

## PROGRAMS

A series of programs and activities will be offered exclusively for the BSP participants during their freshmen year. Activities may include teambuilding on a low-ropes course, socials, study skills workshops, stress management sessions, meals with faculty members, and community service projects. The \$300 program fee will cover the cost for all program activities. Attendance at BSP events is required as part of the yearlong RLC commitment. If there is a conflict with another campus activity, BSP is to take precedence with the exception of classes.

## PROGRAM DATES

### Summer Session:

BSP Orientation and move-in.. June 16, 2012  
Teambuilding and opening social programs..... June 17, 2012  
Classes .....June 18-July 16, 2012  
Holiday break, no classes (students return home) .....July 4, 2012  
Final Exams..... July 17-18, 2012  
Closing social programs, students notified of pass/fail status ..... July 19, 2012  
\*Apartment check-out .....July 20, 2012

\*Please note that students will be allowed to leave belongings in their apartments until they return for fall semester in August.

## ESTIMATED TUITION AND FEES

The estimated cost for the summer session of the Bridge Scholars Program is outlined below:

|                 |           |   |
|-----------------|-----------|---|
| Program Fee     | \$ 300    | (one-time annual fee, non-refundable, due by May 4, 2012) |
| Tuition         | \$1330    | (in-state)  |
| Student Fees    | \$ 582.50 |   |
| Housing Deposit | \$ 235    | (due by May 4, 2012 or a \$50 late fee will be applied)   |
| Housing         | \$ 724    | (4-person apartment)                                      |
| Meals           | \$ 184    | (25 Block Meal Plan)                                      |
| Total           | \$3355.50 |   |

Please note that these are **estimated** costs and will not be finalized until Winter 2012 based on state budgets and decisions of the Board of Regents for the University System of Georgia.

## FINANCIAL AID

Qualified students may receive Georgia's HOPE Scholarship which provides assistance toward tuition. Students must complete the 2011-2012 FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) application in order for summer semester 2012 eligibility for federal financial aid programs to be determined which includes grants and student loans as well as the HOPE Scholarship. Students should also complete the 2012-2013 FAFSA in order to be eligible for financial aid in the fall and spring semesters. If the student is only interested in receiving the HOPE Scholarship, an alternative application (GSFAPPS) may be completed at [www.GAcollege411.org](http://www.GAcollege411.org). For more information, contact the GC Office of Financial Aid at 478-445-5149 or [financialaid@gcsu.edu](mailto:financialaid@gcsu.edu).

## ABOUT GEORGIA COLLEGE

As Georgia's public liberal arts university, Georgia College offers a challenging array of more than 40 undergraduate degree programs and 18 graduate-level programs. GC has been named a Top 20 public university in the South by *U.S. News & World Report*, and the university was named a "College of Distinction" by a national publication, the only public university in Georgia to receive the honor. The university was also previously named one of the *100 Best Values in Public Colleges* in the country by *Kiplinger's Personal Finance* magazine.

*To learn more, contact*

### Bridge Scholars Program

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*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.*



# Bridge Scholars Program

Your introduction to college life



**The Bridge Scholars Program is a year-long Residential Learning Community** and is your chance to get a head start on college. The Bridge Scholars Program (BSP) begins with an intensive five-week summer program and is designed to assist students in transitioning from high school to college and help build a strong academic foundation. The program concludes the following spring with a closing ceremony. During the year, BSP participants attend a variety of programs and activities designed to support their success and further their growth.

In order to successfully complete the summer session, you must receive a grade of "C" or better in ALL courses and participate in ALL mandatory programs and workshops. Successful completion of the Bridge Scholars Program is a condition of admission to Georgia College for all students in the program and will determine enrollment for the fall 2012 semester.

## THE BRIDGE SCHOLARS PROGRAM WILL HELP YOU:

- Get a jump start on college by earning seven academic credits
- Develop successful strategies for handling the demands of college life and academics
- Build relationships with key faculty and staff
- Study and learn with other BSP members and make new friends



**Enrollment in the Bridge Scholars Program varies, but is typically limited to approximately 100 students.** Students are nominated for the BSP through the Admissions office and referred for an interview. Candidates will be interviewed until the program is full. Admission decisions will be made on a rolling basis and students will be notified of their admission status within one to two weeks of their interview.

*"The Bridge Scholars Program has truly made one of the biggest transitions of my life easier."*

## CREDIT

Students who enroll in the Bridge Scholars Program will be registered by the BSP staff for seven credit hours. All students will be required to take GCSU 1010: Student Success Seminar, which focuses on building academic and life skills necessary for success in the college environment.

*"It helped me to handle the different level of work and thinking that comes along with college. It was an amazing program, and I'm so glad I got to be a part of it."*

## COURSES

In addition to GCSU 1010, students who enroll in the Bridge Scholars Program will be registered for two courses that are part of the core curriculum at GC. Potential courses include:

- World Civilization
- Interpersonal Relations and Society
- Math Modeling
- Politics and Society
- America's Diverse Cultural Heritage
- Psychology

## SUPPORT

The Bridge Scholars Program is proud to offer a supplemental instruction resource center exclusively for BSP participants in their Village Apartment building over the summer. Bridge

Scholars also benefit from peer mentoring and Resident Assistant relationships. The faculty are selected, in part, by their willingness to be involved and supportive of BSP students outside the classroom.

## RESIDENTIAL COMPONENT

The Bridge Scholars Program is one of eight yearlong Residential Learning Communities. An RLC is a residentially based group of students who choose to live among others with similar interests. RLCs are designed to bridge the gap between learning inside and outside of the classroom. Participants will have programs designed exclusively for them throughout the academic year and attendance is required. BSP programs take scheduling precedence over other events except for class. Activities are designed to provide participants with experiences that will be beneficial to their personal and academic development while at GC.

Participants in the RLC will live at The Village at West Campus. Shuttles will provide transportation to and from main campus, and ample parking is provided just outside the apartment building.

Staffing in the apartment building will include Community Assistants (CAs) who work in University Housing, and peer mentors who were past participants in the Bridge Scholars Program. These are upperclass students who are trained to assist residents with the various transition issues first year students experience, and also to help engage students in the total college experience.

*"I told myself that if I could do what I did academically this summer, then I'm prepared to tackle anything that came my way during the fall semester."*

