# **Georgia HERO Scholarship Program Information and Application Instructions**

#### **Program Information**

The Georgia HERO (Helping Educate Reservists and their Offspring) Scholarship program was created to provide educational grant assistance to members of the Georgia National Guard and U.S. Military Reservists who served in combat zones or the children of such members of the Georgia National Guard and U.S. Military Reserves. The Georgia HERO Scholarship Program is administered by the Georgia Student Finance Authority (GSFA).

#### **General Student Eligibility Requirements**

The following requirements apply to all categories of HERO Scholarship recipients:

- Must be enrolled or accepted for admission in an eligible Georgia college or university.
- 2. Must meet Georgia residency requirements, as defined by GSFA.
- Must meet U.S. citizen or permanent resident alien requirements, as defined by GSFA.
- Must be in a matriculated status in a program of study leading to a college Degree, Technical diploma, or Technical certificate.
- Must not be obligated to pay a refund on a GSFA or Federal Title IV grant or scholarship.
- Must not be in default on a GSFA or Federal Title IV student educational loan.
- 7. Must meet Selective Service registration requirements.
- 8. Must maintain Satisfactory Academic Progress in accordance with the Federal Title IV standards and practices of the institution.
- Must be in compliance with the Georgia Drug-Free Postsecondary Education Act of 1990.

#### Selective Service Status

For males (assigned at birth) 18-26, you must meet the Selective Service registration requirement. GSFA will check the student's Selective Service Registration Status. For more information visit www.GAfutures.org.

## Specific Eligibility Requirements for Categories of Students

In addition to the General Student Eligibility Requirements, a HERO Scholarship recipient must meet all of the specific requirements for one of the following four categories of students.

#### Category A

The eligible student must be a member of the Georgia National Guard or be a U.S. Military Reservist who completed at least one qualifying term of service. A qualifying term of service is defined as deployment overseas, on or after February 1, 2003, for active service to a location outside of the United States and its territories designed by the U.S. Department of

Defense as a combat zone, for a cumulative period of at least 181 days. Students who meet the requirements for Category A are eligible to receive HERO Scholarship funds of up to \$2,000 per award year, for a total of four award years and a maximum of \$8,000.

#### Category B

The eligible student must be the biological child, adoptive child, or legal ward of a member of the Georgia National Guard or the U.S. Military Reserves who completed at least one qualifying term of service. The student must have been age 25 or younger during the qualifying term of service. A qualifying term of service is defined as deployment overseas, on or after February 1, 2003, for active service to a location outside of the United States and its territories designed by the U.S. Department of Defense as a combat zone, for a consecutive period of at least 181 days.

For each qualifying term of service cumulative, the student earns HERO Scholarship funds of up to \$2,000 for one award year. The maximum benefit is four award years for a total of \$8,000.

#### Category C

The eligible student must be the biological child, adoptive child, or legal ward of a member of the Georgia National Guard or the U.S. Military Reserves who was killed or received 100 percent disability as a result of injures received in an eligible combat zone. The student must have been age 25 or younger during the qualifying term of service. A qualifying term of service is defined as deployment overseas, on or after February 1, 2003, for active service to a location outside of the United States and its territories designed by the U.S. Department of Defense as a combat zone. There are no minimum days of service required for Category C.

Students who meet the requirements for Category C are eligible to receive HERO Scholarship funds of up to \$2,000 per award year, for a total of four award years and a maximum of \$8,000.

### **Category D**

Be a surviving spouse of a member of the Georgia National Guard or U.S. Reserves who was killed in a combat zone or died as a result of injuries received in a combat zone. The member must have been deployed outside of the United States for active duty service on or after February 1, 2003 to a location designated as a combat zone. The surviving spouse must file an application for the initial Georgia HERO Scholarship award each year but no later than two calendar years following the death of the member and no award can be issued later than eight calendar years after the initial award was issued.

Students who meet the requirements for Category D are eligible to receive HERO Scholarship funds of up to \$2,000 per award year, for a total of four award years and a maximum of \$8,000.

#### **Required Documentation**

- Copy of DD214 military record or other acceptable military documentation for the Georgia National Guard member or the U.S. Military Reservist.
- 2. Copy of the student's birth certificate, adoption document, or legal guardianship document. (Categories B and C only.)
- 3. Copy of death certificate. (Category C only, if applicable.)
- 4. Copy of military record of injury. (Category C only, if applicable.)

#### **CONTACT US**

Georgia Student Finance Authority 770.724.9249 • 800.505.GSFC (4732) GAfutures.org



# **Georgia HERO Program**

(Helping Educate Reservists and their Offspring) 2025-2026 Application

**WARNING:** Any person who intentionally makes or furnishes a false statement or misrepresentation on this form, or on any form or writing hereafter furnished for use in connection with this application, and any person who accepts or uses the same knowing it to be false, for the purpose of enabling the student to establish eligibility for, or to wrongfully receive, state student aid funds, may be subject to fine or imprisonment, or both, under provisions of Georgia law.

PART A. STUDENT: COMPLETE	THIS PART (ITEMS	S 1-18)			
2. Last Name (Please Print)		First	Name		Middle Initial
3. Social Security Number 4. Permanent Mailing Address (Number, Street, Apt., P.O. Box, RFD, etc.)					
5. Date of Birth (Mo/Day/Yr.)	City	State		Zip Code	Primary Phone Number
6. Age 7. Gender (Assigned at birth) AMale BFel			Citizenship Status U.S. Citizen		esident COther
9. Email Address		How long have you luesting aid? Years	lived in Georgia im Months	mediately precedino	g the first school term for which you are
11. Are you applying as a GA National Guardsm	en or Reservist? Yes	No			
12. Are you applying as a dependent of a GA Na	tional Guardsmen or Reser	vist? Yes No			
13. Are you applying as a spouse of a GA Nation					T
14. Do you have a baccalaureate degree?  A. Yes B. No A. Yes (Com	active duty as a member of plete Items 16-17)  B.		16. Is Georgia cui shown as your of record? Yes	home state	17. Do you pay Georgia State Income Tax?  AYes BNo
18. Choose any two semesters or three quarters for which aid is requested and indicate, to the best of your knowledge, the number of hours you plan to enroll each term.					
SummerF	- FallWin	ter	Spring	3	
and complete to the best of my knowledge authorize release and exchange of informat institutions from which student financial ass status, legal residency and location informat Student Signature	ion between the Georgia St sistance is sought or obtaine tion necessary to assure pro	udent Finance Authored by me, and agree oper administration of Area Code a	ority and education that such information f student aid progra	al institutions, state ation exchanged ma ams by state, federa	and federal agencies, and private lending by include financial, enrollment, academic all and institutional administrators.  Date Signed
PART B. FINANCIAL AID OFFIC	ER: COMPLETE T	HIS PART			
All required documents must be attached Postsecondary Function Upload Documents	•	•	application and o	documents to GS	FA through GAfutures' secure
Award Amount: Will awarding of this scholarship exceed the st	indent cost of attendance?	es No	School Name		
			Concornanc		
List the dollar amount of the award per the stu	dent's request on Part A, nu	umber 18.			
Summer 2025Fall	2025Winter 2	026Spr	ring 2026		
**Students are paid \$1,000/semester or \$700/coursework. If enrolled in three quarters, one of 12 hours are paid \$83.33/semester or \$55.55/\$74.07/quarter hours.	quarter must be awarded at	\$600, in order not to	exceed the \$2,00	0/year maximum aw	vard. Students enrolled for less than
Financial Aid Officer Certification I certify that the information reported above					
enrolled or accepted for admission as an u months immediately preceding the date of leading to a degree, diploma, or certificate; institution; (6) does not owe a refund from (8) meets Selective Service requirements; a	registration; (3) is a U.S. o (5) is maintaining satisfa a GSFA or Federal Title IV	citizen or eligible pe ctory academic pro / grant or scholarsh	ermanent resident gress in accorda ip; (7) is not in de	t alien; (4) is in a m nce with the Title I efault on any GSFA	natriculated status in a program V standards and practices of the
Authorized Signature Fe	ederal School Code	School Official's E	mail Address	Date Signed	Direct Telephone Number