

George Walton Academy GOAL Scholarship Policy and Procedures



In 2008, the Georgia General Assembly passed House Bill 1133 and it was signed into law by Governor Perdue. The law allows individuals and businesses to redirect a portion or all of their Georgia state income tax payments to provide scholarships at K - 12 private schools via a Student Scholarship Organization. George Walton Academy is participating in the Georgia GOAL Scholarship Program, a leading student scholarship organization. As a result, donors to Georgia GOAL can designate that their contributions be used for scholarships at GWA.

Students are able to receive GOAL Scholarship funds based on the household's adjusted gross income, family size, and available funds. (Refer to the www.goalscholarship.org website for more information.) GOAL Scholarships are awarded one school year at a time. Each year, participants will need to re-submit all pertinent forms in order to be eligible for consideration for the following school year. Applications will be evaluated as received; however, for optimal consideration, applications and documentation should be submitted by April 1st.

1. All applicants must meet GWA admissions standards to be considered.
2. Currently, GWA will consider applicants at all grade levels for a GOAL scholarship.
3. Applicants must submit completed GWA admission forms as well as a GOAL scholarship application and signed federal income tax return from the previous year:
 - a. Only pages 1 and 2 of the most recently filed federal income tax return.
 - b. If the tax return from the prior year has not been filed, the tax return from the year before along with W2s from the prior year, are acceptable.
 - c. Proof of enrollment at a Georgia public school (e.g. report card/transcript) for all applicants for 2nd grade and above.
4. Applicable fees:
 - a. Applicant family must pay \$100 non-refundable GWA application fee (per student) to begin application process.
 - b. Family is responsible for payment of \$1000 enrollment fee (per family) at time of acceptance/enrollment.
5. Every family applying should expect to contribute to GWA tuition. George Walton Academy and the GOAL Scholarship program do not offer full tuition scholarships. Tuition payment arrangements must be made with the GWA business office at time of contract.
6. Once forms have been submitted, all applicants will be dutifully considered by the George Walton Academy GOAL Committee. The committee's deliberation and findings will then be reported to the Headmaster.

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7. Students who are currently receiving GOAL scholarship funds will be considered first, assuming their families are still financially eligible, for future GOAL scholarship allocations. Financial eligibility is determined by using the "Recommended Guidelines" provided by GOAL.
8. After existing GOAL recipients have been considered and/or awarded scholarship funding, the GOAL scholarship committee will then review and consider for GOAL scholarship funding any new students in families that are eligible for financial assistance, based on the "Recommended Guidelines" provided by GOAL.
9. It is important to note that there will probably always be more requests for scholarships than there is money in our GOAL scholarship account. Therefore, not every student who applies for a scholarship will receive one or receive as much as requested. It will be up to the GOAL scholarship committee to recommend for scholarship award the best qualified students.
10. The committee may at its discretion award a minimal scholarship amount to a student in order for that student to be eligible for a scholarship from this program in future years. This situation may arise when limited funds are available from the GOAL program or the family has a very unusual financial situation that cannot be captured in the above guidelines.
11. The GWA GOAL Committee will only review and recommend the applicants for the scholarship. The financial portion will be determined by the GOAL Scholarship standards and allotted by available GWA funds.
12. All applications must be submitted during the time of registration. The GOAL Scholarship awards will be delivered as early as possible for the following school year.
13. Families seeking admission mid-year (or any time after normal registration) will be considered on a first come first serve basis.
14. All students are expected to stay in good-standing in regards to grades, discipline and the business office to continue eligibility for GOAL funds.
15. All GOAL Scholarship recipients must re-apply each school year. It is the responsibility of each recipient's family to submit their GOAL Scholarship request during registration time.
16. Families that are awarded GOAL Scholarship funds are strongly encouraged to participate in giving to the GOAL Scholarship Program by way of redirecting their Georgia state taxes. Please contact Jenni Cole at jcole@gwa.com for details or questions.