



## SUMMARY

The Georgia Civic Awareness Program for Students (GCAPS) was developed to address the need for increased civic involvement and awareness among the state's youth and engage them to become the next generation of civic leaders. The program is dedicated to educating our young citizens about the importance of being actively conscious of their local government environment and the opportunities available in the public sector. GCAPS provides civic education by exposing youth to the role that local government plays and by introducing them to the leaders who make local governments work.

GCAPS is designed to provide students with the opportunity to learn first-hand the roles and services that Oconee County government provides. Throughout the course of the program year, GCAPS participants will take part in team building exercises, attend a board of commissioners meeting, interact county officials, tour county facilities, visit the State Capitol, interact with local and state elected officials, and complete a service project.

Oconee County was chosen as the first pilot program in Georgia. The pilot program was successfully launched in 2006 and has continued on in Oconee County! GCAPS is fully supported by the Oconee County Board of Commissioners with Commissioner Mark Saxon serving as an advisor and Oconee County Extension Agent Kelle Ashley serving as the program manager.

## PROGRAM DETAILS

- **Student Delegates (Who is Eligible?):**
  - Must be an 10<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup>, or 12<sup>th</sup> grade student as of August 2018
  - All students who either live in Oconee County or attend school in Oconee County will be eligible to participate
  - Will select a maximum of 25 students
  
- **Time Commitment:**
  - Program will begin in September 2018 and continue until April 2019.
  - Monthly meetings, which will be held after school or in the evenings.
  - Group service project must be completed by March.
  - Please review the meeting schedule on reverse side to ensure you will be able to make all meetings.
  - Transportation will be provided for events outside the county.

### GCAPS Contacts

**Kelle Ashley**  
Oconee County  
Cooperative Extension  
706-769-3946  
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**Michele NeSmith**  
ACCG Research & Policy  
Development Director  
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Board of Commissioners  
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Georgia  
Civic Awareness  
Program for Students  
Oconee County GCAPS Schedule  
2018-2019

Friday, September 7	GCAPS Application Deadline
Thursday, September 20	Welcome to GCAPS <i>Team Building</i> Location: Oconee County Extension/4-H Office J. Phil Campbell Research Center 1420 Experiment Station Road Time: 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.
Thursday, October 18	Non-Profit Agencies in the Area <i>Poverty Simulation</i> Location: Oconee County Civic Center 2661 Hog Mountain Rd., Watkinsville, GA 30677 Time: 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.
Tuesday, November 13	Local Economy <i>Small Business Scavenger Hunt and Graduation Dinner</i> Location: Downtown Watkinsville Time: 4:15 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.
Tuesday, December 4	Recognition Night <i>Meet and Greet Reception/BOC Meeting</i> Location: Oconee County Courthouse 23 N Main St, Watkinsville, GA 30677 Time: 6:15 p.m. Reception, 7:00 p.m. Board Meeting
Thursday, January 10	Public Safety <i>Tour the Jail</i> Location: Oconee County Sheriff's Department 1140 Experiment Station Rd, Watkinsville, GA 30677 Time: 4:00 p.m. to 5:15 p.m.
February TBD	State Government <i>Visit to the State Capital</i> Location: Atlanta Time: 7:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
Thursday, March 21	GCAPS Dinner & Graduation <i>Share Volunteer Projects</i> Location TBD Time: 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.
Fri., Sat. & Sun., April 26-28	2018 Annual ACCG Conference: Youth Caucus Location: Savannah International Trade & Convention Center

**In addition to monthly sessions, students will work in teams on a service project that benefits the community. Teams will share their projects at the GCAPS Graduation in March.**

**Georgia Civic Awareness Program for Students Application**

**Basic Information**

Full Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Name Called: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Male/Female: \_\_\_\_\_

Parents Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

T-shirt size \_\_\_\_\_

**Academics**

Grade Level - as of August 2018 (10<sup>th</sup>/11<sup>th</sup>/12<sup>th</sup>): High School and Grade Point Average:

\_\_\_\_\_

**Academic Honors (please list):**

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Current Extra-Curricular Activities**

Student/ Extracurricular Activities/Leadership Experience:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
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**Community Service Activities:**

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## GCAPS Student Application continued...

### Work Experience:

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If chosen, would you be able to participate in monthly meetings/activities?

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### Short Answer:

- What personal characteristics/qualities do you possess that you think enable you to be and/or create a good leader and peer role model?

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- Why is civic education important for today's youth?  
(*"civics" is defined as the study or science of the privileges and obligations of citizens*)

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### **Application Deadline: Friday, September 7, 2018**

Please return to Mr. Shook at NOHS, Mr. Drewry at OCHS or Mr. Olson at Athens Academy, or email your application to [ksashley@uga.edu](mailto:ksashley@uga.edu).