

**Georgia Driver's Education Commission  
Driver's Education Grant Scholarship Program  
Eligibility Requirements (Adopted 9/26/16 and Amended on 11/16/16<sup>i</sup>, 3/21/17<sup>ii</sup>, 6/26/17<sup>iii</sup>,  
9/26/17<sup>iv</sup>, 3/27/18<sup>v</sup>, 3/26/19<sup>vi</sup>, 6/28/19<sup>vii</sup>, and 6/10/22<sup>viii</sup>)**

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 or driver's license.
3. First priority will be given to grant scholarship applicants who are a child or dependent of a Georgia first responder disabled or killed in the line of duty or member of the United States military killed in action and to applicants who are in state custody under the care of the Georgia Department of Family and Children Services. If the applicant is a child or dependent of a Georgia first responder disabled or 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 Georgia first responder. For purposes of this grant scholarship program, the Georgia Driver's Education Commission will rely on the Georgia Public Safety Memorial Committee to identify a Georgia first responder killed in the line of duty. For purposes of this grant scholarship program, the Georgia Driver's Education Commission will rely on O.C.G.A § 35-8-7.4 (a) to identify and define a Georgia first responder. If the applicant is a child or dependent of a Georgia first responder disabled in the line of duty, the applicant must provide of letter of disability. If the applicant is a child or dependent of United States military personnel killed in action, the applicant must provide DD Form 1300 (Report of Casualty) as documentation. If the applicant is under the care of the Georgia Department of Family and Children Services, the applicant must submit a letter documenting custody from the Georgia Department of Family and Children Services. Grant scholarship allocations in this priority level will be evenly distributed among Georgia's United States congressional districts.
4. Second priority will be given to scholarship applicants who can demonstrate a need based on family income. Financial need eligibility will be based on 175% of the Free and Reduced Price Meal Eligibility program for the State of Georgia as published by the Georgia Department of Education. The Commission authorizes agency staff to make necessary technical adjustments to the Georgia Driver's Education Grant Scholarship Program application and award process to ensure that the eligibility level is appropriately adjusted as the financial need eligibility for the Free and Reduced Price Meal program is increased or decreased by the Georgia Department of Education. Grant scholarship allocations in this priority level will be evenly distributed among Georgia's United States congressional districts.
5. Paragraph reserved.

6. Grant scholarships will be awarded monthly. Grant scholarship applications are due on the last day of every month. Grant Scholarship awards and denials will be issued on the 1<sup>st</sup> day of each following 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. 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 Authorized Provider. The Authorized 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. If a student's application is rejected, the application will be reconsidered for the following two months and given priority over new applicants.
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. Additionally, the scholarship must be awarded prior to the start date of the driver's education course.
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.
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 a one-time 60 day extension of these deadlines. Additional requests will be considered with a proven medical reason from a physician necessitating the additional time extension.