

COLLEGE ACCESS CHALLENGE GRANT



*Working to increase
postsecondary degrees for Georgia students
who are traditionally underrepresented
in higher education.*



The Georgia College Access Challenge Grant Plan is a collaborative effort led by the University System of Georgia on behalf of the Governor's Office and Alliance of Education Agency Heads.

Too few Georgians possess the credentials needed for good jobs and a competitive economy. The College Access Challenge Grant (CACG) works to fill in gaps and enhance state resources.

THE PROBLEM

- 81% of Georgia's jobs require some kind of training/education after high school.
- Only 36% of Georgia's adults hold a two- or four-year degree.
- In particular, low-income individuals are traditionally underrepresented in higher education.
- Low-income adults who have "stopped out" are in danger of not completing degrees.

THE COLLEGE ACCESS CHALLENGE GRANT SOLUTION

- CACG provides information, hands-on support, and resources to underrepresented K-12 students to prepare them for college and careers.
- Provides college-access tools and training for students, families, educators, and communities.
- Implements adult- and military-friendly degree programs and services on college campuses.
- Provides clear information for transfer and dual enrollment students about which courses and programs will transfer within Georgia's public higher education system.



College Access for All Students

College & Career Advisement
Strategies for School Counselors
& Higher Education
Enrollment Professionals
PROFESSIONAL LEARNING
PROGRAM

*Informational brochure available
for counselor sessions

Make Your Dream a Reality

Apply to College

Create a GAcademy411.org account and get started!

*Banner available in 6 and 10ft sizes

It's within your Reach

Apply to College

Create a GAcademy411.org account and get started!

*Banner available in 6 and 10ft sizes

Take the 1st Step to Success

Apply to College

Create a GAcademy411.org account and get started!

*Banner available in 6 and 10ft sizes

***These items are available upon request for educational use. To order, please send an email to collegeaccessitems@usg.edu with a listing of your order. Be sure to include a valid mailing address and contact information.**

KEY POINTS

- U.S. Department of Education grants of over \$12 million have been awarded since 2008 and matched by state funds of \$6 million.
- Implementation of Georgia's College Access Challenge Grant Plan is led by the University System of Georgia on behalf of the Governor's Office and the Alliance of Education Agency Heads.
- Project is led within the University System of Georgia by the Office of Educational Access and Success, along with a cross-agency leadership team.
- Target groups of interest include first-time freshmen, transfer students, adults returning to college, and the military. The CACG Georgia team also targets additional populations and communities, including: high school seniors, youth in foster care or who are homeless, children of incarcerated parents and minority males.

ACTIVITIES AND CONTINUING STRATEGIES FOR SUCCESS

- Launch of statewide *public awareness campaigns* for K-12 students and for adult learners
- Georgia Apply to College events at high schools with large percentages of underrepresented students
- *Financial Aid events*
- *Book Grants* to dual enrollment students in *Early College*, *Move on When Ready*, *Hope Grant* and adult education *GED Dual Enrollment* programs to fund postsecondary education costs not covered through Georgia's dual enrollment funding
- Enhancements to *GAcademy411*, the state's free, web-based portal to help students plan for, apply, and pay for college
- *Near Peer Service Learning* courses through which current college students mentor high school seniors through college admission, financial aid, and enrollment
- Community, business, and school partners working to *create a college-going culture* and promote understanding among families and students of the benefits and opportunities of postsecondary education
- A comprehensive system of *professional development and collaboration opportunities* for school counselors, financial aid administrators, and college admissions counselors
- *Adult- and military-friendly programs, services, and outreach* at multiple campuses
- *Collaborative, online degree programs* that are matched with workforce needs and strategic industries



- Construction of a *one stop GATRACS portal* where students can find information on how to transfer and map courses and credits

The College Access Challenge Grant program emphasizes performance, partnerships, and the overall value to higher education as part of its metrics for success.

THE GEORGIA APPLY TO COLLEGE program has the goal of providing all Georgia high school seniors with the opportunity to apply to college using **GACOLLEGE411.ORG**, with a focus on providing assistance to first generation and economically disadvantaged students as they navigate the college application process.

www.usg.edu/apply-to-college or gacw@usg.edu

THE COLLEGE ACCESS: CREATING A COLLEGE-GOING CULTURE MODULES

were developed to provide high quality, online professional learning for certified middle grade and high school counselors to improve their effectiveness in preparing all students for college and careers. Postsecondary enrollment professionals will improve their effectiveness in working with students to enroll in college and apply for financial aid.

<http://ceps.georgiasouthern.edu/conted/collegeaccess.html>

GACOLLEGE411 is a powerful website that helps Georgia students plan, apply, and pay for college. The *College Access Challenge Grant* has provided resources to enhance the site as well as Georgia Student Finance Commission's **FINANCIAL AID** and **FAFSA EVENTS**.

www.GACollege411.org or email clientservices@gafc.org

COMMUNITY RESOURCE STRATEGY & WEBSITE helps increase visibility and the student level impact of the College Access work, particularly in the high need areas of the state. Staff are available to visit local districts, schools and community programs to provide staff training and conduct presentations for students and families promoting the use of college access resources. The website provides CACG information that school counselors and other advisors can use when assisting students and parents. Resources include presentations, handouts, videos, and other pertinent items. dawn.cooper@usg.edu or visit the website: www.usg.edu/educational_access/thumb_drive/

BOOK GRANTS have been provided through CACG for low income students enrolled in four of Georgia's Dual Enrollment programs (Early College, Move on When Ready, Hope Grant and GED Dual Enrollment) to supplement existing funding for college textbooks.

Early College - Dawn Cooper
dawn.cooper@usg.edu

Hope Grant/MOWR - Sheila Caldwell
scaldwell@tcsge.edu

GED Dual Enrollment - Carla DeBose
CDeBose@tcsge.edu

THE NEAR PEER PROGRAM

provides college coaches/mentors for "high-need" high school students to help ensure they receive the services needed to successfully apply to and enroll in a postsecondary institution.

sheila.jones@usg.edu

**Discover your
GOAL**
Georgia Opportunities for Adult Learners

THE ADULT LEARNING CONSORTIUM

is designed to assist in improving adult learner-focused services, programs and outreach to Georgia adults who are interested in completing college. The **GEORGIA ONMYLINE** website provides access to several courses and degree programs that are well suited for adult learners.

www.discoveryyourgoal.net

THE GEORGIA TRANSFER ARTICULATION PORTAL

is a one stop portal where students can find information on how to transfer and articulate courses and credits within and between the University System of Georgia and Technical College System of Georgia. The portal contains the information institutions have about which courses articulate between institutions.

daphne.blackmon@usg.edu or visit the GaTRACS portal at: https://secure.gacollege411.org/College_Planning/_default.aspx

THE MILITARY EDUCATION AND OUTREACH STRATEGY

was developed to create military friendly campuses throughout Georgia and attract, retain and graduate military members, veterans and their families. The Military Resource Centers established will serve as the hub for the military student and family members to ask questions, get information, and experience the experience of being with other military students.

militaryoutreach@usg.edu

THE CACG PUBLIC AWARENESS CAMPAIGN

supports all grant strategies by providing tools to promote the availability of resources and free materials to support CACG strategies. Materials that have been developed include but are not limited to logos, videos, banners, flyers, buttons and billboards collegeaccessitems@usg.edu or <http://vimeo.com/7597084>

The CACG provides additional resources for the Georgia Department of Education **INDIVIDUAL GRADUATION PLAN** promotion and training for Counselors and Career Technical and Agricultural Education Directors on the advisement mandated by the BRIDGE Act.

More info: espann@doe.k12.ga.us

THE COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT STRATEGY

is promoting the importance of and the availability of resources for postsecondary education among underrepresented persons throughout the state of Georgia through community events.

creynolds@cisgeorgia.org

THE MOTIVATIONAL MODULES

are powerpoint presentations and activities for PreK-12 students and parents with an emphasis on the accessibility and importance of college and careers.

www.gafc.org/main/publishing/volunteer_resource/index.cfm

Why Not You?

COLLEGE IS FOR EVERYONE!

Sign up NOW.
GACollege411.org
Expand Your Opportunities

Check out schools at:
usg.edu and tcsge.edu

GACollege411.org



*2-sided mail stuffer provides students with quick college information

YOU . COLLEGE . NOW .

TAKE YOUR EDUCATION BEYOND HIGH SCHOOL. NOW IS THE TIME.

Sign up NOW.
GACollege411.org
Expand Your Opportunities

Talk to your Counselors and your Teachers
Get your parents Connected to the process
Sign up at GACollege411.org
Become a fan of our Facebook page

Check out schools at:
usg.edu and tcsge.edu

GACOLLEGE411.ORG



*Poster compliment to the mail stuffer is also available (16 x 20 in.)

MILESTONES

GACollege411 accounts have doubled since project inception to over 2.4 million Georgians.

FAFSAs filed in the same time period have risen from 31,726 to 236,954—a 647% increase.

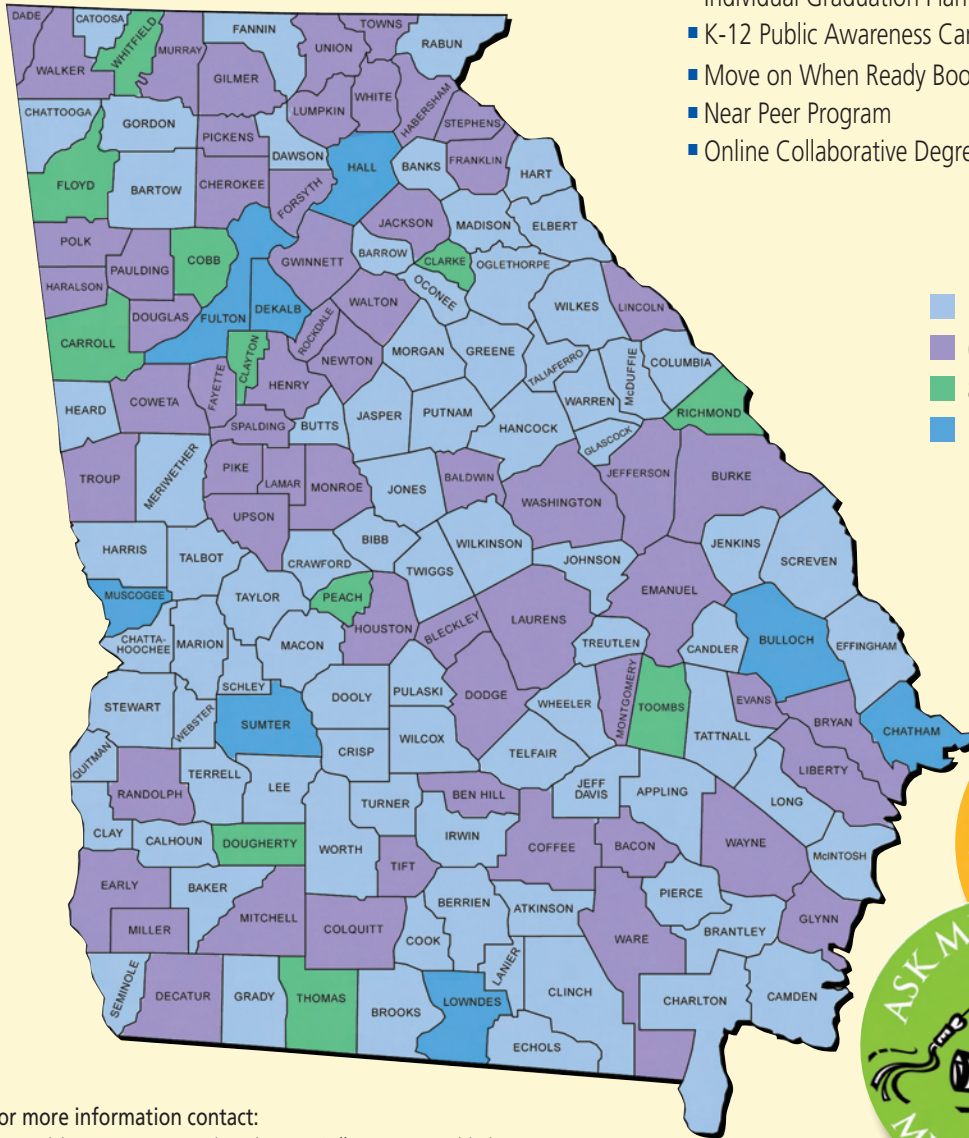
College applications through GACollege411 online have risen 515% to 786,164 applications.

Public higher education enrollment has reached new records with 318,027 USG students and 189,216 TCSG students.

COLLEGE ACCESS CHALLENGE GRANT

MEASURING STRATEGIES FOR SUCCESS

- Adult Learning Consortium (*adult-friendly services*)
Credit for Assessed Learning Acquired Outside of College/
DiscoverYourGOAL.net (*Georgia Opportunities for Adult Learners*)
- Apply to College
- College Completion Metrics
- Counselor Training and Tools
- Early College Book Grants
- FAFSA Events
- Georgia Transfer and Articulation Portal (GATRACS)
- Individual Graduation Plan
- K-12 Public Awareness Campaign
- Move on When Ready Book Grants
- Near Peer Program
- Online Collaborative Degree Programs



- 5 or fewer Strategies
- 6 to 7 Strategies
- 8 to 9 Strategies
- 10+ Strategies

For more information contact:

Dr. Patricia Paterson, Executive Director, College Access Initiatives
Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia
patricia.paterson@usg.edu (404) 962-3125



*Buttons available

COLLEGE ACCESS CHALLENGE GRANT LEADERSHIP AND PARTNERS



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The facts, figures do not necessarily represent their policies, and you should not assume endorsement by the Federal Government.