



DON'T CROSS YOUR FINGERS AND HOPE... GET THE FACTS ABOUT ELIGIBILITY FOR THE HOPE SCHOLARSHIP

These HOPE eligibility requirements apply to Georgia high school graduates who begin college classes for the first time after April 30, 2007:

WHAT GRADE POINT AVERAGE IS REQUIRED TO EARN A HOPE SCHOLARSHIP?

- 3.0 average in all academic classes for graduates who have earned a College Preparatory Diploma.
- 3.2 average in all academic classes for those who have earned a Technology/Career Preparatory Diploma.

WILL AN “80” AVERAGE IN ACADEMIC CLASSES QUALIFY A STUDENT FOR THE HOPE SCHOLARSHIP?

- No. Each individual grade must be converted to a 4.0 scale, according to Gwinnett County Public Schools' grading scale.

WHAT COURSES WILL COUNT IN DETERMINING HOPE ELIGIBILITY?

- All academic courses attempted in language arts, mathematics, science, and social studies, including elective courses in these subjects. Grades for foreign language classes are included in eligibility for students earning college prep diplomas only.
- If a student fails a class in a core subject, then retakes the class, both grades will be included in the student's HOPE grade point average.

ARE ANY CLASSES GIVEN EXTRA WEIGHTING?

For HOPE purposes only, grades in Advanced Placement (AP) and International Baccalaureate (IB) classes will be weighted in the following manner:

- The 10 points added by GCPS will be subtracted (for HOPE Scholarship purposes only).
- For HOPE average only, the “unweighted” numerical grade will be converted to a 4.0 scale. For AP/IB classes completed prior to June 15, 2006, a full point (1.0) will be added to the converted grade. For AP/IB classes completed after June 15, 2006, .5 points will be added. No grades higher than a 4.0 will be awarded.
- Gwinnett students will continue to get a weight of 10 points added to their earned numerical grades in AP and IB courses for determining class rank and GPA for college applications.

WHO CALCULATES THE HOPE AVERAGE AND DETERMINES ELIGIBILITY FOR THE HOPE SCHOLARSHIP?

- The Georgia Student Finance Commission, a state agency, will calculate HOPE averages based on transcript information provided by Gwinnett County Public Schools. The school system does not calculate HOPE averages and does not have access to the state's calculations.

WILL THE HOPE AVERAGE BE INCLUDED ON THE GWINNETT COUNTY TRANSCRIPTS OR REPORT CARDS?

- NO. Because the average is not computed by GCPS, it will **not** appear on a student's transcript.

HOW AND WHEN DO PARENTS AND STUDENTS LEARN A STUDENT'S HOPE ELIGIBILITY STATUS?

- **IMPORTANT NOTE:** Students **will not** receive automatic or direct notification of their HOPE eligibility status.
- Students and/or their parents may sign on to www.GAcollege411.org and create a “My411 Student Account.” The state expects to make HOPE eligibility available through these personal accounts on June 15, 2007, and after.
- After June 15, 2007, families may contact the financial aid office of the college or postsecondary school the student is registered to attend in the summer or fall. Financial aid staff will have access to this information directly from Georgia Student Finance Commission.

QUESTIONS? CALL 1-800-505-GSFC (4732) OR 770-724-9000 OR CHECK ONLINE AT WWW.GSFC.ORG.