This document provides functional and technical definitions of commonly used derived variables. These variables are derived from data collected during the Financial Aid Data Collection (FADC). Many of these derived variables are used in the Financial Aid and HOPE Scholarship reports produced by the Research & Policy Analysis Office at USG. Note that these reports also include variables such as First-Time Freshmen, which are derived from data collected during the Academic Data Collection (ADC). For more details on these academic derived elements, see “ADC Function and Technical Definitions of Derived Variables.”

For a full list of data elements collected during FADC see the “FADC Data Element Dictionary with Valid Values” found at https://www.usg.edu/research/reporting_resources.
Contents

Note about Extraction ..................................................................................................................... 3
HOPE/Zell Scholarship .................................................................................................................. 5
Pell .................................................................................................................................................. 6
Student Level Classification ........................................................................................................... 7
Note about Extraction

For students’ data to be included in the Financial Aid Data Collection¹, there are required mappings that must be checked each collection. The mappings are described below.

For every collection, check that all these mapping prerequisites are met:

- **Institutional Fund Code** is mapped in SOAXREF with label RGTFAID

![SOAXREF institutional fund code mapping](image1)

- **Academic Terms included in the collected aid year** must be mapped on SOAXREF label RGTTERM.

![SOAXREF academic terms mapping](image2)

¹ Students must have completed a FAFSA form to appear in FAFSA based data tables.
Institutional FA Applicant Tracking Requirements Codes for FAFSA Verification must be mapped to Regents Requirement Code ‘VERIFY’ on SOAXREF label RGTTREQ.
HOPE/Zell Scholarship

**Functional Definition**
A student is classified as a recipient of the HOPE/Zell scholarship when they receive either the HOPE Scholarship or Zell Miller Scholarship; it does not count HOPE Grant recipients as scholarship recipients.

**Technical Definition**
For a student to be counted as a HOPE/Zell scholarship recipient, the student must exist in the HOPE data collected from the Georgia Student Finance Commission (GSFC) and meet one of the following conditions for Grant Type:

- H1: Tier 1 HOPE Scholarship (Public)
- H2: Tier 2 HOPE Scholarship (Public)
- H3: Tier 3 HOPE Scholarship (Public)
- H4: Tier 4 HOPE Scholarship (Public)
- Z1: Tier 1 Zell Miller Scholarship (Public)
- Z2: Tier 2 Zell Miller Scholarship (Public)
- Z3: Tier 3 Zell Miller Scholarship (Public)
- Z4: Tier 4 Zell Miller Scholarship (Public)

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2 HOPE/Zell information is reported from administrative records provided by GSFC instead of the information provided by institutions in the FADC.
Pell

**Functional Definition**
A student is classified as a recipient of the Pell Grant when funding for the Pell Grant has been disbursed to the student.

**Technical Definition**
Pell Grant information is derived from Regents_Fund_Code and Paid_Amt in the FADC collection. A student is designated as a Pell Grant when Regents_Fund_Code is equal to ‘Pell’ and Paid_Amt is greater than $0.\textsuperscript{3}

\textsuperscript{3} The same logic is used for any public/non-public reports that utilize the variable regents_fund_code. For example, if a report displays the amount of students who were awarded DIRECT loans, it only counts students if regents fund code=DIRECT and paid_amt>$0.
Student Level Classification

**Functional Definition**
Students are classified by student level, which indicates class standing. Additionally, students are grouped into like categories such as First Time Freshman and Undergraduates. See the “ADC Function and Technical Definitions of Derived Variables” for more information.

**Technical Definition-HOPE/Zell**
- Freshman: Student_Level_Nbr is 10
- Sophomore: Student_Level_Nbr is 20
- Junior: Student_Level_Nbr is 30
- Senior: Student_Level_Nbr is 40
- Dual Enrollment: Student_Level_Nbr is 11
- Graduate/Professional/Resident: Student_Level_Nbr is 60, 72, 74, 76, 80, 90
- Transient and Other: Student_Level_Nbr is 50, 51, 52, 53, 56

**Technical Definition-Pell**
- Undergraduate: Student_Level_Nbr is 10, 20, 30, 40, 50, 51, 52, 53, 56, 80 (discontinued in 2000)\(^4\)

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\(^4\) The Undergraduate definition used here is similar to Undergraduate Definition 2 found in the ADC Derived Element Dictionary, with the exclusion of Student_Level_Nbr of 60.