

Technical College System of Georgia
Early Childhood Care and Education

Did You Know?

The Technical College System of Georgia offers certificates, diplomas and degrees in early childhood care and education, child development and childcare administration. These credentials meet the requirements for child care professionals in Georgia. Certificates can be earned with as few as 9-18 semester credit hours (3-5 courses). The cost of any of the credentials offered through the Technical College System of Georgia, TCC, Diploma, and/or Degree, varies based on the number of semester credit hours required for each program. The cost per semester depends on the number of semester credit hours (or classes) the individual student takes in a semester. The average tuition for a full semester course load in a standard program at a TCSG college will be about \$1,125.00. Under the recent changes, the HOPE Grant or Scholarship will pay \$60.75 per TCSG semester credit hour (which is determined by a percentage of the cost of tuition from the previous year), meaning that the average student using HOPE at a TCSG college will have to pay about \$214.00 in out of pocket tuition cost. There have been other changes in HOPE eligibility and the amounts provided for books and fees, please contact the Financial Aid office of the school you plan to attend with your specific questions about HOPE. More details on HOPE are also included on the links below. In addition, the Financial Aid office can discuss other options available through the college including students loans that may be available.

HOPE Changes

<http://www.tcsghopeinfo.com/>

HOPE Grant

https://secure.gacollege411.org/Financial_Aid_Planning/HOPE_Program/Georgia_s_HOPE_Grant_Program.aspx

HOPE Scholarship

https://secure.gacollege411.org/Financial_Aid_Planning/HOPE_Program/Georgia_s_HOPE_Scholarship_Program_Overview.aspx

General Financial Aid:

https://secure.gacollege411.org/Financial_Aid_Planning/default.aspx

Two other financial aid options available for Georgia's child care professionals in addition to HOPE are the Georgia Department of Early Care and Learning *SCHOLARSHIPS* and *INCENTIVES* programs.

SCHOLARSHIPS provide tuition assistance for qualifying individuals who are pursuing a credential in early childhood education, child development, and childcare administration. The wage limit for qualification to receive financial assistance through SCHOLARSHIPS is \$15 or less per hour. Tuition assistance for students enrolled in public institutions is 80% after HOPE and Pell are applied to the student's account. Stipends that can be used for books, supplies, and other related costs are \$200 per semester.

INCENTIVES pay a salary supplement of two payments (\$250 - \$1,250 semi-annually) to qualifying individuals when they earn an early childhood care and education credential or degree. These payments are provided directly to the individual professional and are based on tenure with the child care program and the early childhood care and education credential or degree attained starting at \$250 for the CDA and ending with \$1,250 for the Master's degree.

These programs are managed by *Care Solutions, Inc.* Visit their website at www.caresolutions.com for information on how to go back to school, SCHOLARSHIPS AND INCENTIVES program requirements and applications or call: 770-642-6722 or 1- 800-227-3410.