Education Assistance Info Session: Applying TAP & STRAP (Summer 25)

For All Employees

Summer 2025



Before We Get Started



This session will be recorded



A PDF of the presentation will be shared with attendees



Please use the Q&A for any questions



We will follow-up on any unanswered questions



Agenda

- 01 Welcome and Introductions
- 02 Education Assistance Programs
- 03 Tuition Assistance Program (TAP)
- O4 Staff Tuition Reimbursement Assistance Program (STRAP)
- 05 Tax Implications and Updates
- 06 Application Status and Updates
- 07 GTRI Supplemental Programs
- 08 Resources
- 09 Questions









Education Assistance Programs





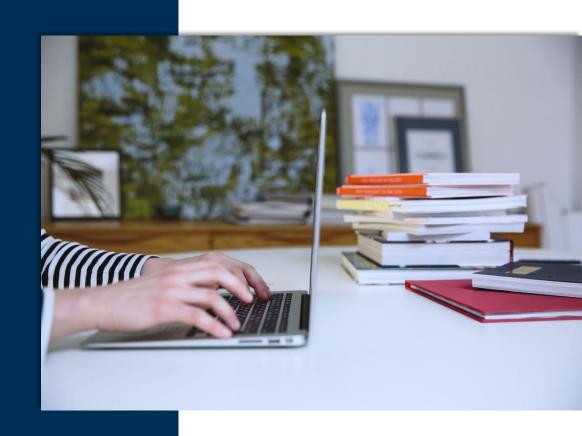
Education Assistance Programs

University System of Georgia (USG) Programs

Tuition Assistance Program (TAP)

Georgia Tech Programs

- Staff Tuition Reimbursement Assistance Program (STRAP)
- Georgia Tech Applied Research Corp (GTARC) Program
- GTRI Supplemental Tuition Assistance Program (STP)





TAP & STRAP Comparison of Programs

	Tuition Assistance Program (TAP)	Staff Tuition Reimbursement Assistance Program (STRAP)
Employment Requirement	Any benefit eligible staff or faculty (exempt and non-exempt), employed in a full-time (100%) benefit eligible position for six (6) months or greater within a USG institution by the application deadline	Any benefit eligible staff (exempt and non- exempt), employed in a full-time (100%) benefit eligible position for twelve (12) months or greater within Georgia Tech by the application deadline
Eligible Colleges/Institutions	Any USG institution	Non-USG accredited institution or college
Credit Limits	Up to 9 credit hours per semester	Up to 6 credit hours per semester * depending upon funding *
Grade Requirements	"C" or better	"C" or better
Assistance Method	Tuition payment waiver applied up front	Reimbursement received after term up to the GT reimbursement rate
Eligible Programs	Associate degree, Bachelor's degree, Master's, Doctorate degree or Academic Certificate program (see exclusions list)	Associate degree, Bachelor's degree, Master's, Doctorate degree or Academic Certificate program (see exclusions list)

Educational Assistance Program Exclusions

- Medical/Veterinary degree
- Law degree
- Dental degree
- Pharmacy degree
- Theology (for STRAP)
- Continuing education courses
- Certificate courses that do not include a letter grade and credit hours
- Out-of-state fees (TAP)
- Student fees (for STRAP)
- * Executive Total Cost Programs: these programs are typically cohort structured and there is one set fee for the program, not per credit hour.

(Georgia Tech includes **Executive** MBA and **Executive Master's** in International Logistics & Supply Chain Strategy)



Educational Assistance Academic Certifications

Academic Certificate Programs are programs that provide students with **academic credit and a letter grade.**

Professional certifications or continuing education certifications that **do not** provide an academic credit and a grade **are not** eligible for TAP.

- TAP Participants should check with TAP Coordinators at the USG institution that they are attending to verify TAP eligibility
- STRAP Participants and employees enrolled in TAP at Georgia Tech should contact:

Administrative Services Center at (404) 385-1111 or submit a Request Help ticket at asc.gatech.edu



Educational Assistance Application Deadlines





For TAP and STRAP Participants

When the 15th is on a Saturday or holiday, applications are due on the business day prior. Applications submitted and approved after the deadline will not be accepted.

For STRAP Participants only

You must fill out a STRAP application based on Georgia Tech semester dates.

Example: If your school has a "Winter" term that begins in January, then you will need to fill out a Spring STRAP application because that "Winter" term falls within GT Spring Semester dates.



TAP/STRAP: Reminders

Prerequisites



- Must go through regular student admissions process and be accepted to the school prior to applying for TAP
- Must receive a student ID prior to TAP and STRAP application



Reminders

- A new TAP/STRAP application must be submitted for each semester that you wish to participate in
- One TAP/STRAP application is permitted for the institution you will attend each semester
- You will receive an approval letter via email through ServiceNow
- Late applications are not accepted

System Sent Email • 04/08/2024 04:25 PM	
Subject TAP Confirmation of Receipt	
То	
Show less	
Hello	
This email is to confirm receipt of your Summer/Maymester 2024 TAP application	on. Your
application is currently being reviewed for consideration into the program.	
Make sure you register for classes according to the dates that have been design teaching institution. The <u>TAP USG Employee Registration Dates</u> are found on the website. Each USG institution has a different registration period. If you register before the start of the registration period for your teaching institution your TAP waiver will not be applied.	e USG for classes
Prior Semester TAP Participants:	
If you participated in TAP last semester, your grades will be reviewed to confirm the passing grade criteria (i.e., "C" or above). If you meet these criteria, the TA be applied and you will receive a notification of the approval.	-
For more information, please see the <u>TAP Policy</u> which can be found on the USG	3 website.
If you have any further questions, feel free to reply to this case.	
Past of high this consector!	



USG: Tuition Assistance Program (TAP)





TAP Application Process

Course updates must be made within 30 days of change

Submit TAP
Application
(Confirmation of Receipt sent)

Pending
Manager Approval
(Automatic
notifications sent to
managers for
approval)

Eligibility Review (Contingent approval letter sent) Register for
Classes
(During the TAP registration period)

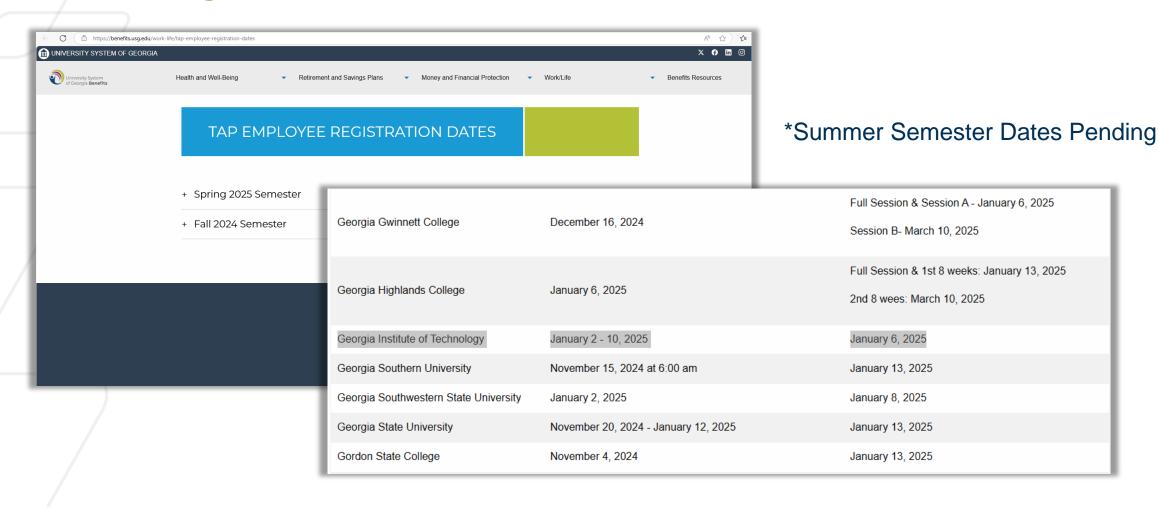
Current Semester
Ends & Confirmation
of Grades
(TAP waiver applied to
account by payment
deadline)

Attend the Next Semester!

Eligibility Requirements

- ✓ <u>Employment Status</u>: no upcoming termination, FMLA, LOA, or Paternity Leave
 - ✓ Must be <u>active</u> during Eligibility Review, Registering for classes, and Confirmation of Grades
- ✓ Application is reassigned to <u>teaching institution</u> for review
- ✓ <u>Grades</u> from previous semester were a "C" or greater
- ✓ <u>Enrollment Status</u>: no withdrawals from prior semester courses that results in a "W" on your transcript.

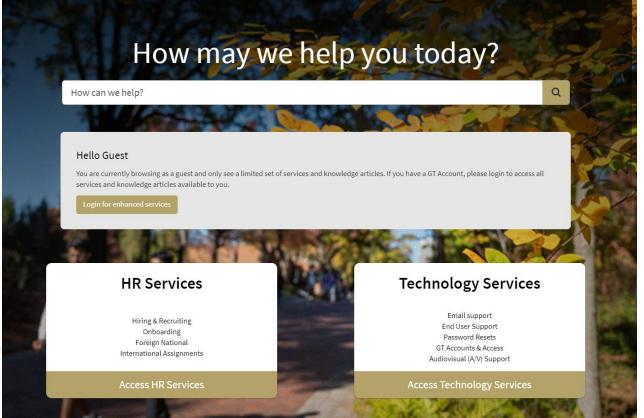
USG Registration Dates





Navigating the Administrative Services Portal



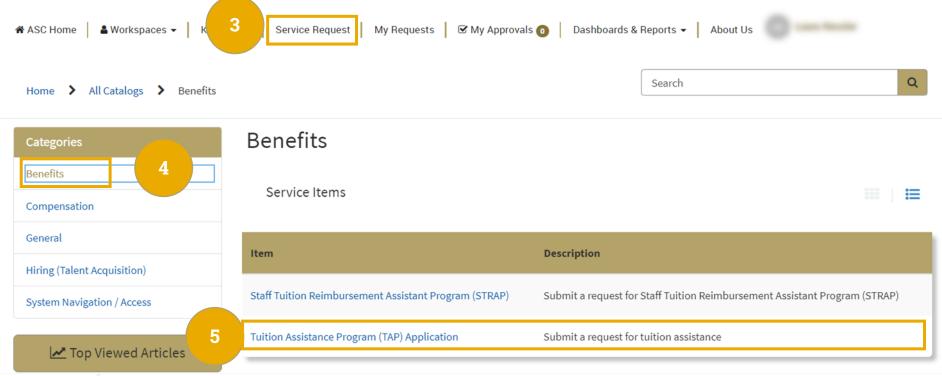


- Navigate to your Administrative
 Services employee portal
- 2. Log in using your **Georgia Tech** credentials



Locating the TAP Application

Administrative Services





Eligibility Warning

If you have not maintained a full-time, benefit eligible status for six months or greater within the University System of Georgia (USG) by the application deadline, you will receive an error.

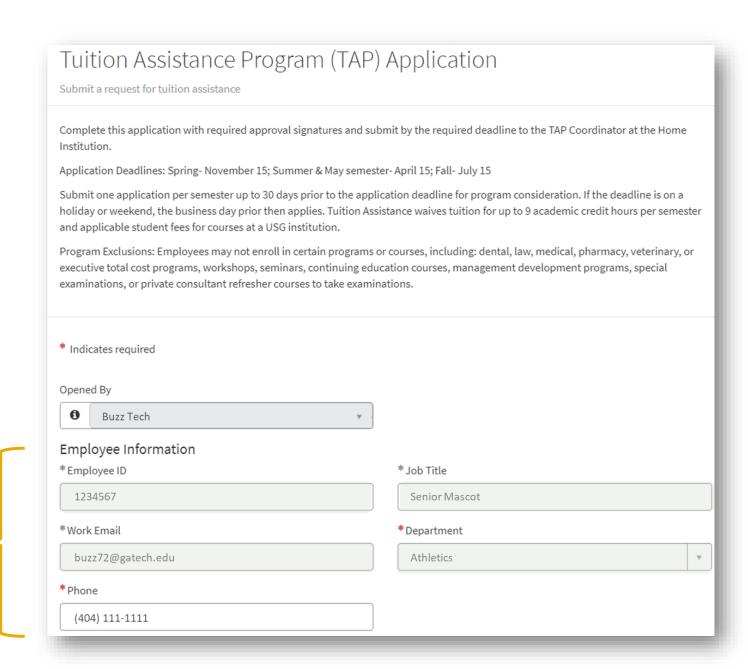
- Select Service Request
- 4. Select **Benefits** from the Categories
- 5. Select Tuition
 Assistance
 Program (TAP)
 Application

Reminder: You will only see the TAP and STRAP application in your portal when the application period is open

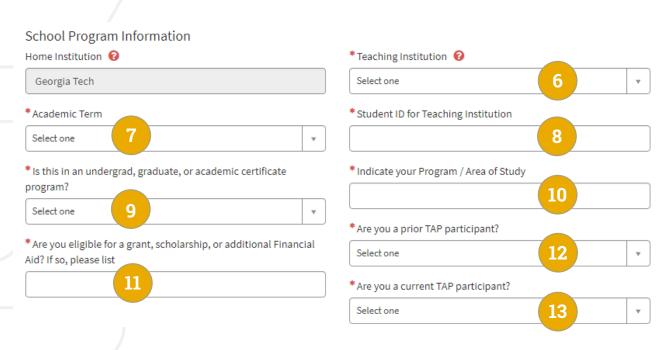


Completing the TAP Application

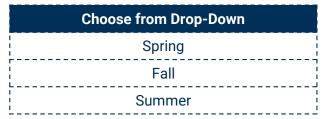
Your information (except for your phone number) will pre-populate in this form



Completing the School Program Information



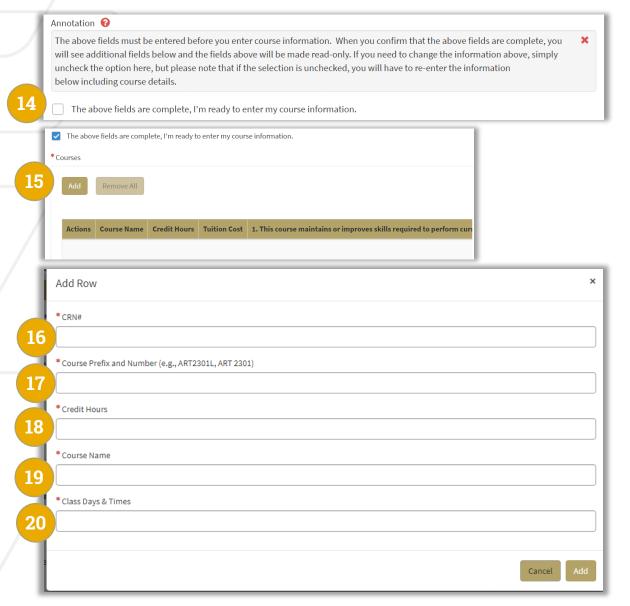
- 6. Select the **USG institution** you are attending **Note:** You must already be accepted into the institution
- 7. Select the upcoming **Academic Term**



- 8. Enter your **Student ID**; if you are attending:
 - GT = auto-populates with your GTID
 - Other USG School = enter your student ID at the teaching institution
- 9. Enter the **type of program** you are enrolled in
- 10. Enter your **Program / Area of Study**
- 11. Indicate if you are eligible for additional Financial Assistance
- 12. Indicate if you are a prior TAP Participant
- 13. Indicate if you are a current TAP Participant
 - If you select yes on both #12 & #13, indicate the School, Term, and Year (Example: GT Spring 2025) in the additional field



Completing the Course Information



- 14. Check that the fields are complete
- 15. Select Add
- 16. Enter the CRN #
- 17. Enter your Course Prefix and Number
- 18. Enter Credit Hours
- 19. Enter Course Name
- 20. Enter Class Days & Times

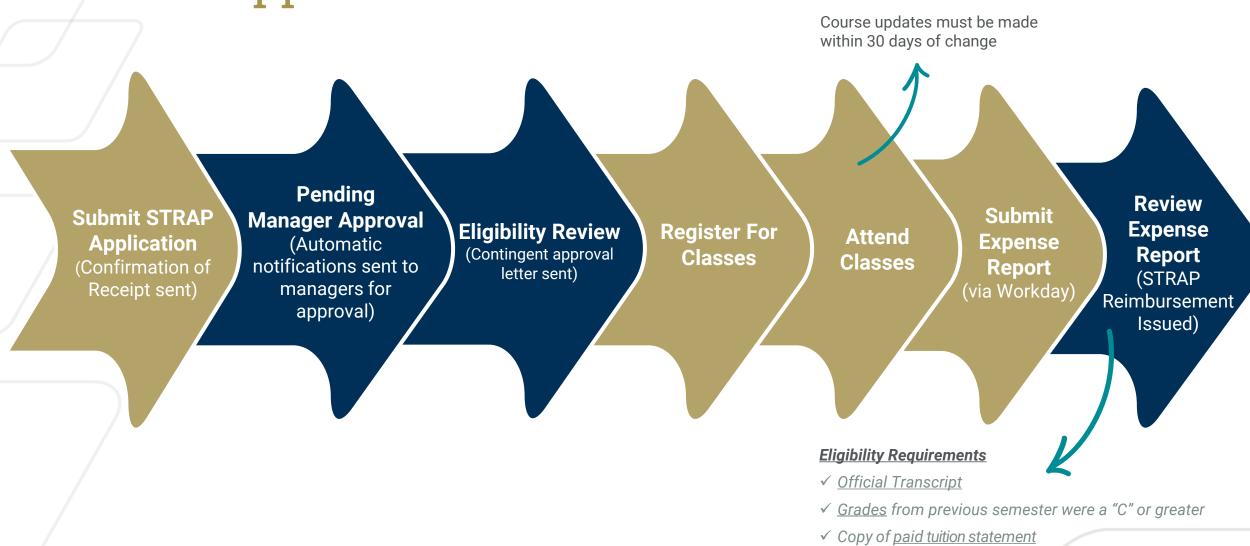


GT: Staff Tuition Reimbursement Program (STRAP)





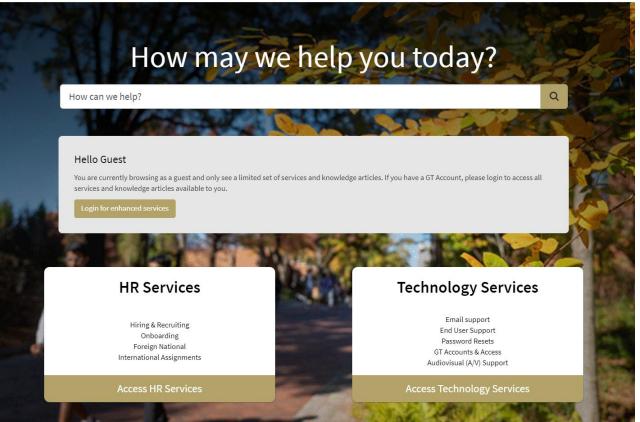
STRAP Application Process



Georgia Tech

Navigating the Administrative Services Portal

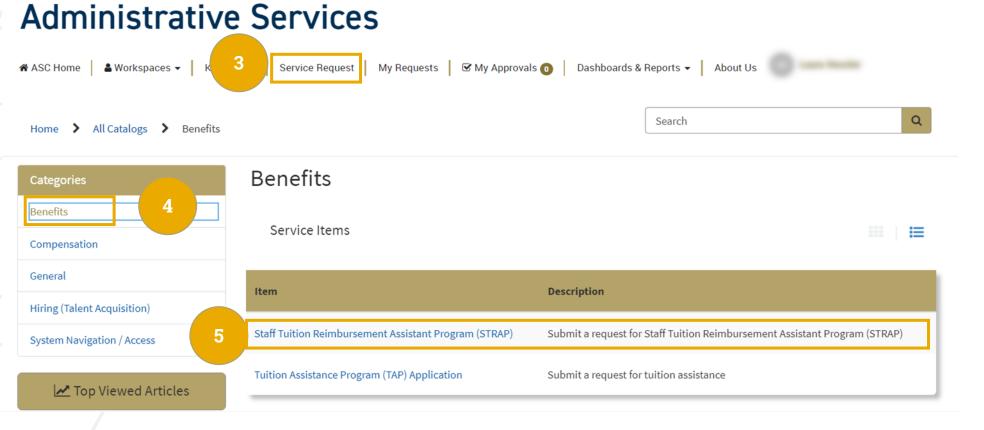




- Navigate to your Administrative
 Services employee portal
- 2. Log in using your **Georgia Tech** credentials



Locating the STRAP Application



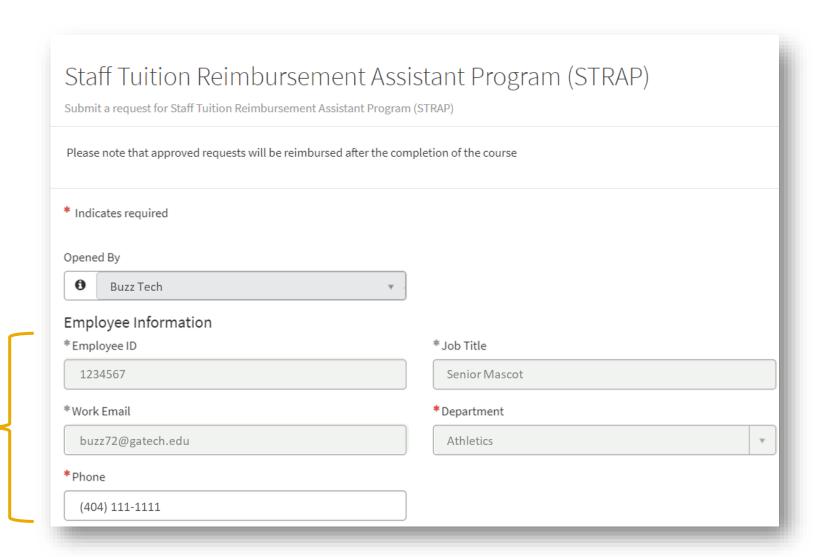
Reminder: You will only see the TAP and STRAP application in your portal during the application period

- Select Service Request
- 4. Select **Benefits** from the Categories
- 5. Select Staff
 Tuition
 Reimbursement
 Assistance
 Program
 (STRAP)

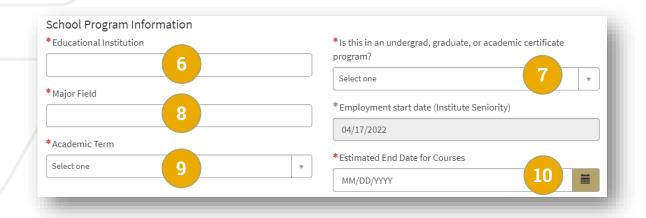


Competing the STRAP Application

Your information (except for your phone number) will pre-populate in this form



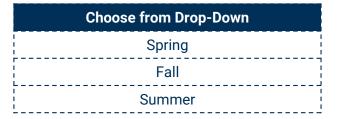
Competing the School Program Information



6. Enter the **accredited non-USG institution** you are attending

Note: You must already be accepted into the institution

- 7. Enter the **program** you are enrolled in
- 8. Enter your Major Field
- 9. Select the upcoming **Academic Term**

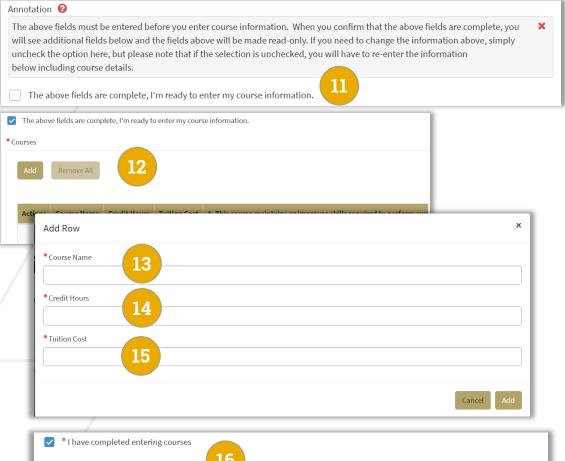


10. Enter your estimated end date for courses

When you approach the end of your coursework, submit an expense report to request reimbursement for your courses

*Reminder: You must fill out a STRAP application based on <u>Georgia Tech</u> semester dates. Example: If your school has a "Winter" term that begins in January, then you will need to fill out a Spring STRAP application because that "Winter" term falls within GT Spring Semester dates (<u>January-May</u>).

Completing the Course Information



*I have completed entering courses

Estimated Eligible Reimbursement

Course Name Credit Hours Tuition Cost [Credit Hours] X \$203

ART 3 900 \$609.00

3 (up to 6 hours eligible for reimbursement) \$900.00 \$609.00*

- 11. Check that the **fields are complete**
- 12. Select Add
- 13. Enter the Course Name
- 14. Enter your **Credit Hours**
- 15. Enter **Tuition Cost**
- 16. Review Automated **Estimated Reimbursement Eligibility Table Summary**



STRAP Reminders: Reimbursement Process

- Create an <u>expense report via Workday</u>. Be sure to have:
 - Official/original transcript
 - Copy of paid tuition statement (must include name, term, and amount paid with a zero balance)
 - Worktag (Can be found on the STRAP Approval Letter)
 - Class names and dates that's on your STRAP application should match the information on your transcript.
 - STRAP reimbursement requests should be submitted upon the completion of your course. The requests will not be processed more than three times annually per participant.
- Reimbursement rates are:
 - Undergraduate: \$203.00/credit hour
 - Graduate: \$287.00/credit hour
- Full reimbursement instructions can be found in your STRAP APPROVAL LETTER



Tax Implications





TAX Waiver Eligibility Guide

To be eligible for a tax waiver, certain IRS requirements must be met.

The course MUST:

• Be related to the employee's current job, maintain or improve current job skills.

The course MUST NOT:

- Include courses to work toward an advanced degree REQUIRED to retain the current job or pay level.
- Be **REQUIRED** to meet the minimum education requirements of the employee's current job.
- Qualify the employee for a new trade, business or new role.

Reminder: Tax waiver questions are based on your current position



Tax Implications

If you are taking a graduate program and you will exceed tuition benefits over \$5,250 annually, you are subject to tax reporting.

- Select "Yes" to the tax wavier question to apply for a Graduate Student Tax Wavier
- Select "No" if this does not apply to you

Consult your tax professional if you have questions.

level courses, and will pay more than \$5,250 and want to apply for a Graduate Student Tax Waiver, click "yes".	
Yes	w
Tuition Assistance Program (TAP) graduate students applying for a tuition benefits tax waiver for amounts in excess of the annual IRS ta free educational benefit of \$5,250 need to complete the following additional fields. Additional information is available on the USG webs at https://benefits.usg.edu/work-life/tuition-assistance-program.	
I request that the graduate level courses identified in the course list below be excluded from my gross income based on each of my answers below:	
The above fields must be entered before you enter course information. When you confirm that the above fields are complete, we	OII

will see additional fields below and the fields above will be made read-only. If you need to change the information above, simply

uncheck the option here, but please note that if the selection is unchecked, you will have to re-enter the information below

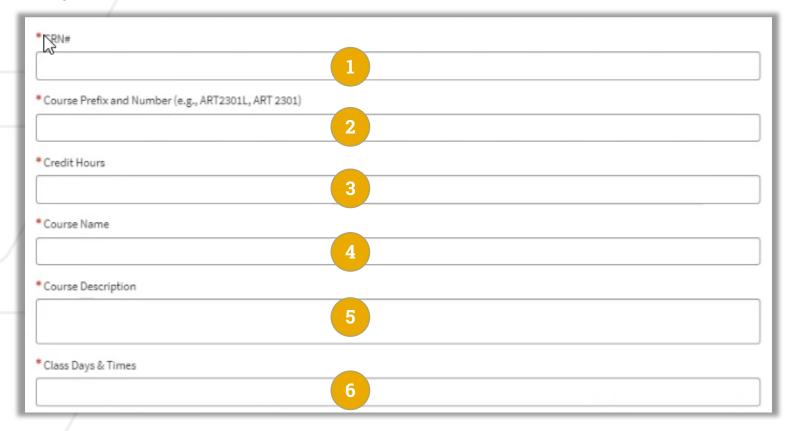
The above fields are complete, I'm ready to enter my course information.

including course details.



Completing the Tax Wavier and Course Information

If you select "Yes" or "No" to Tax Wavier



- 1. Enter the CRN#
- 2. Enter the Course Prefix and Number
- 3. Enter the Credit Hours
- 4. Enter the Course Name
- 5. Enter the **Course Description**
- 6. Enter Class Days and Times



Completing Remaining Fields of Tax Waiver

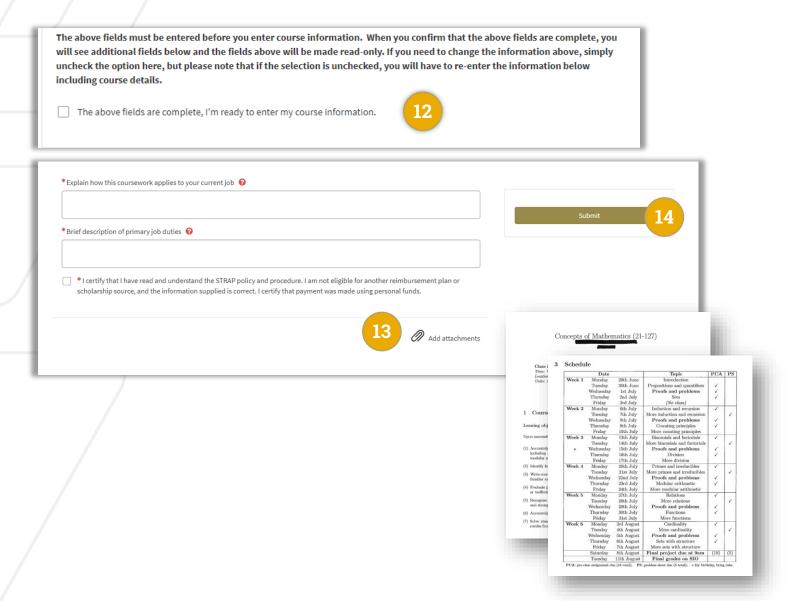
Only applicable if you selected "Yes" for the Tax Waiver



- 7. Select if this course **helps improve** your ability to **perform current** job duties
- 8. Select if this **course is required** by my employer for my **current position**
- 9. Select if the **course is required** for a **promotion or salary increase**
- 10. Select if the course is to qualify for a new trade, business, or new role
- 11. Provide a **brief description** of the coursework and how it will help support your current job duties



Completing Attestation, Attachments and Submit



- 12. Attest that the information you filled out is accurate and truthful; be sure to read the whole message
- 13. Attach your course syllabus to the request (STRAP)
 This is required for your manager to review your request.
- 14. Click "Submit"



Application Status Update





Checking Your Application Status

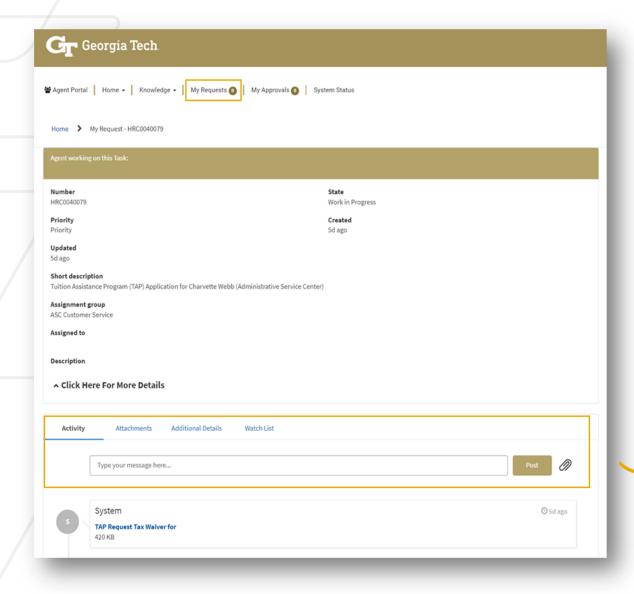
Shows current progress within the application process:



✓ Work in progress

✓ On hold

Communicating with Tuition Assistant Program Team



* You have 30 days to submit changes to your coursework (CRN, Course Name, Course Number, Credit Hours).

If you need to make changes or contact the Georgia Tech Tuition Program Team, please leave a comment on your application.

Leave a comment on your case!





GTRI Supplemental Programs





Georgia Tech Applied Research Corp (GTARC)

- Available to GTRI Research Faculty (only) who do not qualify for TAP/STRAP
 - (Example: Research Engineer, Scientist, Associate I through Principal Research Engineer)
- Reimburses up to \$15,000 per calendar year for tuition and fees at an accredited institution
- Degree must be job-related
- Eligibility occurs for RF (.75 FTE or greater) on day one of GTRI employment
- Must obtain a grade of "C" or better and submit documentation for reimbursement

Contacts for GTRI's Education Assistance Program

Crystal Hannah (Database Administrator) at Crystal.Hannah@gtri.gatech.edu

Sarah Cockrell (Director, Employee Development & Culture) at Sarah.Cockrell@gtri.gatech.edu.



GTRI Supplemental Tuition (STP) Assistance Program

- Available to GTRI Operations Staff and Research Faculty
- Reimburses the difference between total eligible expenses and what TAP or STRAP or GTARC covered
- Employee must participate in TAP or STRAP or GTARC and also apply for STP during preapproval
- A two-year work commitment & repayment agreement applies
- Must obtain a grade of "C" or better to remain eligible for reimbursement

Contacts for GTRI's Education Assistance Program

- Crystal Hannah (Database Administrator) at <u>Crystal.Hannah@gtri.gatech.edu</u>
- Sarah Cockrell (Director, Employee Development & Culture) at <u>Sarah.Cockrell@gtri.gatech.edu</u>



GTRI Resources

- GTRI employee Education Assistance Website: https://webwise.gtri.gatech.edu/departments/shrp/education-assistance
- GTRI EA Infographic: <u>https://webwise.gatech.edu/system/files/2023_Education%20Assistance%20</u>
 <u>Infographic_1027%20%28updated%29.pdf</u>
- Register to attend the GTRI Info Session on Friday, February 21 at 11
 a.m. https://gtri.sabacloud.com/Saba/Web_spf/NA7P1PRD132/common/led
 etail/TMD_EAIS_001



Reminders, Resources and Questions





Contact Us



Contact the Administrative Services Center (ASC)

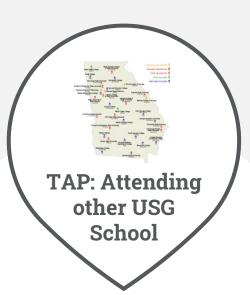
- Phone: (404) 385-1111
- Submit a Request: General HR Request
- Leave a comment on your HR case



TAP: Attending GT

Contact the Tuition Program Team at Georgia Tech

 Leave a comment on your application in the Administrative Services portal



Contact the TAP Coordinator at your Teaching Institution

 Look up contact information on USG Board of Regents



Contact the Tuition Program Team at Georgia Tech

 Leave a comment on your application in the Administrative Services portal

Top 5 Things To Remember

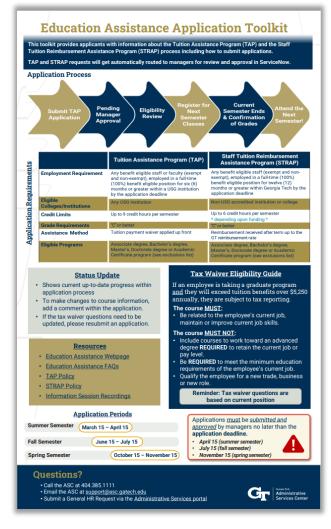


- 1. You must apply and be accepted into the University prior to applying to TAP/STRAP.
- 2. Applications can be submitted through the <u>Administrative Services portal</u> and will only be available during the application period.
- 3. Turn it in on time. Late applications are not accepted.
- 4. Your supervisor(s) must approve the application before the deadline.
- 5. You should register for classes prior to receiving the approval letter.



Resources

Click here to download a PDF of the TAP and STRAP Flyer



Click here to download a PDF of the TAP and STRAP Flyer





Educational Assistance Contact & Resources Information

Education Assistance

Education Assistance FAQ | Human Resources (gatech.edu)

- Administrative Services (TAP & STRAP)
 Administrative Service Center at (404) 385-1111 or submit a Request Help ticket at here
- Education Assistance Email (GTRC & GTRI)
 Crystal.Hannah@gtri.gatech.edu or Sarah.Cockrell@gtri.gatech.edu
- USG Tuition Assistance Program (TAP)
 Tuition Assistance Program (TAP) | University System of Georgia (usg.edu)
- Tuition Reimbursement Programs (STRAP)
 Education Assistance | Human Resources (gatech.edu)
- Tuition Assistance Program Policy
 HRAP Employee Continuing Education TAP (usg.edu)
- USG TAP Policy, TAP Coordinators, and Registration Periods http://www.usg.edu/hr/benefits/tuition_assistance_program
- Georgia Tech Academic Calendar www.registrar.gatech.edu



Education Assistance:

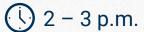
TAP and STRAP (summer semester)

Education Assistance Info Session: Applying for TAP and STRAP

These virtual sessions will inform employees about the Tuition Assistance Program (TAP) and the Staff Tuition Reimbursement Assistance Program (STRAP) including eligibility, important deadlines, and how to apply.

Tuesday, February 18 Thursday, February 20







(1) 10 – 11 a.m.



Scan the QR code to register.









Education Assistance: Approving TAP and STRAP (for managers and supervisors)

These virtual sessions will provide managers with information about the Tuition Assistance Program (TAP) and the Staff Tuition Reimbursement Assistance Program (STRAP) process including how to approve applications in ServiceNow.

Tuesday, March 4



10 – 11 a.m.



Thursday, March 6



2 – 3 p.m.



Questions



Feedback: Tell us how we did.



https://gatech.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_bCKrUzhHpqfvnf0

