

OFFICIAL RULES



Georgia United Foundation's School Crashers program helps strengthen school systems and communities throughout the state of Georgia by uniting businesses, media partners and volunteers to provide facility enhancements to schools. These school makeover projects provide inspiring environments for students to learn and play.

Nomination Guidelines

Nominations will be accepted from community residents, educators, students and businesses for any accredited elementary, middle or high school in the state of Georgia. **The nomination period opens December 13, 2024, and closes January 31, 2025, at 11:59 pm ET.**

Eligibility

To be eligible, school must be an accredited K-12 school in Georgia. Project requests for structural, electrical or plumbing enhancements will not be considered. The schools with the most compelling story will be chosen as School Crashers recipients in March. Nominations will be accepted through the application process as outlined at gucufoundation.org/schoolcrashers. Those entering must provide their personal contact information. Please also provide the full name of the school, the school's contact information and the name of the principal.

Entry

Georgia United Foundation reserves the right to disqualify any nomination it determines tampers with or acts fraudulently with respect to the entry process.

Terms and Conditions

1. Georgia United Foundation is the primary sponsor of Georgia United Foundation School Crashers.
2. There will be a minimum of one (1) award recipient school selected from applications received. Additional school(s) may also be chosen based on the scope of the school makeover project proposed.
3. Schools do not have to give permission in advance to be nominated for the School Crashers program as they have the right to decline any proposed makeover project(s). All awards go to the chosen school, not to the individual(s) making the nomination.
4. Nominators must submit a completed School Crashers application online at gucufoundation.org/schoolcrashers or mail a completed application to Georgia United Foundation School Crashers, 6705 Sugarloaf Parkway, Duluth, GA 30097. Please explain in 250-words or less, why your school deserves/needs a makeover. Want your nomination to stand out? Take an extra step and send a photo of your area for improvement to foundation@gucu.org and include school name in the subject line.
5. School Crashers award recipients will be determined by a judging committee appointed by Georgia United Foundation. The decision of the judges will be final.
6. Project requests for structural, plumbing or electrical enhancements (i.e., build a gym, add restrooms, etc.) will not be considered. The majority of projects will be completed using volunteer labor.

7. The selected school(s) will be notified by March 31, 2025.
8. The selected school(s) will receive assistance in the form of project management and volunteers to complete the school improvement project(s) outlined in their application. Application information is subject to verification and school system policies and procedures. Approval from the appropriate School System Administration is required prior to any project planning and/or any distribution of funds.
9. The selected school(s) will be notified by telephone and/or email address, if provided. The selected school(s) will be required to sign an Affidavit of Eligibility and Release of Liability. These forms must be signed and received by Georgia United Foundation within fourteen (14) days after the date they were mailed to the selected school, otherwise an alternate award recipient will be selected.
10. Anticipated School Crashers makeover dates for the selected school(s) are tentatively scheduled for summer and fall 2025 completion.
11. Selected school(s) agree to permit Georgia United Foundation and Georgia United Credit Union to use their name/likeness in any credit union materials.
12. There are no substitutions, cash or other considerations in lieu of awards in this program.
13. The funds awarded are non-transferable.
14. Odds of being selected are dependent upon the number of eligible entries received. Multiple, identical or duplicate entries for the same school do not increase odds of being selected, as judges are looking for compelling and unique stories to illustrate school needs.

Judging

In March 2025, the top scoring schools may be contacted for more information or asked to provide additional photos of the project area. Top finalists from this second round of evaluations are considered and the final award recipient(s) will be selected by the foundation.

Deadline for Entry

The deadline to nominate or apply for the 2025 School Crashers program is January 31, 2025.

Awards

The amount of the grants awarded will be determined by the scope of the requested makeover projects. The total amount reserved for all awards is subject to change, based on donor participation. Award recipients are responsible for all federal, state, local or other tax assessments that may be associated with or imposed upon School Crashers recipients.

A list of selected schools will be announced online at gucufoundation.org/schoolcrashers, or a list can be requested by sending a self-addressed, stamped envelope to:

Georgia United Foundation
Attn: School Crashers Program
6705 Sugarloaf Parkway
Duluth, GA 30097