

**Georgia Driver’s Education Commission
 Driver’s Education Grant Scholarship Program
 Eligibility Requirements (Adopted 9/26/16 and Amended on 11/16/16)**

A. Student Eligibility

1. The student must be a resident of the State of Georgia and actively enrolled in school.
2. The student must be between the ages of fifteen and seventeen and possess a valid Georgia instructional driving permit.
3. First priority will be given to grant scholarship applicants who are a child or dependent of a public safety professional or member of the United States military killed in the line of duty. If the applicant is a child or dependent of a public safety professional killed in the line of duty, the applicant must identify said professional and provide a copy of the student applicant’s birth certificate or other government issued documentation proving the student was a dependent of the identified public safety professional. For purposes of this grant scholarship program, the Georgia Driver’s Education Commission will rely on the Georgia Public Safety Memorial Committee to identify and define public safety professionals killed in the line of duty. If the applicant is a child or dependent of United States military personnel killed in the line of duty, the applicant must identify the deceased military personnel and provide Form DD214 and DEERS (Defense Enrollment Eligibility Reporting System) record showing the military personnel’s dependents.
4. Second priority will be given to scholarship applicants who can demonstrate a need based on family income. The chart below will be used to determine financial need eligibility; these figures are 125% of the eligibility guidelines that are used to determine eligibility for free and reduced priced meals for students in the State of Georgia. Grant scholarship allocations in this priority level will be evenly distributed among Georgia’s United States congressional districts.

Household Size*	Maximum Income Level (Per Year)
1	\$27,472.50
2	\$37,046.25
3	\$46,620.00
4	\$56,193.75
5	\$65,767.50
6	\$75,341.25
7	\$84,937.50
8	\$94,557.50
9	\$104,177.50
10	\$113,797.50

11	\$123,417.50
12	\$133,037.50
13	\$142,657.50
14	\$152,277.50
15	\$161,897.50
*For Households with more than fifteen people, add \$9,620.63 per additional person.	

5. Third priority will be given to all applicants who do not meet the criteria set forth in the first priority and second priority outlined above. Grant scholarship allocations in this priority level will be evenly distributed among Georgia's United States congressional districts.
6. Grant scholarships will be awarded monthly. Grant scholarship applications will be due by the 5th of every month. Grant Scholarship awards and denials will be issued by the 20th of each month and will be sent by electronic mail. The number of grant scholarships available to be awarded will be determined by staff and entered into the grant scholarship management system. Grant scholarships will be awarded based on the priority levels defined above. All of the applicants in the first priority will be awarded before the second priority applicants; and all of the second priority applicants will be awarded before third priority applicants are awarded a grant scholarship. If more grant scholarship applications are submitted than grant scholarships available in each priority level, grant scholarships will be awarded using a computer generated random selection method from the priority level applications. The grant scholarship will be awarded in the form of a voucher to the student. The student may then take said voucher to an eligible provider. The provider will then submit the voucher to the Commission for reimbursement as set forth herein.
7. Students are only eligible to apply for a grant scholarship one time.
8. Scholarships are only valid for students who agree to complete a standard 30/6 driver's education course in which the student receives a minimum of thirty (30) hours of classroom training and six (6) hours of behind the wheel training. Additionally, the student's parent or guardian must be a co-applicant and agree to complete forty hours of supervised driving with the student.
9. Students will only be awarded one scholarship. In the event of a failure or withdrawal from the course, the student will not be eligible to apply for another scholarship. Additionally, in the event of a withdrawal from the course, the student applicant and the co-applicant parent must understand and agree that the driver's education provider may charge the applicant and the co-applicant parent directly for up to half of the price of the driver's education course charged to the Commission.
10. Grant Scholarship awardees must identify the provider of choice from a list of authorized providers and redeem the grant scholarship with the provider within 30 days of the grant scholarship award notice. Further, the driver's education course must be completed

within 180 days of the grant scholarship award date. If a scholarship is not redeemed after 30 days of notice of the award and the course is not completed within 180 days of notice of the award of the grant scholarship by the student, the grant scholarship is forfeited and the student loses the scholarship and eligibility to apply again in the future. Students and providers may petition the Chairman of the Georgia Driver's Education Commission, or his designee, for an extension of these deadlines with a proven medical reason necessitating the extension.

B. Provider Eligibility

1. Provider eligibility is open to the following types of providers:
 - a. Public and private high schools that are licensed by the Georgia Department of Driver Services.
 - b. Private driving schools (commercial for profit, and not for profit) that are licensed by the Georgia Department of Drivers Services and that have been licensed for a minimum of two years.
 - c. Technical Colleges, Colleges, Universities and State Agencies that are authorized to provide driver's education by their governing bodies and that meet the minimum standards for drivers training and driver's education set forth by said governing body.
2. In order to participate in the scholarship program, providers must submit a completed Provider Application and meet the minimum qualifications set forth in these requirements. All providers must agree to abide by the State of Georgia vendor requirements including the submission of a Form W-9, Vendor Management Form, E-Verify documents and agree to receive payments by Automated Clearing House (ACH) transfer.
3. Private driving schools must be in compliance with the Georgia Department of Revenue.
4. Government-owned driving schools must be in compliance with all Georgia Department of Audit and Accounts regulations.
5. Public and private high schools and private driving schools must be in good standing with the Georgia Department of Driver Services (DDS) and not have received a moderate or severe risk assessment within the previous year from DDS. Additionally, public and private high schools must submit a copy of the most recent audit report conducted by DDS and a corrective action plan if one was issued.
6. Technical Colleges, Colleges and Universities, and State Agencies who participate in the scholarship program must be in good standing with their governing body and the Georgia Driver's Education Commission and agree to general oversight including the enforcement of driver's education standards adopted by the governing body and annual program reviews or audits.

7. Providers must agree to auditing and general oversight as required by the Georgia Driver's Education Commission.
8. Providers must agree that the scholarship grants may only be applied toward a standard 30/6 driver's education course in which the student receives a minimum of 30 hours of classroom instruction and 6 hours of behind the wheel instruction.
9. The provider must agree that the reimbursement to the provider by the Commission based upon a scholarship grant to a student applicant for the 30/6 course will not exceed \$500.00.
10. The provider must agree that request for reimbursement of the scholarship grant submitted to the Georgia Driver's Education Commission will be the same cost or less than that cost charged to the general public for driver's education for a 30/6 driver's education course.
11. The provider must agree to submit an OCRA Certificate to the Commission within 30 days after completion of the course by the student grantee as proof that the course was completed. The provider must further agree that reimbursement to the provider by the Commission for any scholarship grant will be made after proof has been provided to the Commission after completion of the course. In the event that the student fails the driver's education course, the provider must submit a copy of the Student Log detailing the student's attendance in the course and a statement detailing the reason for failure in order for payment to be made to the provider. In the event that the student grantee withdraws from the course or fails to timely complete the driver's education course, the provider may charge the Georgia Driver's Education Commission up to \$4.00 per hour of classroom education completed and up to \$62.50 per hour of behind the wheel training completed. Providers must submit student logs detailing classroom hours and behind the wheel training completed in order to be compensated for students who have withdrawn from the course or have failed to timely complete the driver's education course. The total amount reimbursed for a student who withdraws or fails will not exceed \$491.00.
12. The provider may not set in place additional eligibility requirements for the students in addition to those set forth by the Georgia Driver's Education Commission.