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Financial Aid focus

GEORGIA COLLEGE FINANCIAL AID NEWSLETTER 2019-2020

FAFSA Now Open for 2020-2021

The 2020-2021 FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) opened on October 1, 2019. This FAFSA requires the use of 2018 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 2020-2021 FAFSA!

Important Dates

October 1, 2019 The 2020-2021 FAFSA opened	October 21-24, 2019 Spring class registration begins	October 21, 2019 Nelnet Payment Plan begins for Spring	December 6, 2019 Returning Student Scholarship Application opens	January 2, 2020 Payment deadline if no Financial Aid application on file	January 6, 2020 First day of spring classes and final payment deadline
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Course Program of Study: Federal Regulation that could impact your aid

When registering for future courses, students must keep in mind a federal regulation for financial aid. Federal Financial Aid can only be applied toward courses that are required for degree completion. This includes Federal grants, work-study, and loans, but does not include HOPE or Zell Miller scholarships. In order to be necessary for degree completion, courses must fulfill a core, major, minor, or degree requirement. Registering for courses that are not required to complete their degree could result in a student's Federal Aid being decreased or removed and could increase the amount a student owes out-of-pocket for their bill. During the Drop/Add week each semester, the Financial Aid Office will notify students who are enrolled in

courses that are not required for their degree that their federal awards have been adjusted. Students are responsible for enrolling in appropriate courses and can find the courses necessary for their degree on DegreeWorks through their PAWS account, or by setting up an appointment with their Academic Advisor.

For the full Course Program of Study policy visit our website here:

www.gcsu.edu/financialaid/general-information

and click on Course Program of Study Requirements. Or contact the Financial Aid Office at (478) 445-5149 or financialaid@gcsu.edu.

MEET OUR STAFF:

FILICIA MOHAMMED



- Filicia Mohammed joined the FA team as a Financial Aid Advisor and the State Programs Coordinator in September 2019. She will be working with students with last names starting with S-Z. We are excited to have her!

Financial Aid Advisors

Beth Gamble	A-C
Casey Crooms	D-G
Bianca Miller	H-L
Hadley Peeler	M-R
Filicia Mohammed	S-Z

Returning Student Scholarship Application to Open in December

The 2020-2021 Returning Student Scholarship Application opens Dec. 6th and closes February 11, 2020. 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 2020 – Spring 2021. If awarded a scholarship, recipients are notified during Spring 2020. 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 2020-2021**
- **Students who are enrolled less than full time due to graduation may also be eligible**