

Georgia Student Finance Commission



Accel

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Topics

- Purpose of Accel
- Definitions
- Accel Eligibility Requirements
- Accel Length of Eligibility
- Accel Application Procedures
- College Credit Now and Impact on HOPE
- Questions



Accel Program Purpose

The purpose of the Accel Program is to offer Georgia public and private high school students the opportunity to earn credit hours toward an Associate or Baccalaureate Degree, as they simultaneously meet their high school graduation requirements as a Dual Credit Enrollment student, by providing financial assistance toward their postsecondary educational costs.

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Definitions

For purposes of State Scholarship and Grant Programs:

 <u>Dual Credit Enrollment</u> means an arrangement whereby a high school student is Enrolled in postsecondary coursework with a postsecondary institution and earning postsecondary credit hours while continuing to pursue a high school diploma, and the student's high school has agreed to accept the postsecondary coursework as credit toward the student's high school graduation requirements.



Definitions

For purposes of State Scholarship and Grant Programs:

 <u>Joint Enrollment</u> means an arrangement whereby a high school student is Enrolled in postsecondary coursework with a postsecondary institution while continuing to pursue a high school diploma, and the high school has not agreed to accept the postsecondary coursework as credit toward the student's high school graduation requirements.

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Accel Eligibility Requirements

Citizenship

 A student must be a United States citizen or an Eligible Non-Citizen for the 12 consecutive months immediately preceding the first day of classes of the school term for which Accel Program payment is sought.

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Accel Eligibility Requirements

Residency

- Public Colleges and Universities
 - Residency at USG and TCSG institutions is determined based on BOR or TCSG policies
 - -12 consecutive months immediately prior to the first day of classes of the school term for which Accel payment is sought
 - -If a USG or TCSG institution grants an out-of-state tuition waiver to a student whose parent is stationed in Georgia, the student meets Georgia residency requirements.
 - No other out-of-state Tuition waivers granted by USG or TCSG institutions qualify a student for Accel eligibility

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Accel Eligibility Requirements

Residency

- Private Colleges and Universities
 - A student attending a private Eligible Postsecondary Institution and is classified as a Georgia Resident, according to the Georgia Residency Requirements for State Programs Regulations
 - -12 consecutive months immediately prior to the first day of classes of the school term for which Accel payment is sought
 - A student enrolled in an Eligible High School in Georgia, who is the dependent child of Military Personnel stationed in Georgia, is treated as a Georgia Resident for purposes of the Accel Program

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Accel Eligibility Requirements

SELECTIVE SERVICE REGISTRATION

 The student must meet federal Selective Service registration requirements.

REFUND DUE

-The student must not owe a refund on a State of Georgia student financial aid program.

GEORGIA DRUG-FREE ACT

-A student may be ineligible if in accordance with the Drug-Free Postsecondary Education Act of 1990, he or she has been convicted of committing certain felony offenses involving marijuana, controlled substances, or dangerous drugs.

Example: Student is convicted November 1, 2007. He or she is ineligible for Winter quarter or Spring semester of 2008.

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Accel Eligibility

Eligible students must:

- Be enrolled at an Eligible High School, including eligible/accredited Home Study Programs
- Be admitted and enrolled as a <u>Dual-Credit</u> <u>Enrollment</u> student at an Eligible Postsecondary Institution
- Meet application requirements by the end of the term for which the student is seeking Accel payment.



Accel Eligibility, continued

Eligible students:

- Must not have already received a high school diploma or General Education Development (GED) Diploma.
- Are limited to a maximum of 4 semesters or 6 quarters of payment, regardless of the number of credits received during each semester or quarter.
- Are limited to payment during the Fall and Spring semesters, or Fall, Winter, and Spring quarters.
 - Accel is not available for Summer terms.

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Accel Length of Eligibility

Beginning July 1, 2010:

- Students are no longer required to be classified as an 11th or 12th grade student, nor must 9th or 10th grade students demonstrate academic excellence.
- Students are eligible if they are enrolled in an Eligible High School and admitted at an Eligible Postsecondary Institution as a Dual Credit Enrollment student.



Accel Coursework

Accel will only pay for coursework appearing in the Accel Course Directory

• The Directory lists all high school courses and the college equivalents that are eligible for payment under the Accel program.

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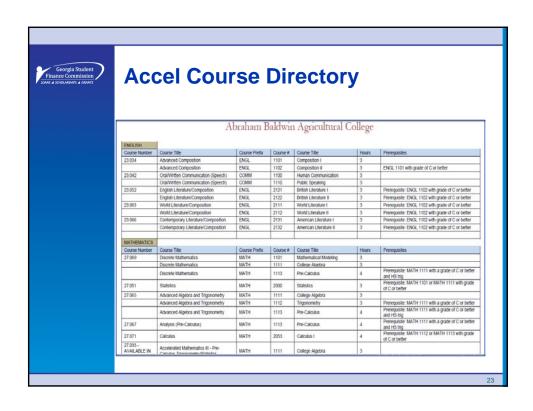


Accel Course Directory

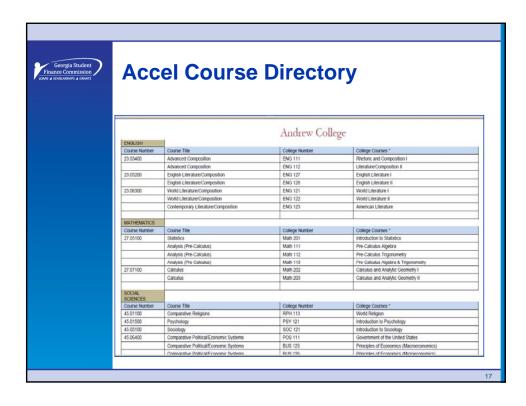
2009-2010 Course Directory for Accel For All Terms Beginning After January 1, 2010

> High School Courses and College Equivalents for the Accel Program

> > Revised: October 15, 2009









Accel Impact on Future HOPE Eligibility

- Hours paid for by the Accel program are <u>always</u> counted in the HOPE Combined Paid hours limit.
- Hours paid for by the Accel program are only counted in the Attempted hours calculation for HOPE eligibility purposes if:
 - the student did <u>not</u> graduate as a HOPE Scholar from high school due to not meeting the GPA requirements; and
 - the coursework is accepted by an eligible postsecondary institution when the student first enrolls at the Tier 1 level.



Accel Impact on Future HOPE Eligibility

• If coursework paid for by Accel is included in the attempted hours calculation, then the hours are utilized for determining when the HOPE Checkpoints occur, but the grades are never calculated into the HOPE GPA.

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Accel Application Instructions

The Accel Application process has 3 main, sequential steps:

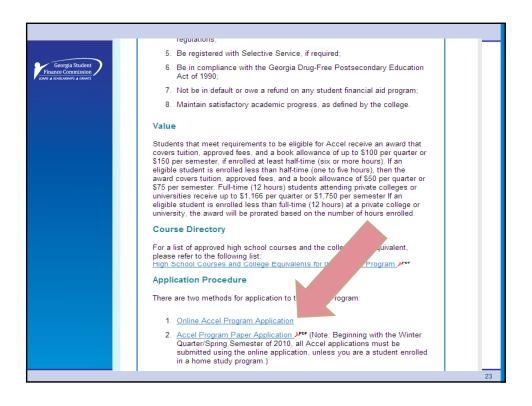
- The student must complete an online application at www.GAcollege411.org.
- The eligible high school must certify the student's application electronically.
- The eligible postsecondary institution must certify the student's application electronically.

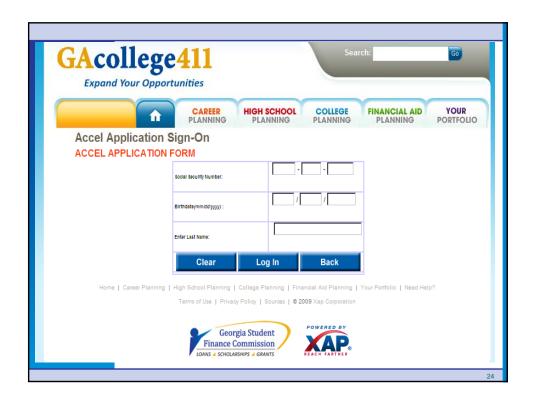


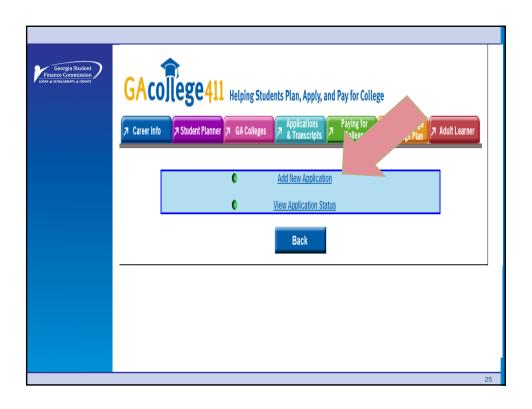
Step 1 – Student completes online application

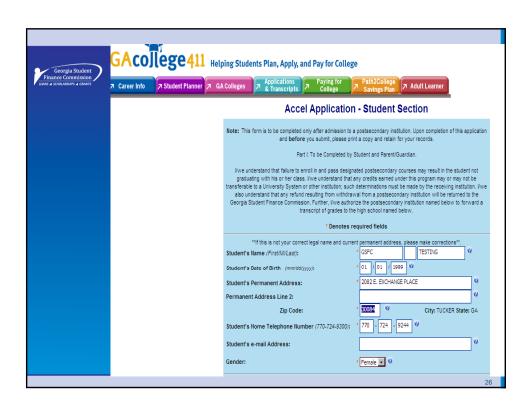
- Go to www.GAcollege411.org, select "Accel Program" from the "Shortcuts" Box.
- Select "Online Accel Program Application".
- "Log In" to Accel Application.
- Select "Add New Application".
- Complete application information and select "Submit."

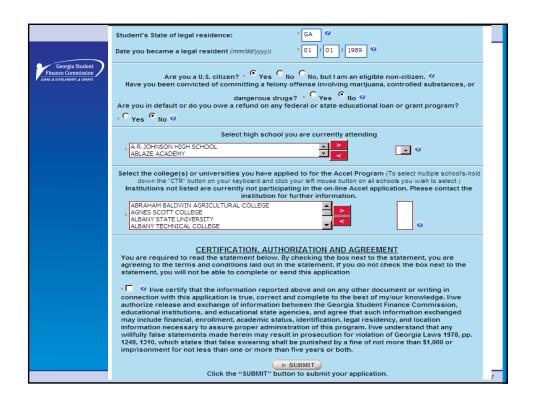


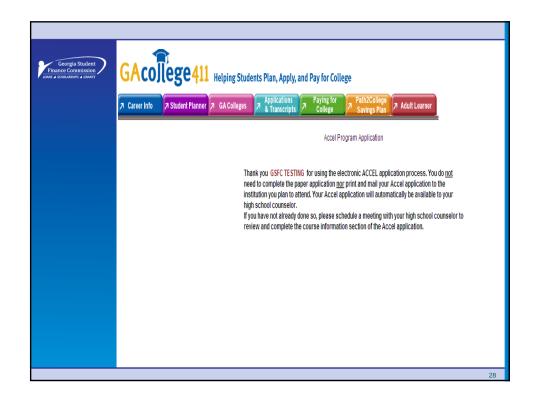














Step 2 – High School completes online certification of application

- Go to <u>www.GAcollege411.org</u>, select "Middle School & High School Educators" at the bottom of the page.
- Select "Scholar Tracking and Reporting System (STARS)".
- "Log In" to STARS.
- Select "Accel" from the main menu.

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Accel Application Instructions, continued

Step 2 – High School completes online certification of application.

• Select (1) Process New Applications (2) Edit Existing Applications (3) Process Disapproved **Applications** (4) **Process** Canceled Applications (5) create an Accel Status Report or (6) edit your *Email List* address and choose whether you wish to receive email notifications related to the online applications.

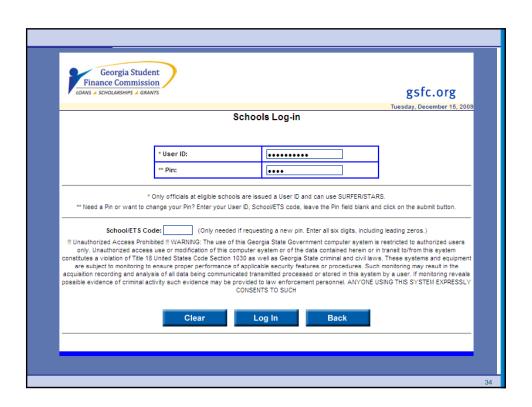


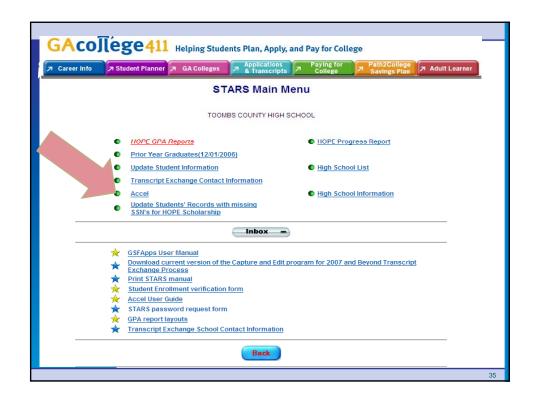
Step 2 – High School completes online certification of application.

- Select "Process New Applications".
- Search for student or choose from list.
- Populate year and term of enrollment, courses that the student may enroll in, certify the student's eligibility, and then "Submit".

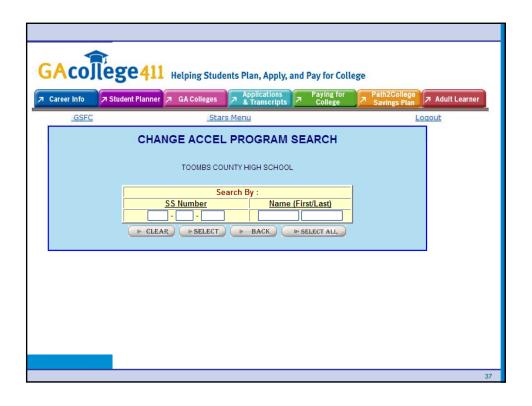




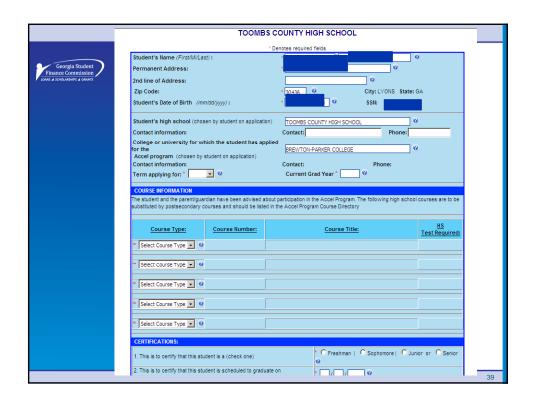


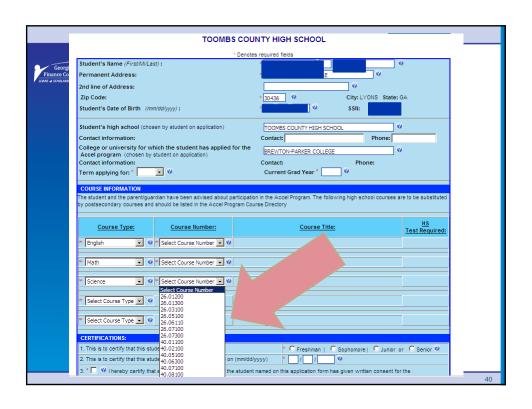














Step 3 – College completes online certification of application.

- Go to <u>www.GAcollege411.org</u>, select "College Administrators" at the bottom of the page.
- Select "SURFER", in the GSFC Programs and Tools Box
- "Log In" to SURFER.
- Select "Accel" from the left-hand main menu.

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Accel Application Instructions, continued

Step 3 – College completes online certification of application.

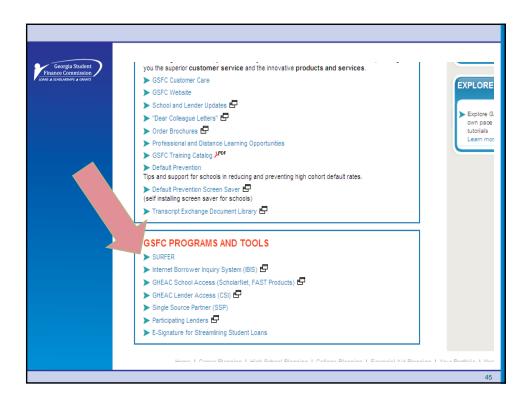
Select (1) Process New Applications (2) Edit Existing Applications (3) Process Disapproved Applications (4) Process Canceled Applications (5) create an Accel Status Report or (6) edit your Email List address and choose whether you wish to receive email notifications related to the online applications.



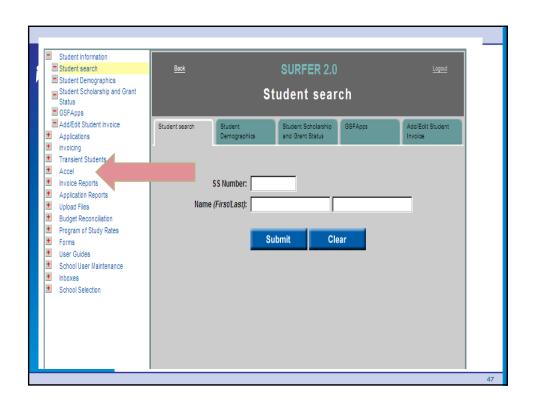
Step 3 – College completes online certification of application.

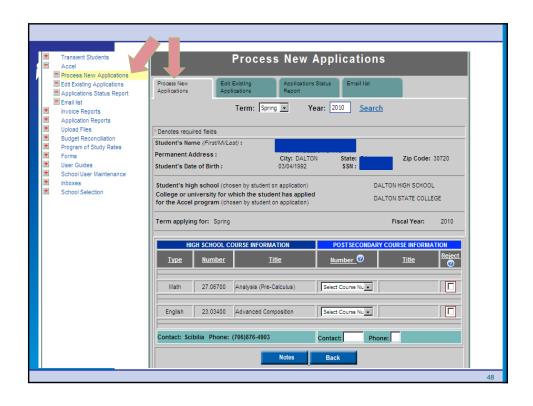
- Select "Process New Applications".
- Search for student or, "Select All" to choose from list.
- Select the course equivalents from a drop down list, or reject the course. Enter contact information, then "Submit".

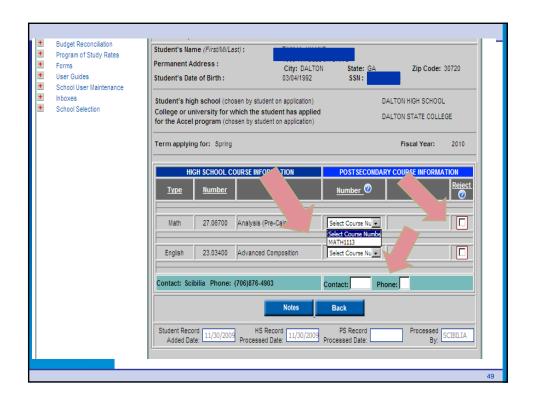


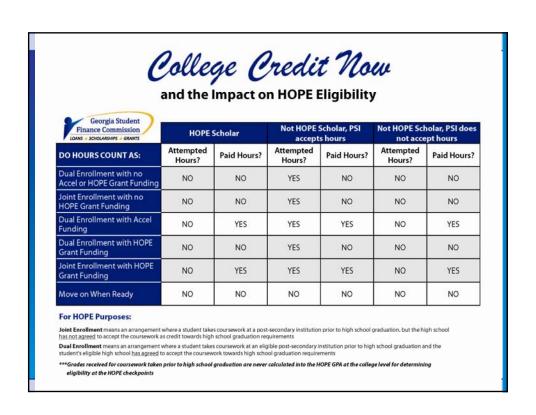














OUR MISSION

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.

