Coronavirus Update

As part of Georgia College’s response to the coronavirus, we are now providing services exclusively by phone or electronic communication. We are still here to assist you as needed and are available in the following ways:

- Staff members are available by phone at 478-445-5149, Monday through Friday, 8:00 AM-12 noon and 1-5:00 PM. Staff members will also forward their individual office phone numbers to their current location.
- We will accept fax documents and requests at 478-445-0729.
- Staff members will check the financialaid@gcsu.edu email account throughout each work day, and we will respond to your request as soon as possible. Please be sure to include your GCID number or your full name so we can identify your records easily. Please also email from your bobcats email address whenever possible.
- Staff members will also be checking their individual email accounts throughout the day, and they will respond to your requests as soon as possible.
- We have tried to make most of our information available on our website. Please use this site for information regarding financial aid and our processes.
- All communication from our office will be electronic until further notice.

We appreciate your flexibility and understanding during this time. Please do not hesitate to reach out to us if we can help you navigate through this unprecedented situation.

Important Dates

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>May 6, 2020</th>
<th>May 11, 2020</th>
<th>Mid-June</th>
<th>July 1, 2020</th>
<th>August 17, 2020</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Grade Processing Begins for Spring Semester 2020</td>
<td>First Day of Summer Term</td>
<td>Student Access Loan Application (SAL) opens</td>
<td>Deadline to complete 2020-2021 FAFSA</td>
<td>First day of Fall Term</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Summer Awarding

The Georgia College Office of Financial Aid has begun awarding financial aid to eligible students enrolled in classes for summer 2020. The office does not require an application for summer, except if students are applying for a Stafford Loan, and students are awarded based on their enrollment at the time of their review. Students will be notified of their summer semester eligibility via their GC Bobcat email account with instructions for accessing the on-line award letter via their PAWS account. Please note that special messages regarding summer will appear at the top of the award letter in. Students who received their full time Pell awards in fall and spring may be eligible for Pell during the summer if they are enrolled in at least 6 hours. Any students who were not enrolled full-time are still able to receive their remaining eligibility. Hours for pell eligibility must be required for the student degree program. Students are eligible to receive their HOPE and Zell Miller Scholarships during the summer term as long as they continue to maintain the GPA requirements after the upcoming spring checkpoint which will occur for all HOPE and Zell recipients by mid-May. Students who are eligible to receive Federal Stafford Loans during summer semester will need to complete a Stafford Loan application available under the Financial Aid Tab in PAWS. To be eligible for Stafford Loans, students must be enrolled at least halftime, which is 6 hours for Undergraduate students or 5 hours for Graduate students, in courses that meet degree requirements.

Staff Spotlight:

Whitney Herman is the newest member of the GC Financial Aid Office. She will serve as the Financial Aid Advisor for students with last names beginning in S-Z. Also, she will serve as the State Programs and Grants Coordinator, including the HOPE and Zell Miller Scholarships.

Do you know your HOPE/Zell GPA?

The College HOPE Eligibility Calculation Service (CHECS) provides a centralized HOPE GPA calculation system. CHECS enables students to check their HOPE/Zell Miller Scholarship status through their My GAfutures account. The calculation includes the HOPE GPA, Checkpoints, Attempted and Paid Hours for students. Students are now able to track their HOPE GPA on GAfutures from high school through college. This is available at www.gafutures.org.

All students currently awarded the HOPE or Zell Miller Scholarships will have a checkpoint after Spring Semester 2020. Students may also have a tier checkpoint if they are reaching 30, 60 or 90 attempted hours. The 30,60,90 checkpoints are points that students may earn eligibility for HOPE Scholarship, or earn back eligibility for HOPE or Zell Miller if they previously lost eligibility. For more information see the FAQ on our website at gcsu.edu/financialaid.