Educational Opportunity Programs

The Office of Educational Opportunity Programs (EOP) provides outreach services designed to promote postsecondary educational opportunities for youth. EOP has two programs, Talent Search and America Reads/America Counts, that focus on student academic achievement from kindergarten to college.

Talent Search provides 800 middle school, high school, and out-of-school youth with the support and assistance needed to complete high school and enter a program of postsecondary education. Eligible candidates must reside in Bulloch, Emanuel, Jenkins, or Screven Counties; be enrolled in the 6th through 12th grades or be a high school/postsecondary school dropout; be a potential first-generation college student or meet the economic guidelines for low income families; possess the potential to be successful at the postsecondary educational level; be at least 11 years of age, or be a veteran, regardless of age.

America Reads is a Federal Workstudy program that promotes literacy for elementary school age children. College students at Georgia Southern serve as tutors for students in Bulloch County Schools. The America Counts program was initiated in July 1999 after the success of its predecessor, the America Reads program. The America Counts program is an effort to improve student achievement in mathematics and aims to help students succeed in the foundations of algebra and geometry by the completion of 9th grade. The program works with surrounding middle and high schools, as well as community organizations to ensure that students are prepared for the challenges of higher level mathematics. Georgia Southern students eligible for Federal Workstudy may use their award by tutoring up to 10 hours per week at a participating school or organization.

Talent Search is funded by the U.S. Department of Education and is administered by Georgia Southern University, Division of Student Affairs and Enrollment Management. For further information about Talent Search and America Reads/America Counts, visit the Educational Opportunity Programs in Room 2024 of the Williams Center, or call (912) 478-8746.