spring 2018 semester; all tuition and fees must be paid
in full by this date.....January 16
Last day to add a course.....January 18
Last day to drop a course (reduce course load) without fee penalty.....January 22
Midterm Feedback dueMarch 6
(for all 1000 - 2000 level core classes due no later than 9 a.m.)
Last day to drop a course or withdraw from ALL courses with a "W" grade (Unless
previously assigned an "F" by instructor for absences or if maximum number of
dropped courses has been exceeded).....March 9
Summer and Fall 2018 Registration begins for Continuing,
Degree-Seeking students (7 a.m. daily).....March 12-15
Graduate Students, Seniors, and Priority Registration.....March 12
Juniors.....March 13
Sophomores.....March 14
Freshmen.....March 15
Spring Break.....March 19-23
Classes resume.....March 26
Summer and Fall 2018 Registration begins for Transient students.....April 2
Last day of classes.....May 7
Final examsMay 8-11
Last day for Spring 2018 graduation candidates to complete
coursework or degree requirements.....May 11
Residence Halls close.....May 11
Graduate Commencement.....May 11
Undergraduate Commencement.....May 12
Grades due no later than 9 a.m.....May 16

Summer Semester 2018

May 4-Week Session, 2018

Classes begin.....May 14
Memorial Day holiday (no classes, University closed).....May 28
Last day of classes.....June 7

June 4-Week Session, 2018

Classes begin.....June 11
Independence Day holiday.....July 4
Last day of classes.....July 6

July 4-Week Session, 2017

Classes begin.....July 9

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Last day of classes ..... August 2

May-June 8-Week Session, 2017

Classes begin..... May 14
Memorial Day (no classes, University closed)..... May 28
Last day of classes..... July 6

June-July 8-Week Session, 2017

Classes begin..... June 11
Independence Day Holiday (no classes, University closed)..... July 4
Last day of classes..... August 2

Full Summer Session, 2017

Classes begin..... May 14
Memorial Day Holiday (No Classes)..... May 28
Independence Day Holiday (no classes, University closed)..... July 4
Last day of classes..... August 2

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GEORGIA COLLEGE

GEORGIA'S PUBLIC LIBERAL ARTS UNIVERSITY

Office of Admissions • New Student Programs

Georgia College, the state's designated public liberal arts university, combines the educational experience expected at esteemed private liberal arts colleges with the affordability of public higher education.