

**Bright from the Start: Georgia Department of Early Care and Learning  
Program Revisions for INCENTIVES & SCHOLARSHIPS  
Effective July 1, 2011**

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**INCENTIVES**

1. Beginning July 1, 2011, eligible applicants may receive two payments per education level as they continue to increase their education. Approved applicants will be awarded for the highest credential or degree they hold at the time of application and for each level they achieve going forward.

Previous recipients of an INCENTIVES award may reapply only if they have earned a higher credential or degree since their last INCENTIVES payment and meet all other requirements. Recipients will be awarded for the highest credential they currently hold.

2. The two INCENTIVES payments per education level do not have to be awarded in consecutive payment periods. However, an applicant must meet all other requirements at the time they apply for the second of the two payments just as with their first payment.

3. The wage limit has increased to \$15.00 per hour or less.

4. As a result of the above enhancements, the INCENTIVES \$50 bonus program for completed academic credit has been discontinued.

**SCHOLARSHIPS**

1. Tuition assistance for students enrolled at public institutions continues at 80% after HOPE and Pell are applied to the student's account. Tuition assistance for students enrolled in private institutions has increased to a maximum of \$1,800 per semester or \$1,350 per quarter after HOPE and Pell are applied to the student's account. SCHOLARSHIPS now awards the same amount as the HOPE Scholarship program awards to students in Georgia's private institutions.

2. Stipend amounts for books, supplies, and other related costs have increased to \$200 per semester or \$150 per quarter.

3. The wage limit has increased to \$15.00 per hour or less.