

**Nonpublic Postsecondary Education Commission
2082 East Exchange Place, Suite 220
Tucker, Georgia 30084-5305
(770) 414-3300
Fax (770) 414-3309**

**Kirk Shook
Executive Director**

**Brian P. Kemp**

**Governor**

To: All Parties on the Nonpublic Postsecondary Education Commission's Policy Making Mailing List

 All Interested Parties via Publication by the Nonpublic Postsecondary Education Commission

From: Georgia Nonpublic Postsecondary Education Commission

 2082 E. Exchange Place, Suite 220

Tucker, GA 30084

Date: January 15, 2020

The Nonpublic Postsecondary Education Commission (NPEC) is continuing to take steps to update its currently promulgated policies to ensure that they are accurate and current. NPEC will hold its next commission meeting on Monday, January 27, 2020 at 1pm via teleconference. At that meeting the Commission intends to take the following steps.

The Commission will vote regarding amending the following policy to ensure the language within each is current and accurate.

**Policy 5: Criteria for Approval for Receipt of Tuition Equalization Grant Funds for Proprietary Institutions of Higher Education**

No proprietary institution shall qualify for receipt of tuition equalization grant funds unless such institution submits evidence to the NPEC that it meets all the following criteria:

1. The institution is a baccalaureate degree granting institution of higher learning.
2. The institution is domiciled and incorporated in the State of Georgia.
3. The institution has met all the requirements of O.C.G.A. Section 20-3-411(2)(B)(i) by January 1, 2011.
4. The institution is accredited by SACSCOC.
5. The institution is not a Bible school or college (or, at the graduate level, a school or college of theology or divinity). Institutions holding an exemption under O.C.G.A. Section 20-3-250.3(a)(6) cannot qualify for Tuition Equalization Grant Funds.
6. The institution admits as regular students only persons who have a high school diploma, a general education development (GED) certificate, or a degree from an accredited postsecondary institution.
7. The students of the institution are eligible to participate in the federal Pell Grant program.
8. The institution has been in existence in the State of Georgia for at least ten years.
9. Criteria for graduation rates, job placement rates and developmental studies placement rates will correspond to criteria for University System of Georgia institutions as established for the HOPE Scholarship program.
10. The institution meets requirements for faculty and all other Minimum Standards Criteria employed by the commission in reviewing an institution for authorization to operate as provided by O.C.G.A. Section 20-3-250.5 and in GNPEC Policy 4: Minimum Standards for Educational Institutions.
11. The institution is eligible to participate in all federal education programs as set forth in Title IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965, as amended. If an institution is subsequently removed from participation in any Title IV program, it will no longer be eligible for tuition equalization grant funds.
12. The institution has an articulation agreement with at least one other regionally accredited baccalaureate degree granting institution to ensure that a majority of a student's credits may transfer to a regionally accredited baccalaureate degree granting institution or has the generally accepted designation in the Transfer of Credit Practices published by the American Association of Collegiate Registrars and Admissions Officers.
13. The only students who will receive tuition equalization grants are students attending classes at one of the following:
	* 1. a bona fide campus,
		2. a satellite campus regularly operated for educational purposes by the institution, or
		3. a distance learning center which had been approved by NPEC.
14. Neither the institution nor any of its agents will refer to tuition equalization grant funds in a false, deceptive, misleading, or unfair manner in any advertising brochure, catalog, or other promotional material.

Interested persons may submit written comments to Kirk Shook, Executive Director, Georgia Nonpublic Postsecondary Education Commission, 2082 East Exchange Place, Suite 220, Tucker, Georgia 30084- 5305, info@gnpec.ga.gov. All written comments must be received by 9:00 a.m. on Monday, January 27, 2020. Interested persons may also participate in the proposed policy making by presenting comments orally at a public hearing to commence at 1:00 p.m. on January 27, 2020 via teleconference.

Oral presentations at the hearing may be limited to five (5) minutes per person in order to afford all interested persons an opportunity to be heard. If you have a physical impairment and require assistance or have any questions regarding this notice, please contact the Nonpublic Postsecondary Education Commission.

Based upon full consideration of all written and oral comments regarding the above matters, the Commission may reject or adopt the proposed policies or may make changes to the proposed policies.

The Commission intends to consider these matters at its meeting at 1:00 p.m. on January 27, 2020 via teleconference.

Direct all correspondence to:

Kirk Shook, Executive Director

Georgia Nonpublic Postsecondary Education Commission

2082 East Exchange Place, Suite 220

Tucker, Georgia 30084-5305

info@gnpec.ga.gov