

## GTAAN/Financial Aid Hot Topics

- Does the number of credit hours a student takes during the term affect HOPE?

Yes. For 2015-2016, HOPE pays \$233/credit hour up to 15 credit hours. There's **no minimum or maximum** number of hours required for a student to receive a HOPE disbursement, but the amount that pays to the student's account is a function of enrollment. (See chart)

Note #1: Zell Miller pays **dollar-for-dollar** whatever the eligible student's tuition charges are for the term until they reach the 127 attempted-hour maximum

Note #2: Undergraduate students at GT are **not** charged per credit hour. Instead the Institute assesses a "flat rate" designed to encourage full-time enrollment. (See chart—this also serves as a Zell Miller payment reference)

Note #3: **Neither** HOPE nor Zell Miller helps with Fees, Books, Housing, Meals

Financially, if you have HOPE, taking 15+ hours may seem like the "winning strategy" in the short run.

Examples:

@ 6 hours, HOPE pays 1,398 of 2,916 Tuition = 48%

@ 7 hours, HOPE pays 1,631 of 4,906 Tuition = 33%

@ 15 hours, HOPE pays 3,495 of 4,906 Tuition = 71%

.... But...

What do we in OSFA advise? **"Take whatever makes sense academically.** The goal is (1) to advance toward your degree and (2) to keep your eligibility, if possible. Talk to your academic advisor if you need guidance on this.

Sometimes, taking fewer hours in the short run pays off in the long run.

Example: For HOPE, taking 13 hours instead of 15, result in a temporary reduction for that term of \$466, but if this helps you retain eligibility, that's worth up to \$6,990 in the next year. (Remember that if you attempt 15 and "W" in 2 hours, you've used that 2 hours and HOPE will not pay for it later)

	HOPE	Zell Miller
GPA required to maintain*	3.0	3.3
GPA checked to <b>lose or regain</b> eligibility	30, 60, 90	30, 60, 90
GPA checked to <b>lose</b> eligibility ONLY	@ end of each spring	@ end of each spring
Cap on total attempted hours	127	127

\*Count every instance of every course, taken anywhere in the world, from the day of HS graduation forward – maintained separately from GT GPA

Note #4 Planning to staying below the HOPE/Zell Miller checkpoint sometimes makes sense.

Note #5 GT grade substitution doesn't change HOPE/Zell Miller GPA

- Can advisors get a cheat-sheet/quick reference on financial aid basics regarding HOPE/ZELL?

I've tried to give the basics here – 48 pages of state rules & also subject to many of the federal rules. In many cases, it may be best to refer students to our office

- Scholarships and Grants- Is there someone specific that we can refer a student to?

See advisor list. Know that students are automatically considered for gift aid first. If you're worried about a student, please reach out directly.

- Financial aid- how are students "educated" about satisfactory academic progress for aid? Award letter/FASET/Web site/Drop Day Panel/Warning notices

Spring 2016: 6% Suspended status (actual impact lower) 3% Warning status

- Tuition and enrollment requirements for disbursement are the same for summer\*

\*Exceptions to enrollment requirements may be possible only for institutional for graduating semester. Study Abroad and other exceptions may also be possible for institutional funds only, but taking the exception isn't always in the student's best interest, because it counts as 1 term of eligibility against the applicable # of terms

## The Center for Academic Success "To Drop or Not" Workshop

~with the Office of Scholarships and Financial Aid ~ March 2016

### Financial aid implications of withdrawing from classes

#### All Aid:

- 1) Eligibility for any aid **not yet disbursed** for the term will be calculated based on reduced course load. Late disbursements may be reduced or canceled as a result.
- 2) As long as the student remains enrolled through the Drop/Add period & "**participates**" in each class, they are eligible for funds received based on original enrollment. This remains true **unless** they withdraw completely.
- 3) If the student **withdraws completely**, our office will calculate the amount of aid that has been "earned" up to that point in the term. The student may need to repay a portion of aid received for the term.
- 4) Withdrawing from classes impacts **Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP)**. SAP has three components:
  - a. GPA (Not impacted by "W" grades)
  - b. The ratio of coursework completed to coursework attempted must remain at least **75% overall**. Withdrawing, **repeating**, and failing courses count as courses not completed.
  - c. Students must complete their degree by the time they have attempted **133%** of the number of hours required to for their program. This can be appealed up to **150%**. The GPA requirements are not impacted by "W" grades. See <http://finaid.gatech.edu/policies/sap>.
- 5) If already on "financial aid **probation/appeal**," other restrictions may apply—contact a financial aid advisor.
- 6) If a student drops to less than 6 hours, the clock may start ticking on when education loan goes into repayment—usually after 6 months, but this depends on the type of loan

#### HOPE/Zell Miller:

- 1) All provisions above apply.
- 2) In addition, all courses attempted since high school graduation count against the "**HOPE CAP**" of 127 attempted hours. HOPE is also subject to a "paid hours" cap.
- 3) See <http://finaid.gatech.edu/hopezell> for more information

SAP appeals – Helping each other help the student

\*Some require no support \*Some do \*Degree Works \*SHADEGR

**2015-2016 Undergraduate Tuition Rate**

<b>Number of Hours</b>	<b>Regular - Non Guaranteed Tuition Payment</b>
1	\$233.00
2	\$466.00
3	\$699.00
4	\$932.00
5	\$1,165.00
6	\$1,398.00
7	\$1,631.00
8	\$1,864.00
9	\$2,097.00
10	\$2,330.00
11	\$2,563.00
12	\$2,796.00
13	\$3,029.00
14	\$3,262.00

# Georgia Institute of Technology

**2015-2016 Tuition and Fee Rates per Semester**  
Spring 2016



*Flat Rate Tuition - 6 hours or less; More than 6 hours*

## Undergraduate Tuition and Fees by Credit Hour

No. of Hours Registered	In-State (resident) Tuition	Out-of-State (non-resident) Tuition	Mandatory Institute Fees							Total Institute Fees	In-State Tuition and Fees	Out-of-State Tuition and Fees	
			Transp	Health	Tech	Rec/ Fac	Activity	Athletic	USG Inst Fee				
1	\$2,916	\$8,903	\$81		\$107					\$272	\$460	\$3,376	\$9,363
2	2,916	8,903	81		107					272	460	3,376	9,363
3	2,916	8,903	81		107					272	460	3,376	9,363
4	2,916	8,903	81	\$160	107	\$54	\$123	\$127	272	924	924	3,840	9,827
5	2,916	8,903	81	160	107	54	123	127	544	1,196	1,196	4,112	10,099
6	2,916	8,903	81	160	107	54	123	127	544	1,196	1,196	4,112	10,099
7 or More	4,906	15,002	81	160	107	54	123	127	544	1,196	1,196	6,102	16,198

*All tuition charges, fees, board, room rent, or other charges are subject to change at the end of any academic term*

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