

Senate Bill 335

By: Senators Carter of the 42nd, 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 20-3-519.5 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to  
2 eligibility requirements for HOPE grants, so as to eliminate the minimum grade point  
3 average requirement for maintaining eligibility for a HOPE grant; to provide for related  
4 matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

6 style="text-align:center">**SECTION 1.**

7 Code Section 20-3-519.5 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to eligibility  
8 requirements for HOPE grants, is amended by revising subsection (a) as follows:

9 "(a) To be eligible for a HOPE grant, a student seeking a diploma or certificate at a branch  
10 of the Technical College System of Georgia or a unit of the University System of Georgia  
11 shall, in addition to meeting the residency requirements set forth in subsection (a) of Code  
12 Section 20-3-519.1~~;~~<sub>2</sub>

13 ~~(1) Meet achievement standards by earning a cumulative grade point average of at least~~  
14 ~~3.0 at the end of the quarter or semester in which the student has attended 30 or 60~~  
15 ~~semester hours or 45 or 90 quarter hours of courses towards a diploma or certificate for~~  
16 ~~which the student received HOPE funds pursuant to this part. The grade point average~~  
17 ~~shall be calculated using such 30 semester or 45 quarter hours taken pursuant to this~~  
18 ~~subsection. An otherwise eligible student who attains or regains a cumulative grade point~~  
19 ~~average of at least 3.0 at the end of a quarter or semester in which the student has~~  
20 ~~attempted 30 or 60 semester hours or 45 or 90 quarter hours may qualify or requalify for~~  
21 ~~a HOPE grant; provided, however, that a student who receives a HOPE grant and loses~~  
22 ~~eligibility pursuant to this paragraph is only eligible to regain or requalify for the HOPE~~  
23 ~~grant one time; and~~

24 ~~(2) Meet meet enrollment standards by being admitted, enrolled, and classified as an~~  
25 ~~undergraduate student in a matriculated status in a program of study leading to a~~  
26 ~~certificate or diploma and maintaining satisfactory academic progress in accordance with~~

27 the standards and practices used for federal Title IV programs by the institution at which  
28 the student is enrolled."

29 **SECTION 2.**

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