EQUITY IN HIGHER EDUCATION: WHO GETS HOPE?

This presentation was developed in 2017 by Jennifer Lee and based on the report by Claire Suggs, “Troubling Gaps in HOPE Point to Need-Based Aid Solutions.” Read the full report with source endnotes at www.gbpi.org.
WHO WE ARE

Nonpartisan, nonprofit state policy research

Promoting broad economic opportunity

Focus on state budget, taxes, education, health, safety net, jobs
HIGHER EDUCATION IS GOOD FOR STUDENTS, AND CRITICAL FOR GEORGIA’S FUTURE

- Higher income
- Lower unemployment rates
- Improves financial strength and stability

By 2020...

- 60% of jobs will require postsecondary ed
- 32% will require at least a bachelor’s.
COMPLETE COLLEGE GEORGIA

Goal: Increase postsecondary school graduates by 250,000 by year 2025
RACIAL & ECONOMIC EQUITY IN HIGHER EDUCATION IS CRITICAL TO GEORGIA’S SUCCESS

Undergraduate Enrollment

Middle- and High-Income Students

Low-Income Students

Data for University System of Georgia. “Low-Income Students” are receiving Pell Grant.
RACIAL & ECONOMIC EQUITY IN HIGHER EDUCATION IS CRITICAL TO GEORGIA’S SUCCESS

University System Enrollment, 2015
- White, 52%
- Black, 28%
- Hispanic, 8%
- Asian, 7%
- Other, 6%

Technical College System, Fall 2013
- White, 49%
- Black, 41%
- Hispanic, 1%
- Asian, 2%
- Other, 3%
THE “TYPICAL” GEORGIA PUBLIC COLLEGE EXPERIENCE

• 50 institutions

• Not just bachelor’s degrees

• 29% Part-Time Enrollment
# The “Typical” Georgia Public College Student

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Gender</th>
<th>Avg Age (Undergrad)</th>
<th>Race/Ethnicity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>69% Female, 31% Male</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>5% Hispanic, 6% Asian, 61% Black, 21% White</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>31% Male, 69% Female</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>7% Hispanic, 33% Asian, 6% Black, 48% White</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
WHO PAYS FOR HIGHER EDUCATION?

State investment down, tuition and fees up
WHAT’S THE BIG DEAL?

- Reduces college access
- Makes it more difficult to complete a degree
- Weakens financial security post-college
### HOPE Programs

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bachelors and Associates Degrees</th>
<th>Diplomas and Certificates</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>University System*</td>
<td>Technical College System*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HOPE Scholarship</td>
<td>HOPE Grant</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zell Miller Scholarship</td>
<td>Zell Miller Grant</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Partial Tuition</td>
<td>Partial Tuition</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Full tuition</td>
<td>Full Tuition</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Small number (~2,000) of HOPE scholarships used at technical colleges for associates degrees.*
### HOPE PROGRAMS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bachelors and Associates Degrees</th>
<th>Diplomas and Certificates</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>University System*</td>
<td>Technical College System*</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>HOPE Scholarship</th>
<th>Zell Miller Scholarship</th>
<th>HOPE Grant</th>
<th>Zell Miller Grant</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>3.0 GPA + 4 rigorous courses</strong></td>
<td><strong>3.7 GPA + 4 rigorous courses + 1,200 SAT/26 ACT</strong></td>
<td><strong>2.0 GPA</strong></td>
<td><strong>3.5 GPA</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Small number (~2,000) of HOPE scholarships used at technical colleges for associates degrees.*
Most students don’t receive HOPE Scholarships

Bachelor’s and Associate’s Degrees, University System

*Small number (~2,000) of HOPE scholarships used at technical colleges for associates degrees.

Data from Fall 2013
Middle- and high-income students more likely to receive HOPE Scholarships

Bachelor’s and Associate’s Degrees, University System

*Small number (~2,000) of HOPE scholarships used at technical colleges for associates degrees.

Data from Fall 2013. “Low-income” students are receiving Pell Grant.
Middle- and high-income students much more likely to receive Zell Miller Scholarships

Bachelor’s and Associate’s Degrees, University System

*Small number (~20) of Zell Miller scholarships used at technical colleges for associates degrees.

Data from Fall 2013. “Low-Income” students are receiving Pell Grant.
HIGH LEVEL OF UNMET STUDENT FINANCIAL NEED

112,256 students
$808 million

Data for University System of Georgia, 2014-2015 academic year
STUDENTS ACROSS INCOME DO NOT RECEIVE HOPE, LOW-INCOME STUDENTS LESS LIKELY

Bachelor’s and Associate’s Degrees, University System

Middle and High-Income Students

- Not receiving HOPE: 58%
- HOPE Scholarship: 34%
- Zell Miller Scholarship: 8%

Low-Income Students

- Not receiving HOPE: 70%
- HOPE Scholarship: 27%
- Zell Miller Scholarship: 2%

Data from Fall 2013. “Low-Income Students” are receiving Pell Grant.
STUDENTS ACROSS RACE/ETHNICITY DO NOT RECEIVE HOPE, BLACK STUDENTS LEAST LIKELY

Bachelor’s and Associate’s Degrees, University System

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Race/Ethnicity</th>
<th>Not Receiving HOPE</th>
<th>HOPE Scholarship</th>
<th>Zell Miller Scholarship</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Black</td>
<td>80%</td>
<td>19%</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>67%</td>
<td>29%</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hispanic</td>
<td>65%</td>
<td>32%</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White</td>
<td>55%</td>
<td>37%</td>
<td>8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asian</td>
<td>54%</td>
<td>36%</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Data from Fall 2013
BLACK STUDENTS UNDERREPRESENTED IN ZELL MILLER SCHOLARS

University Enrollment
- White, 54%
- Black, 30%
- Hispanic, 6%
- Asian, 5%
- Other, 5%

Zell Miller Scholars
- White, 78%
- Black, 5%
- Hispanic, 10%
- Asian, <1%
- Other, 4%

Data from Fall 2013
Potentially ineligible:
• 12% of undergrads in university system (age 25+)

Data from 2015
Potentially ineligible:
• 60% of associate degree students in technical colleges (age 24+)

Data from 2015
WHO GETS HOPE?

• Most students do not receive HOPE

• Less likely to receive HOPE: low-income students, Black students

• 60% of associate’s degree student may be ineligible
MOST STUDENTS IN CERTIFICATE & DIPLOMA PROGRAMS RECEIVE HOPE GRANT

Certificates and Diplomas, Technical College System

Data from Fall 2013
WHO RECEIVES HOPE GRANT?

Certificates and Diplomas, Technical College System

- 85% of low-income students
- Majority of students in all age groups
- Racial/ethnic makeup mirrors total technical college enrollment

Data from Fall 2013
HOPE Grants Timeline

- **2011**: HOPE Grant created
- **2013**: Legislature cuts HOPE Grant, raises GPA requirements
- **2014**: Legislatures resets GPA requirements, keeps cuts
- **2014**: Legislature creates Zell Miller Grant
RECENT CHANGES TO HOPE SCHOLARSHIP

2011:
Legislature reduces HOPE Scholarship award.
Creates separate Zell Miller Scholarship with higher GPA + SAT/ACT requirement

Added HOPE requirement:

3.0 GPA + 4 “rigorous courses” (AP, IB, other advanced courses)
IS HOPE ENOUGH?
POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS

- Restore HOPE Grant to full tuition and fees for technical colleges.

- Eliminate time limit on HOPE Scholarship.

- Create a state aid program that takes into account students’ and families’ financial need.
The “college-for-all” movement in the U.S. has succeeded in broadening opportunities for all kinds of people. It’s amazing that people who grew up homeless find their way to college today. What’s not amazing is our inability to revise the American financing system of higher education to match those desires and expectations.

- Dr. Sara Goldrick-Rab
Professor of Higher Education Policy and Sociology, Temple University
This presentation was developed in 2017 by Jennifer Lee and based on the report by Claire Suggs, “Troubling Gaps in HOPE Point to Need-Based Aid Solutions.” Read the full report with source endnotes at www.gbpi.org.

FOR MORE INFORMATION & TO STAY INVOLVED, SIGN UP FOR GBPI’S EMAIL LIST
WWW.GBPI.ORG

Taifa Butler, Executive Director
tbutler@gbpi.org @taifabutler

Jennifer Lee, Policy Analyst
jlee@gbpi.org @jjesunlee

Georgia Budget & Policy Institute
www.gbpi.org @gabudget