

Georgia and The Southern Regional Education Board

This report details Georgia's participation in SREB programs and services from June 2014 through May 2015. Appropriations from member states support SREB's core operations and general services. SREB leverages the long-standing commitment of member states to attract external funding for an array of targeted projects for educational improvement efforts in member states. Georgia receives a number of general services, plus access to programs funded by grants, contracts and fees for specific services.

Leadership

SREB Board

Nathan Deal, Governor

Matt Arthur, Deputy Commissioner, Technical College System of Georgia

Terry England, State Representative

Erin Hames, Atlanta

Jack Hill, State Senator

SREB Legislative Advisory Council

Tom Dickson, State Representative, Cohutta

Terry England, State Representative, Auburn

Jack Hill, State Senator, Reidsville

Fran Millar, State Senator, Dunwoody

Representative Dickson is the 2015-16 Chair of the Council.

Senator Hill is the fifth longest-serving member of the Council, since 1994.

Policy

Goals for education | Monitoring state policies

Monitoring, measuring and reporting through comparative and state-specific reports to assist education leaders and policymakers as they shape public policy in education. SREB tracks trends and analyzes the progress of all 16 SREB states in each area in the Challenge to Lead 2020 Goals for Education and provides Legislative Reports that detail legislative and budget actions in each state.

Georgia information is included in all reports, as applicable, and several are targeted specifically for Georgia. Reports published in 2014:

Georgia: Taking Stock and Moving Forward

2014 State Progress Report on the Challenge to Lead 2020 Goals for Education

High School to College and Careers, 2014

The ACT and SAT: No Longer Just College Admission Tests

SREB States Transform School Accountability with NCLB Waivers, 2014

Workforce Development in SREB States: The Role of Two-Year Colleges in Preparing Students for Middle-Skill Jobs

Focus on Compulsory Attendance Policies: About Age or Intervention?

Notes on School Finance: Selected Information on Funding for Low-Income Students in SREB States

Legislative Reports and Legislative Briefing

More information: Joan.Lord@SREB.org or Jeff.Gagne@SREB.org | (404) 875-9211

College and career readiness

Intensive work to help states implement essential components of SREB's recommendations for statewide college and career readiness.

1. Adopt statewide readiness standards for literacy and mathematics skills.
2. Assess high school juniors to determine their progress toward the standards.
3. Offer transitional readiness courses. Require juniors assessed as underprepared to take the courses in 11th or 12th grade.
4. Apply the standards in deciding whether students need learning support after admission to college.
5. Hold schools accountable for increasing postsecondary readiness.

Georgia has made good progress in implementing the readiness agenda. SREB leaders have consulted with Georgia policymakers regarding the state readiness and college completion recommendations.

More information: Dave.Spence@SREB.org | (404) 875-9211 | SREB.org/Readiness

Benchmarking State Implementation of College- and Career-Readiness Standards

Tracks and reports state progress on how states are implementing college- and career-readiness standards.

SREB launched a new phase of benchmarking in February 2015. In this work, SREB tracks and will report on implementation of standards and related reforms in **all 16 SREB** states.

Publications

In January 2015, SREB published ***Benchmarking State Implementation of College-and Career-Readiness Standards, Aligned Assessments and Related Reforms***. Six reports make up the set covering 14 states: a cross-state findings report that describes trends across the states — plus five reports with detailed state profiles by topic.

The reports note Georgia as a ***leading state*** for aligned teaching resources, professional development and accountability; and a ***strong state*** for standards and assessments.

Support for States

In August 2014, SREB convened leaders from eight SREB states, including a team from the Georgia Department of Education, and national experts in Atlanta to share information about and resources for implementation of college- and career-readiness standards.

SREB's benchmarking staff provided information and support to state leaders on the implementation of standards and related reforms during fall 2014 and winter 2015.

Benchmarking staff presented on implementation of college- and career-readiness standards to:

- SREB Board and Legislative Advisory Council members, including attendees from Georgia, at SREB's 2014 Annual Meeting in June.
- Legislative and governors' staff, including attendees from Georgia, in October 2014.

More information: Kim.Anderson@SREB.org | (404) 775-9366 | SREB.org/1600

English Learners

Conference on preparing English language learners for college and career, co-hosted in May 2014 by SREB, the National Council on La Raza and the Hunt Institute.

Georgia sent a team to the conference, and a **fact sheet for Georgia** includes population trends, state and federal policies, and programs, standards and assessments for English learners.

More information: Dave.Spence@SREB.org | (404) 875-9211 | SREB.org/1785

Educator effectiveness

Helps states create policies that support teacher effectiveness so students learn more in the classroom. SREB staff work with policymakers and state agencies in all member states to help them translate current research on what works into evaluation systems that create an environment where teaching improves.

SREB educator effectiveness staff engaged with representatives from the Georgia Department of Education during the State Consortium on Educator Effectiveness held by the Council of Chief State School Officers in Atlanta in April.

A member of the educator effectiveness team facilitated team discussions during the March 2015 Advisory Meeting for the SREB Benchmarking State Implementation of College- and Career-Readiness Standards.

Representatives from the Georgia Department of Education shared their experience building and implementing educator evaluation systems and networked with other SREB state representatives at **SREB's annual educator effectiveness convening** in Atlanta in February.

Representatives from the Georgia Department of Education attended the Equitable Access to Excellent Teachers and Leaders meeting in San Diego, during which the SREB educator effectiveness team presented information on state equity plans in February.

The SREB team refreshed the **educator effectiveness Bill Tracker** in January 2015, which allows Georgia policymakers to track bills across eight topics, including teacher preparation, evaluation and professional learning.

Educator effectiveness staff updated Georgia representatives on recent changes to **educator evaluation** at SREB's Legislative Advisory Council meetings in December 2014, and at the Meeting of Legislative and Governors' Staff in October.

The team released the Elements of Evaluation interactive database in October 2014, which allows users to explore policies across 16 states on classroom observations, student growth measures and professional learning systems.

SREB staff shared findings and engaged on educator evaluation issues with **50 principals, teachers, researchers and higher education representatives** who attended a presentation at the Seventh Annual State of Education in Georgia Summit at the University of Georgia in September.

Staff shared expertise on how educator evaluation systems align with new standards with the Georgia officials who attended the Benchmarking State Implementation of College- and Career-Readiness Standards meeting in August 2014.

Throughout the year, staff provided technical assistance to **Georgia Department of Education** staff who are leading the implementation of the state's new educator evaluation system.

More than 1,000 policymakers and practitioners across the 16 SREB states received the bi-weekly educator effectiveness e-newsletter.

The SREB educator effectiveness team provided technical assistance, brokered expertise and provided policy and practice resources to Georgia:

- SREB Board and LAC members
- State legislators and legislative staff
- Governor's staff
- State education agency staff
- District superintendents
- School principals
- Teachers

More information: Andy.Baxter@SREB.org | (704) 247-7497 | SREB.org/EE

Early childhood education

SREB Early Childhood Commission

Convenes leaders to recommend policies that will give more young children a solid start when they enter school. The Commission's focus is on access to high-quality programs and the importance of highly skilled teachers to young children's learning experiences. The Commission will present draft recommendations for the SREB Board to consider in summer 2015 and will publish its report later in 2015.

Georgia members of the Commission:

Matt Arthur, Director of Education Policy, Governor's Office of Planning and Budget

Fran Millar, State Senator

More information: Mark.Emblidge@SREB.org | (404) 875-9211 | SREB.org/EarlyLearning

Career and technical education

State Leaders' Forum

Convenes state education leaders and policymakers to consider policies for high-quality career and technical education. Co-sponsored with the State Consortium for Improving High School Career and Technical Studies.

Georgia attendees at the November 2014 forum: 8

More information: Gene.Bottoms@SREB.org | (404) 875-9211

SREB Commission on Career and Technical Education

Explored how optional career pathway programs of study can help more students acquire the academic and technical knowledge and skills needed to earn industry and postsecondary credentials and degrees to secure high-skill, high-wage, high-demand jobs.

The Commission's final report, *Credentials for All: An Imperative for SREB States*, offers states policies and practices to build high-quality career pathways that transform their educational systems, increase postsecondary credential and degree attainment, and ensure their future economic security.

Georgia Commission members:

Barbara Hampton, Chair, Georgia State Board of Education

Ronald Jackson, Former Commissioner, Technical College System of Georgia

J. Alvin Wilbanks, Superintendent, Gwinnett County Public Schools

More information: Gene.Bottoms@SREB.org | (404) 875-9211 | SREB.org/CTECommission

Postsecondary education

Two commissions carried SREB's completion initiative into the states in 2014 and 2015 with strong emphasis on readiness and pathways for community colleges and affordability for all students. Building on the success of the 2011-14 regional working groups of legislators to vet issues and craft recommendations, both commissions included Board and Legislative Advisory Council members and other key policymakers in the states.

SREB Commission on College Affordability in the South

Recommends postsecondary policies that lead with the need for affordability and adjust institutional appropriations, student aid and tuition policies accordingly.

Georgia members of the Commission:

Terry England, State Representative

Jack Hill, State Senator

Henry M. "Hank" Huckaby, Chancellor, University System of Georgia

More information: Cheryl.Blanco@SREB.org | (404) 875-9211 | SREB.org/Affordability

State Services

Connects policymakers with custom information, presentations and assistance on education issues as they arise.

SREB staff visited Georgia in March 2015 to meet with legislators and staff and attend committee meetings.

Custom information by request of Georgia policymakers and staff:

Legislative staff: school discipline

Staff: school start dates

Legislative staff: recovery school district

Legislative staff: education rankings

Legislator: AP United States History

Legislator: recovery school district

Legislator: computer science pathways

Legislative staff: need-based financial aid

Legislator: charter schools

Legislator: school funding equalization

Legislator: virtual schools

Legislator: eligibility for federal meals programs

Legislator: career technical college system

More information: Gale.Gaines@SREB.org | (404) 879-5582 | SREB.org/StateServices

Professional Development for Teachers, Principals and Counselors

Literacy Design Collaborative

A teaching framework to help students learn the literacy skills of college- and career-readiness standards. Teachers learn to design assignments that engage students to learn subject content while advancing reading and writing skills. SREB's innovative training starts with exemplary teachers, who then work with other teachers to help them adopt the strategies.

Georgia teacher experts trained by SREB in 2014-15: **12**

Number of Georgia schools: **2**

Special education students at **Eddy Middle School** in **Columbus** have seen significant gains in all subjects over the last three years.

"LDC is constructed in a fantastic format that allows teachers to embed literacy into any class."

— Michelle Atcheson, Special Education Teacher, **Eddy Middle School**

"Not one of my students with disabilities failed my chemistry class."

— Cheree Vaughn, Teacher, **Paulding County High School**

Three Georgia schools are featured for their implementation of LDC in a September 2014 SREB publication of vignettes, *Students Step Up When Teachers and Leaders Transform Classrooms*.

Eddy Middle School, Columbus

Paulding County High School, Dallas

Shiloh High School, Snellville

Mathematics Design Collaborative

A teaching framework to help students understand basic math concepts, become fluent with math procedures, and develop the reasoning to apply them to solve problems. MDC teachers use formative assessment lessons — a hybrid of assessment and instruction — to help students master college- and career-readiness standards. SREB's innovative training builds the capacity of lead teachers to become trainers of other teachers.

Georgia teacher experts trained by SREB in 2014-15: **20**

Number of Georgia schools: **2**

Paulding County High School in **Dallas** is featured for its Mathematics Design Collaboration implementation in a September 2014 SREB publication of vignettes, *Students Step Up When Teachers and Leaders Transform Classrooms*.

More information: Dan.Mollette@SREB.org | (404) 962-9623 | SREB.org/LDCMDC

High Schools That Work Staff Development Conference

Annual conference for thousands of school leaders, teachers and counselors from middle grades, high schools and technology centers across the country. The 2015 conference will be held in Atlanta July 15-18.

Georgia attendees at the July 2014 conference: **273**

More information: Anna.Johnston@SREB.org | (404) 962-9629 | SREB.org/SummerConference

College- and Career-Readiness Standards Networking Conference

Conference on the proven strategies of the Literacy and Mathematics Design Collaborative frameworks. More than 1,200 teachers and leaders attend to collaborate and share effective instructional strategies. The 2015 conference will be held in Atlanta July 13-15.

Georgia attendees at the July 2014 conference: **120**

More information: Anna.Johnston@SREB.org | (404) 962-9629 | SREB.org/1615

National Professional Development Workshops

Intensive two- to three-day workshops that address current priorities for school improvement. Attendees leave with a plan of action for their schools. During the 2014-15 school year, SREB offered the Aligning High Schools and Middle Grades With Emerging Priorities for College- and Career-Readiness workshop and the National Technology Centers That Work Leaders' Forum.

Georgia teachers, counselors and leaders who participated: **1**

More information: Anna.Johnston@SREB.org | (404) 962-9629 | SREB.org/PD

Principals

Learning-Centered Leadership Program

Works with district, state and university partners to prepare aspiring principals and school leadership teams to lead school reform to ensure that students are ready for college and careers. This program offers training, guidance and technical assistance.

Attendees at the 2014 Annual Leadership Forum: **19**

Georgia uses **Learning-Centered Leadership Program** online courses, delivered in partnership with the **Georgia Leadership Institute for School Improvement**.

More information: Jon.Schmidt-Davis@SREB.org | (404) 879-5591 | SREB.org/Leadership

Counselors

College and Career Counseling Initiative

Training to improve the effectiveness of teachers, counselors and college access program staff to prepare students from low-income families for postsecondary education. A 2014 survey of more than 500 enrollees found that 92 percent are changing their practice as a result of the training; 93 percent are implementing action plans developed in the program; and 95 percent would recommend the training to colleagues.

Georgia is one of 14 participating states and one of six original collaborating states.

More information: AliceAnne.Bailey@SREB.org | (404) 879-5601 | SREB.org/1663

High School and Middle Grades Improvement

SREB Readiness Courses

Math Ready and Literacy Ready

Ready for postsecondary study

SREB courses that teach the reading, writing and mathematics skills young adults must have to succeed in college study and the workplace after high school — how to think independently, read for information and solve problems. Developed by teams of educators and faculty from partner states around the nation, they are being field tested in several states and are available at no cost.

Georgia was one of five original members of the consortium of states established to develop the SREB Readiness Courses and contributed a team of talented writers from K-12 and higher education. Georgia joined in 2011 and conducted a small-scale pilot of the courses in 2013. **Three schools** participated in the SREB field-test during the 2014-15 school year.

Ready for high school

SREB is now working with states to develop courses for the transition from middle grades to high school. The courses will be available for underprepared eighth- and ninth-grade students starting in 2016-17.

Middle school and high school teachers from **Georgia** are participating in the development of the new courses.

More information: John.Squires@SREB.org | (404) 875-9211 | SREB.org/Ready

Advanced Career

A new approach to career and technical education that combines college-readiness academic content with a sequence of four courses designed around hands-on, project-based assignments. The aim is to prepare more students for as many career options as possible in emerging high-demand, high-wage fields such as health informatics and energy and power.

Shiloh High School and **Central Gwinnett High School** of Gwinnett County Public Schools implemented the Advanced Career clean energy technology pathway in fall 2014. Three more schools in Gwinnett County

— **Lanier High School, Meadowcreek High School and South Gwinnett High School** — will implement an AC pathway in fall 2015. **The Heart of Georgia College and Career Academy in Dublin** adopted two AC pathway programs in fall 2014: global logistics and supply chain management, and innovations in science and technology. SREB school improvement staff is providing substantial on-site implementation support to both Dublin and Gwinnett schools.

In 2014-15:

Four Georgia teachers participated in SREB's Summer Teacher Training Institutes for their assigned AC courses.

Two Georgia schools administered AC pathway end-of-course assessments to students.

More information: Gene.Bottoms@SREB.org | (404) 875-9211 | SREB.org/AC

Enhanced Project-Based Learning in CTE

Training model for existing career and technical education programs in high-demand, high-skill, high-wage fields. Teachers improve assignments and assessments by working with business and industry partners to develop projects that require students to apply technical, academic, college- and career-readiness and technology skills.

Gwinnett County: Four days of project-based learning training with more than **240** CTE and academic teachers and one day of follow-up coaching at the beginning of the school year in five high schools.

Paulding County: Two days of training and three days of coaching for **12** CTE teachers.

More information: Sandy.Culotta@SREB.org | (302) 258-5787

High Schools That Work

Helps states transform public high schools into places where all students learn at high levels and complete at higher rates. Reforms create career pathway roadmaps for college and career readiness to meet regional and state workforce needs. HSTW serves more than 1,350 schools in 30 states. Schools receive services through membership in the HSTW state network or through contracts for intensive, customized support.

HSTW State Network

Member states select schools to receive services. The fee for state membership in the consortium covers several services and visits.

SREB is working with **high schools in Gwinnett County** on developing career pathway programs of study.

Georgia is a member of the High Schools That Work state network, through which **75 schools** were active in 2014-15.

SREB provided staff developers in 2014-2015 for two statewide Counseling for Careers workshops, which were attended by teams from **37 school districts**, followed by support webinars.

Barbara Wall, Director, Career, Technical and Agricultural Education, Georgia Department of Education, serves on the HSTW Board from Georgia.

John Pritchett, Georgia Department of Education, is the Georgia HSTW State Coordinator.

More information: Gene.Bottoms@SREB.org | (404) 875-9211 | SREB.org/HSTW

Contracts for Direct Support

Schools, districts and states contract with SREB for targeted school improvement services such as on-site coaching, technical assistance and professional development.

In Georgia in 2014-15:

Schools contracted with SREB for direct services through HSTW: **10**

On-site coaching days delivered to these schools: **273**

Days of on-site staff development delivered to these schools: **53**

More information: Cindy.VanBuren@SREB.org | (803) 984-5986

HSTW Assessment

Subject tests, along with student and teacher surveys to establish baseline data, track progress and identify areas for improvement.

Six Georgia schools participated in the 2014 HSTW Assessment.

More information: Fran.Cowart@SREB.org | (404) 875-9211 | SREB.org/HSTW

Special Board Meeting

SREB's HSTW initiative held a special board meeting in March devoted to strengthening the HSTW instructional design to build college and career pathways that link high schools, workplace learning, and community and technical colleges. The goal is to increase the percentage of young people who earn a credible credential by age 25.

Georgia participant(s) in the March 2015 HSTW board meeting:

Middle Georgia Technical College: Andy Bell

Georgia Department of Education: John Pritchett

Making Middle Grades Work

Engages state, district and school leaders in partnerships with teachers, students, parents and the community to raise student achievement in the middle grades. The network includes 663 schools in 20 states.

Georgia participates in Making Middle Grades Work. In 2014-15:

Schools active in the network: **21**

Schools contracted with SREB for direct services: **3**

Days of on-site coaching delivered to schools: **58**

Days of on-site staff development delivered to schools: **8**

Coaching days focused on providing support to school leaders who implemented a system of focus groups at their schools. Support included establishing a comprehensive cycle of communication, performance and process goals.

MMGW Student Survey

During 2014, **one school** in Georgia participated in the MMGW Teacher Survey or the MMGW Student Survey, which measures student perceptions of school and classroom practices.

More information: Deborah.Bass@SREB.org | (404) 788-1235 | SREB.org/MMGW

Counseling for Careers

Helps students align career pathway programs of study to career goals, postsecondary studies and employment. SREB works with districts and schools so teachers, counselors, administrators, parents and community partners can advise students on career opportunities in the state and region, career pathway programs of study, work-based learning experiences, postsecondary education and training opportunities.

A total of **279 educators** from 34 Georgia school districts have received professional development based on the Counseling for Careers seven essential strategies. Multiple strategies are being implemented across the state with follow-up training and coaching set for spring and summer 2015.

SREB assists five high schools and all district eighth-graders in **Gwinnett County Public Schools** with education and career exploration events. Advisement and professional development are provided to lead counselors from five pilot high schools in the county. SREB also provided four two-day Counseling for Careers state services professional development sessions.

More information: Lynn.Anderson@SREB.org | (404) 775-9366

Higher Education Programs and Services

Tuition savings, access to uncommon degrees

Academic Common Market

Provides in-state tuition access to degree programs not available in a student's home state. Approximately 2,500 new students participate each year in 1,900 programs at 150 institutions.

Participating Georgia students, calendar year 2014: **623**

Georgia ACM Representative:

Deborah Sullivan, Academic Common Market Coordinator, Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia

Electronic Campus

Partners with colleges and universities to give students access to almost 37,000 online courses and more than 3,400 online degree programs.

Programs provided by Georgia institutions as of April 2015: **347**

Georgia EC Representatives:

Susanna L. Baxter, Executive Director, Georgia Independent College Association

Robert Keown, Executive Director, Georgia Virtual Technical Connection

Jon Sizemore, Assistant Vice Chancellor for Distance Education, University System of Georgia

Georgia representatives attended the 2014 Electronic Campus annual meeting.

Regional Contract Program

Gives students the opportunity to earn a professional health degree from participating institutions in other states through in-state tuition rates at public institutions or reduced tuition at private institutions. SREB is fiscal agent and handles administrative duties without additional fees to the state, institutions or students. More than 700 students participate each year.

Georgia institutions provide programs. In 2014-2015, **77 students** from other SREB states contracted with the **University of Georgia** to secure entry into its veterinary medicine program. For providing this contract service, the University of Georgia receives more than **\$2 million** from other SREB states.

Georgia residents have access to optometry programs at the Southern College of Optometry and the University of Alabama.

Georgia RCP Representative:

Felita T. Williams, Assistant Vice Chancellor for Academic Planning, University System of Georgia

SREB Electronic Campus Regional Reciprocity Agreement

*Allows institutions to be authorized by their home state to eliminate the need for individual approvals in SREB states where they serve students online. SREB states opt in to SECRRRA. A new, nationwide system of reciprocity — **SARA**, or the **State Authorization Reciprocity Agreement** — will open more high-quality online offerings for students and ease regulatory burdens on institutions.*

Georgia participates in SECRRRA.

Georgia SARA Representative:

Jon Sizemore, Assistant Vice Chancellor for Distance Education, University System of Georgia

More information: Mary.Larson@SREB.org | (404) 875-9211 | SREB.org/1083

Comparative data

SREB-State Data Exchange

Collects, compiles and publishes data and descriptive statistics on postsecondary education. Data are updated annually on a wide range of policy topics: degree and certificate completion, student persistence and progression, time- and credits-to-degree, student credit hours (including those taken in high school), tuition and fee levels and policies, and faculty salaries. Postsecondary agencies in each SREB state participate and appoint coordinators.

Participating Georgia agencies and their 2015-16 Data Exchange Coordinators:

University System of Georgia:

Angela Bell, Senior Executive Director of Research and Policy Analysis

John Brown, Vice Chancellor, Fiscal Affairs

Technical College System of Georgia:

Richard Young, Director of Planning, Research and Policy Analysis

SREB Fact Book on Higher Education

One of the nation's most comprehensive collections of comparative data. The Fact Book keeps policymakers informed with trend data for all 50 states on the population and the economy, college enrollment, degrees awarded, tuition and fees, student financial aid and cost of attendance, faculty and administrators, as well as revenue and expenditures including state appropriations. Fact Book tables are updated regularly at SREB.org/Data.

Georgia leaders receive the annual ***SREB-State Data Exchange Indicators Report***, the ***SREB Fact Book on Higher Education***, as well as ***Georgia: Featured Facts from the SREB Fact Book on Higher Education***, ***Fact Book Bulletins*** and special reports.

More information: Susan.Lounsbury@SREB.org | (404) 879-5546 | SREB.org/Data

Nursing education

Council on Collegiate Education for Nursing

Helps expand and strengthen schools of nursing to reduce the critical shortage of nurse educators needed to educate the nation's registered nurses. The Council surveys institutions for nursing education trends and shares online graduate nursing courses.

In Georgia, **17 institutions** participate in the Council.

Representatives from each institution, with leadership positions on the Council:

Albany State University: Joyce Johnson, Dean

Armstrong Atlantic State University: Catherine Gilbert, Head

Brenau University: Dina Hewlett, Director

Chattahoochee Technical College: Quetina Pittman, Director

Clayton State University: Lisa Eichelberger, Dean; Nursing Council: Membership Committee

College of Coastal Georgia: Paula Kraft, Dean

Emory University: Linda McCauley, Dean, Board Member

Georgia Baptist College of Nursing of Mercer University: Linda Streit, Dean; Nursing Council, Board Member

Georgia College & State University: Judith M. Malachowski, Associate Dean; Nursing Council: Board Member

Georgia Regents University: Lucy Marion, Dean

Georgia Southwestern University: Sandra Daniel, Dean

Georgia State University: Joan Cranford, Dean

Kennesaw State University: Tommie Nelms, Director

Middle Georgia State College: Rebecca Corvey, Dean
Piedmont College: Linda Scott, Dean
University of West Georgia: Jennifer Schuessler, Dean
Wesleyan College: Sirena Sawyer Fritz, Dean

More information: Eula.Aiken@SREB.org | (404) 879-5567 | SREB.org/Nursing

Minority Ph.D. scholars

SREB-State Doctoral Scholars Program

Supports minority students to help them earn their Ph.D.s and seek employment that helps colleges and universities diversify their faculties. The Doctoral Scholars Program hosts the annual Institute on Teaching and Mentoring, the nation's largest gathering of minority doctoral scholars — with more than 1,200 attendees.

Scholars funded by Georgia in 2014-15: **35**

2014 Institute attendees from Georgia: **158**

Scholars Georgia has supported since joining in 1997: **150**

Graduates since 1993: **85**

Graduates currently employed: **72**

Percent employed in education: **85**

Georgia-supported students have attended these institutions since 1997:

Georgia Health Sciences University

Georgia State University

Georgia Institute of Technology

Medical College of Georgia

Georgia Regents University

University of Georgia

Regional Advisory Committee Representative:

Felita Williams, Assistant Vice Chancellor for Academic Planning, University System of Georgia

More information: Ansley.Abraham@SREB.org | (404) 879-5573 | SREB.org/DoctoralScholars

Interstate Cooperatives

Educational Technology Cooperative

Membership group of state K-12 and higher education coordinating and governing boards representing more than 800 colleges and universities and 3,100 school districts in SREB states. The ETC focuses member agencies and state policymakers on using technology wisely, reports on educational technology topics and connects members.

Georgia member agencies and representatives for membership year 2014-15:

Technical College System of Georgia: Robert Keown, Executive Director, Georgia Virtual Technical Connection

University System of Georgia: Mike Rogers, Assistant Vice-Chancellor, Faculty Development

Georgia sent attendees to the 2014 annual meeting, and Georgia's ETC representatives helped determine SREB's **10 Critical Issues in Educational Technology**. Robert Keown serves on the **ETC Executive Committee** to guide the ETC in leveraging current and future technologies for the benefit of students, instructional staff and support staff across the K-20 continuum.

Technology Purchasing Savings

Schools, universities and agencies in SREB states saved 3 percent to 18 percent on \$17 million in technology purchases during fiscal year 2014 through SREB's participation in MHECtech discount agreements. Organizations in each of the 16 SREB states participated.

Georgia technology purchases, FY 2014: **\$4,435,300**

More information: Camille.Martin@SREB.org | (404) 975-9211 | SREB.org/1697

Go Alliance

An interstate cooperative to increase high school graduation rates, access to education beyond high school, and postsecondary degree completion — particularly for those who would be the first in their families to enroll. Go Alliance research, services and professional development focus on college access policy and communications strategies to motivate students to plan for and apply to college.

Georgia participates in Go Alliance.

Go Alliance Representative: Roz Barnes-Fowler, University System of Georgia

"Membership in SREB's Go Alliance has allowed our team to gain access to cutting-edge initiatives that have assisted us in improving our outreach efforts to our target audiences. The annual partners meeting, frequent webinars and in-house training opportunities connect us to a network of state representatives who willingly provide information that enhances our programs and activities."

— Roz Barnes-Fowler, **University System of Georgia**

More information: AliceAnne.Bailey@SREB.org | (404) 879-5601 | SREB.org/GoAlliance

SREB Meetings Hosted in Georgia

SREB Community College Commission

State system heads, college presidents and legislators

Atlanta, June 2014

Benchmarking State Implementation of College- and Career-Readiness Standards

State teams convening

Atlanta, August 2014

SREB Commission on College Affordability in the South

Legislators, state higher education leaders and university presidents

Atlanta, October 2014

Fall Meeting of Legislative and Governors' Staff

Atlanta, October 2014

Aligning High Schools and Technology Centers With Emerging Priorities for College- and Career-Readiness

Atlanta, October 2014

Institute on Teaching and Mentoring

1,300 minority doctoral scholars

Atlanta, October-November 2014

Council on Collegiate Education for Nursing Annual Meeting

100 deans of nursing schools and other leaders

Atlanta, November 2014

High Schools That Work Board and Coordinators Meeting

State Leaders' Forum

70 state legislators, state agency leaders and district superintendents

Atlanta, November 2014

The Southern Regional Education Board was created in 1948 by Southern governors and legislators who recognized the link between education and economic vitality. To this day, the organization maintains its focus on critical issues that hold the promise of improving quality of life by advancing public education. The region's track record shows that setting goals and maintaining the commitment to work toward them make a difference.