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#### Recommended Citation

Georgia Southern University, "Newsroom" (2015). *Newsroom*. 765.  
<https://digitalcommons.georgiasouthern.edu/newsroom/765>

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# Georgia Southern University Receives Georgia Peach Green Building Award

MAY 1, 2015



*Kelly Wilson accepts the Georgia Peach Green Building Award on behalf of Georgia Southern University for the Biological Sciences Building.*

Georgia Southern University was granted the Georgia Peach Green Building Award by the Georgia State Financing and Investment Commission (GSFIC) for the new Biological Sciences Building, which meets requirements of the Georgia Peach Green Building Rating System.

“Georgia Southern University is excited to have received the Peach Certification for the Biological Sciences Building,” said Bonnie McMakin, project architect for Facilities Planning, Design and Construction. “This building is the first of this magnitude and the goals were to make it as sustainable and environmentally-sensitive as it was economically-feasible. Over the years sustainable practices have been incorporated into the buildings and campus infrastructure that are environmentally-sensitive and ‘green’ features. This project is the accumulation of these practices,

and together they have made the project a success by incorporating so many of these features into the project.”

The “Peach Certification” was established in 2008 by the Energy Efficiency and Sustainable Construction Act of 2008. Buildings that optimize energy performance, increase the use of Georgia-produced materials and products, protect the state’s natural resources and reduce the burden on the state’s water supply receive points toward the award.

The Biological Sciences Building was constructed using 60.3 percent of Georgia-based materials, and by using low-flow faucets, sinks and toilets, the building uses 40 percent less water than it would with standard fixtures. Additionally, with the use of 57 Solar Photovoltaic Panels, five Solar Thermal panels to produce hot water for the building and other energy efficient products, the building’s total energy usage is 20.5 percent less than with normal usage of electricity.

“To be recognized by the GSFIC and the Board of Regents for incorporating these sustainable features is an honor that Georgia Southern is proud to receive,” McMakin said. “The Peach Certification has become a standard for our projects as we move forward with new buildings, renovations and maintenance of the existing buildings on campus.”

Georgia Southern University, a Carnegie Doctoral/Research University founded in 1906, offers 125 degree programs serving more than 20,500 students. Through eight colleges, the University offers bachelor’s, master’s and doctoral degree programs built on more than a century of academic achievement. Georgia Southern is recognized for its student-centered approach to education. Visit: [www.georgiasouthern.edu](http://www.georgiasouthern.edu).

## **Georgia Southern University WebMAcc Program Ranked Seventh Nationally**

**MAY 1, 2015**

The Georgia Southern University WebMAcc program has been ranked seventh by [TopAccountingDegrees.org](http://TopAccountingDegrees.org) in its Top 20 Master of Accounting Online Degree Programs 2015.

According to the site, the Top 20 Master of Accounting Online Degree Programs 2015 rankings were based on average tuition (weighted 10%), AACSB accreditation (weighted 30%), CPA exam pass rate (weighted 20%), employment rate (weighted 20%), and salary projections (weighted (20%). Information regarding each criterion came from College Navigator, AACSB International, American Institute of Certified Public Accountants, and U.S. News and World Report, respectively. Each school

was then given a final score out of 100, and those with the top 20 scores were included in the ranking.

"The Georgia Southern College of Business Administration is unique in that it is accredited by the AACSB for both business and accounting. The no frills, 100 percent online accounting program is one of the best ways to start a career in finance today, with rigorous coursework and a team-based learning approach that ensures success. The support students receive from classmates and professors is just one factor in the high CPA exam pass rate they see after graduation. Coursework featuring accounting, auditing and information technology seminars, legal issues, and income tax provide a robust framework for negotiating the financial arena professionally," the site reported. In-state tuition is \$6,468 per year and out-of-state tuition is \$25,846 per year.

For more information on the 30-credit hour, fully-online Georgia Southern WebMAcc program, visit [GeorgiaSouthern.edu/BusinessGraduate](http://GeorgiaSouthern.edu/BusinessGraduate) or email [soa@georgiasouthern.edu](mailto:soa@georgiasouthern.edu).

Georgia Southern University and all of its programs contained under the university's umbrella are accredited through the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools. The College of Business has undergraduate and graduate accreditation through AACSB International: The Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business. Only about five percent of all colleges of business have AACSB accreditation.

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