

Senate Bill 334

By: Senators Sims of the 12th, Jones of the 10th, James of the 35th, Henson of the 41st, Davenport of the 44th and others

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

1 To amend Code Section 20-3-519 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to
2 definitions relative to HOPE scholarships and grants, so as to revise the definition of the term
3 "Zell Miller Scholar"; to provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other
4 purposes.

5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

6 **SECTION 1.**

7 Code Section 20-3-519 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to definitions
8 relative to HOPE scholarships and grants, is amended by revising paragraph (27) as follows:
9 "(27) 'Zell Miller Scholar' means a student that has met the applicable eligibility
10 requirements to receive a HOPE scholarship in accordance with Code Section 20-3-519.2
11 and:

12 (A) As an incoming freshman:

13 (i) Having graduated from an eligible high school with a grade point average of at least
14 ~~3.7 calculated in accordance with Code Section 20-2-157 and having received a score~~
15 ~~of at least 1,200 combined critical reading score and math score on a single~~
16 ~~administration of the SAT or an ACT composite scale score of at least 26 in the top 3~~
17 percent of their graduating class;

18 ~~(ii) Having graduated from an eligible high school as a valedictorian or salutatorian;~~
19 or

20 ~~(iii)~~(i) Having completed a home study program meeting the requirements of
21 subsection (c) of Code Section 20-2-690, ~~having received a score of at least 1,200~~
22 ~~combined critical reading score and math score on a single administration of the SAT~~
23 ~~or an ACT composite scale score of at least 26,~~ and earning a cumulative grade point
24 average of at least 3.3 at an eligible postsecondary institution at the end of the quarter
25 or semester in which the student has attempted 45 quarter hours or 30 semester hours,

26 provided that such student shall be eligible to receive a retroactive scholarship for such
27 student's freshman year to be paid at the end of the freshman year; and

28 (B) As a sophomore, junior, senior, or first professional student ~~who met the~~
29 ~~requirements of subparagraph (A) of this paragraph~~, having a cumulative grade point
30 average of at least 3.3 at the checkpoints set forth in paragraph (1) of subsection (b) of
31 Code Section 20-3-519.2. Notwithstanding the foregoing, a student that entered an
32 eligible postsecondary institution as a freshman between July 1, 2007, and June 30, 2011,
33 and met the requirements of subparagraph (A) of this paragraph may become a Zell
34 Miller Scholar as a sophomore, junior, senior, or first professional student.

35 A student that loses eligibility to be a Zell Miller Scholar for any reason may regain
36 eligibility one time if the student requalifies at one of the checkpoints set forth in paragraph
37 (1) of subsection (b) of Code Section 20-3-519.2."

38 **SECTION 2.**

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