

# Understanding the Buzz around **paying for college.**

Your next steps to financing your  
Georgia Tech degree.



Georgia  
Tech.



# Welcome to Georgia Tech!

You got past the hard part – getting in! Now it's time to take the next step and learn how to finance your Tech degree.

We created this guide to give you insight into the variety of ways you can finance your education at Georgia Tech. Let's start with reviewing some common financial aid terms.

## Types of Aid

### Scholarships

Scholarships are gift aid that are typically awarded based upon factors such as academic excellence, financial need, or program of study.

Georgia residents may qualify for the **HOPE** or **Zell Miller Scholarships**, which cover part, or all, of the cost of tuition.

Tech also offers need-based scholarships to Georgia students, including the **Tech Promise Scholarship** and the **Val-Sal Scholarship**.

### Grants

Grants are typically awarded based on demonstrated financial need and, like scholarships, do not need to be repaid. Grants can come from federal and state governments, as well as from Georgia Tech.

### The Federal Work Study (FWS) Program

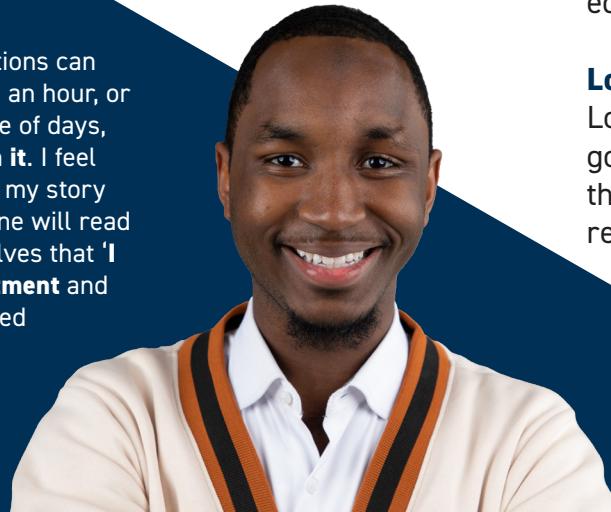
FWS provides part-time jobs for students with demonstrated financial need, allowing for the opportunity to earn money to help pay educational expenses.

### Loans

Loans are funds borrowed from a bank, the government, or other lending institution, with the understanding that the money must be repaid.

"Scholarship applications can take you 30 minutes, an hour, or more across a couple of days, but to me **it is worth it**. I feel comfortable sharing my story in hopes that someone will read it and say to themselves that '**I am worth the investment** and understand that I need it.'"

**Aboubacar Barrie**  
Atlanta, Georgia



# Invest in Your Future

A college education is a significant investment, and you should always weigh tuition, fees, and other expenses against **future earning potential**. Georgia Tech continues to be recognized for providing one of the highest returns on investment anywhere, with Tech graduates earning a **higher starting salary** than the national average.\*

  
**\$93,704**  
average starting salary\*



  
**#1**

in the University System of Georgia for HOPE/Zell Miller retention at graduation



**#1**

in career placement  
The Princeton Review



**#1**

best value public university  
The Princeton Review



"It came down to finances, and I realized that even though I might theoretically be able to get a little more scholarship money at a school out of state, **the money I would spend traveling** to and from the college and being that far away from my family would be a lot more expensive. For me, even loans were an OK option, because I could find other things to cover the majority of my costs and keep the HOPE or Zell Miller Scholarship. Evaluate what's right for you. When you look at the **starting salary** of most Tech students after they graduate, any debt is something they can **pay off very quickly**."

**Oscar Guerrero**  
Fairburn, Georgia

\* according to self-reported data



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Financial aid can help make college more affordable, and we encourage all incoming students to apply. By applying for financial aid, you're automatically considered for all need-based aid. Applying early maximizes your potential aid opportunities.

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[finaid.gatech.edu/apply/  
fall-first-year](https://finaid.gatech.edu/apply/fall-first-year)  
to get started!





# 1,200+

partner companies and organizations employing students



# #3

co-op and internship program in the United States

U.S. News & World Report (2026)

## Creative Ways to Pay

Tech offers a number of ways to pay for your education beyond the traditional types of aid.

### Co-op Program

The co-op program at Tech allows students to spend three semesters during their college career focused entirely on working a full-time job related to their major. Tuition is waived for the semesters when students are working, and students usually work all three semesters with the same company. The average wage for co-op students is **\$23 per hour**.

### Internship

Different from the co-op program, internships are single-semester, major-related, full-time or part-time work experiences that help students better understand the real-world applications of their academic studies. The average wage for students involved in an internship is **\$26 per hour**.

### Undergraduate Research

Research opportunities are available to all students at Tech, regardless of major. While research opportunities begin with course credit, many evolve into paid opportunities.

# 6,000+

students engage in undergraduate research each year

# 3,700+

students participated in an internship or co-op position in the 2024-25 school year

When Anna Andani learned she could get **paid for full-time work** and learn on the job, she decided to apply for a co-op position at Delta Airlines. She spent alternating semesters in the classroom and in Delta's customer experience design co-op, honing her skills. She describes the experience as a game changer **in paying for the parts of college** that aren't covered by other sources of funding. Upon graduation, Andani accepted a full-time position at Delta as a senior analyst.

**Anna Andani**  
Lawrenceville, Georgia





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