

Georgia United Foundation Frank Thach Scholarship for Educators

ELIGIBILITY

Applicants must be a certified educator currently teaching in a Georgia public school system. Applicant must also be enrolled at an accredited college or university and pursuing an advanced teaching or education degree. Applicant must be a U.S. resident. Immediate family members of Georgia United Credit Union employees or board members are not eligible.

PUBLICITY

Winners agree to have their names, photos, essay excerpts and/or video submissions published in Georgia United Credit Union and Georgia United Foundation marketing and promotional materials, publications and press releases.

AWARDS

\$5,000 will be awarded through the Frank Thach Scholarship, providing five educators with \$1,000 each towards continuing education costs. Official verification of school acceptance or enrollment must be provided to Georgia United Foundation prior to funds being disbursed.

HOW TO APPLY

Applicants are required to fill out an application and submit a 250-word essay answering the question, "Why is an advanced degree important to you, and what meaningful impact do you hope to make on students and in your classroom?" The application and essay are due by 11:59 pm ET on February 28, 2025, and should be submitted online at gucufoundation.org/scholarships. No extensions will be provided for entries.

JUDGING

Essays will be judged on how well the scholarship entry topic was answered and the creativity and originality of the submission. Aside from the essay, applicants will be judged on community involvement, academic excellence and financial need.

Judging will take place in early March and will be conducted by a panel selected by Georgia United Foundation. Judging criteria will be tabulated to determine the winners. All decisions are final. Winners will be notified in writing and announced on Georgia United Foundation's website.

Georgia United Credit Union and Georgia United Foundation are not required to report scholarship award funds to U.S. residents as income, either to the IRS or the student recipient or to withhold taxes from scholarship payments. Federal tax laws consider it the student's sole responsibility to know when income is taxable or not, and to report income accordingly on his or her personal tax returns. Scholarship awards are tax-free for the recipient when: The scholarship award is used to pay for tuition and fees, or books, supplies and equipment required for courses at the institution. The recipient is a candidate for a degree at an educational institution that maintains a regular faculty and curriculum and has a regularly enrolled student body (i.e. an accredited college or university).