GEORGIA FOUNDATION FOR PUBLIC EDUCATION



2026 ANNUAL REPORT

July 1, 2025 to June 30, 2026

Dear Friends & Supporters,

Thank you for your vital support of the Georgia Foundation for Public Education (GFPE). Across our state, public schools are transforming student outcomes through the power of strategic partnerships and flexible funding.

The momentum is historic. Contributions to the PEACH Education Tax Credit reached a record $9.78 million in 2025, an impressive 858% increase in dollars raised since 2022, when the tax credit transferred to GFPE. State leaders have responded to this incredible impact by increasing the annual cap to $25 million for 2026, allowing us to empower even more school communities. At the same time, our partnership with the Georgia Power Foundation continues to expand. This year, the grant program reached a new milestone, with a record $1.4 million investment supporting 30 grantees statewide.

Whether fueling innovative classroom ideas, building career pathways, or bridging early literacy gaps, your support is moving the needle for Georgia students. Thank you for helping shape a thriving future for Georgia's more than 1.7 million public school students.

With gratitude,

Kenneth Mason, Board Chair
Paige Buzbee, GFPE Executive Director



For a complete list of donors and a financial report, view our expanded annual report at gfpe.org/about

GFPE BOARD

KENNETH MASON
Chair
Fulton County

JODIE SNOW
Vice Chair
Tift County

DAVIS KNOX
Immediate Past Chair
Clarke County

Ann Cramer
Fulton County

Matt Donaldson
Emanuel County

Chris Hatcher
Dougherty County

Walt Helms
Cobb County

Al Hodge
Floyd County

Robert "Buzz" Law
Fulton County

Shaunae Motley
Fulton County

David Nuckolls
Coweta County

Alicia Reno
DeKalb County

Jade Thomas
Ex-Officio, Teacher of the Year Runner-Up, Houston County School District





SUPPORTING EDUCATION WITH LICENSE PLATES

A portion of the sales from **Georgia's Honor or Support Educators license tags** helps GFPE fund several public education initiatives such as Georgia Teacher of the Year, rural education and innovation, and Georgia's state schools for blind, deaf, and hard-of-hearing students.

Ten Times the Impact: How PEACH is Transforming Education Funding

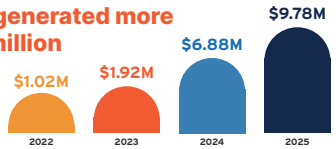
"The Peach Tax Credit is truly the best deal in charitable giving, allowing individuals, families and corporations to have a major impact on local career education in the Golden Isles without any direct cost to the donor." **– Brian M. Weese**, Golden Isles College and Career Academy

Georgia established the PEACH Education Tax Credit in 2018, creating a new way for taxpayers to invest in public education. Since the administration of the tax credit transferred from the Governor's Office of Student Achievement to the Georgia Foundation for Public Education (GFPE) in 2022, it has become a powerful engine for flexible funding and local investment in public schools.

Today, PEACH offers two complementary pathways for supporting schools: a competitive grant program funded by contributions to the general fund and our signature PEACH Fundraising Plan Program, a noncompetitive partnership that gives communities a way to support priority programs identified by their local schools. The response from taxpayers and communities has been extraordinary, and demand continues to surge beyond available resources.

By the end of fiscal year 2026, more than 90 school and district Fundraising Plan Program partners identified roughly $90 million in programs they hoped to fund. Recognizing the tremendous momentum behind PEACH, state leaders have repeatedly strengthened the program over time, extending its sunset to December 31, 2029 and increasing the cap from $5 million to $15 million to the current $25 million. What began as a promising tax credit is now a powerful bridge connecting taxpayers, communities, and public school classrooms to turn bold ideas into life-changing opportunities for students.

PEACH has generated more than $19.6 million since 2022



Workforce for Georgia: Building Pathways to Possibility for Georgia's Students



Since 2020, the Georgia Power Foundation (GPF) and GFPE have partnered to build a stronger talent pipeline for our state through the Workforce for Georgia Grant Program. This program helps schools launch or expand Career, Technical, and Agricultural Education (CTAE) and College and Career Academy (CCA) pathways aligned with regional workforce needs so Georgia's students are prepared for high-demand careers right here at home.

The grant program has seen significant growth since its inaugural award in 2020 of $279,000 to 13 grantees, with the 2026 cycle marking a historic milestone of a $1.4 million investment to 30 grantees. Altogether, the partnership has delivered 95 awards totaling more than $3.6 million to support pathway programs in fields like healthcare, advanced manufacturing, construction, cybersecurity, biotechnology, education, and agriculture.

The impact on students is profound. In the 2024 grant cycle, funded programs reached more than 2,100 students. Among students surveyed, one in five set their postsecondary sights higher, often raising their aspirations from completing high school to earning a credential, two-year or four-year degree. Through the vision of the Georgia Power Foundation, Workforce for Georgia is doing more than teaching technical skills; it is empowering young people to envision lasting, successful futures within their home state.

Building a Stronger Bridge to Kindergarten through Early Literacy Alignment

Launched in 2024 through a partnership between GFPE and the Georgia Foundation for Early Care + Learning, the Early Literacy Alignment Mini Grant program helps ensure children are set up for success from the very beginning.

Supported by a total investment of $75,000 from GFPE (via PEACH Education Tax Credit funds) and $100,000 from the Foundation for Early Care & Learning, the program has completed four grant rounds, funding 28 grantees across Georgia. Grant funds have allowed educators from early child care centers and public elementary schools to train together in evidence-based strategies, including the Science of Reading, phonological awareness, interactive read-alouds, and family literacy engagement. In addition, grant funds placed books, literacy kits and instructional resources directly into classrooms and homes.

Beyond training, the partnership bridges two previously disconnected education systems, building lasting relationships, shared toolkits, and collaborative long-term planning between child care providers and public elementary schools. Because of this initiative, Georgia's youngest learners are arriving to kindergarten with greater confidence, consistency, and the foundational skills they need to thrive.

OUR IMPACT

Early Language Alignment Grant
$25,000

EDP Grants
$17,500

ESE Mental Health Grants
$194,000

GPF Workforce for Georgia Grants
$1,361,903

Georgia Teachers Initiative Grants
$72,600

Innovation Fund Grants
$223,000

Partnership for Inclusion Innovation
$10,000

PEACH School Fundraising Grants
$9,237,302

TOTAL
$11,141,305

