

House Bill 36

By: Representatives Trammell of the 132nd, Boddie of the 62nd, Beverly of the 143rd, Alexander of the 66th, Gardner of the 57th, and others

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

1 To amend Part 7 of Article 7 of Chapter 3 of Title 20 of the Official Code of Georgia
2 Annotated, relating to HOPE scholarships and grants, so as to establish the HOPE
3 tuition-free grant; to provide for eligibility requirements; to provide for the amount of the
4 grant; to provide for limitations; to provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and
5 for other purposes.

6 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

7 **SECTION 1.**

8 Part 7 of Article 7 of Chapter 3 of Title 20 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated,
9 relating to HOPE scholarships and grants, is amended by revising Code Section 20-3-519.7,
10 which is reserved, to read as follows:

11 "20-3-519.7.

12 (a) To be eligible for a HOPE tuition-free grant, a student seeking a certificate or diploma
13 at a branch of the Technical College System of Georgia shall, in addition to meeting the
14 residency requirements set forth in subsection (a) of Code Section 20-3-519.1:

15 (1) Be enrolled in a program of study leading to a certificate or diploma in a field
16 designated by the State Board of the Technical College System of Georgia to be in high
17 demand in Georgia; and

18 (2) Meet enrollment standards by being admitted, enrolled, and classified as an
19 undergraduate student in a matriculated status and maintaining satisfactory academic
20 progress in accordance with the standards and practices used for federal Title IV
21 programs by the institution at which the student is enrolled.

22 (b) Subject to the provisions of subsection (d) of this Code section, an eligible student may
23 receive HOPE tuition-free grants for all coursework required by the institution for
24 programs of study leading to a certificate or diploma.

25 (c) Subject to the amounts appropriated by the General Assembly and provisions relating
26 to the Lottery for Education Account in Code Section 50-27-13, a HOPE tuition-free grant

27 awarded under this Code section shall equal the tuition and fees at the postsecondary
28 institution.
29 (d) No student who has a baccalaureate degree, its equivalent or higher, from any
30 postsecondary institution shall be eligible to receive a HOPE tuition-free grant. No student
31 may receive cumulative HOPE and HOPE tuition-free grants for more than 95 quarter
32 hours or 63 semester hours of attempted coursework. No student may receive more than
33 a cumulative total of 190 quarter hours or 127 semester hours of combined HOPE
34 scholarships and grants. Reserved."

35 **SECTION 2.**

36 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.