



# PRIVATE CHOICE IN PUBLIC PROGRAMS

HOW PRIVATE INSTITUTIONS  
SECURE SOCIAL SERVICES  
FOR GEORGIANS



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## How Private Institutions Secure Social Services for Georgians

### INTRODUCTION

On January 31, 2007, the Georgia Senate passed SB10,<sup>1</sup> the Georgia Special Needs Scholarship Act, which provides scholarships for public school students with disabilities to attend the public or private school of their family's choosing. As indicated in the bill's preface, the intent is to give parents, who are "best equipped to make decisions for their children," the ability to "tailor a student's education to that student's specific needs."

The program would do so by providing scholarships worth the lesser of (a) the amount of money that would have been spent on the children's education had they remained in their assigned school or (b) the new school's tuition and fees, if applicable. To receive the scholarship, the student must have one or more of a list of disabilities identified in the bill, have spent the previous school year in an assigned public school and have an Individual Education Plan (a document that identifies a child's disability[ies] and the requisite instruction and/or therapy). The children keep their scholarships until they graduate or reach the age of 21, unless they choose to return to their assigned public school.

Predictably, leaders within the public school establishment criticized this attempt to help some of Georgia's neediest students simply because the plan includes parental choice of both public and private schools. The bill's opponents decried it as a supposed attempt to "privatize" education.<sup>2</sup> By "diverting state tax money to private schools, including religious schools,"<sup>3</sup> the bill would, opponents claim, cause harm to the state's public schools.<sup>4</sup> One editorial labeled the bill the Legislature's "first controversy" of the season.<sup>5</sup>

But as this report demonstrates, there is in fact nothing new or controversial about the Georgia Special Needs Scholarship or the idea of offering students the choice of public,

private or religious schools with state funds. The state of Georgia currently offers no less than 11 scholarship, grant or voucher programs related to the care and education of its young people, from pre-kindergarten through post-secondary education. These programs allow for scholarships or aid to be used in private organizations, including religious ones. And like the Special Needs Scholarship, several of these programs target specific populations based on need.

Moreover, as Table 1 indicates, Georgia currently dedicates nearly \$1 billion to scholarship aid programs serving almost 500,000 individuals from pre-K through graduate school. Notably, complete data for some programs were unavailable, meaning these estimates undercount Georgia’s spending on such scholarship programs. The tables below also include the spending history for each program. When the subtotals from each program are combined, results reveal Georgia has spent almost \$6 billion helping nearly four million citizens since 1973 through choice-based aid programs.

**Table 1 Participants and Expenditures for Georgia’s Current Voucher Programs\***

<b>Program</b>	<b>Participants</b>	<b>Expenditures</b>
Accel	3,037	\$3,799,800
Georgia Tuition Equalization Grant	27,362	\$24,625,765
Governor’s Scholarship	2,307	\$1,977,427
HOPE Scholarship	213,042	\$437,436,715
HOPE GED Voucher	4,780	\$2,384,600
HERO Scholarship	10	\$10,000
LEPD Grant	23	\$46,884
Service Cancelable Loans	5,309	\$13,874,959
Georgia’s Pre-K	73,702	\$290,081,308
LEAP Grant	2,657	\$1,402,726
Child Care Assistance	113,189	\$218,743,248
<b>Current Program Grand Total</b>	<b>445,418</b>	<b>\$994,383,432</b>

\*All programs allow participants to choose both religious and non-religious providers.

Comparably, Georgia’s Special Needs Scholarship Program represents a modest attempt to empower that state’s parents with the most significant tool available to meet the unique needs of their children—the ability to choose the best education possible, whether

it be in a public or a private school. And by offering scholarships to children with special needs, Georgia would join neighboring Florida,<sup>6</sup> which began offering scholarships to students with special needs in 2000, Arizona,<sup>7</sup> which passed a nearly identical program in 2006, Utah,<sup>8</sup> whose special needs scholarship program began in 2005, Ohio,<sup>9</sup> which in 2003 enacted a program that provides scholarships to students with autism, and the federal government, which funds the private school education of children with special needs through the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act.<sup>10</sup>

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The Special Needs Scholarship Program simply extends to a new group of students the same kind of educational choice already enjoyed by hundreds of thousands of Georgia citizens from pre-kindergarten through college. As the following descriptions illustrate, private and religious institutions play an important role in serving the educational needs of Georgia's young citizens and have done so for decades through billions of dollars of scholarships, grants and vouchers. To deny that same opportunity to children with special needs would run counter to Georgia's own policy history, the precedent set by the federal and other state governments, as well as the common-sense ethic of putting students first.

The first set of Georgia's current programs described below include those funded solely or primarily by the state. The second set includes programs funded by both the state and the federal government. Not included below are programs funded solely or in large part by the federal government, such as social welfare programs and Pell grants. Thus, the programs described herein actually undercount the broad scope of services received by Georgia's citizens through voucher-style programs that include public, private and religious providers.

**PROGRAMS FUNDED SOLELY OR PRIMARILY BY STATE APPROPRIATIONS**

*Accel Program*<sup>11</sup>

**Established:** 2004

**Description:** This program serves high school juniors and seniors at accredited public or private high schools in the state of Georgia. The program allows students to pursue post-secondary study at approved public, private and technical colleges, including religious institutions, while receiving dual high school and college credit. Eligible courses include only those representing the core graduation requirements for college preparatory students: English, Mathematics, Social Studies, Science and Foreign Language. At public colleges the program pays for tuition, mandatory fees and books. At private colleges the program pays \$125 per semester hour or \$84 per quarter hour.

Participants and Expenditures<sup>12</sup>

<b>Fiscal Year</b>	<b>Average Award</b>	<b>Participants</b>	<b>Expenditures</b>
2005	\$1,319	3,314	\$4,373,793
2006	\$1,251	3,037	\$3,799,800
<b>TOTALS</b>		6,351	\$8,173,593

**Private Institutions in the Accel Scholarship Program, FY 2005-2006<sup>13</sup>**

<b>School</b>	<b>Participants</b>	<b>Amount</b>
Agnes Scott College	3	\$5,000
Andrew College	1	\$750
Atlanta Christian College	4	\$7,500
Berry College	20	\$7,475
Brenau University	2	\$1,125
Brewton-Parker College	110	\$126,744
Emmanuel College	114	\$109,375
Georgia Military College	57	\$103,150
LaGrange College	44	\$32,625
Morehouse College	2	\$1,500
Paine College	1	\$750
Piedmont College	99	\$118,625
Reinhardt College	18	\$21,000
Shorter College	20	\$30,000
Thomas University	77	\$88,375
Toccoa Falls College	7	\$12,875
Truett-McConnell College	40	\$28,875
Wesleyan College	1	\$1,125
Young Harris College	60	\$124,500
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>680</b>	<b>\$821,369</b>

*Georgia Tuition Equalization Grant Program<sup>14</sup>*

**Established:** 1972

**Description:** This scholarship program provides aid to students for the express purpose of promoting private higher education in Georgia. In addition, it aids the education of those who live near the state border and attend four-year institutions in neighboring states, so as to make higher education more freely available to Georgia students.<sup>15</sup> Participants may choose religious or non-religious schools.<sup>16</sup>

Participants and Expenditures<sup>17</sup>

<b>Fiscal Year</b>	<b>Award Amount</b>	<b>FTE Participants</b>	<b>Expenditures</b>
1973	\$400	5,867	\$2,346,829
1974	\$400	8,921	\$3,568,327
1975	\$400	12,518	\$5,007,132
1976	\$400/\$500	14,771	\$6,277,520
1977	\$400	13,285	\$5,314,031
1978	\$500	13,104	\$6,552,200
1979	\$600	13,864	\$8,318,347
1980	\$600	14,936	\$8,961,848
1981	\$600	15,418	\$9,251,107
1982	\$675	15,885	\$10,722,864
1983	\$700	15,598	\$10,918,348
1984	\$700	14,893	\$10,424,770
1985	\$725	14,195	\$10,291,712
1986	\$775	13,852	\$10,735,089
1987	\$825	13,925	\$11,488,706
1988	\$875	14,134	\$12,367,040
1989	\$900	15,001	\$13,500,754
1990	\$925	15,651	\$14,477,694
1991	\$911	15,931	\$14,513,690
1992	\$794	16,548	\$13,139,714
1993	\$1,000	17,391	\$17,391,719
1994	\$1,000	19,285	\$19,285,652
1995	\$1,000	21,842	\$21,842,449
1996	\$1,000	24,342	\$24,342,763
1997	\$1,000	25,938	\$25,938,642
1998	\$1,000	24,935	\$24,935,887
1999	\$1,000	26,669	\$26,669,645
2000	\$1,000	26,522	\$26,522,101
2001	\$1,050	27,734	\$29,121,583
2002	\$1,100	30,112	\$33,123,310
2003	\$1,025	28,571	\$29,285,543
2004	\$909	26,478	\$24,069,373
2005	\$900	28,252	\$25,427,141
2006	\$900	27,362	\$24,625,765
<b>TOTALS</b>		<b>633,730</b>	<b>\$540,759,295</b>

*Governor's Scholarship Program*

**Established:** 1985

**Description:** This program provides merit scholarships for high-achieving high school graduates to attend eligible post-secondary institutions. Grant funds are disbursed either as a check made out to the recipient, or as a check or electronic fund transfer to the eligible post-secondary institution. In the case of the latter, the institution must deliver the funds to the student or credit the student's account toward his or her cost of attendance.<sup>18</sup> Eligible post-secondary institutions include schools in the University System of Georgia; those in the Georgia Department of Technical and Adult Education or controlled by a local board of education; accredited private, non-profit colleges or universities located in Georgia; and proprietary (for-profit) institutions of higher education located in Georgia.<sup>19</sup> Participants may choose both religious and non-religious institutions.<sup>20</sup>

**Participants and Expenditures<sup>21</sup>**

<b>Fiscal Year</b>	<b>Average Award</b>	<b>Maximum Award Amount</b>	<b>Participants</b>	<b>Expenditures</b>
1986	\$1,157	\$1,250	195	\$225,722
1987	\$1,276	\$1,350	443	\$565,395
1988	\$1,205	\$1,344	688	\$829,346
1989	\$1,268	\$1,380	726	\$920,739
1990	\$1,330	\$1,461	692	\$920,565
1991	\$1,390	\$1,540	612	\$850,941
1992	\$1,385	\$1,540	928	\$1,285,853
1993	\$1,398	\$1,540	1,340	\$1,874,303
1994	\$1,410	\$1,540	1,729	\$2,439,307
1995	\$1,446	\$1,575	2,057	\$2,976,019
1996	\$1,464	\$1,575	2,304	\$3,373,089
1997	\$1,466	\$1,575	2,689	\$3,942,557
1998	\$1,481	\$1,575	2,886	\$4,275,605
1999	\$1,502	\$1,575	3,057	\$4,592,614
2000	\$1,495	\$1,575	3,063	\$4,592,614
2001	\$1,508	\$1,575	2,890	\$4,359,722
2002	\$1,492	\$1,575	2,758	\$4,114,504
2003	\$1,310	\$1,373	2,823	\$3,699,195
2004	\$957	\$1,000	2,828	\$2,708,516
2005	\$765	NA	2,796	\$2,140,198
2006	\$857	NA	2,307	\$1,977,427
<b>TOTALS</b>			<b>39,811</b>	<b>\$52,664,231</b>



*Helping Outstanding Pupils Educationally (HOPE) Scholarship Program<sup>22</sup>*

**Established:** 1993

**Description:** This program provides \$3,000 scholarships to full-time students, or \$1,500 scholarships to half-time students who attend a Georgia public, private or technical college or university,<sup>23</sup> including religious institutions.<sup>24</sup> To be eligible, a student must be a Georgia resident, a 1996 or later high school graduate, and have completed high school with a “B” average. Students must maintain a “B” average in college.

**Participants and Expenditures<sup>25</sup>**

<b>Fiscal Year</b>	<b>Participants</b>	<b>Expenditures</b>
1993-1994	42,807	\$21,408,086
1994-1995	98,439	\$83,802,364
1995-1996	123,132	\$133,920,220
1996-1997	128,386	\$153,221,139
1997-1998	136,748	\$173,328,957
1998-1999	141,246	\$189,338,183
1999-2000	148,364	\$209,024,716
2000-2001	169,342	\$277,214,691
2001-2002	196,007	\$323,170,232
2002-2003	212,772	\$362,237,427
2003-2004	222,642	\$404,792,918
2004-2005	222,540	\$427,384,894
2005-2006	213,042	\$437,436,715
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>2,055,467</b>	<b>\$3,196,280,542</b>

**Participants and Expenditures by Institution Type (September 1, 1993–January 20, 2007)<sup>26</sup>**

<b>Type</b>	<b>Participants</b>	<b>Expenditures</b>
Public Colleges and Universities	495,764	\$2.22 billion
Private Colleges and Universities	128,833	\$459.28 million
Public Technical Colleges	562,385	\$794.28 million
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>1,002,560*</b>	<b>\$3.47 billion</b>

\*Individual student count. Some students attended more than one school during this period.

*HOPE GED Voucher Program<sup>27</sup>*

**Established:** 1993

**Description:** Legal residents of Georgia who earned a GED diploma after June 30, 1993, may receive a one-time \$500 HOPE award. This award can be used toward tuition, books and other educational costs at institutions eligible to accept students through the HOPE program described above, which includes religious schools. In addition to the \$500 award, GED recipients may also qualify for assistance through other components of HOPE.<sup>28</sup>

*Participants and Expenditures<sup>29</sup>*

<b>Fiscal Year</b>	<b>Recipients</b>	<b>Expenditures</b>
1993-1994	1,796	\$888,305
1994-1995	3,703	\$1,841,337
1995-1996	4,530	\$2,253,168
1996-1997	4,785	\$2,376,639
1997-1998	4,172	\$2,073,549
1998-1999	3,681	\$1,834,564
1999-2000	3,767	\$1,879,237
2000-2001	4,060	\$2,021,909
2001-2002	4,950	\$2,469,336
2002-2003	4,749	\$2,367,045
2003-2004	4,739	\$2,364,466
2004-2005	4,682	\$2,335,201
2005-2006	4,780	\$2,384,600
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>54,394</b>	<b>\$27,089,356</b>

*Helping Educate Reservists and their Offspring (HERO) Scholarship Program<sup>30</sup>*

**Established:** 2005

**Description:** This program provides educational grant assistance to members of the Georgia National Guard and U.S. Military Reservists who served in combat zones and children of members. Maximum grant assistance for each eligible student is \$2,000 per award year, with a cumulative grant cap of \$8,000 over four award years.<sup>31</sup> The student must be enrolled or accepted for admission in the University System of Georgia, the Georgia Department of Technical and Adult Education, or a private, non-profit institution eligible to participate in Georgia’s HOPE Scholarship Program, described above. Students may choose from both religious and non-religious schools.<sup>32</sup>

*Participants and Expenditures, Fiscal Year 2006<sup>33</sup>*

Average Scholarship	Participants	Expenditures
\$1,000	10	\$10,000

*Law Enforcement Personnel Dependents (LEPD) Grant Program<sup>34</sup>*

**Established:** 1972

**Description:** This program provides educational grant assistance to the dependent children of law enforcement personnel, firefighters and corrections officers/prison guards permanently disabled or killed in the line of duty. To be eligible, students must be the natural or adopted child of a law enforcement officer, firefighter or corrections officer/prison guard. The maximum per-student grant assistance cannot exceed a total of \$8,000.<sup>35</sup> Any branch of the University System of Georgia or independent college or university located in Georgia and which is also eligible to participate in the Georgia Tuition Equalization Grant program is eligible for participation in this program. Participants can choose religious or non-religious institutions.<sup>36</sup> Certain authorized or accredited non-profit hospital schools located in Georgia are also eligible to participate.

Participants and Expenditures<sup>37</sup>

<b>Fiscal Year</b>	<b>Average Award</b>	<b>Participants</b>	<b>Expenditures</b>
1973	\$2,000	3	\$6,000
1974	\$2,000	2	\$4,000
1975	\$1,583	4	\$6,333
1976	\$1,694	6	\$10,165
1977	\$1,859	13	\$24,167
1978	\$2,000	11	\$22,000
1979	\$2,000	11	\$22,000
1980	\$1,949	13	\$25,331
1981	\$1,852	9	\$16,668
1982	\$2,000	12	\$24,000
1983	\$1,857	14	\$26,000
1984	\$1,921	17	\$32,664
1985	\$1,944	15	\$29,162
1986	\$1,989	15	\$29,834
1987	\$2,000	20	\$40,000
1988	\$1,972	18	\$35,500
1989	\$1,929	15	\$28,934
1990	\$1,676	18	\$30,168
1991	\$1,572	16	\$25,167
1992	\$1,658	20	\$33,161
1993	\$1,508	20	\$30,164
1994	\$1,439	19	\$27,335
1995	\$1,769	26	\$45,999
1996	\$1,833	40	\$73,330
1997	\$1,823	34	\$61,999
1998	\$1,806	38	\$68,665
1999	\$1,800	35	\$62,995
2000	\$1,828	35	\$63,997
2001	\$1,899	33	\$62,663
2002	\$1,691	38	\$64,270
2003	\$1,804	24	\$43,313
2004	\$1,833	20	\$36,666
2005	\$1,908	23	\$43,886
2006	\$2,038	23	\$46,884
<b>TOTALS</b>		660	\$1,203,420

### *Service Cancelable Loan Programs*<sup>38</sup>

In addition to scholarship programs, Georgia offers various “service cancelable” loan programs, which students may apply toward post-secondary education at private institutions, including religious schools in most cases. Eligible students receive a loan to help pay for their education; upon completing their field of study and working in a “critical need” field in Georgia, the students’ loans are forgiven. In so doing, the loans are essentially converted into grants or scholarships, similar to the other programs described in this report. These loan programs fall under five categories—teaching, health care, military service, engineering and social work—several of which are listed below.

#### **Careers in Teaching**

- PROMISE Teacher Program (Undergraduate),<sup>39</sup> Established: 1995
- PROMISE II Teacher Scholarship Loan Program,<sup>40</sup> Established: 2000, closed as of 2006
- HOPE Teacher Program (Graduate),<sup>41</sup> Established: 1995
- Destination Teaching
- Agriculture Education, Established: 1987

#### **Careers in Health Care**

- Northeast Georgia Health Systems Nurse Program, Established: 2000
- Intellectual Capital Partnership Program (ICAPP), Established: 1996
- United Health Care,<sup>42</sup> Established: 1987

#### **Careers in Military Science**

- Georgia National Guard Service Cancelable Education Loan Program<sup>43</sup>
- Georgia Military College Scholarship

#### **Careers in Engineering**

- Scholarship for Engineering Education

Participants and Expenditures<sup>44</sup>

Years	Participants	Expenditures
1987-1988	821	\$1,345,705.00
1988-1989	897	\$1,563,279.00
1989-1990	944	\$1,605,813.00
1990-1991	1099	\$1,849,156.00
1991-1992	1074	\$1,860,114.00
1992-1993	968	\$1,707,349.00
1993-1994	1185	\$1,980,163.00
1994-1995	1125	\$2,015,376.00
1995-1996	2641	\$11,029,375.96
1996-1997	3672	\$9,708,517.62
1997-1998	4011	\$10,076,576.58
1998-1999	3080	\$7,505,099.10
1999-2000	2891	\$6,965,989.65
2000-2001	4466	\$10,660,190.75
2001-2002	5802	\$13,919,688.83
2002-2003	5994	\$15,106,416.47
2003-2004	5849	\$15,196,962.20
2004-2005	5718	\$14,396,323.00
2005-2006	5553	\$14,042,154.00
2006-2007	5309	\$13,874,959.00
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>63,099</b>	<b>\$156,409,208.16</b>

*Georgia's Pre-K Program<sup>45</sup>*

**Established:** 1993

**Description:** This program is a public/private partnership involving both public schools and private childcare centers. Pre-K programs agree to follow state guidelines and meet standards concerning program administration, learning environment, instruction and curriculum. All providers offer a universal 6.5 hour instructional day for all children who are age 4 by September 1. Unlike traditional voucher programs, which provide funds directly to parents, who then use the funds at the provider of their choosing, Georgia's Pre-K Program funds public and private providers directly, including religious institutions,<sup>46</sup> which then provide free, universal Pre-K services to Georgia families. As of 2006-2007, the program serves 76,600 children.<sup>47</sup>

Participants, Providers and Expenditures, 2005-2006<sup>48</sup>

Participants	Expenditures	Number of companies	Number of sites
73,702	\$290,081,308	898	1,787
Public school providers	Public school recipients	Private school providers	Private school recipients
155	31,540	743	42,162

**PROGRAMS FUNDED BY STATE AND FEDERAL APPROPRIATIONS**

*LEAP (Leveraging Educational Assistance Partnership) Grant Program<sup>49</sup>*

**Established:** 2001

**Description:** LEAP grants are need-based scholarships for post-secondary study at eligible public or private institutions in Georgia, including religious schools.<sup>50</sup> Program funding includes state appropriations with federal matching funds. Award amounts range from \$300 to \$2,000 per academic year.<sup>51</sup> Eligible institutions include schools in the University System of Georgia, any branch or affiliated branch of the Georgia Department of Technical and Adult Education, any public and non-profit Pell-eligible institutions of higher education or any accredited private, non-profit college or university located in Georgia. For-profit, proprietary institutions of higher education located in Georgia are also eligible as long as they meet specified requirements.

Participants and Expenditures<sup>52</sup>

Fiscal Year	Average Award	Participants	Expenditures
2002	\$470	3,135	\$1,475,542
2003	\$506	2,977	\$1,507,042
2004	\$485	3,008	\$1,460,861
2005	\$461	3,284	\$1,516,594
2006	\$528	2,657	\$1,402,726
<b>TOTALS</b>		15,061	\$7,362,765

*Child and Parent Services (CAPS): Child Care Assistance Program*

**Established:** 1991

**Description:** This program provides child-care assistance to families in need. To be eligible, the parents or responsible persons in the family must work, attend a job-training program, or attend GED or high school classes. Some families may also be eligible for CAPS while adults seek employment. Families may choose childcare provided by childcare centers, after school programs, family childcare home providers, group home providers or an informal provider such as a relative, neighbor or friend. Providers may also include religious organizations.<sup>53</sup> Families must have limited incomes, eligibility for which is based on the number of people in the family. Most parents or guardians pay some of the childcare costs on a sliding scale based on the family’s income and size. CAPS pays the remainder of the costs, up to the state’s maximum reimbursement level, to the provider.<sup>54</sup> Funding for the program includes state appropriations and federal funding.

**Participants and Expenditures<sup>55</sup>**

<b>Year</b>	<b>Participants*</b>	<b>Expenditures</b>
1998	64,591	\$138,920,826
1999	56,411	\$121,177,584
2000	63,297	\$144,614,859
2001	78,265	\$160,469,460
2002	74,254	\$178,469,367
2003	72,981	\$181,632,115
2004	83,334	\$161,406,710
2005	90,879	\$160,591,808
2006	113,189	\$218,743,248
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>697,201</b>	<b>\$1,466,025,977</b>

\* Number of children



## ENDNOTES

- 1 [http://www.legis.ga.gov/legis/2007\\_08/fulltext/sb10.htm](http://www.legis.ga.gov/legis/2007_08/fulltext/sb10.htm).
- 2 Downey, M. (2007, January 31). Our opinion: Choice for special needs; Voucher bill raises potential for students with disabilities. *Atlanta Journal-Constitution*, p. 18A.
- 3 Staff. (2007, January 31). Legislature 2007: Briefs: Education alternatives gain steam. *Atlanta Journal-Constitution*, p. 4B.
- 4 Duffy, K. (2007, February 1). Legislature 2007: Special-needs vouchers OK'd; Senate bill opponents say it hurts public schools. *Atlanta Journal-Constitution*, p. 5D.
- 5 Editorial. (2007, February 2). Senate Bill 10 needs a few improvements by the House. *Macon Telegraph*.
- 6 Florida Statutes § 1102.39; <http://www.floridaschoolchoice.org/Information/McKay>.
- 7 Arizona Rev. Stat. 15-891; See also, Carpenter, D. M., & Peterson, S. (2007). *Private choice in public programs: How private institutions secure social services for Arizonans*. Arlington, VA: Institute for Justice.
- 8 Utah Code Annotated §§ 53A-1a-701 to 710; <http://www.schools.utah.gov/admin/specialneeds.htm>.
- 9 Ohio Revised Code Annotated § 3310.41; [http://olrs.ohio.gov/ASP/olrs\\_AutismScholarship.asp](http://olrs.ohio.gov/ASP/olrs_AutismScholarship.asp).
- 10 20 U.S.C. §§ 1400 *et seq.*; <http://www.ed.gov/policy/speced/guid/idea/faq-parent-placed.doc>.
- 11 Ga. Code Ann. §§ 20-2-161.1; Ga. Comp. R. & Regs. 160-4-2-.34; Georgia Student Finance Commission, [http://www.gsfc.org/main/publishing/templates/comm\\_template.cfm?doc\\_id=497](http://www.gsfc.org/main/publishing/templates/comm_template.cfm?doc_id=497); *Accel Program: A Summary*, [http://www.gsfc.org/main/publishing/pdf/2004/accel\\_summary.pdf](http://www.gsfc.org/main/publishing/pdf/2004/accel_summary.pdf).
- 12 Data received via email correspondence with Stan DeWitt, Scholarship and Grants Manager, Georgia Student Finance Commission, February 7, 2007.
- 13 Data received via email correspondence with Kanita Watters, Account Service Specialist III, Georgia Student Finance Commission, February 6, 2007.
- 14 O.C.G.A. § 20-3-410 and § 20-3-413.
- 15 Georgia Student Finance Commission, [https://www.gsfc.org/GSFC/grants/dsp\\_gtegr.cfm](https://www.gsfc.org/GSFC/grants/dsp_gtegr.cfm).
- 16 As of January 24, 2005, eligible private institutions include: Agnes Scott College, American Intercontinental University, Andrew College, Argosy University, Art Institute of Atlanta, Atlanta Christian College, Atlanta College of Art, Bauder College, Berry College, Brenau University, Brewton-Parker College, Clark Atlanta University, Covenant College, DeVry University, Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University, Emmanuel College, Emory University, Georgia Military College, Herzing College, LaGrange College, Life University, Mercer University, Morehouse College, Oglethorpe University, Oxford College of Emory University, Paine College, Piedmont College, Reinhardt College, Savannah College of Art & Design, Shorter College, Spelman College, South University,

Thomas University, Toccoa Falls College, Truett-McConnell College, Wesleyan College and Young Harris College. The eligible out-of-state schools include: Clemson University, Florida A&M University, Florida State University, University of Tennessee/Chattanooga and Jacksonville State University/Jacksonville, Ala.; Georgia Student Finance Commission, [http://www.gsfc.org/gsfc/grants/dsp\\_gteg.cfm](http://www.gsfc.org/gsfc/grants/dsp_gteg.cfm).

- 17 Data received via email correspondence with Stan DeWitt, Georgia Student Finance Commission, February 7, 2007.
- 18 Georgia Student Finance Commission, *2006-2007 Academic Year: Governor's Scholarship Program Regulations*, 8, available at [http://www.gsfc.org/Main/publishing/pdf/2006/2006\\_gov\\_regs.pdf](http://www.gsfc.org/Main/publishing/pdf/2006/2006_gov_regs.pdf).
- 19 Georgia Student Finance Commission, *2006-2007 Academic Year: Governor's Scholarship Program Regulations*, 11-12. All eligible institutions must also be approved by the U.S. Department of Education to participate in Federal Title IV programs and be actively participating in at least the Federal Pell Grant program or have applied for approval from the U.S. Department of Education to participate in the Federal Title IV program.
- 20 Telephone conversation with Stan DeWitt, Georgia Student Finance Commission, February 26, 2007.
- 21 Data received via email correspondence with Stan DeWitt, Georgia Student Finance Commission, February 7, 2007.
- 22 O.C.G.A. § 20-3-519 through § 20-3-519.5.
- 23 Full-time students also receive a \$1,000 Georgia Tuition Equalization Grant.
- 24 Telephone conversation with Stan DeWitt, Georgia Student Finance Commission, February 26, 2007.
- 25 Data received via email correspondence with Stan DeWitt, Georgia Student Finance Commission, February 7, 2007.
- 26 Data compiled from Georgia Student Finance Commission website, [http://www.gsfc.org/HOPE/dsp\\_hopefaq.cfm](http://www.gsfc.org/HOPE/dsp_hopefaq.cfm).
- 27 O.C.G.A. § 20-3-519.6.
- 28 Georgia Student Finance Commission, [http://www.gacollege411.org/FinAid/ScholarshipsAndGrants/hope\\_ged\\_voucher.asp](http://www.gacollege411.org/FinAid/ScholarshipsAndGrants/hope_ged_voucher.asp).
- 29 Data received via email correspondence with Stan DeWitt, Georgia Student Finance Commission, February 7, 2007.
- 30 O.C.G.A. § 20-3-485 through § 20-3-487.
- 31 Georgia Student Finance Commission, *2006-2007 Award Year: Georgia HERO Scholarship Regulations*, 2, [http://www.gsfc.org/Main/publishing/pdf/common/hero\\_regs.pdf](http://www.gsfc.org/Main/publishing/pdf/common/hero_regs.pdf).
- 32 Telephone conversation with Stan DeWitt, Georgia Student Finance Commission, February 26, 2007.
- 33 Program data received via email correspondence with Stan DeWitt, Georgia Student Finance Commission, February 7, 2007.

- 34 Ga. Code Ann. §§ 20-3-450 to 455.
- 35 Georgia Student Finance Commission, *2006-2007 Award Year: LEPD Grant Regulations*, 2, [http://www.gsfc.org/Main/publishing/pdf/2006/2006\\_lepd\\_regs.pdf](http://www.gsfc.org/Main/publishing/pdf/2006/2006_lepd_regs.pdf).
- 36 Telephone conversation with Stan DeWitt, Georgia Student Finance Commission, February 26, 2007.
- 37 Data received via email correspondence with Stan DeWitt, Georgia Student Finance Commission, February 7, 2007.
- 38 O.C.G.A. § 20-3-374, Georgia Student Finance Commission website, [http://www.gacollege411.org/FinAid/LoanPrograms/service\\_cancelable\\_loans.asp](http://www.gacollege411.org/FinAid/LoanPrograms/service_cancelable_loans.asp).
- 39 O.C.G.A. § 20-3-519.7.
- 40 O.C.G.A. § 20-3-519.11.
- 41 O.C.G.A. § 20-3-519.8.
- 42 The United Health Care Loan Program funds undergraduate and graduate training in the following fields: Dental Hygiene, Dietetics, Health Information Management, Laboratory Technology, Medical Technology, Nursing, Occupational Therapy, Pharmacy, Physician Assistant, Radiological Technology, Respiratory Therapy, Dentistry, Optometry, Veterinary Medicine, Agriculture Education and Gerontology; Georgia Student Finance Commission website: [http://www.gacollege411.org/finaid/loanprograms/allied\\_health\\_professionals.asp](http://www.gacollege411.org/finaid/loanprograms/allied_health_professionals.asp) and telephone conversation March 1, 2007, with Stan DeWitt, Georgia Student Finance Commission.
- 43 O.C.G.A. § 20-3-374.
- 44 Email correspondence with Stan DeWitt, Georgia Student Finance Commission, February 28, 2007. Annual totals in the table include data from the Agricultural Education Scholarship (1987-2007), United Health Care (1987-2007), HOPE Teacher Scholarship Loan Program (1995-2007), PROMISE Teacher Scholarship Loan Program (1995-2007), PROMISE II Teacher Scholarship Loan (2000-2006), Scholarship for Engineering (1999-2007), Georgia Military College Scholarship (1999-2007), Georgia Air National Guard (2002-2007), ICAPP Scholarship (1996-2007) and North East GA Health Nursing Program (2000-2007).
- 45 Ga. Code Ann. §§ 20-1A-1, *et. seq.*; Ga. Comp. R. & Regs. 591-2-1-.01.
- 46 The Georgia Pre-K Program maintains contracts with religious institutions, such as Apostles Lutheran Day School, Arrow Christian Academy at College Park and Blackshear Presbyterian Church. Searchable database available at: <http://www.sitesearch.decal.state.ga.us/georgiadecal/public/ProviderSearch.aspx>.
- 47 Telephone conversation with Susan Adams, Pre-K Program Manager, Department of Early Care and Learning, February 15, 2007.
- 48 Georgia Department of Early Care and Learning, *Georgia's Pre-K Program Bulletin*, <http://www.decal.state.ga.us/Documents/PreK/FactSheet.pdf>

- 49 20 USCS §1070c *et seq.*
- 50 Telephone conversation with Stan DeWitt, Georgia Student Finance Commission, February 26, 2007.
- 51 Georgia Student Finance Commission, *2006-2007 Academic Year: LEAP Grant Regulations*, 2, [http://www.gsfc.org/Main/publishing/pdf/2006/2006\\_leap\\_regs.pdf](http://www.gsfc.org/Main/publishing/pdf/2006/2006_leap_regs.pdf).
- 52 Data received via email correspondence with Stan DeWitt, Georgia Student Finance Commission, February 7, 2007.
- 53 The Georgia CAPS Program funds are currently used at institutions such as ABC Christian Daycare, All God's Children Child Care and Learning Center and Appleseed Christian Daycare. Searchable database available at: <http://www.sitesearch.decal.state.ga.us/georgiadecal/public/ProviderSearch.aspx>.
- 54 CAPS Childcare and Parent Services Website, [http://www.div.dhr.state.ga.us/dfcs\\_caps/caps\\_text.htm](http://www.div.dhr.state.ga.us/dfcs_caps/caps_text.htm).
- 55 Data compiled from the Georgia Department of Human Resources Website, Division of Family and Children Services Data: <http://www.dfcsdata.dhr.state.ga.us/menusearch98.asp?file=menusearchprev.asp>. Participant information tallied as number of children receiving childcare by category of funding (Applicant Services, TANF, Transitional, Low Income Working or Pre-K). These statistics differ from the numbers DFCS provides when counting the number of children receiving childcare by age group.

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