

Financial Aid Requirements and Deadlines for Scholarships

Potential Scholarships applicants must apply for federal and state financial aid and **submit proof to DECAL Scholars of award or denial before their Scholarships application can be fully processed.** Scholarships awards applicants may qualify for a stipend **even if tuition and fees are covered by another source.**

Financial aid programs in the state of Georgia include:

Credential/Degree	Financial Aid Programs
Technical Certificate of Credit	<u>HOPE Grant</u> (converts to <u>Zell Miller Grant</u> with 3.5 GPA) <u>HOPE Career Grant</u>
Technical College Diploma	<u>HOPE Grant</u> (converts to <u>Zell Miller Grant</u> with 3.5 GPA) <u>HOPE Career Grant</u> <u>Pell Grant</u>
Associate or bachelor's degree at a public institution	<u>HOPE Scholarship</u> <u>Pell Grant</u>
Associate or bachelor's degree at a private institution	<u>HOPE Scholarship</u> <u>Georgia Tuition Equalization Grant</u> <u>Pell Grant</u>

Learn more about these programs at gafutures.org.

How do I apply for financial aid?

Fill out the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) either online or through the financial aid office of the college/university you plan to attend. The results of your FAFSA application will determine your eligibility for both federal and state aid.

The upcoming deadlines for completing FAFSA can be found in the chart below:

When a Student is Attending College (School Year)	When a Student Can Submit a FAFSA Form
July 1, 2024 – June 30, 2025	December 2023 - June 30, 2025
July 1, 2025 – June 30, 2026	October 1, 2024 – June 30, 2026

Learn more about financial aid and student loans at studentaid.gov.

What documents do I send with my Scholarships application?

Scholarships participants must provide documentation of financial aid received or ineligibility to receive financial aid each new academic year (the fall semester).

If you have received financial aid:

- Financial aid award information available on your educational institution's student portal AND
- Your FAFSA Submission Summary

If you are ineligible to receive financial aid:

- My College HOPE Profile from GA Futures showing you have exceeded the number of eligible credit hours covered by HOPE and documentation showing you have exceeded the maximum disbursements from the Pell Grant OR
- Your verified bachelor's degree in GaPDS OR
- Your college transcript showing you have earned your bachelor's degree