



## Financial Aid for Certification Students

Students enrolled in programs leading to certification of any kind (e.g., initial certification and/or post-graduate [add-on] certification) may be eligible for financial aid. Certification students must complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) to determine eligibility under federal guidelines. Certification students who are under the age of 24 must complete the FAFSA as a dependent student and include their parent's tax information.

Certification students must meet the additional requirements listed below:

- Certification students must submit a copy of their Certification Program sheet to the Financial Aid Office.
- Financial Aid will only pay for those classes that count toward the student's certification and are on the program sheet.
- Certification students must be enrolled in at least 6 hours (as listed on the program sheet) each semester in order for financial aid to pay.
- Financial aid will not cover any repeat classes that are used to increase the student's grade point average.
- Certification students who change programs or update their program sheet must submit these changes to the Financial Aid Office.
- Sources such as scholarships or assistantships received after loans are awarded may reduce the amount of any student loans.

Please note: Certification or provisional students are not eligible for the HOPE Teacher Scholarship. A student must be admitted as a "regular" student to a degree-seeking program (masters or specialist degree program) to receive these funds.

For more information regarding this policy, please contact the Financial Aid Office at 678-839-6421 or [finaid@westga.edu](mailto:finaid@westga.edu). Thank you.