**What is the Georgia Strategic Industries Workforce Development Grant (SIWDG)?**
The SIWDG is a financial award for Technical College System of Georgia students and was first presented by the Governor’s Office in Fall 2013. It awards funds to students meeting certain criteria who are enrolled in certain programs. Beginning Fall 2014, the state will expand the programs eligible under SIWDG.

**Who qualifies for SIWDG?**
Students in approved majors (see the opposite side of this flyer for the list) who are also eligible for the HOPE Grant qualify for the SIWDG.

**Who is eligible for the HOPE Grant?**
Georgia residents who are in diploma or certificate programs who also meet other program-specific criteria (i.e., GPA, number of hours paid in the HOPE program(s), and other basic eligibility criteria) are eligible for the HOPE Grant.

**Why are only certain programs available under SIWDG?**
The Governor’s Office, along with input from legislators and Georgia Student Finance Commission, determined what programs were strategically important for Georgia’s economic growth.

**How can the money be used?**
SIWDG can be used for anything related to a student’s costs: tuition, fees, or other education-related expenses.

**Does the money have to be repaid?**
Since SIWDG is a grant, it does NOT have to be repaid.

**How can a student apply for this grant?**
The Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) is the only application needed. Apply at: www.fafsa.ed.gov. Students who wish to apply ONLY for state aid, including the SIWDG, may complete the application at: www.gacollege411.org. We strongly recommend submitting the FAFSA, so that a student’s full eligibility for all programs (Pell, SEOG, etc.) can be determined. CTC school code is 005620.

**What information does a student need to complete the FAFSA?**
To complete the FAFSA, a student will need to input his/her income for the most recently completed calendar year. Students that are still dependent on their parents, per the FAFSA, are required to enter parental support as well. However, financial need is NOT a factor for SIWDG eligibility.

**How long does it usually take to be notified of acceptance from the date a student submits the FAFSA application?**
FAFSAs are processed by the Central Processing System of the Department of Education within 24-48 hours of receipt. Then, the application is available to the financial aid department of the colleges the student listed on their FAFSA. The college may then require additional documents. For most students, an application is completely processed within 2-4 weeks, if not sooner.

**If I fill out the FAFSA, do I still need to fill out an application for Chattahoochee Tech?**
Yes. Filling out the FAFSA is for financial aid purposes only. Students must fill out an application if they are not already enrolled at CTC.

*For more information about SIWDG, go to www.chattahoocheeetech.edu, and click here:*
Strategic Industries Workforce Development Grant (SIWDG)*

Programs of Study - Effective Fall 2014

Credit Hours Enrolled  SIWDG Award Amount Only

9+ hours  $500.00
3 – 8 hours  $250.00
1 – 2 hours  $125.00

Students may qualify for additional grants.

Major

Practical Nursing (Diploma)
Commercial Truck Driving** (Certificate)
Early Childhood Care & Education (Diploma)
Computer Programming (Diploma)
Information Security Specialist (Diploma)
Internet Specialist-Web Application Development (Diploma)
Networking Specialist (Diploma)
Diesel Equipment Technology (Diploma)
Surgical Technology (Diploma)
Welding and Joining Technology (Diploma)

NOTES:  *Students must be eligible for the HOPE Grant to receive SIWDG funding.
**There is a one-time award for $1,000 for Commercial Truck Driving.
High school students participating in dual enrollment are NOT eligible for the SIWDG.
Student MUST apply for the FAFSA to determine their total grant eligibility.
Class registration is based on availability.

For more information about SIWDG, go to www.chattahoocheetech.edu, and click here:

770-528-4545

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