

House Bill 54

By: Representatives Evans of the 42nd, Gordon of the 163rd, Stephens of the 165th, Abrams of the 89th, Holcomb of the 81st, and others

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

1 To amend Code Section 20-3-519.5 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to
2 eligibility requirements for HOPE grants, so as to lower the minimum cumulative grade point
3 average required for maintaining eligibility for a HOPE grant; to provide for related matters;
4 to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

6 style="text-align:center">**SECTION 1.**

7 Code Section 20-3-519.5 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to eligibility
8 requirements for HOPE grants, is amended by revising subsection (a) as follows:

9 "(a) To be eligible for a HOPE grant, a student seeking a diploma or certificate at a branch
10 of the Technical College System of Georgia or a unit of the University System of Georgia
11 shall, in addition to meeting the residency requirements set forth in subsection (a) of Code
12 Section 20-3-519.1:

13 (1) Meet achievement standards by earning a cumulative grade point average of at least
14 ~~3.0~~ 2.0 at the end of the quarter or semester in which the student has attended 30 or 60
15 semester hours or 45 or 90 quarter hours of courses towards a diploma or certificate for
16 which the student received HOPE funds pursuant to this part. The grade point average
17 shall be calculated using such 30 semester or 45 quarter hours taken pursuant to this
18 subsection. An otherwise eligible student who attains or regains a cumulative grade point
19 average of at least ~~3.0~~ 2.0 at the end of a quarter or semester in which the student has
20 attempted 30 or 60 semester hours or 45 or 90 quarter hours may qualify or requalify for
21 a HOPE grant; provided, however, that a student who receives a HOPE grant and loses
22 eligibility pursuant to this paragraph is only eligible to regain or requalify for the HOPE
23 grant one time; and

24 (2) Meet enrollment standards by being admitted, enrolled, and classified as an
25 undergraduate student in a matriculated status in a program of study leading to a
26 certificate or diploma and maintaining satisfactory academic progress in accordance with

27 the standards and practices used for federal Title IV programs by the institution at which
28 the student is enrolled.”

29 **SECTION 2.**

30 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.