Georgia Student Finance Commission
Presentation to USG
April 13, 2005

Shelley C. Nickel
President
Mission Statement: To promote and increase access to education beyond high school for Georgians by delivering student financial aid information, services, and funding in a way that is fiscally responsible and understandable.

“Helping Students Is Our Only Business”
What is the Georgia Student Finance Commission?

- Bundled Agency
  - Administer state, lottery and private scholarship, grant and service cancelable loan programs
  - Federal Family Education Loan Program - Lender
  - Federal Guarantor
- Provides a savings of over $2.2 million for the State of Georgia
GSFC Total Uses of Funds: FY 2004

- Service Cancelable Loans: $17,202,026
- Scholarships & Grants: $435,057,627
- Student Loans: $276,952,206
- Program Administration: $19,703,163

Total: $748,915,022
HOPE Scholarships and Grants:
FYs 2000 -- 2004

Fiscal Year

Dollars

University System  | Technical Colleges  | Private Colleges

FY 2000

FY 2001

FY 2002

FY 2003

FY 2004
HOPE Scholarship and Grant Projections:
FYs 2005 -- 2010

Dollars

Fiscal Year

FY 2005
FY 2006
FY 2007
FY 2008
FY 2009
FY 2010
HOPE Changes from HB 1325

- Freeze mandatory fee payment amounts at the 2003-2004 award year;
- Combined 127 hour cap;
- Establish spring eligibility check;
- Three triggers in place to cut costs by reducing benefits if necessary;
- New “Early” HOPE – Accel Program; and
- GPA calculation computed by GSFC.
Purpose:

• To accelerate progress toward earning a high school diploma and college degree.

• Starting HOPE clock ticking earlier:
  – Continues promise of providing the equivalent of a bachelor degree.
- Courses must be in one of the five CPC areas (English Language Arts, Mathematics, Science, Social Science, Foreign Language).

- Course Directory is available on GSFC’s Web site (www.gsfc.org).


- Awards are restricted to regular academic year – No Summer Term.

- Neither hours nor grades are included in the 127 semester/190 quarter HOPE Attempted-Hours limit.

- Hours paid by Accel are included in the 127 semester/190 quarter HOPE Combined-Paid-Hours limit.
Grade Point Average Change

• Starting May 2007, GSFC will calculate HOPE GPAs for all students from transcript data supplied by high schools.

• The high school academic requirements for the HOPE Scholarship will be a 3.0 GPA on a 4.0 scale, rather than an 80 numeric average, for all core curriculum courses.

• Weighting will be applied by GSFC for Advanced Placement and International Baccalaureate coursework only.

• New standard counts all core courses including failed courses and uses only a 4.0 grading scale.

• HOPE Scholars from 1993-2006 who did not begin receiving the HOPE Scholarship until after May 1, 2007 must meet the new requirement.
“Soon our students will get another powerful tool to help them with the entire process of getting ready for college. It's called GAcollege411.”

“This website will provide students, parents and counselors the tools they need to stay on track for college. Using GAcollege411, students will be able to research Georgia colleges and careers, prepare for the SAT, apply for admission, submit transcripts and apply for financial aid – all online.”
The Strategic Vision
What We Are Building…

A Student Portal that will
Improve Access to and
Increase Participation in
Post Secondary Education offerings

A One-Stop Shop
to Help Students
Plan, Apply, and Pay for College

GAcollege411.org
Statewide Partners
Who are the Builders....

- Georgia Student Finance Commission
- Public Colleges
- Technical Colleges
- Private Colleges
- K-12
- Georgia’s 529 Savings Plan
- Governor’s Office
- Professional Standards Commission
- Public Libraries
- Georgia Association of School Counselors
- Private High Schools
- Georgia Public Broadcasting

Helping Students Plan, Apply, and Pay for College
It's Time to File Your FAFSA

New to GAcollege411? Our "Getting Started" guide is where to begin.
 vå learn more

Need help on the SAT/ACT? Our Test Prep section is the solution.
 vå learn more

Education GO Get It Education GO Get It (GO) strives to enable and motivate all Georgia students to reach their potential through education.
 vå learn more

Need money for college? "Financial Aid 411" gives you all the information you need to get started.
 vå learn more

Unsure what careers match your interests? Our Career Info section helps you make the connections.
 vå learn more

Looking for a college that is right for you? The GA Colleges section helps you choose.
 vå learn more

Apply for your College of choice online
 vå learn more

Send your transcripts in a click
 vå learn more

Enhanced Career Info Provides information about hot jobs in GA.
 vå learn more

Student Planner Tracks progress towards meeting entrance requirements.
 vå learn more

Enhanced services for School Counselors and Financial Aid Professionals Helps you assist your students.
 vå learn more

View a message from Governor Sonny Perdue
My 411

There's a wealth of information available on GAcollege411 that does not require you to have a GAcollege411 account. However, in order to access some of the more valuable tools and information, you will need to set up a secure, private account.

Here are some of the things you can access with your private account:

- Learn which careers match your interests and personality
- Keep a record of your high school grades, honors, test scores, and activities
- Track your progress toward meeting specific college entrance requirements
- Apply online to colleges in Georgia
- Submit financial aid applications online
Career Information

- **Introduction to Career Info** - Learn how the GAcollege411 Career Info can help you find your dream job.
- **Career Key** - Find a career that matches your abilities and personality
- **Student-Career Matching Assistant** - Take an interactive test to discover which occupations match your goals.
- **List of Careers** - Find detailed information on specific occupations and where to get the necessary education.
- **Fastest Growing Careers** - Discover Georgia's fastest growing careers.
- **Career Portfolio** - Create your own individual career portfolio.
List of Careers

Registered Nurses

Description
Assess patient health problems and needs, develop and implement nursing care plans, and maintain medical records. Administer nursing care to ill, injured, convalescent, or disabled patients. May advise patients on health maintenance and disease prevention or provide case management. Licensing or registration required. Includes advance practice nurses such as: nurse practitioners, clinical nurse specialists, certified nurse midwives, and certified registered nurse anesthetists. Advanced practice nursing is practiced by RNs who have specialized formal, post-basic education and who function in highly autonomous and specialized roles.

Experience
A minimum of two to four years of work-related skill, knowledge, or experience is needed for these occupations. For example, an accountant must complete four years of college and work for several years in accounting to be considered qualified.

Education
Most of these occupations require a four-year bachelor's degree, but some do not.
Student Planner

This section of GAccollege411 gives you all the tools and resources you need to plan your high school education to meet the entrance requirements of colleges and universities in Georgia. We can't take your Algebra test for you, but we can offer some very powerful tools to help you reach your higher education goals.

If you're new to GAccollege411, we recommend you start with the [Getting Started](#) section which explains why you should go to college and helps you understand how to use GAccollege411. Additionally, to get the full benefits of the Student Planner you should create an account.

If you are ready to begin planning your future, click on one of the links below:

- **College Test Prep** - Most colleges in Georgia require you to take some sort of entrance exam to be admitted. GAccollege411 offers comprehensive FREE test prep courses for the SAT, ACT, and GRE.
- **Student Planner Timeline** - Provides a timeline to planning for college with the tasks you need to be completing from the 9th grade through to your acceptance to college.
- **Add Your Counselor** - Lets you allow your High School Counselor to view you’re My 411 information to assist you in planning and applying for college.
### East Carolina University

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<tr>
<th>High School Units</th>
<th>Agriculture</th>
<th>Art</th>
<th>English</th>
<th>Foreign Language</th>
<th>History / Social Studies</th>
<th>Math</th>
<th>Natural / Physical Science</th>
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<th>Other</th>
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SAT Companion Home

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<th>Category</th>
<th>Tutorial</th>
<th>Practice questions</th>
<th>Percentile ranking</th>
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<td>Geometry</td>
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<tr>
<td>Data Analysis</td>
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SAT Companion extras: Vocab Builder :: SAT Essay :: Customize My Account

Where should I start?
We suggest that you finish the sentence completion question set which you have already started. Alternatively, you might want to start working on the reading passages introduction.

We also strongly suggest that you visit your control panel to customize your account. If you enter your email address, then you can visit your SAT Control Panel to request that we send you regular emails with words of the day, practice questions, and suggestions of what to do next! You can even pick a coach to help you with your test prep.
GA Colleges

Finding a College That is Right for You

Georgia has 104 postsecondary schools that are eligible for state-funded student financial aid - a network of public and private universities and colleges, public technical colleges, and special purpose schools located throughout the state.

Two-year colleges offer study programs leading to an associate degree. Graduates of four-year universities and colleges are awarded the baccalaureate degree, which is required for admission to many graduate or professional schools.

Technical colleges offer programs of study that lead directly to employment in more than 85 fields. The programs can last from six weeks to two years, and graduates receive a certificate or a diploma. Technical colleges also offer associate degrees.

Search through the universities, colleges, and technical colleges in Georgia to find the ones that best suit your needs.

- **Comparative View** - Compare the colleges and universities in Georgia
- **Campus Tours** - Take a virtual tour of the colleges and universities
- **Matching Assistant** - View campususes that match your specific requirements
- **Distance Search** - Find the campus closest to any zip code
<table>
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<tr>
<th>Campus</th>
<th>Undergraduate Enrollment</th>
<th>Student to Faculty Ratio</th>
<th>% Receiving Financial Aid</th>
<th>Average Financial Aid Package</th>
<th>In-State Cost to Attend</th>
<th>Out of State Cost to Attend</th>
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</table>
Macon State College - Macon

100 College Station Drive
Macon, GA 31206-5144 USA

Official telephone: (478) 471-2800
In-state telephone: (800) 272-7619
Out-of-state telephone: (800) 272-7619
Fax: (478) 471-5343
Website: www.maconstate.edu/

Options:
Add to My 411
Campus Tours List

Current as of: August 2004

CAMPUS HIGHLIGHTS
Function type of the institution:
Main student body:
Academic calendar:

four-year college
coeducational semesters

See more in Campus Highlights >>>

ADMISSIONS
Total number of freshman applicants admitted:

1,147

See more in Admissions >>>

COSTS AND FINANCIAL AID
In-state resident full-time tuition per academic year:
Out-of-state full-time tuition per academic year:

$1,606
$5,592
Applications & Transcripts

The Applications and Transcripts section of the GAcollege411 website is currently under development. When completed in late-2005 this section will be your "one-stop" shop to applying for admission, loans, scholarships, grants, and submitting your transcripts to colleges you are applying to.

Currently Functioning Applications

- **FAFSA** - allows you to complete your FAFSA online and transfers information from your GAcollege411 account directly to the FAFSA to speed up the process.
- **Loan Applications** - if you have selected GSFC as your lender of choice, you can apply online through our website by clicking on this link. If you prefer to download a Stafford application, please click here. For the downloadable PLUS Loan application, click here.
- **HOPE Scholarship/Tuition Equalization Grant** - you can apply for your HOPE Scholarship or TEG online through the GSFC website by clicking on this link. For the downloadable HOPE Application, click here. For the downloadable TEG application, click here.
- **Other Scholarships & Grant Applications** - we are currently developing an online application for all programs administered by GSFC that will be available on this page to make applying for financial aid even easier. In the meantime, you can download the application by clicking on one of the following links:
  - [Promise Teacher Scholarship Loans (Undergraduate Program)]
  - [Accel Program]
  - [HOPE Teacher Scholarship Loans (Graduate Program)]
Paying for College - Putting the Puzzle Together

Do you or your child want to go to college, but don't think you can afford it? Does the vast array of options for paying for college seem like a confusing puzzle?

You CAN afford to go to college, and GAcollege411 can help you put the pieces of the puzzle together.

The links below will help you get started with the financial aid process. If you've already done your homework and know what aspect of financial aid you're looking for, you can just click on one of the links to the left.

Ready to Go To College?

If you plan to go to college in the near future, you need to begin seeking financial aid today. There are many financial aid opportunities available and many different steps associated with applying, receiving, and keeping aid. The steps listed below will help guide you through the process.

- **Step #1 - Financial Aid 411**
- **Step #2 - Determine Your Eligibility**
- **Step #3 - Apply! Apply! Apply!**
- **Step #4 - Research Options**
- **Step #5 - Enjoy College and Know Your Responsibilities**
GA College Savings Plan - It All Starts with an Education!

Higher education is the gateway to a child’s future. It opens minds, which leads to endless opportunities. And even if your child receives a HOPE Scholarship or other forms of financial aid when the time comes, saving for college now will be a key step in providing flexibility down the road.

Now, thanks to a program offered by the State of Georgia - the Georgia Higher Education Savings Plan\(^1\) - you have a smart and flexible way to help save for future higher education expenses.

It’s smart because with the Georgia Higher Education Savings Plan, also known as a 529 Plan, you may be eligible for a state income tax deduction of up to $2,000 per year for each beneficiary\(^2\). And unlike many other savings vehicles for college, 529 Plans allow your money to grow tax-free. Best of all, money used for qualified higher education expenses is also free from both federal\(^3\) and state\(^4\) income taxes. Qualified higher education expenses include tuition, fees, certain room and board costs, books, supplies, and equipment required for college enrollment and attendance.
Adult Learner

Coming in July 2005

The Adult Learner section of GAcollege411 is currently under development and will be available in July 2005. Once complete, you will be able to find all the information you need as an adult learner, including:

- Finishing high school - GED
- Career choice information
- Advice for first-time college students
- Information about restarting college
- Information about financial aid for adult learners

Check back with us later.
Next Steps
www.GAcollege411.org

- Online Applications
- Electronic Transcripts
- SIS Integrations
- Georgia Customization
- Marketing
- Full Launch date of July 2005
- Regional Presentations throughout the State.
- Training
Questions