

House Bill 1325

By: Representatives McBee of the 74th, Purcell of the 122nd, Greene of the 134th, Holmes of the 48th, Post 1, and Cummings of the 19th

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

1 To amend Chapters 2 and 3 of Title 20 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating
2 to elementary and secondary education and to postsecondary education, respectively, so as
3 to change the reporting system and method for determining eligibility for HOPE
4 scholarships, other scholarships, grants, or loan assistance, and certain postsecondary courses
5 and advanced placement courses for students graduating from high school in 2007 and
6 thereafter; to delete obsolete provisions; to provide that residency requirements for HOPE
7 scholarships and HOPE grants shall be established by regulations of the Georgia Student
8 Finance Commission; to provide for loss of eligibility for the HOPE scholarship for any
9 student who does not possess a 3.0 grade point average at the end of each spring quarter or
10 semester; to provide for restoration of such eligibility; to change the amount of certain HOPE
11 scholarships and HOPE grants; to provide for a limitation on quarter hours or semester hours
12 of eligibility for HOPE grants and eligibility for combined HOPE scholarships and grants;
13 to provide for exceptions; to prohibit the award of HOPE grants to any person who possesses
14 a baccalaureate degree or a professional level degree; to provide for related matters; to repeal
15 conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

16 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

17 **SECTION 1.**

18 Chapter 2 of Title 20 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to elementary and
19 secondary education, is amended by striking Code Section 20-2-157, relating to the uniform
20 reporting system for specified purposes, and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

21 "20-2-157.

22 (a) It is the intent of the General Assembly to establish a uniform reporting system to be
23 used as one of the criteria to determine eligibility of students seeking enrollment in
24 postsecondary courses pursuant to Code Section 20-2-161.1 or seeking educational
25 scholarships, grants, or loan assistance administered by the Georgia Student Finance
26 Commission pursuant to Article 7 of Chapter 3 of this title.

1 (b) Beginning with the high school graduating class of 2007, each ~~Each~~ school system and
 2 private school shall adopt the ~~following~~ reporting system described in this subsection for
 3 purposes of identifying and qualifying graduating seniors for the HOPE scholarship
 4 program and other programs identified in this Code section:

5 (1) ~~A final grade average of at least an 80 numeric average, provided the student meets~~
 6 ~~the college preparatory curriculum requirements~~ Each school system and private school
 7 shall transmit, in a manner and at times prescribed by the Georgia Student Finance
 8 Commission, an electronic transcript of courses and course grades for each graduating
 9 senior that reflects the complete high school academic record of the student, including
 10 scores on any state tests required for graduation, and the grading scales used by the
 11 school system or private school for the time periods referenced by the transcripts;

12 (2) ~~A final grade average of at least an 85 numeric average, if the student meets the~~
 13 ~~career/technical curriculum requirements~~ The Georgia Student Finance Commission shall
 14 calculate a grade point average for the purpose of determining eligibility for the HOPE
 15 scholarship from these electronic transcripts and shall notify students of their eligibility
 16 and high schools as to the eligibility of students. Each grade reported by a school system
 17 or private school to the commission for the purpose of calculating the grade point average
 18 for HOPE scholarship eligibility shall be the actual grade earned by the student, with no
 19 weighting or addition of points by the local school system or private school;

20 (3) ~~For students graduating from high school in 2000 or thereafter, a final grade average~~
 21 ~~of at least an 80 numeric average in their core curriculum subjects, provided that the~~
 22 ~~student meets the college preparatory curriculum requirements~~ For students graduating
 23 from Georgia high schools in 2007 or thereafter, the Georgia Student Finance
 24 Commission shall calculate grade point averages for determining eligibility for the HOPE
 25 scholarship and other scholarships referenced in this Code section as follows:

26 (A) For students receiving a college preparatory diploma, each grade for a student in
 27 attempted coursework in English, mathematics, science, social studies, and foreign
 28 language that would, if successfully completed, satisfy a core graduation requirement
 29 for the college preparatory curriculum shall be equated to a grade on a 4.0 scale, such
 30 that a grade of 'A' = 4.0, a grade of 'B' = 3.0, a grade of 'C' = 2.0, a grade of 'D' = 1.0,
 31 and a grade of 'F' = 0; or

32 (B) For students receiving a career/technical diploma, each grade for a student in
 33 attempted coursework in English, mathematics, science, and social studies that would,
 34 if successfully completed, satisfy a core graduation requirement for the career/technical
 35 curriculum shall be equated to a grade on a 4.0 scale, such that a grade of 'A' = 4.0, a
 36 grade of 'B' = 3.0, a grade of 'C' = 2.0, a grade of 'D' = 1.0, and a grade of 'F' = 0.

1 Grades for coursework that is classified as advanced placement or international
 2 baccalaureate may be weighted by the Georgia Student Finance Commission in
 3 calculating the overall grade point averages for students, provided that the weighting of
 4 such course grades is uniformly applied to all students in the state taking the specified
 5 coursework. The sum of the equated grades shall be divided by the number of course
 6 grades, adjusted for term length, to yield a grade point average on a 4.0 scale; or

7 ~~(4) For students graduating from high school in 2000 or thereafter, a final grade average~~
 8 ~~of at least an 85 numeric average in their core curriculum subjects if the student meets the~~
 9 ~~career/technical curriculum requirements. Qualification for the HOPE scholarship shall~~
 10 ~~be determined from the grade point average calculated as set out in paragraph (3) of this~~
 11 ~~subsection. Beginning with the high school graduating class of 2007, students who~~
 12 ~~graduate with grade point averages equal to or in excess of 3.0 on the 4.0 scale with a~~
 13 ~~college preparatory diploma shall meet achievement standards for the HOPE scholarship;~~
 14 ~~students receiving a career/technical diploma shall meet achievement standards for the~~
 15 ~~HOPE scholarship with a grade point average equal to or in excess of 3.2 on a 4.0 scale;~~
 16 ~~and~~

17 ~~(5) Beginning in 2007, only Only the reporting system as indicated in this subsection~~
 18 ~~shall be used to determine eligibility for all grants, scholarships, or loans to attend~~
 19 ~~colleges or universities which are administered pursuant to Article 7 of Chapter 3 of this~~
 20 ~~title and eligibility for enrollment in postsecondary courses pursuant to Code Section~~
 21 ~~20-2-161.1.~~

22 ~~(c)(1) For students graduating from high school from 2004 through 2006, each school~~
 23 ~~system shall adopt the following reporting system for purposes of identifying and~~
 24 ~~qualifying graduating seniors for the HOPE scholarship program and other programs~~
 25 ~~identified in this Code section:~~

26 ~~(A) A final grade average of at least an 80 numeric average in their core curriculum~~
 27 ~~subjects, provided that the student meets the college preparatory curriculum~~
 28 ~~requirements; or~~

29 ~~(B) A final grade average of at least an 85 numeric average in their core curriculum~~
 30 ~~subjects if the student meets the career/technical curriculum requirements.~~

31 ~~(2) For students graduating from high school from 2004 through 2006, only the reporting~~
 32 ~~system as indicated in this subsection shall be used to determine eligibility for all grants,~~
 33 ~~scholarships, or loans to attend colleges or universities which are administered pursuant~~
 34 ~~to Article 7 of Chapter 3 of this title and eligibility for enrollment in postsecondary~~
 35 ~~courses pursuant to Code Section 20-2-161.1."~~

SECTION 2.

1
2 Chapter 3 of Title 20 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to postsecondary
3 education, is amended by striking Code Section 20-3-519, relating to definitions relative to
4 HOPE scholarships and grants, and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

5 "20-3-519.

6 As used in this part, the term:

7 (1) 'Academic year' means a period of time, typically nine months, in which a full-time
8 student is expected to complete the equivalent of at least two semesters´ or three quarters´
9 academic work.

10 (2) 'Advanced degree' means a master's degree, specialist's degree, or doctorate in
11 education conferred by an approved postsecondary institution upon completion of a
12 unified program of study at the graduate level.

13 (3) 'Approved teacher education program' means a program offered by a public or private
14 postsecondary institution which program has been approved by the Georgia Professional
15 Standards Commission.

16 (4) 'Certificate' or 'diploma' means a credential, other than a degree, indicating
17 satisfactory completion of training in a program of study offered by an eligible public
18 postsecondary institution.

19 (5) 'Critical shortage field' means an area of study or an area of specialized expertise for
20 which a shortage of qualified teachers or educators exists in Georgia, designated as such
21 by the Georgia Student Finance Commission.

22 (6) 'Eligible high school' means a public or private secondary school which is:

23 (A) Located in Georgia and accredited as such by:

- 24 (i) The Southern Association of Colleges and Schools;
- 25 (ii) The Georgia Accrediting Commission;
- 26 (iii) The Georgia Association of Christian Schools;
- 27 (iv) The Association of Christian Schools International;
- 28 (v) The Georgia Private School Accreditation Council; or
- 29 (vi) The Accrediting Commission for Independent Study; or

30 (B) Located in another state and accredited by one of the following regional agencies:

- 31 (i) The Southern Association of Colleges and Schools;
- 32 (ii) The New England Association of Schools and Colleges;
- 33 (iii) The Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools;
- 34 (iv) The North Central Association of Colleges and Schools;
- 35 (v) The Northwestern Association of Schools and Colleges;
- 36 (vi) The Western Association of Schools and Colleges; or

1 (vii) The Alabama Independent School Association.

2 (7) 'Eligible postsecondary institution' means a school which is:

3 (A) A unit of the University System of Georgia;

4 (B) A branch of the Georgia Department of Technical and Adult Education or an
5 affiliated institution which is controlled by a local board of education;

6 (C) A private independent nonprofit postsecondary institution eligible for tuition
7 equalization grants in accordance with the provisions of subparagraph (A) of paragraph
8 (2) of Code Section 20-3-411;

9 (D) A private proprietary postsecondary institution eligible for tuition equalization
10 grants in accordance with the provisions of subparagraph (C) of paragraph (2) of Code
11 Section 20-3-411.

12 (8) 'Eligible private postsecondary institution' means an eligible postsecondary institution
13 which meets the criteria set out in subparagraph (C) of paragraph (7) of this Code section.

14 (9) 'Eligible public postsecondary institution' means an eligible postsecondary institution
15 which meets the criteria set out in subparagraph (A) or (B) of paragraph (7) of this Code
16 section.

17 (10) 'Freshman student' means a student at a postsecondary institution who has attempted
18 less than 46 quarter hours or less than 31 semester hours.

19 (11) 'Full-time student' means a matriculated student attending a postsecondary
20 educational institution and enrolled for the equivalent of at least 12 quarter or semester
21 hours.

22 (12) 'Grade point average' means the numbered grade average calculated using a 4.0
23 scale.

24 (13) 'HOPE grant' means a Helping Outstanding Pupils Educationally grant for education
25 awarded in accordance with Code Section 20-3-519.4 or 20-3-519.5.

26 (14) 'HOPE scholarship' means a Helping Outstanding Pupils Educationally scholarship
27 for education awarded in accordance with Code ~~Sections~~ Section 20-3-519.2 or
28 20-3-519.3.

29 (15) 'HOPE teacher's scholarship' means a Helping Outstanding Pupils Educationally
30 scholarship for education awarded in accordance with Code Section 20-3-519.8.

31 (16) 'HOPE GED voucher' means a Helping Outstanding Pupils Educationally general
32 educational development (GED) diploma voucher for postsecondary education awarded
33 in accordance with Code Section 20-3-519.6.

34 (17) 'Junior student' means a student at a postsecondary institution who has attempted
35 at least 91 quarter hours but less than 136 quarter hours or at least 61 semester hours but
36 less than 91 semester hours.

1 ~~(18) 'Mandatory fees' means fees approved by the Georgia Student Finance Commission~~
 2 ~~that are charged by a postsecondary institution to every student enrolled in that~~
 3 ~~institution, regardless of the student's program of study.~~

4 ~~(19)~~(18) 'Matriculated status' means being recognized as a student in a defined program
 5 of study leading to a degree, diploma, or certificate at a postsecondary institution.

6 ~~(20)~~(19) 'PROMISE teacher's scholarship' means a scholarship awarded in accordance
 7 with Code Section 20-3-519.7.

8 ~~(21)~~(20) 'Quarter hours' includes each quarter hour attempted, whether remedial or for
 9 credit toward a degree, but shall not include any quarter hour attempted or completed
 10 before graduating from high school or earning a general educational development (GED)
 11 diploma.

12 ~~(22)~~(21) 'Semester hours' includes each semester hour attempted, whether remedial or
 13 for credit toward a degree, but shall not include any semester hour attempted before
 14 graduating from high school or earning a general educational development (GED)
 15 diploma.

16 ~~(23)~~(22) 'Senior student' means a student at a postsecondary institution who has
 17 attempted at least 136 quarter hours but less than 191 quarter hours or at least 91 semester
 18 hours but less than 128 semester hours.

19 ~~(24)~~(23) 'Sophomore student' means a student at a postsecondary institution who has
 20 attempted at least 46 quarter hours but less than 91 quarter hours or at least 31 semester
 21 hours but less than 61 semester hours.

22 ~~(25)~~(24) 'Title IV' means Title IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965, as amended, 20
 23 U.S.C.A. Section 1070, et seq."

24 SECTION 3.

25 Said chapter is further amended by striking Code Section 20-3-519.2 relating to eligibility
 26 requirements for HOPE scholarships at public postsecondary institutions, and inserting in
 27 lieu thereof the following:

28 "20-3-519.2.

29 (a) To be eligible for a HOPE scholarship, an entering freshman student seeking an
 30 associate or baccalaureate degree at an eligible public postsecondary institution shall:

31 (1) Meet residency requirements by meeting the requirements to be classified as a legal
 32 resident of Georgia as established by the program regulations promulgated by the Georgia
 33 Student Finance Commission ~~which shall be based upon the in-state tuition policy of the~~
 34 ~~board of regents and the in-state tuition guidelines set by the Department of Technical~~
 35 ~~and Adult Education;~~

36 (2) Meet achievement standards by:

1 (A) Having graduated from an eligible high school while meeting the curriculum
 2 requirements of his or her program of study in 1993 or thereafter and meeting the
 3 requirements set out in the applicable subsection and paragraph of ~~subsection (b)~~ of
 4 Code Section 20-2-157; or

5 (B) In the case of a student who is otherwise qualified but:

6 (i) Did not graduate from high school or complete a home study program meeting the
 7 requirements of subsection (c) of Code Section 20-2-690, having received the general
 8 educational development (GED) diploma awarded by the Georgia Department of
 9 Technical and Adult Education after June 30, 1993;

10 (ii) Completed a home study program meeting the requirements of subsection (c) of
 11 Code Section 20-2-690 in lieu of graduating from an eligible high school, earning a
 12 cumulative grade point average of at least 3.0 at an eligible public postsecondary
 13 institution at the end of the quarter or semester in which the student has attempted 45
 14 quarter hours or 30 semester hours, provided that such student shall be eligible to
 15 receive a retroactive HOPE scholarship for such student's freshman year to be paid
 16 at the end of the freshman year; or

17 (iii) Graduated from a high school which is not an eligible high school, earning a
 18 cumulative grade point average of at least 3.0 at an eligible public postsecondary
 19 institution at the end of the quarter or semester in which the student has attempted 45
 20 quarter hours or 30 semester hours, provided that such student shall be eligible to
 21 receive a retroactive HOPE scholarship for such student's freshman year to be paid
 22 at the end of the freshman year; and

23 (3) Meet enrollment standards by being admitted, enrolled, and classified as an
 24 undergraduate student in a matriculated status.

25 (b) To be eligible for a HOPE scholarship, a sophomore student seeking an associate or
 26 baccalaureate degree at an eligible public postsecondary institution shall:

27 (1) Meet residency requirements by meeting the requirements to be classified as a legal
 28 resident of Georgia as established by the program regulations promulgated by the Georgia
 29 Student Finance Commission ~~which shall be based upon the in-state tuition policy of the~~
 30 ~~board of regents and the in-state tuition guidelines set by the Department of Technical~~
 31 ~~and Adult Education;~~

32 (2) Meet achievement standards by meeting the following criteria:

33 (A) Earning a cumulative grade point average of at least 3.0 at a postsecondary
 34 institution at the end of the quarter or semester in which the student has attempted 45
 35 quarter hours or 30 semester hours; and

1 (B) Maintaining satisfactory academic progress in a course of study in accordance with
2 the standards and practices used for federal Title IV programs by the postsecondary
3 institution in which the student is enrolled; and

4 (3) Meet enrollment standards by being admitted, enrolled, and classified as an
5 undergraduate student in a matriculated status or, in the case of an otherwise eligible
6 student who is classified as a professional level student rather than an undergraduate
7 student, being accepted into the professional level program of study prior to receiving a
8 baccalaureate degree.

9 (c) To be eligible for a HOPE scholarship, a junior student seeking a baccalaureate degree
10 at a public postsecondary institution shall:

11 (1) Meet residency requirements by meeting the requirements to be classified as a legal
12 resident of Georgia as established by the program regulations promulgated by the Georgia
13 Student Finance Commission ~~which shall be based upon the in-state tuition policy of the~~
14 ~~board of regents and the in-state tuition guidelines set by the Department of Technical~~
15 ~~and Adult Education;~~

16 (2) Meet achievement standards by meeting the following criteria:

17 (A) Earning a cumulative grade point average of at least 3.0 at a postsecondary
18 institution at the end of the quarter or semester in which the student has attempted 90
19 quarter hours or 60 semester hours; and

20 (B) Maintaining satisfactory academic progress in a course of study in accordance with
21 the standards and practices used for federal Title IV programs by the postsecondary
22 institution in which the student is enrolled; and

23 (3) Meet enrollment standards by being admitted, enrolled, and classified as an
24 undergraduate student in a matriculated status or, in the case of an otherwise eligible
25 student who is classified as a professional level student rather than an undergraduate
26 student, being accepted into the professional level program of study prior to receiving a
27 baccalaureate degree.

28 (d) To be eligible for a HOPE scholarship, a senior student seeking a baccalaureate degree
29 at a public postsecondary institution shall:

30 (1) Meet residency requirements by meeting the requirements to be classified as a legal
31 resident of Georgia as established by the program regulations promulgated by the Georgia
32 Student Finance Commission ~~which shall be based upon the in-state tuition policy of the~~
33 ~~board of regents and the in-state tuition guidelines set by the Department of Technical~~
34 ~~and Adult Education;~~

35 (2) Meet achievement standards by meeting the following criteria:

1 (A) Earning a cumulative grade point average of at least 3.0 at a postsecondary
 2 institution at the end of the quarter or semester in which the student has attempted 135
 3 quarter hours or 90 semester hours; and

4 (B) Maintaining satisfactory academic progress in a course of study in accordance with
 5 the standards and practices used for federal Title IV programs by the postsecondary
 6 institution in which the student is enrolled; and

7 (3) Meet enrollment standards by being admitted, enrolled, and classified as an
 8 undergraduate student in a matriculated status or, in the case of an otherwise eligible
 9 student who is classified as a professional level student rather than an undergraduate
 10 student, being accepted into the professional level program of study prior to receiving a
 11 baccalaureate degree.

12 (e)(1) A student who fails to maintain a cumulative grade point average of at least 3.0
 13 at the end of the quarter or semester in which the student has attempted 45 quarter hours
 14 or 30 semester hours may attend the next 45 quarter or 30 semester hours without a
 15 HOPE scholarship. An otherwise eligible student who regains a cumulative grade point
 16 average of at least 3.0 at the end of a quarter or semester in which the student has
 17 attempted 90 quarter hours or 135 quarter hours or 60 semester hours or 90 semester
 18 hours may requalify for a HOPE scholarship.

19 (2) In addition to other requirements, and regardless of quarter hours or semester hours
 20 of coursework attempted, a student who fails to possess a 3.0 grade point average at the
 21 end of each spring quarter or semester shall be ineligible for a HOPE scholarship until
 22 such time as the student regains a 3.0 average at one of the 45, 95, or 135 quarter hour
 23 grade point average check points, at one of the 30, 60, or 90 semester hour grade point
 24 average check points, or at the end of a succeeding spring quarter or semester, at which
 25 time the student will regain eligibility if other terms and conditions in this Code section
 26 are satisfied as well.

27 (f) For students eligible for a HOPE scholarship under this Code section, no minimum
 28 number of hours of enrollment is required.

29 (g)(1) Except as set out in paragraph (2) of this subsection, a student may receive the
 30 HOPE scholarship until the first of these events:

31 (A) The student has earned a baccalaureate degree; or

32 (B) The student has attempted at any postsecondary institution a total of 190 quarter
 33 hours or 127 semester hours.

34 (2) A student enrolled in an undergraduate degree program designed to be more than 190
 35 quarter hours or 127 semester hours in length is eligible to receive the HOPE scholarship
 36 for the lesser of:

37 (A) A total of 225 attempted quarter hours or 150 attempted semester hours; or

1 (B) The number of hours required for graduation if the student has a 3.0 cumulative
 2 grade point average of at least 3.0 after the term in which the student attempted 190
 3 quarter hours or 127 semester hours.

4 (h) Subject to the amounts appropriated by the General Assembly and provisions relating
 5 to the scholarship shortfall reserve subaccount in Code Section 50-27-13, a HOPE
 6 scholarship awarded under this Code section shall include ~~tuition, approved mandatory~~
 7 ~~fees, and a book allowance not to exceed \$100.00 per quarter or \$150.00 per semester~~ an
 8 amount for tuition up to but not to exceed the actual amount charged the student. The
 9 actual amounts of the tuition payments are dependent on appropriations by the General
 10 Assembly for that purpose."

11 SECTION 4.

12 Said chapter is further amended by striking Code Section 20-3-519.3, relating to eligibility
 13 requirements for HOPE scholarships at private postsecondary institutions, and inserting in
 14 lieu thereof the following:

15 "20-3-519.3.

16 (a) To be eligible for a HOPE scholarship, an entering freshman student seeking an
 17 associate or baccalaureate degree at an eligible private postsecondary institution shall:

18 (1) Meet residency requirements by meeting the requirements to be classified as a legal
 19 resident of Georgia as established by the program regulations promulgated by the Georgia
 20 Student Finance Commission;

21 (2) Meet achievement standards by:

22 (A) Having graduated from an eligible high school while meeting the curriculum
 23 requirements of his or her program of study in 1996 or thereafter and meeting the
 24 requirements set out in the applicable paragraph of subsection (b) of Code Section
 25 20-2-157; or

26 (B) In the case of a student who is otherwise qualified but:

27 (i) Did not graduate from high school or complete a home study program meeting the
 28 requirements of subsection (c) of Code Section 20-2-690, having received the general
 29 educational development (GED) diploma awarded by the Georgia Department of
 30 Technical and Adult Education after June 30, 1993;

31 (ii) Completed a home study program meeting the requirements of subsection (c) of
 32 Code Section 20-2-690 in lieu of graduating from an eligible high school, earning a
 33 cumulative grade point average of at least 3.0 at an eligible public postsecondary
 34 institution at the end of the quarter or semester in which the student has attempted 45
 35 quarter hours or 30 semester hours, provided that such student shall be eligible to

1 receive a retroactive HOPE scholarship for such student's freshman year to be paid
2 at the end of the freshman year; or

3 (iii) Graduated from a high school which is not an eligible high school, earning a
4 cumulative grade point average of at least 3.0 at an eligible public postsecondary
5 institution at the end of the quarter or semester in which the student has attempted 45
6 quarter hours or 30 semester hours, provided that such student shall be eligible to
7 receive a retroactive HOPE scholarship for such student's freshman year to be paid
8 at the end of the freshman year; and

9 (3) Meet enrollment standards by:

10 (A) Being admitted, enrolled, and classified as an undergraduate student in a
11 matriculated status; and

12 (B) Being registered for and attending classes as a full-time student for 14 days or
13 more after the last day of the institution's drop and add period.

14 (b) To be eligible for a HOPE scholarship, a sophomore student seeking an associate or
15 baccalaureate degree at an eligible private postsecondary institution shall:

16 (1) Meet residency requirements by meeting the requirements to be classified as a legal
17 resident of Georgia as established by the program regulations promulgated by the Georgia
18 Student Finance Commission;

19 (2) Meet achievement standards by meeting the following criteria:

20 (A) Earning a cumulative grade point average of at least 3.0 at a postsecondary
21 institution at the end of the quarter or semester in which the student has attempted 45
22 quarter hours or 30 semester hours; and

23 (B) Maintaining satisfactory academic progress in a course of study in accordance with
24 the standards and practices used for federal Title IV programs by the postsecondary
25 institution in which the student is enrolled; and

26 (3) Meet enrollment standards by:

27 (A) Being admitted, enrolled, and classified as an undergraduate student in a
28 matriculated status or, in the case of an otherwise eligible student who is classified as
29 a professional level student rather than an undergraduate student, being accepted into
30 the professional level program of study prior to receiving a baccalaureate degree; and

31 (B) Being registered for and attending classes as a full-time student for 14 days or
32 more after the last day of the institution's drop and add period.

33 (c) To be eligible for a HOPE scholarship, a junior student seeking a baccalaureate degree
34 at an eligible private postsecondary institution shall:

35 (1) Meet residency requirements by meeting the requirements to be classified as a legal
36 resident of Georgia as established by the program regulations promulgated by the Georgia
37 Student Finance Commission;

1 (2) Meet achievement standards by meeting the following criteria:

2 (A) Earning a cumulative grade point average of at least 3.0 at a postsecondary
3 institution at the end of the quarter or semester in which the student has attempted 90
4 quarter hours or 60 semester hours; and

5 (B) Maintaining satisfactory academic progress in a course of study in accordance with
6 the standards and practices used for federal Title IV programs by the postsecondary
7 institution in which the student is enrolled; and

8 (3) Meet enrollment standards by:

9 (A) Being admitted, enrolled, and classified as an undergraduate student in a
10 matriculated status or provided that in the case of an otherwise eligible student who is
11 classified as a professional level student rather than an undergraduate student, have
12 been accepted into the professional level program of study prior to receiving a
13 baccalaureate degree; and

14 (B) Being registered for and attending classes as a full-time student for 14 days or
15 more after the last day of the institution's drop and add period.

16 (d) To be eligible for a HOPE scholarship, a senior student seeking a baccalaureate degree
17 at an eligible private postsecondary institution shall:

18 (1) Meet residency requirements by meeting the requirements to be classified as a legal
19 resident of Georgia as established by the program regulations promulgated by the Georgia
20 Student Finance Commission ~~which shall be based upon the in-state tuition policy of the~~
21 ~~board of regents and the in-state tuition guidelines set by the Department of Technical~~
22 ~~and Adult Education;~~

23 (2) Meet achievement standards by meeting the following criteria:

24 (A) Earning a cumulative grade point average of at least 3.0 at a postsecondary
25 institution at the end of the quarter or semester in which the student has attempted 135
26 quarter hours or 90 semester hours; and

27 (B) Maintaining satisfactory academic progress in a course of study in accordance with
28 the standards and practices used for federal Title IV programs by the postsecondary
29 institution in which the student is enrolled; and

30 (3) Meet enrollment standards by:

31 (A) Being admitted, enrolled, and classified as an undergraduate student in a
32 matriculated status or, in the case of an otherwise eligible student who is classified as
33 a professional level student rather than an undergraduate student, being accepted into
34 the professional level program of study prior to receiving a baccalaureate degree; and

35 (B) Being registered for and attending classes as a full-time student for 14 days or
36 more after the last day of the institution's drop and add period.

1 (e)(1) An otherwise eligible student who fails to maintain a cumulative grade point
 2 average of at least 3.0 at the end of the quarter or semester in which the student has
 3 attempted 45 quarter hours or 30 semester hours may attend the next 45 quarter hours or
 4 30 semester hours without a HOPE scholarship. A student who regains a cumulative
 5 grade point average of at least 3.0 at end of the quarter or semester in which the student
 6 has attempted 90 quarter hours or 60 semester hours may requalify for a HOPE
 7 scholarship. A student who regains a cumulative grade point average of at least 3.0 at the
 8 end of the quarter or semester in which the student has attempted 135 quarter hours or 90
 9 semester hours may requalify for a HOPE scholarship.

10 (2) In addition to other requirements, and regardless of quarter or semester hours of
 11 coursework attempted, a student who fails to possess a 3.0 grade point average at the end
 12 of each spring quarter or semester shall be ineligible for a HOPE scholarship until such
 13 time as the student regains a 3.0 average at one of the 45, 95, or 135 quarter hour grade
 14 point average check points, at one of the 30, 60, or 90 semester hour grade point average
 15 check points, or at the end of a succeeding spring quarter or semester, at which time the
 16 student will regain eligibility if other terms and conditions in this Code section are
 17 satisfied as well.

18 (f)(1) Except as set out in paragraph (2) of this subsection, a student may receive a
 19 HOPE scholarship until the first of these events:

20 (A) The student has earned a baccalaureate degree; or

21 (B) The student has attempted at any postsecondary institution a total of 190 quarter
 22 hours or 127 semester hours.

23 (2) A student enrolled in an undergraduate degree program designed to be more than 190
 24 quarter hours or 127 semester hours in length is eligible to receive a HOPE scholarship
 25 for the lesser of:

26 (A) A total of 225 attempted quarter hours or 150 attempted semester hours; or

27 (B) The number of hours required for graduation if the student has a cumulative grade
 28 point average of at least 3.0 after the term in which the student attempted 190 quarter
 29 hours or 127 semester hours.

30 (g) Subject to the amounts appropriated by the General Assembly and provisions relating
 31 to the scholarship shortfall reserve subaccount in Code Section 50-27-13, a HOPE
 32 scholarship awarded under this Code section shall be not less than \$3,000.00 for any
 33 academic year."

1 (c) Subject to the provisions of subsection (e) of this Code section, an An eligible student
2 may receive HOPE grants for all course work required by the institution for programs of
3 study leading to a certificate or diploma, including remedial or developmental studies.

4 (d) Subject to the amounts appropriated by the General Assembly and provisions relating
5 to the scholarship shortfall reserve subaccount in Code Section 50-27-13, a HOPE grant
6 awarded under this Code section shall include ~~tuition, approved mandatory fees, and a book~~
7 ~~allowance not to exceed \$100.00 per quarter or \$150.00 per semester~~ an amount for tuition
8 up to but not to exceed the actual amount charged the student. The actual amounts of the
9 tuition payments are dependent on appropriations by the General Assembly for that
10 purpose.

11 (e) No student may receive HOPE grants for more than 95 quarter hours or 63 semester
12 hours of attempted coursework. No student may receive more than a cumulative total of
13 190 quarter hours or 127 semester hours of combined HOPE scholarships and grants,
14 unless in accordance with Code Sections 20-3-519.2 and 20-3-519.3.

15 (f) No person who possesses a baccalaureate degree or a professional level degree may
16 receive a HOPE grant."

17 SECTION 7.

18 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.