WGTC Financial Aid Information
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Types of Aid
The Pell Grant is a federally funded grant available to students who meet certain income guidelines. This is the largest of the federal student assistance programs and does not require repayment. It is not available to anyone who has received a bachelor’s degree or owes a refund to any Title IV Aid Program or is in default on a student loan. Students must be in a Pell eligible program.
Pell Grant

The amount of the Pell Grant award will depend on the expected family contribution amount shown on the Student Aid Report, whether the student is full or part-time, the number of credit hours in which the student is enrolled, the cost of attendance and the size of federal appropriations. Students must reapply each fiscal year (July 1st - June 30th) by completing the renewal application or the FAFSA for the new year.

APPLY ONLINE at http://www.fafsa.ed.gov
Pell Grant

When applying for Pell, a student may get selected by the Department of Education to have their application verified. If this happens, we will need additional documentation from the student, and the process will most likely delay the awarding of the Pell award.

See the section titled Understanding your Financial Aid Award for more information.
Pell Grant

Any unused portion of the Pell Grant for tuition and fees may be used to purchase items in one of our WGTC bookstores during a specified time frame at the beginning of each semester.

Remaining funds will be disbursed via a Wiregrass Debit Card or Direct Deposit on specified dates.
Pell Grant

Withdrawing from College

The Department of Education regulations require that the unearned portion of Title IV funds (Pell grant, FSEOG) be returned if a student withdraws from classes prior to the 60 percent attendance point in the semester. When a student withdraws prior to completion of 60 percent of the semester, the financial aid award must be reduced.
HOPE Grant

This is a state grant funded by the Georgia lottery. The HOPE Grant covers a portion of tuition (certificate and/or diploma) for students seeking diplomas and certificates. Recipients must be residents of Georgia for at least twenty-four (24) consecutive months and not be in default of a student loan.
Effective Fall 2013, HOPE Grant policies now require that students who reach or exceed a checkpoint at 30 or 60 credit hours during a semester have a 2.0 GPA (Grade Point Average) to continue to receive the HOPE Grant.

Be aware that students who reach the HOPE Grant cap of 63 paid credit hours will also be ineligible to receive HOPE Grant funding.
HOPE Scholarship

The HOPE Scholarship Program is a merit-based scholarship program with specific academic and grade point average eligibility requirements and is funded by the Georgia lottery. The HOPE Scholarship covers a portion of tuition for students seeking a degree at a technical college or university.
A student who received HOPE Scholarship payment prior to Summer term 2011, may receive the HOPE Scholarship until June 30, 2015, as long as the student continues to meet eligibility requirements.

All others may receive the HOPE Scholarship until seven years after their high school graduation date or the graduation date of the student’s high school class if the student withdrew from high school prior to his graduation date, GED test date or Home Study program completion date, whichever occurs first.
HOPE Scholarship

HOPE Scholars and First Tier Applicants

“HOPE Scholar” Students who graduated from an eligible Georgia High School as a member of the class of 1993 and all classes thereafter, who meet the academic requirements for the HOPE Scholarship (Seven-Year Limit rules apply).

Beginning with the class of 2007 and beyond, eligible Georgia high schools are required to provide transcripts to the Commission for a student's HOPE Scholarship eligibility calculations (for scholar status).

Students who graduated from a high school outside of Georgia must provide their high school transcripts to the Commission for this same purpose. This process must be complete prior to a student receiving HOPE Scholarship awards for a degree program at the First Tier.

First Tier is having accumulated less than 30 semester hours of degree level course work.
HOPE Scholarship

Tier 2 through 4th Tier Applicants

Students not eligible at Tier 1 may begin receiving HOPE Scholarship for the first time as a tier 2 student or beyond (*having accumulated 30 degree level semester hours or more and having a 3.0 or greater GPA*).

They may be required to verify high school or GED graduation date for seven-year rule and must provide college with all official and final post-secondary transcripts from any colleges ever attended.

A student becomes ineligible to continue receiving HOPE Scholarship once they have accumulate 127 **Attempted Hours** of credit (cumulative from all colleges attended).
HOPE Scholarship

CHECK POINTS AND CONTINUED ELIGIBILITY

Grade point averages are recalculated at 30, 60 and 90 semester hours, and the end-of-spring checkpoint. Students must be maintaining a 3.0 GPA as they reach each of these checkpoints to retain the HOPE Scholarship.

Students are only allowed to lose eligibility at any two checkpoints and continue receiving the scholarship.
HOPE Scholarship

RESIDENCY

A student who meets the Georgia Residency requirements at the time of their graduation or GED must also meet Georgia Residency requirements for 12 consecutive months immediately prior to the first day of classes of the school term for which the HOPE Scholarship is sought. If they do not meet these residency requirements at the time of graduation, then they must meet Georgia Residency requirements for 24 consecutive months immediately prior to the first day of classes the school term.

Military Personnel stationed in Georgia on Active Duty, or listing Georgia as his or her home of record, his or her Spouse, and his or her Dependent Child shall be treated as a Georgia Resident for purposes of HOPE Scholarship eligibility.

Applicants will not be eligible while default on a student loan.
HOPE Scholarship

HOPE Scholarship Evaluation Application

All official and final transcripts from any previous post-secondary colleges ever attended must be received in order to apply and be evaluated for the scholarship.

Students must complete a HOPE Scholarship Evaluation Application to apply:

http://www.wiregrass.edu/pdfs/student/Hope_Scholarship_App_Form.pdf
Private Loans

Applicants must have a current FAFSA with an existing unmet need after the Expected Family Contribution and Expected Financial Aid is removed from the college's Cost of Attendance. Expected Financial Aid includes Pell, HOPE, direct loans, scholarships, etc. We strongly encourage you to research loan terms and conditions of several lenders, only borrow what you need for the school year, and ensure you understand all documents you are asked to sign. Eligibility for private student loans often depends on your credit score. It may be necessary to apply with a cosigner.
Private Loans

Sallie Mae - Smart Option Student Loan

• Competitive interest rates—2.25% APR to 9.37% APR
• No origination fees and no prepayment penalty
• Pay now or later—defer your payments until after graduation or choose an in-school repayment option that fits your needs
• Get a 2% Smart Reward® in your Upromise® account when you make scheduled monthly payments on time while in school (Not available with the Deferred Repayment Option)
• Earn a 0.25 percentage point interest rate reduction while enrolled to make scheduled monthly payments by automatic debit
• Borrow up to 100% of your school certified education costs (minimum $1,000)
• Applying with a creditworthy cosigner may help you qualify and/or receive a lower interest rate
• You can apply for a cosigner release after you graduate and make 12 consecutive on-time principal and interest payments
Veterans’ Programs

Wiregrass Georgia Technical College is approved for veteran's training under various programs. Check with the Financial Aid office prior to enrolling in a course, or changing your schedule to assure that a particular course meets current approval for VA benefits.

• Chapter 30 Montgomery GI Bill
• Chapter 31 Vocational rehabilitation
• Chapter 33 Post 9/11
• Chapter 35 Survivors and dependents Educational Assistance
• Chapter 1606 Selected Guard and Reserve
• Chapter 1607 REAP
• VRAP Veterans Retraining Assistance Program
• TA Tuition Assistance
• HERO Scholarship

Please call (229) 333-2100, Ext. 3001 for information.
WIA (Workforce Investment Act)

WIA is a competitive scholarship given to a limited number of qualified applicants each semester, and is designed to assist:

- dislocated workers
- displaced homemakers
- other individuals

Applicants must intend on returning to the work force once they have completed their training program.
WIA (Workforce Investment Act)

- WIA has funds allocated for students who have been laid off from their jobs or are recently divorced
- WIA may be used in conjunction with HOPE and Pell Grants.
- WIA assists with student expenses for tuition, fees, books and any other required school expenses not covered by other types of financial aid
- WIA offers limited financial assistance to help with the costs of childcare and transportation
WIA (Workforce Investment Act)

Contact:
Debbie.haskin@wiregrass.edu,
(229) 333-5271
for Valdosta and Cook Campuses
Kaye.clayton@wiregrass.edu,
(229) 468-2000, ext. 2017
For Ben Hill/Irwin and Coffee Campuses
Local Scholarships

The Kevin DeMarcus Acree Scholarship provides $500 to a student enrolled full-time in the Culinary Program. Please print the application for all criteria and regulations. For the Valdosta Campus only. **Deadline: July 31, 2012 for Fall 2012.**

The David Apperson Memorial Scholarship provides $250 to a student in any program enrolled full-time. This is for any campus, northern and southern region. Please print the application for all criteria and regulations. **Deadline: July 31, 2012 for Fall 2012.**

The Azalea Health Innovations Inc. HIT Scholarship provides $500 for the RHIT Certification Exam. The scholarship is available for up to two (2) outstanding senior HIT students per year. Please print the application for other criteria and regulations. The application must be submitted at the beginning of a student’s final semester.

Ronnie G. and Caryl Tucker Branch Scholarship – To be eligible for the Ronnie G. and Caryl Tucker Branch scholarship, applicant must be attending Wiregrass Georgia Technical College as a full-time student (enrolled in at least twelve credit hours). Applicants must have and maintain a minimum of a 2.0 GPA if selected. Scholarship is open to Telecommunications Technology students. The proceeds of the scholarship shall be used only for expenses associated with educational cost at Wiregrass Georgia Tech. Acceptance of this award will not preclude the student from receiving other financial aid for which he/she may be eligible. The scholarship amount to be determined based on earnings through the endowment to be presented in equal payments for two consecutive semesters. (ie: Earnings equal $500 – student will be given $250 for two consecutive semesters). Print the application [here](#).
Local Scholarships

The Dan Hatfield, Jr. Scholarship provides $1000 to any full-time student. Please print application for other criteria and regulations. For Valdosta Campus only. **Deadline: April 30, 2013 for Summer/Fall 2013.**

The Benjamin James Herron Memorial Scholarship provides $1000 to a student enrolled full-time in the EMS, Criminal Justice, or Fire Science program. This is for the Valdosta campus only. Please print the application for all criteria and regulations. **Deadline is January 10, 2013 for Spring 2013.**

The Non-traditional Program Tool and Textbook Assistance Scholarship (NPTTA) supports our students in non-traditional programs and helps pay for tools and/or textbooks required for their program. This scholarship is for students in the southern region only (Valdosta and Cook Campuses). Each semester, one female and one male student will be awarded a bookstore credit of $150 to be used toward required items for their program. Please print application for other criteria and regulations. **Deadline: April 30, 2013 for Summer/Fall Semester 2013.**

The Omega Scholarship Fund is given by a donor who prefers to remain anonymous. The scholarship is $200 and is to be given based on need to a student living in Ben Hill, Irwin, or Tift counties. This scholarship will be awarded at the discretion of Wiregrass Georgia Tech Foundation North. The proceeds of the scholarship shall be used only for expenses associated with educational cost at Wiregrass Georgia Tech. Acceptance of this award will not preclude the student from receiving other financial aid for which he/she may be eligible. Click here to print the application.
Local Scholarships

The Carolyn King Panizzi Scholarship applies to an accounting student who needs financial assistance for the cost of a Certified Bookkeeper Exam and/or the American Payroll Association Exam. Please print application for other criteria and regulations. This is for the Valdosta Campus only. It is an ongoing scholarship and there is not a deadline to apply.

The Carolyn King Panizzi Scholarship #2 provides $500 to an accounting student that is enrolled full time. Please print application for other criteria and regulations. This is for the Valdosta Campus only. Deadline: January 10, 2013 for Spring 2013.

The Wilson Eye Center Scholarship is for an Ophthalmology student needing financial assistance for the cost to take the LDO, NCLE, or ABO. Please print application for other criteria and regulations. This is for the Valdosta Campus only. It is an ongoing grant and there is no deadline for the application.

The Carolyn Zeigler Memorial Scholarship provides $250 to a student in any program enrolled full-time. Student must also have at least a 3.0 GPA and must be on the Valdosta campus. Please print the application for all criteria and regulations. Deadline: January 10, 2013 for Spring 2013.
Local Scholarships

The Brogdon EMS Scholarship provides $250 to an EMS student enrolled full-time. This is for the Valdosta campus only. Please print the application for all criteria and regulations. **Deadline: January 10, 2013 for Spring 2013.**

The CJB Industries Scholarship provides $250 to a student who is enrolled full-time or enrolled part-time with a full-time job. Please print application for other criteria and regulations. This is for the southern region (Valdosta or Cook Campus only). **Deadline: July 31, 2012 to receive funds for Fall Semester 2012.**

The Ben Copeland Scholarship provides $1500 to two students who reside in Lanier County ($2500 total). Student must show proof of residence and must not be more than 25 years of age. This is for the southern region only (Valdosta and Cook Campuses). Please print the application for all criteria and regulations. **Deadline: April 30, 2013 for Summer/Fall 2013.**

John Henry Dorminy, Jr. Scholarship – Each year two graduating seniors from Ben Hill, Irwin, and Wilcox counties are selected to receive the John Henry Dorminy, Jr. Scholarship. Each respective high school shall be responsible for student selection. The proceeds of the scholarship shall be used only for expenses associated with educational cost at Wiregrass Georgia Tech. Acceptance of this award will not preclude the student from receiving other financial aid for which he/she may be eligible. This is a $500 scholarship to be presented in increments of $250 for two consecutive semesters. Print the application [here](#).
Local Scholarships

Contact:

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