

# Educational *Reimbursement* Program

With so many changes in the financial services industry, the need for educational enrichment and professional development holds a great degree of importance for credit union management, staff and volunteers. In 2008, the Foundation expanded its traditional educational assistance to better serve the needs of credit unions and their staff.

Beyond traditional education grant applications, the Foundation has broadened its footprint by providing an Educational Reimbursement Program for credit unions with assets of \$35 million or less. This unique program provides partial reimbursement of registration fees paid by qualifying credit unions for education and training programs that are designed and delivered through the joint partnership between Georgia Credit Union Affiliates (GCUA) and Credit Union National Association Center for Professional Development (CUNA CPD). This includes face-to-face events and distance learning programs. The introduction of this program has been met with remarkable success. Through October 2008, a total of \$22,147 has been paid to 56 credit unions in the \$35 million or less asset category.

Reimbursements are made using the following sliding scale:

- 60% refund of registration fee per registrant for credit unions of \$2 MM or less
- 40% for credit unions with assets of \$2-10 MM
- 20% for credit unions with assets of \$10-35 MM

Through the Educational Reimbursement Program, the Foundation is committed to helping the small credit union community grow and prosper through access to quality educational programming. To access the Educational Reimbursement Program for opportunities in 2009, visit [http://www.gcu.org/cu\\_growth/foundation/index.php](http://www.gcu.org/cu_growth/foundation/index.php) or contact Dan Denning at (770) 476-9625 ext. 3425.

Education reimbursements in 2008  
(as of October): **\$22,147**

Number of credit unions receiving  
reimbursements: **56**

## Get the Full View with **CU360**

If you haven't accessed CU 360, you're missing more than you realize. This weekly online information portal for credit unions features valuable information including news, research reports, strategic issues, best practices, white papers and presentations.

As a service to the credit union community, the Foundation covered the cost of the subscription to CU 360 for all Georgia credit unions with up to \$35 million in assets in 2008. This met with such a positive response that the Foundation will extend the offer into 2009. The annual rate for the basic subscription is \$1,100 per credit union, if purchased individually.

"Providing access to information is an essential part of what the Foundation does to help credit unions develop and grow," says Eric Jenkins, Senior Vice President of Growth Services at GCUA. "Credit unions of any size can benefit from subscribing to CU 360, and we're glad to be able to provide this service to smaller credit unions in Georgia and to see them take advantage of it. This is another example of Foundation dollars at work for the credit union community."

To date, 90 users from 52 credit unions in the state have accessed CU 360.



FOUNDATION  
focus



# Georgia Credit Unions Help Texas Recovery Efforts



The devastation of Hurricane Ike is still being felt by survivors along the Galveston-Gulf Coast. The storm blew through Texas with such force in August that it left many credit unions without power for weeks. Responding to the call for assistance, the Foundation donated \$2,500 to the Texas Credit Union Foundation to help in recovery efforts.

“On behalf of Texas professionals, the Texas Credit Union Foundation, and Texas Credit Union League, please accept our appreciation for both the contribution and the continuing support. It’s a blessing to be part of such a supportive movement,” wrote Janine McBee, Senior Director of Training & Events at the Texas Credit Union League.

In 2008, the Georgia Credit Union Foundation and Georgia credit unions contributed  
**\$49,300**  
in Disaster Relief Assistance to the  
U.S. Credit Union Movement

Many thanks for your continued support of the Foundation’s disaster relief efforts. The contributions made by Georgia credit unions are a direct reflection of the caring and commitment of the people who make this movement unique.

## Hole in One Yields *\$40,000* for Participant at Annual Foundation Golf Tournament

This year’s annual golf tournament to benefit the Georgia Credit Union Foundation (GCUF) netted one lucky golfer more than he bargained for. Fifty-nine golfers participated in this year’s tournament, which was held at Bear’s Best Golf Course.

Brenden Welch, Vice President and General Manager of Jones Lang LaSalle Americas, Inc., a real estate services firm, was the big winner of the day when he sank his shot into hole 11 on the first try, and thus was the big winner of the hole in one prize. “It looked like it was going to be close, but I wasn’t sure it went in until the caddy raised his hands in the air,” says Welch, who was teamed with Jeanne Kucey, President of Retail Employees Credit Union, and Vice Chair of GCUF. “When I finally realized what had happened, I was speechless, but very happy to hear the news,” adds Welch, who had the choice of a brand new Lexus GS300—provided by Enterprise Car Sales—or \$40,000 cash. He opted for the cash.

The team from University Health FCU emerged as the first place winners. Kenny Deas with the University Health FCU team won the longest drive, and Kevin Sweeney with the Gwinnett FCU team won closest to the pin. The 5th Annual Foundation Golf Tournament raised \$5,400 to assist credit unions in Georgia with disaster relief needs, operational support and other resources.



Brenden Welch (l) receives \$40,000 check from Dan Denning, VP of Knowledge Development, GCUA.

First place team from Gwinnett FCU: (l to r) Marshall Boutwell, Kevin Sweeney, Travis Martin and Dan Styrzinski.