

Meeting: Board of Commissioners, Nonpublic Postsecondary Education Commission
Date: November 17, 2025
Location: Zoom
Time: 1:00pm

BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Georgia Nonpublic Postsecondary Education Commission

Meeting Chair: Jim Squire, Vice Chairman
Meeting Title: NPEC Quarterly Board of Commissioners Meeting
Members Present: Jim Squire (Vice Chairman), Pranay Udutha (Secretary), Dr. Linda Adkison, Dr. Don Dowless, Michael Foor, Dr. Lance Barry, Kate Patterson
Members Absent: P.K. Martin (Chairman), Dog Roper, Ryan Blythe, Dr. Norma Nunez-Cortes
Staff Present: Dr. Kirk Shook (Executive Director), Maggie Rivers (Associate Executive Director), James Cheek (Director of Operations), Pat Neri (Program Manager-Compliance), Mike Kaiser (Program Manager-Initial Authorization), Carley Henry (Administrative Assistant), Theresa Friday (Contract Regulatory Specialist), Phil Embry (External Auditor), Caroline Fairhurst (Compliance Specialist)
Visitors: Stephen DeBaun (GSFC General Counsel), Keith Pridgen (Assistant Attorney General)

1. CALL TO ORDER AND INVOCATION

Vice Chairman Squire called the meeting to order at 1:05pm and Commissioner Barry gave the invocation.

2. ROLL CALL

Vice Chairman Squire called the roll, and a quorum was declared.

3. WELCOME/INTRODUCTION OF VISITORS

Vice Chairman Squire welcomed everyone. There were no visitors on the call.

ACTION ITEMS

Presented by Vice Chairman Squire

4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Commissioner Patterson moved to adopt the Agenda for the November 17, 2025, Quarterly Commission Meeting of the Georgia Nonpublic Postsecondary Education Commission. Commissioner Adkinson seconded the motion. There was no discussion.

Upon unanimous vote, it was **RESOLVED** that the Agenda for the November 17, 2025, Quarterly Commission Meeting of the Georgia Nonpublic Postsecondary Education Commission be adopted.

5. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Commissioner Adkinson moved to adopt the Minutes from the August 18, 2025, Quarterly Meeting of the Georgia Nonpublic Postsecondary Education Commission. Commissioner Patterson seconded the motion. There was no discussion.

Upon a unanimous vote, it was **RESOLVED** that the Minutes from the August 18, 2025, Quarterly Meeting of the Georgia Nonpublic Postsecondary Education Commission be adopted.

6. **APPROVAL OF QUARTERLY REPORT (unaudited): TUITION GUARANTY TRUST FUND**

External Auditor Phil Embry reported on the following:

- FY26 1st Quarter Report (July – September 2025)

NONPUBLIC POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION COMMISSION
TUITION GUARANTY TRUST FUND

CURRENT YEAR			
FIRST QUARTER REPORT - FISCAL YEAR 2026			
QUARTER ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2025			
(UNAUDITED)			
Assets			
	Deposited in Custodial TGT Account TRUIST Bank	Invested in Local Government Investment Pool Office of Treasury State of Georgia	Total Fund Assets
Revised (Unaudited) Fund Balance (Cash Basis) June 30, 2025	\$ 334,211.34	\$ 5,293,778.63	\$ 5,627,989.97
Receipts to Fund			
Deposits/Fees from Schools	\$ 39,058.03	\$ 0.00	\$ 39,058.03
Deposits/Bond Proceeds	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Transfer Between Accounts	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Interest Earned on Accounts	\$ 1,877.11	\$ 57,901.46	\$ 59,778.57
Total Receipts to Fund	\$ 40,935.14	\$ 57,901.46	\$ 98,836.60
Total Income Available	\$ 375,146.48	\$ 5,351,680.09	\$ 5,726,826.57
Payments from Fund			
Administrative Expense	\$ 5,912.94	\$ 0.00	\$ 5,912.94
Expense Related to School Closing			
Refund of Tuition Reimbursement TO	\$ 925.65	\$ 0.00	\$ 925.65
Teach Out	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Storage of Records	\$ 3,106.24	\$ 0.00	\$ 3,106.24
Total Payments from Fund	\$ 9,944.83	\$ -	\$ 9,944.83
Fund Balance (Cash Basis) September 30, 2025	\$ 365,201.65	\$ 5,351,680.09	\$ 5,716,881.74
Note: All Truist Bank Statements from July 2025 thru Sep 2025 received. Interest earned on bank account is final.			

Prepared By:
Phil Embry
Print Date: 5-Feb-26

Commissioner Patterson moved to adopt the Quarterly Report of the Tuition Guaranty Trust Fund for July – September 2025 period, as presented. Commissioner Foor seconded the motion. There was no discussion.

Upon unanimous vote, it was **RESOLVED** that the Quarterly Report of the Tuition Guaranty Trust Fund July – September 2025 as approved by the Board of Trustees of the Tuition Guaranty Trust Fund, **be adopted**.

7. APPROVAL OF EXEMPTION DEFINITION UPDATES

Dr. Shook presented the Exemption Definition updates, as follows:

Exemption Criteria and Guidelines

Short Course Vocational- Vocational programming not to exceed 60 clock hours and not related to a field or profession associated with public health, public welfare, or public safety.

Recreational/Avocational- Programming not intended to lead to employment. Exemption is not required but an option for the organization, if needed.

- “Programming of fine arts or other avocational courses that are conducted solely to further artistic appreciation, talent, or for personal development, such as yoga, personal training, or similar endeavors, or programs that prepare individuals to teach such pursuits, as determined by the Executive Director.”

Georgia State Agency- Programming that holds active approval from this state, its agencies, or its political subdivisions, such as county or city governments. Exemption is not required but an option for the organization, if needed.

Trade, Business, Professional Fraternal- Education sponsored by a bona fide trade, business, professional, or fraternal organization, so recognized by the commission in its sole discretion, not for granting degrees and solely for that organization’s membership or offered on a no-fee basis, or developed and licensed by an industry recognized certification provider, so recognized by the commission in its sole discretion, not for granting degrees;

- “**Trade Organization**” refers to an organization created by businesses that operate in a specific industry and whose focus is collaboration between companies.
- “**Business Organization**” refers to an organization providing training for its own employees or contracting with another organization to provide training to its employees, at no cost to the employee.
- “**Professional Organization**” refers to an organization or group comprised of members of a particular professional field, meaning an occupation that requires both (i) the completion of academic training resulting in a certificate, diploma or degree and (ii) licensure or registration to be eligible for employment in the occupation.

- **"Fraternal Organization"** refers to a group based on a common bond in which members meet for a mutually beneficial purpose of a social, professional, academic or religious nature.
- **"No-Fee Basis"** refers to education offered at no cost to a student. An exemption based on "no-fee" education does not apply to institutions that utilize publicly funded programs that allot students a fixed amount of funds that are then reduced when a student enrolls in a program to pay the tuition amount charged at the institution.

NOTE: Approved by Commission Vote: May 15, 2023

Commissioner Patterson moved to adopt the Exemption Definition Updates, as presented. Secretary Udutha seconded the motion. There was no discussion.

Upon a unanimous vote, it was RESOLVED that the Exemption Definition Updates be adopted.

8. **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT**

- NPEC FY26 Operations Budget (1st Quarter)

GEORGIA NONPUBLIC POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION COMMISSION FISCAL YEAR 2026 SCHEDULE OF GNPEC OPERATIONS THREE MONTHS ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2025 (UNAUDITED)				
ITEM	SPENDING		BUDGET	% SPENT
Personal Services	\$ 244,121	\$ 1,006,896		24.24%
Regular Operating	2,968	37,174		7.98%
Equipment Purchase	0	1,000		0.00%
Contracts	18	3,000		0.59%
Computer Charges	0	2,000		0.00%
Telecommunications	910	5,000		18.20%
TOTAL	\$ 248,017	\$ 1,055,070		23.51%

- Quarterly Budget Comparison (FY25 Q1 v. FY26 Q1)

1st Quarter Budget Comparison
FY26 Q1 v. FY25 Q1

GEORGIA NONPUBLIC POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION COMMISSION FISCAL YEAR 2026 SCHEDULE OF GNPEC OPERATIONS THREE MONTHS ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2025 (UNAUDITED)				GEORGIA NONPUBLIC POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION COMMISSION FISCAL YEAR 2025 SCHEDULE OF GNPEC OPERATIONS THREE MONTHS ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2024 (UNAUDITED)			
ITEM	SPENDING	BUDGET	% SPENT	ITEM	SPENDING	BUDGET	% SPENT
Personal Services	\$ 244,121	\$ 1,006,896	24.24%	Personal Services	\$ 232,553	\$ 1,004,995	23.14%
Regular Operating	2,968	37,174	7.98%	Regular Operating	5,519	37,174	14.85%
Equipment Purchase	0	1,000	0.00%	Equipment Purchase	0	1,000	0.00%
Contracts	18	3,000	0.59%	Contracts	27	3,000	0.89%
Computer Charges	0	2,000	0.00%	Computer Charges	0	2,000	0.00%
Telecommunications	910	5,000	18.20%	Telecommunications	609	5,000	12.17%
TOTAL	\$ 248,017	\$ 1,055,070	23.51%	TOTAL	\$ 238,708	\$ 1,053,169	22.67%

- Potential Agency Legislation

9. AGENCY REPORTS

Presented by Maggie Rivers, Associate Executive Director

- FY26 1st Quarter Staff Actions

**Staff Actions* by the GNPEC During the First Quarter of Fiscal Year 2026
(July 1, 2025 – September 30, 2025)**

No.	Action	Date	Institution	Resolution
1.	AG Review	July 2, 2025	Erudite Nursing Institute / Medical Career Specialists	Preparation to refile default judgment in Cobb County
2	Records Demand	July 9, 2025	InspectionGO	Records Received
3	Unauthorized Activity	July 9, 2025	Medical Certification Institute of Georgia	Ceased Operations
4	Unauthorized Activity 2 nd notice	July 9, 2025 August 8, 2025	Body Design University	Under Review
6	Records Demand	July 11, 2025	Legacy Holistic Health Institute	Pending submission
6	Unauthorized Activity 2 nd notice	July 11, 2025 August 8, 2025	Band Instrument Repair Academy	Institutional Proposal submitted
7	Unauthorized Activity	July 23, 2025	New Hope Training Academy	Website updated – programs inactive
8	Unauthorized Activity	July 23, 2025	Georgia Grooming Academy	Ceased Operations
9	Unauthorized Activity	July 29, 2025	Animal Behavior College	Removed Georgia link
10	Unauthorized Activity	August 4, 2025	Trapezio Orthodontic Assisting	Exempt – business to business
11	Unauthorized Activity 2 nd notice	August 7, 2025 Sept 24, 2025	Cyber AI Innovations	Under review
12	Unauthorized Activity	August 4, 2025	Albany Therapeutic Massage	Institutional Proposal submitted
13	Unauthorized Activity	August 15, 2025	Unity Phlebotomy	Removed Georgia
14	Unauthorized Activity	August 16, 2025	OTC K9 Grooming Academy	Submitted Program and new location
15	Records Demand	August 15, 2025	Tech Talent South	No response – Limited IT courses
16	AG – 30 day Demand Letter (remit fines)	August 18, 2025	MiTio Technologies, Inc.	No response – pending AG action
17	Unauthorized Activity 2 nd Notice	August 19, 2025 Sept 15, 2025	Lovelace Multicare Training	Deadline for response 10/1/2025
18	Unauthorized Activity 2 nd Notice	August 19, 2025 Sept 15 2025	Revelation University	Deadline for response 10/3/2025
19	Unauthorized Activity	Sept 3, 2025	South Georgia Institute	Proposal pending
20	Unauthorized Activity	Sept 16, 2025	K-Lab and More	Proposal pending
21	Unauthorized Activity	Sept 18, 2025	EnterLight University	Deadline for response 10/3/2025
22	Unauthorized Activity	Sept 26, 2025	Medical Career Specialists	Consumer Alert (Erudite)
23	Unauthorized Activity	Sept 29, 2025	LRT Medical Training	Proposal pending
24	Unauthorized Activity	Sept 29, 2025	1 Stick Phlebotomy	Closing – test proctor
25	Unauthorized Activity	Sept 29, 2025	Alpha Labs, Inc.	Proposal pending

*Staff actions include warning letters, cease & desist letters, cease & desist emails, student record demand letters, request for AG representation, consumer alerts, legal actions, hearing referral to OSAH, etc.

- FY26 1st Quarter Newly Authorized Institutions

**Institutions Initially GNPEC Authorized During the First Quarter of
Fiscal Year 2026**

(July 1, 2025-September 30, 2025)

Date	First Date of Authorization	City, State	Institution Name	Accreditation Status	Profit Type
1	7/2/2025	Stockbridge, GA	Middle Georgia Career Institute	Unaccredited	For Profit
Notes:	Meical coding training				
2	7/9/2025	Conyers, GA	Knox Phlebotomy & More LLC	Unaccredited	For Profit
Notes:	Phlebotomy training				
3	7/11/2025	Marietta, GA	HerWILL, Inc.	Unaccredited	Non-Profit
Notes:	Data analytics training				
4	7/16/2025	Painesville, OH	Lake Erie College	Accredited	Non-Profit
Notes:	Education training				
5	7/22/2025	Johns Creek, GA	Modern Dental Career Center Johns Creek	Unaccredited	For Profit
Notes:	Dental assisting training				
6	8/11/2025	Roswell, GA	Atlanta Dental Assistant School - Roswell	Unaccredited	For Profit
Notes:	Dental assisting training				
7	8/14/2025	Pooler, GA	Galen College of Nursing	Accredited	For Profit
Notes:	Nursing programs				
8	8/15/2025	Martinez, GA	Professional Development and Training Services LLC	Unaccredited	For Profit
Notes:	Allied health training				
9	8/19/2025	Smyrna, GA	Universal Technical Institute of Atlanta LLC	Accredited	For Profit
Notes:	Electrical, automotive, welding, HVAC, aviation maintenance training				
10	8/21/2025	San Dimas, CA	Life Pacific University	Accredited	Non-Profit
Notes:	Liberal arts online education				
11	8/28/2025	Decatur, GA	Tulsa Welding School/Atlanta Campus	Accredited	For Profit

Notes:	Welding training				
12	9/2/2025	San Diego, CA	San Diego Global Knowledge University	Accredited	For Profit
Notes:	IT related programming				
13	9/2/2025	Marietta, GA	Fast Track Career Center LLC	Unaccredited	For Profit
Notes:	Phlebotomy training				
14	9/3/2025	Cumming, GA	Modern Dental Career Training of Cumming LLC	Unaccredited	For Profit
Notes:	Dental assisting training				
15	9/8/2025	Sandy Springs, GA	Arizona College of Nursing	Accredited	For Profit
Notes:	Nursing programs				
16	9/8/2025	Newnan, GA	School of Orthodontic Assisting	Unaccredited	For Profit
Notes:	Orthodontic assisting training				

No approval required.

10. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Commissioner Patterson moved to enter the Executive Session. Commissioner Adkinson seconded the motion. There was no discussion.

Upon a unanimous vote, the meeting of the GNPEC Board of Commissioners entered the Executive Session.

- Pursuant to *O.C.G.A. § 50-14-2(1)*, this portion of the meeting is “closed in order to consult and meet with legal counsel pertaining to pending or potential litigation, settlement, claims, administrative proceedings, or other judicial actions brought or to be brought by or against the agency”
- Report on pending litigation from Keith Pridgen, *Assistant Attorney General*

Commissioner Patterson moved the Commissioners to exit Executive Session. Commissioner Barry seconded the motion. There was no discussion.

Upon a unanimous vote, the meeting of the GNPEC Board of Commissioners exited the Executive Session.

Upon exiting Executive Session, Commissioner Patterson moved to allow the Attorney General's office to proceed with outside counsel on the MiTio Motion. Commissioner Barry seconded the motion. There was no discussion.

Upon a unanimous vote, it was RESOLVED that allowing the Attorney General's office to proceed with outside counsel on the MiTio Motion be adopted.

11. SCHOOL SPOTLIGHT

Dr. Shook presented the following school spotlights to Commissioners that were submitted this quarter:

- Alliance Dental Institute
- Ashworth College/Penn Foster Career School
- Ultimate Medical Academy

12. OTHER BUSINESS

- The next Quarterly Commission Meeting is February 23, 2026, at 1pm, or at the conclusion of the TGTF Board of Trustees meeting
 - Location: *Toccoa Falls College (107 Kincaid Dr., Toccoa Falls)*

13. ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Adkinson moved to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Patterson seconded the motion. There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 1:56pm.

COMMISSION CHAIR APPROVAL:



Signature

20/03/2026

Date

COMMISSION SECRETARY APPROVAL:



Signature

2/23/26

Date