

In this issue:

- ▶ 2019-2020 FAFSA
- ▶ Important Dates
- ▶ HOPE myths
- ▶ Meet our Staff
- ▶ Returning Scholarships

Financial Aid *focus*

GEORGIA COLLEGE FINANCIAL AID NEWSLETTER 2018-2019

FAFSA Now Open for 2019-2020

The 2019-2020 FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) opened on October 1, 2018. This FAFSA requires the use of 2017 tax return information. It can be completed at fafsa.ed.gov or on the new mobile app, myStudentAid, which can be downloaded from the Apple Store (iOS) or Google Play (Android). In order to login to the FAFSA and

complete it, both parents and students will need an FSA ID. This is a username and password login that would have been created the first time the FAFSA was completed (if completed previously). If either the student or parent doesn't remember their FSA ID, or doesn't have one, they can reset it or apply for one at fsaid.ed.gov. The FAFSA applies a student for federal

grants, Federal Work Study, Federal Stafford Loans, and is used as an application for the HOPE or Zell Miller Scholarships. The GSFApps is an alternative application to the FAFSA and can be completed at gafutures.org when a student wants to be reviewed for HOPE or Zell Miller Scholarships only. We advise that students complete the applications early and use the IRS Data

Retrieval Tool option on the FAFSA. Using this tool allows our office the potential to expedite your application. Please contact our office with any questions about the applications or eligibility at (478)445-5149 or by email at financialaid@gcsu.edu.

Try the new
myStudentAid
app to complete
the 2019-2020
FAFSA!

Important Dates

October 1, 2018
The 2019-2020
FAFSA opened

October 22, 2018
Spring class
registration begins

October 22, 2018
Nelnet Payment
Plan begins for
Spring

November 28-
December 4, 2018
University wide
system upgrades &
most systems will
be down

December 7, 2018
Returning Student
Scholarship
Application opens

January 2019
Downloading and
processing for
2019-2020
FAFSAs begins

HOPE Myths

Don't Fall for these HOPE Scholarship TRICKS... Let us TREAT you to the truth!

Myth- Students have to complete a FAFSA to get HOPE or Zell.

Truth- The GSFapps is the alternative, one-time application for HOPE or Zell Miller. This application can be completed at gafutures.org.

Myth- Students have to be enrolled full time to receive HOPE or Zell Miller.

Truth- There is no minimum number of hours you need to be enrolled in to receive HOPE or Zell Miller. They both pay toward a maximum of 15 hours per semester and 127 attempted or 127 paid hours.

Myth- Students HOPE/Zell GPA and their transcript cumulative GPA are the same.

Truth- The cumulative GPA replaces the grade for any course retaken with the most recent grade. The HOPE and Zell Miller Scholarships uses both grades in the GPA, so the transcript GPA and the HOPE GPA may be different. Beginning 2019, students will be able to view your HOPE/Zell GPA on gafutures.org.

Find out more about HOPE and Zell Miller Regulations at
www.gcsu.edu/financialaid/types-aid.

MEET OUR STAFF:

HADLEY MCLEAN &
ALYSON SMITH



- ▶ Hadley McLean is the advisor for students with last names A-C. She also serves as the Loan Coordinator. She can be seen on campus doing Loan Exit Interview presentations!
- ▶ Alyson Smith is the advisor for students with last names D-G. She is also the Lead Advisor and Office Coordinator. She can be seen on campus handing out flyers for FAFSA renewal!

Returning Student Scholarship Application to Open in December

The 2019-2020 Returning Student Scholarship Application opens Dec. 7th and closes February 15, 2019. Emails will be sent as reminders to students Bobcat email accounts and parent email addresses on file. This application can be applied for in the students Unify account under the Unified Resources section, then the Scholarship Application System. This

application applies students for over 100 potential Georgia College scholarships for Fall 2019 – Spring 2020. If awarded a scholarship, recipients are notified during Spring 2019. For any questions about the application or scholarships, please contact the Office of University Advancement at scholarships@gcsu.edu or (478)445-3648.

Scholarship Requirements:

- ▶ **Minimum GPA of 3.0**
- ▶ **Be enrolled as a full-time student for 2019-2020**
- ▶ **Students who are enrolled less than full time due to graduation may also be eligible**