



**How to Re-direct your Georgia Income  
Taxes to Provide Scholarships at  
Flint River Academy**

**October, 2009**

## *You have a choice*

Pay income taxes to the  
state of Georgia

*OR*

Provide scholarships to  
public school and  
kindergarten students to  
attend Flint River Academy

- HB1133 is a 2008 Georgia law that grants an income tax credit to individuals and corporations who contribute to qualified student scholarship organizations (SSOs) such as the Georgia GOAL Scholarship Program (GOAL)
- The passage of HB 1133 was an incredible victory for the school choice movement and your participation in the program is critical to make this victory a meaningful one

## *How much can you contribute?*

- Individuals: contribute up to \$1,000
- Married couples filing jointly: contribute up to \$2,500
- Married couples filing separately: contribute up to \$1,250
- “C” Corporations: contribute up to 75% of Georgia income tax liability
- S Corporation shareholders and LLC members are limited to the individual tax credit limitations
  
- Contributions result in a corresponding Georgia income tax *credit*, not a mere tax deduction
- Plus, all contributions are also deductible for federal income tax purposes!

## *A simple four step process*

1. Complete the 2-page Form IT-QEE-TP1 (TP1) and send it to FRA for filing with the Georgia Department of Revenue (DOR). Within 30 days, the DOR will send you back the approved TP1
2. Immediately upon receiving the approved TP1, send to FRA for mailing to GOAL a copy of the approved TP1 and your check to “Georgia GOAL Scholarship Program” – with Flint River Academy written in the memo section of the check
3. GOAL will send you a Form IT-QEE-SSO1 (SSO1) acknowledging your contribution
4. When you complete your Georgia income tax return, take the credit and file a copy of the SSO1 with your return along with a Form IT-QEE-TP2 (TP2). GOAL will send tax filing instructions early in 2010 to assist you

## *How are the contributions obligated?*

- Flint River Academy has entered into an Agreement with GOAL that will benefit qualified students entering FRA
- While HB1133 requires that at least 90% of designated contributions be obligated for scholarships at FRA, GOAL obligates 93% of the designated contributions for scholarships
- GOAL uses the designated funds and investment earnings on those funds to provide scholarships to applicants recommended by FRA
- FRA officials recommend potential scholarship recipients and the amount of the GOAL Scholarships they will receive

## *Who qualifies for scholarships?*

- By law, the scholarships are only available to public school students who are transferring to Flint River Academy or who are eligible to enter kindergarten
- Because only \$50 million of tax credits are available each year, GOAL is encouraging its participating schools to recommend low- and middle-income students for GOAL Scholarships according to voluntary guidelines
- However, participating schools may submit any reasonable scholarship recommendation beyond the voluntary guidelines
- The GOAL scholarship is awarded for the entire duration of the student's attendance and good standing at FRA and varies in amount each year based on need, the availability of funds, and FRA recommendations
- Flint River Academy admissions and financial aid officials may make scholarship recommendations to GOAL throughout each school year

## *Frequently asked questions*

- There are currently 74 GOAL Participating Schools throughout Georgia
- Each is responsible for educating its parents, faculty and staff, businesses, and other supporters about the ability to redirect Georgia income taxes to GOAL for the provision of scholarships
- To qualify for a 2009 tax credit, checks made payable to GOAL must be postmarked by 12/31/09, and must be accompanied by a copy of the taxpayer's *approved* TP1 Form
- Contributions to GOAL are merely the use of dollars that you would otherwise be paying to Georgia for income taxes – so these “non-sacrificial” gifts for the benefit of Flint River Academy should NOT replace your contribution to the FRA Annual Fund
- To ensure that funds are available for contributions to GOAL, those intending to contribute may choose to have less Georgia income taxes withheld from their paychecks
- \_\_\_\_\_ at FRA will be able to answer all of your questions and provide copies of all of the forms relating to this opportunity

**Thank you for your participation!**



Georgia GOAL Scholarship Program

[www.goalscholarship.org](http://www.goalscholarship.org)