

DREAMS SCHOLARSHIP POLICY

Purpose

The Dedicating Resources to Educationally Advance More Students (DREAMS) Scholarship is a need-based scholarship administered by the Georgia Student Finance Commission (GSFC) for eligible students attending institutions within the Technical College System of Georgia (TCSG). Due to limited annual funding allocations provided by GSFC, Chattahoochee Technical College has established an institutional awarding policy for DREAMS Scholarship funds.

General Eligibility

To be considered for the DREAMS Scholarship, students must meet all eligibility requirements established by GSFC, including but not limited to:

1. Completion of the current academic year Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA).
2. Resolution of all verification requirements and conflicting information required by the FAFSA.
3. Eligibility for the Federal Pell Grant.
4. Enrollment in a minimum of six (6) credit hours in an eligible **associate** degree program.
5. Maintenance of Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP), including a minimum 2.0 SAP GPA.
6. Maintenance of a minimum 2.0 Postsecondary Calculated HOPE Scholarship GPA. If HOPE Scholarship eligibility has expired, the college will be responsible for calculating the HOPE Scholarship GPA. The HOPE Scholarship GPA is different than the HOPE Grant GPA.
7. Completion of the required GAfutures Financial Toolkit.
8. Compliance with all other DREAMS Scholarship requirements established by GSFC.
9. DREAMS Scholarship applicants/recipients must complete a minimum of 60 hours of paid or unpaid work for each semester disbursement.
 - a) A student receiving the DREAMS Scholarship for the first time does not have to meet the work requirement prior to their first semester disbursement.
 - b) Paid and unpaid work that meets the DREAMS Work Requirement includes but are not limited to:
 1. Paid work (with an employer or federal/institutional work study)
 2. Internship, externship, student teaching, clinical, practicum
 3. Volunteer or community service
 4. Military Service
 - c) The required work hours must be reported through GAfutures and documentation to verify for paid or unpaid work must be submitted.
10. The DREAMS Scholarship term award cannot exceed the student's unmet financial need or \$1,500, whichever is less. Students can receive a DREAMS award during the Fall, Spring and Summer semesters provided they meet all eligibility requirements and have not received the maximum yearly amount of \$3,000.

Institutional Awarding Criteria

Because the College's DREAMS Scholarship allocation is limited and may not be sufficient to award all eligible students, Chattahoochee Technical College will prioritize awards based on associated SAI determined by the FAFSA.

Eligible students must meet one of the following criteria:

- Have a Student Aid Index (SAI) between 4,000 and 6,655; or
- Be eligible for and receiving the Minimum Federal Pell Grant award for the applicable award year.

Students meeting all GSFC eligibility requirements but not meeting one of the above institutional awarding criteria will not be considered for a DREAMS Scholarship award due to limited institutional funding.

While students can receive DREAMS for the first semester, per GSFC regulations, without providing proof of paid or unpaid work, Chattahoochee Technical College will require proof from the student of the ability to provide this documentation for future semesters.

Awarding Procedures

1. The Financial Aid Office will identify students who meet all GSFC eligibility requirements and the College's institutional awarding criteria.
2. The college will reach out to students meeting minimum qualifications to promote the DREAMS Scholarship and encourage them to apply via the Chatt Tech application and completing the required Financial Toolkit at GAfutures. The Chatt Tech will email the application to qualified applicants.
3. Awards will be made, on a first-come, first-serve basis, based on available DREAMS Scholarship funding and the student's unmet financial need after all grants and scholarships have been applied.
4. DREAMS Scholarship awards will not exceed the student's unmet financial need or GSFC established annual and term limits.
5. Awards are contingent upon continued eligibility and availability of funds.
6. The Financial Aid Office reserves the right to adjust award amounts or revise awarding priorities if additional DREAMS Scholarship funding becomes available or if guidance is issued by GSFC.

Appeals

Students who do not meet the College's institutional awarding criteria are not eligible to appeal for DREAMS Scholarship consideration. Appeals related to GSFC eligibility determinations will be handled in accordance with GSFC regulations and procedures.

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Administration

The Financial Aid Office is responsible for administering this policy and ensuring compliance with all applicable GSFC regulations governing the DREAMS Scholarship Program.

This policy shall be reviewed annually and may be revised as necessary to reflect changes in GSFC regulations, funding allocations, or institutional priorities.

Effective July 1, 2026