

House Bill 1200

By: Representatives Dickson of the 6th, Maxwell of the 17th, Coleman of the 97th, Amerson of the 9th, and Williams of the 4th

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

1 To amend Part 7 of Article 7 of Chapter 3 of Title 20 of the Official Code of Georgia
2 Annotated, relating to HOPE scholarships and grants, so as to change certain eligibility
3 requirements relating to HOPE teacher's scholarships; to provide for related matters; to
4 repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

6 **SECTION 1.**

7 Part 7 of Article 7 of Chapter 3 of Title 20 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated,
8 relating to HOPE scholarships and grants, is amended by striking subsection (a) of Code
9 Section 20-3-519.8, relating to HOPE teacher's scholarships, and inserting in lieu thereof the
10 following:

11 "(a) To be eligible for a HOPE teacher's scholarship, a student shall:

12 (1) Meet the residency requirements by:

13 (A) In the case of a student attending a unit of the University System of Georgia,
14 meeting the requirements to be eligible for in-state tuition under the policy set by the
15 board of regents; or

16 (B) In the case of a student attending an eligible private postsecondary institution,
17 being classified as a legal resident of Georgia for the purposes of a tuition equalization
18 grant;

19 (2) Be admitted into graduate school and into an advanced degree or approved teacher
20 education program in a critical shortage field of study leading to certification or into an
21 advanced degree program in education;

22 (3) Be one of the following:

23 (A) A teacher working in a public or private accredited school in Georgia who has a
24 baccalaureate degree and is seeking an advanced degree in his or her current field
25 which is a critical shortage field or in a new critical shortage field;

(B) An individual with a baccalaureate degree who is seeking an advanced degree in a critical shortage field;

(C) An individual with a baccalaureate degree in a critical shortage field who is seeking an advanced degree in education;

~~(C)~~(D) An individual with a master's degree in a critical shortage field who is seeking certification as a specialist or a doctorate in his or her current critical shortage field;

~~(D)~~(E) An individual with a master's degree in a field which is not a critical shortage field who is seeking an advanced degree in a critical shortage field;

~~(E)~~(F) An individual who has certification as a specialist in a critical shortage field who is seeking a doctorate in his or her current critical shortage field; or

~~(F)~~(G) A teacher working in a public or private accredited school in Georgia who is seeking to complete an approved program in a critical shortage field for which degree programs are not generally offered; and

(4) Agree to teach in his or her critical shortage field in a public school in Georgia at the preschool, elementary, middle, or secondary level for one academic year for each \$2,500.00 in HOPE teacher scholarship funds awarded and sign a promissory note that stipulates the cash repayment obligation incurred if the teaching service is not fulfilled."

SECTION 2.

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