Financial Aid 101

2016 - 2017

Representative's Name

Outreach Representative





Agenda

- Introducing GAfutures.org
- Basic Information
- Federal Programs
- State Programs
- Filling out the FAFSA
- Additional Resources



GAfutures.org

- Georgia's new resource to help students plan, apply and find affordable ways to pay for college
- GAfutures supports
 GSFC's mission to
 increase access to
 education beyond high
 school for Georgia
 students



GAfutures.org

Financial Aid Information

 The basics, state and federal programs, calculators, repayment options, financial literacy tips, national scholarship search

College Planning Tools

Timeline, test prep, calculators, applications (admissions, financial aid),
 HOPE-eligible institutions highlighted, national college search

Career Exploration

 Career assessments, interest profiler, Career Clusters and Pathways, skilled trades

My GAfutures for Students

Request high school transcripts, check HOPE GPA

Basic Information

What is Financial Aid?

- Financial aid is money to pay for college or career school
- Examples of financial aid
 - Grants
 - Scholarships
 - Loans
 - Work-Study Programs



Sources of Financial Aid

Professional and Service Organizations

Employers and Private Companies Federal Government



Private Foundations State Government

Colleges and Universities



Types of Financial Aid

- Merit-Based Scholarship (Hope Scholarship)
- Need-Based Grant (Pell Grant)
- Non-Need Based Grants (HOPE Grant)
- Student or Parent Loans
- Employment Opportunities, Work Study
- Military Aid and Grants
- Savings Plans (Path2College)

Who Can Get Federal Student Aid?

- U.S. citizen or permanent resident
- High school graduate or GED recipient
- Eligible degree/certificate program
- Valid Social Security number
- Males registered for Selective Service
- Satisfactory academic progress



How is Financial Need Calculated?

- Financial need is determined by Cost of Attendance (COA) and Expected Family Contribution (EFC)
- COA is tuition, fees, room and board, transportation, etc. established by the school
- EFC comes from what you report on the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)



Factors that Influence EFC

- Independent student/dependent student
- Income (students and/or parents)
- Savings
- Assets
- Number in college
- Family Size



Factors that <u>Do Not Influence EFC</u>

- Assets that are EXCLUDED from the FEDERAL family contribution calculation (EFC)
 - Family home
 - Family farm (under special circumstances)
 - Value of retirement accounts (IRA, KEOUGH, 401K)



Federal Programs

What are the Federal Programs?

- Pell Grant
 - Maximum award amount for 2016-2017 \$5,815
 - Based on financial need, COA, full-time or part-time status and plans to attend school for a full academic year or less
 - There is a maximum EFC to qualify for Pell
 - May not receive Pell Grant funds for more than one school at a time
- Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant (FSEOG)
 - Full-time, undergraduates only
 - Awards range from \$100 \$4,000
- Federal Work-Study Grant

What are the Federal Programs?

- Direct Subsidized Loan
 - Interest is paid by the government while enrolled (at least half-time)
- Direct Unsubsidized Loan
 - Student is responsible for paying the interest on the loan
- Federal PLUS Loan for parents of undergraduate students
- Grad PLUS Loan for graduate and professional students

2016 – 2017 Interest Rates

Direct and PLUS Loans

Type of Loan	Interest Rates
Direct Subsidized Loans (Undergraduates)	3.76%
Direct Unsubsidized Loans (Undergraduates)	3.76%
Direct Unsubsidized Loans (Graduate or Professional Students)	5.31%
Direct PLUS Loans (Parents and Graduate or Professional Students)	6.31%

Federal Loan Program Limits

2016-2017 Academic Year

Initial Loan Amount for Dependent Students whose Parents are Eligible for a PLUS Loan	Base	Additional Unsubsidized	Annual Maximum Amount
Freshmen	\$3,500	\$2,000	\$5,500
Sophomore	\$4,500	\$2,000	\$6,500
Junior/Senior	\$5,500	\$2,000	\$7,500

Independent Students and Dependent Students whose Parents were Denied a PLUS Loan	Base	Additional Unsubsidized	Annual Maximum Amount
Freshmen	\$3,500	\$6,000	\$9,500
Sophomore	\$4,500	\$6,000	\$10,500
Junior/Senior	\$5,500	\$7,000	\$12,500

State Programs

What are Some State Programs?

- Academic or Merit Scholarships
 - HOPE Scholarship
 - Zell Miller Scholarship
- Grants
 - HOPE Grant
 - Zell Miller Grant
 - Strategic Industries Workforce Development Grant (SIWDG)
 - HOPE GED Grant
- Loan
 - Student Access Loan (SAL)



HELPING OUTSTANDING PUPILS EDUCATIONALLY

Other State Programs

- Georgia Military College State Service Scholarship
- Georgia National Guard Service Cancelable Loan
- HERO Scholarship
- Public Safety Memorial Grant
- REACH Scholarship
- Scholarship for Engineering Education (SEE)
- Scholarship for Engineering Education for Minorities (MSEE)
- Tuition Equalization Grant (TEG)
- University of North Georgia Military Scholarship
- University of North Georgia ROTC Grant
- University of North Georgia ROTC Grant for Future Officers



How do I Apply for Aid?

- Federal aid: FREE Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) at fafsa.gov
- State aid: most states make awards based on FAFSA data
 - GSFAPPS is a Georgia-specific financial aid application available on GAfutures.org
- School aid: contact school's financial aid office
- Scholarships: each scholarship provider has its own requirements

GSFAPPS





GSFAPPS

Apply On Line Now

GSFAPPS Fact Sheet

GSFAPPS FAQ's

GSFAPPS Tutorial

GSFAPPS Presentation

New Application Deadlines

Ask a Question

WELCOME to the GSFAPPS - the primary means for applying for most scholarships, grants, or service-tancelable loan programs administered by the Georgia Student Finance Commission (GSFC). GSFAPPS has been carefully designed to permit an applicant to quickly and accurately complete an application that the application has been received mode, and to receive immediate confirmation that the application has been received by GSFC for further processing. An applicant can also print out a copy of the application they submitted for their records. The instructions are easy to follow, and the System provides help menus throughout to guide completion of the application.

OPTION S. If you decide not to apply electronically, you can download and print a paper application from GAfutures web site, call the Commission at 800-505-GSFC, or visit your Financial Aid Office. Remember, submitting your application online via GSFAPPS ensures your application has been completed correctly, and, assuming you meet the eligibility requirements, speeds up the approval process. If you are visually impaired, you can call the Commission at 800-505-GSFC to get assistance in completing your application.

CONDITIONS. You must have already established an account and completed your profile in GAfutures and be logged onto that website. If you need to establish an account and complete your profile in GAfutures, <u>click here</u> and click Create an Account.

INSTRUCTIONS. If you would like a tutorial on how to use GSFAPPS, click GSFApps Tutorial.

Click Apply Now to Apply Online.

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GSFC Georgia Student Inance Commission

GSFA Georgia Studen GHEAC
Georgia Higher Education
Assistance Corporation





Filling Out the FAFSA

FREE APPLICATION FOR FEDERAL STUDENT AID

FAFSA Homepage: FAFSA.gov



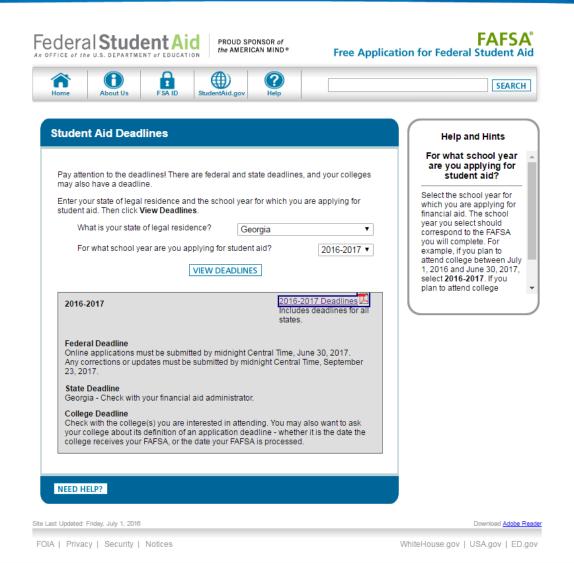


Changes for 2017 - 2018

- Submit the FAFSA earlier October 1
- Use earlier income and tax information

If You Plan to Attend College From	You will Submit this FAFSA	You can Submit the FAFSA From	Using Income and Tax Information From
July 1, 2016 – June 30, 2017	2016-17	January 1, 2016 – June 30, 2017	2015
July 1, 2017 – June 30, 2018	2017-18	October 1, 2016 – June 30, 2018	2015
July 1, 2018 – June 30, 2019	2018-19	October 1, 2017 – June 30, 2019	2016

FAFSA Deadlines







What You Need to Complete the FAFSA

Social Security number (Alien Registration Number, if not a U.S. citizen)

Most recent federal income tax returns, W-2s and

other records of money earned

- Bank statements and investment records (if applicable)
- Records of untaxed income (if applicable)
- An FSA ID to sign electronically
- Order Spanish FAFSA at edpubs.gov



The FSA ID

- Replaces the PIN
- Consists of user-created username and password
- Provides electronic access to personal information
- FSA ID can be used immediately upon creation to complete, sign and submit your FAFSA
- Parents and students must apply for their own FSA ID

Note: The user will only receive immediate full benefit of the FSA ID if the student is linking an already established PIN. If not, the student can only use the FSA ID to sign their FAFSA until their FSA ID has been validated by the Social Security Administration.

Create Your FSA ID



PROUD SPONSOR of the AMERICAN MIND®

Create a New FSA ID

An FSA ID gives you access to Federal Student Aid's online systems and can serve as your legal signature.

Only create an FSA ID using your own personal information and for your own exclusive use. You are not authorized to create an FSA ID on behalf of someone else, including a family member. Misrepresentation of your identity to the federal government could result in criminal or civil penalties.

To create your own personal FSA ID, enter answers for the questions below and select CONTINUE.

Important: When you are done click the CANCEL button to clear your data, even if you did not finish creating your FSA ID. Just closing your browser window or going to another website may not be enough to prevent other people using this computer from seeing your information until the session expires.

		Edit My FSA ID	D	reate An FSA ID
Edit My FSA ID Frequently Asked Question	9			E-mail
	Θ			Confirm E-mail
	Θ			Username •
	Θ			Password •



FSA ID Tips

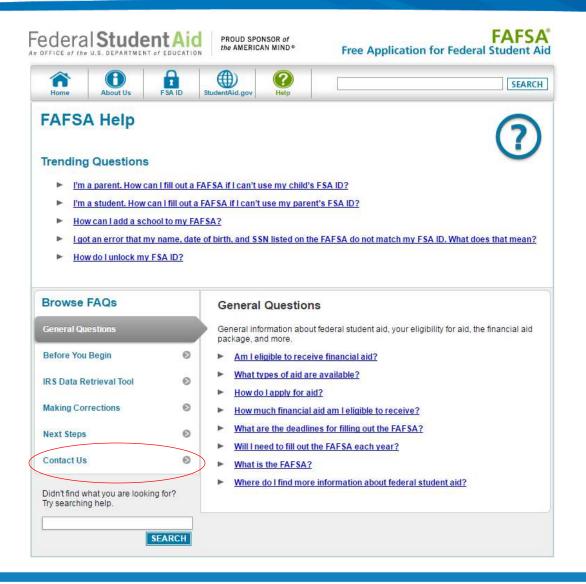
- Create your own FSA ID
- Never tell anyone else your FSA ID
- Use your FSA ID each year you fill out the FAFSA and the lifetime of any loans
- Parents may need an FSA ID as well
- Each email address can be associated with only one

FSA ID

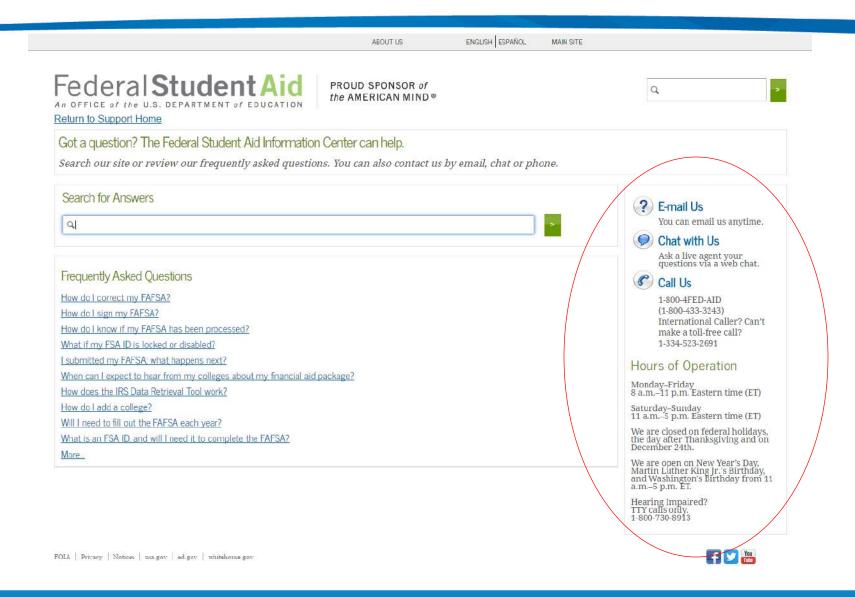
FSAID



Find the Answers on FAFSA.gov



FSA Information Center





FAFSA on the Web Worksheet

SECTION 2 - STUDENT DEPENDENCY STATUS

If you can check ANY of the following boxes, you will not have to provide parental information. Skip to page 4. If you check NONE of the following boxes, you will be asked to provide parental information. Go to the next page.

☐ I was born before January 1, 1993	☐ I am married	☐ I will be working on a master's or doctorate program (e.g., MA, MBA, MD, JD, PhD, EdD, graduate certificate)		
☐ I am serving on active duty in the U.S. Armed Forces	☐ I am a veteran of the U.S. Armed Forces	I now have or will have children for whom I will provide more than ha of their support between July 1, 2016 and June 30, 2017		
☐ Since I turned age 13, both of my parents were deceased	☐ I was in foster care since turning age 13	ng I have dependents (other than children or my spouse) who live with me and I provide more than half of their support		
☐ I was a dependent or ward of the court since turning age 13 ☐ I am currently or I was an emancipated minor		☐ I am currently or I was in legal guardianship	☐ I am homeless or I am at risk of being homeless	

The information provided in Section 2 will determine whether the student is a dependent or independent student. These are the only questions the Government uses in making this determination.

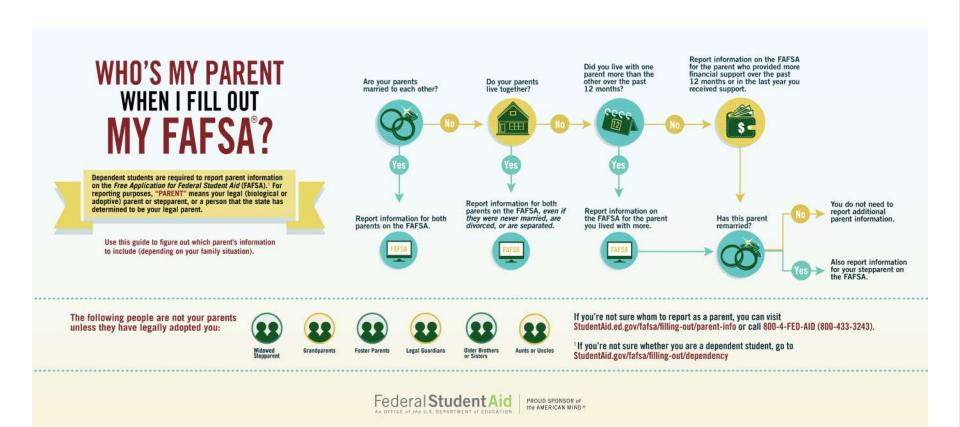
FAFSA on the Web Worksheet

example, if the parent is listed on the birth certificate, considered parents on this form unless they have lega questions about both of them. If your legal parents ar or separation, give information about the parent you give information about the parent who provided you received support. If your divorced or widowed parent	Grandparen illy adopted y e not marrie ived with mo the most fina	you. If your legal parents are livin- ed and live together , answer the ost in the last 12 months. If you di ancial support during the last 12 i	s, older siblings g and married questions abou id not live with months or duri	s, and uncles or a unts are not to each other, answer the ut both of them. In case of divorce one parent more than the other, ing the most recent year you
Providing parent 1 information? You will		Providing parent 2		
Parent 1 (father/mother/stepparent) Social Security Number Parent 1 (father/mother/stepparent) name		Parent 2 (father/mother/stepparent) Social Security Number Parent 2 (father/mother/stepparent) name		
Parent 1 (father/mother/stepparent) date of birth		Parent 2 (father/mother/stepparent) date of birth Check here if parent 2 is a dislocated worker		
☐ Check here if parent 1 is a dislocated worker				
Did you know?	T	Did your parents file or wi	ill they file a	a 2015 income tax return?
If your parents file a tax return with the IRS, they may i	be	☐ My parents have already	20.00	
eligible to use the IRS Data Retrieval Tool, which is the way to provide accurate tax information. With just a fi			70	
simple steps, they may be able to view their tax returns.		My parents will file, but i	March Charage Conce	Control of the Contro
information and securely transfer it into FAFSA on the		My parents are not goin	g to file an inco	ome tax return
What was your parents' adjusted gross in	come for 2	2015?		
Skip this question if your parents did not file taxes. Ad	ljusted gross	s income is on IRS Form 1040—Lin	ne 37;	\$
1040A-line 21; or 1040EZ-line 4.				
How much did parent 2 (father/mother/st		t) earn from working in 20 t) earn from working in 20		s
How much did parent 2 (father/mother/st In 2014 or 2015, did anyone in your paren Supplemental Security Income (SSI) Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) Free or Reduced Price School Lunch	epparent its' house Temp Speci	t) earn from working in 20 chold receive: (Check all that porary Assistance for Needy Familial sial Supplemental Nutrition Progra	15? (apply.) ies (TANF) am for Women.	\$ Infants, and Children (WIC)
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Who's My Parent?

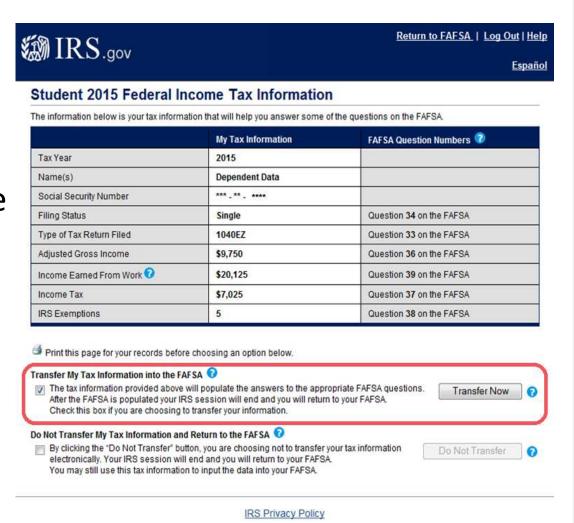






IRS Data Retrieval

- Applicant will be validated
- Applicant will have the option to "Transfer" the tax information to the FAFSA





Special Circumstances

- Cannot report on FAFSA
- Send explanation to financial aid office at each college
- College will review special circumstances:
 - Request additional documentation
 - Decisions are final and cannot be appealed to U.S.
 Department of Education

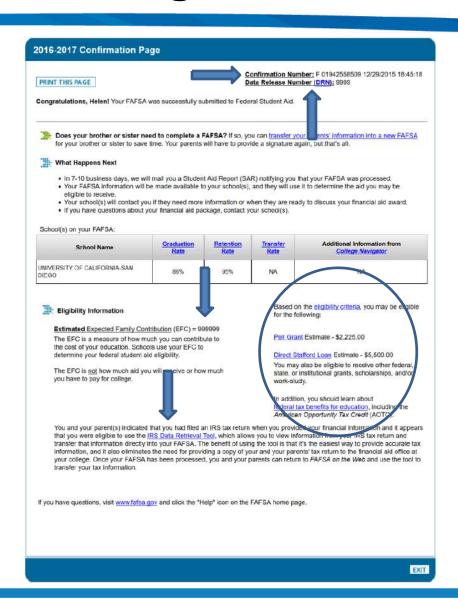
Examples of Special Circumstances:

- Change in employment status
- Medical expenses not covered by insurance
 - Change in parent marital status
 - Unusual dependent care expenses
- Student cannot obtain parent information



Confirmation Page

- Confirmation Number
- Data Release Number (DRN)
- EFC estimate
- Pell Grant and Direct Loan estimates
- Option for parents to transfer information to an application for a sibling





FAFSA Processing Results

- Student will receive a Student Aid Report (SAR)
- Colleges listed on your FAFSA will receive the Institutional Student Record (ISIR) 10 to 14 days after FAFSA submitted
- College reviews ISIR
 - May request additional documentation, such as copies of federal tax returns

Federal Student Aid FAFSA...

Form Approved OMB No. 1845-0001 App. Exp. 12/31/2016

2015-201

Electronic Student Aid Report (SAR)

The SAR summarizes the information you submitted on your 2015-2016 Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA).

Application Receipt Date:	01/09/2015	XXX-XX-5678	
Processed Date:	01/10/2015	EFC: 001056	
		DRN: 1234	

Comments About Your Information

Learn about federal tax benefits for education, including the American Opportunity Tax Credit (AOTC)

Based on the information we have on record for you, your EFC is 001056. You may be eligible to receive a Federal Pell Grant and other federal student aid.
Your school will use your EFC to determine your financial aid eligibility for federal grants, loans, and work-study, and possible funding from your state and school.

There is a limit to the total amount of Federal Pell Grants that a student may receive, which is the equivalent of 6 school years. Once a total amount of Pell Grant eligibility has been received, a student can no longer receive Pell Grant aid.

WHAT YOU MUST DO NOW (Use the checklist below to make sure that all of your issues are resolved.)

If you need to make corrections to your information, click 'Make FAFSA Corrections' on the 'My FAFSA' page. You must use your Federal Student Aid PIN to access your record online. If you need additional help with your SAR, contact your school's financial aid office or click the 'Help' icon on the FAFSA home page. If your mailing address or e-mail address changes, you can make the correction online.

You were issued a Federal Student Aid PIN to sign your 2015-2016 FAFSA. Your information has been verified and your PIN has been confirmed. Do not share your PIN with anyone. Remember that your PIN stays the same from year to year and that you can use your PIN to make corrections, add school codes, view your federal student loan history, and electronically sign your Federal Direct Loan Master Promissory Note. For more information on the PIN, visit www.pin.ed.gov

Your parent was issued a Federal Student Aid PIN to sign your 2015-2016 FAFSA. Your parent's information has been verified and the PIN has been confirmed. Your parent should not share the PIN with anyone. The PIN stays the same from year to year and can be used to make corrections, add school codes, and view your federal student loan history. For more information on the PIN, your parent can visit www.pin.ed.gov.

Based on your EFC of 001056, you may be eligible to receive a Federal Pell Grant of up to \$4,120 for the 2015-2016 school year provided you have not met or exceeded the lifetime limit established for the Federal Pell Grant program.



Financial Aid Award Offer

Name: Doe, John

ID: 000 00 0128

May 21, 2017 Award #: 01

On-Campus Housing: Residency: In-State

Estimated Cost of Attendance 2 Semesters

\$18,305

Expected Family Contribution

Established Financial Need

\$18,305

Type of Aid	Fall	Spring	Summer	Total	Accept?
Federal Pell Grant	\$2,907	\$2,908	\$0	\$5,815	Yes or No
HOPE Scholarship*	\$3,495	\$3,495	\$0	\$6,990	Yes or No
Federal Direct Loan – Sub	\$1,750	\$1,750	\$0	\$3,500	Yes or No
Federal Direct Loan - Unsub	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$0	\$2,000	Yes or No
Total for Academic Year				\$18,305	

^{*}Estimated HOPE Scholarship award amount for 15 credit hours per semester at University of Georgia. Award amounts vary by institution.



Additional Resources

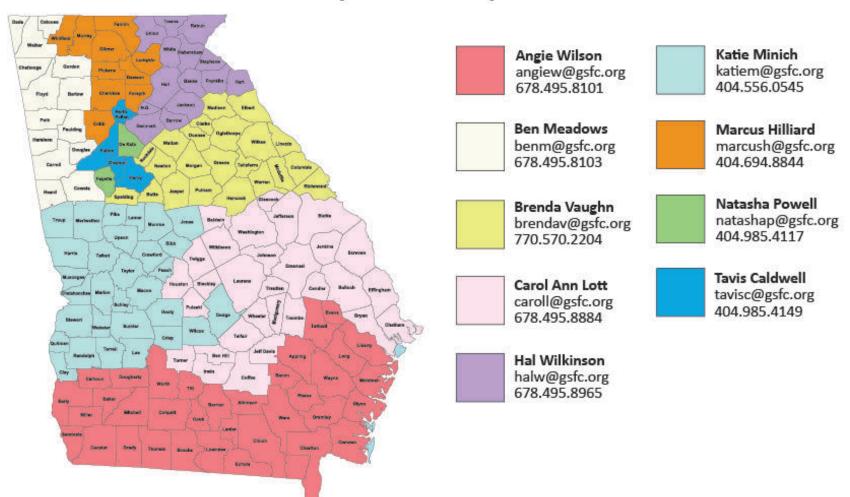
Additional Resources

- GAfutures.org
- GSFC.org
- FAFSA.gov
- StudentAid.gov
 - Prepare for College
 - Types of Aid
 - Who Gets Aid
 - Apply for Aid
 - Repay Your Loans



We're Here to Help You

Contact your GSFC Representative



Contact Us





Be Social









OUR MISSION

To promote and increase access to education beyond high school for Georgians.

OUR VISION

To be the premier provider of student financial aid and educational services for Georgians.