



GRAD CERTIFICATION

What is it? Why support it?



We SPEAK Business

Georgia Department of Economic Development

AGENDA

- ▶ **Who?**
- ▶ **What?**
- ▶ **When?**
- ▶ **Why?**
- ▶ **Where?**
- ▶ **How?**



MORE SPECIFICALLY...

- ▶ **Who** has located on a GRAD Site?
- ▶ **What** is it exactly, and what are the requirements?
- ▶ **When** are the application deadlines?
- ▶ **Why** is it good for economic development?
- ▶ **Where** are the sites?
- ▶ **How** much does it cost?

WHO HAS LOCATED ON A GRAD SITE?

1. Starbucks (Richmond County, Augusta Corporate Park)
2. Chicken of the Sea (Toombs County, Toombs Corporate Center)
3. Adidas (Cherokee County, Cherokee 75 Corporate Park)
4. Aviagen (Brooks County, Brooks County Industrial Park)
5. Kumho Tire (Bibb County, Sofkee Industrial Site)
6. Voestalpine (Bartow County, Highland Park)
7. Baxter International, now Shire (4-County JDA Park Near Social Circle)
8. WL Plastics (Bulloch County, Gateway Regional Industrial Park)
9. The Linde Group (Cook County, South Cook Industrial Park)
10. NIFCO KTW - (Stephens County, Hayestone Brady Business Park)
11. DRT America (Effingham County, Governor Treutlen Site)

WHAT ARE THE REQUIREMENTS?

1. Site Identification and Contact Data
2. Site Description
3. Site Ownership and Availability
4. Topographic Survey and Aerial Photography
5. Zoning, Planning, and Land Use Controls of Site
6. Site Accessibility
7. Rail Service Feasibility
8. Utilities/Energy/Telecommunications and Public Safety Services
9. Wetlands and Other Water Bodies
10. Preliminary Geotechnical Investigation
11. Phase I Environmental Site Assessment, Unique Conditions and Permitting
12. Cultural Resources and Endangered Species Investigation

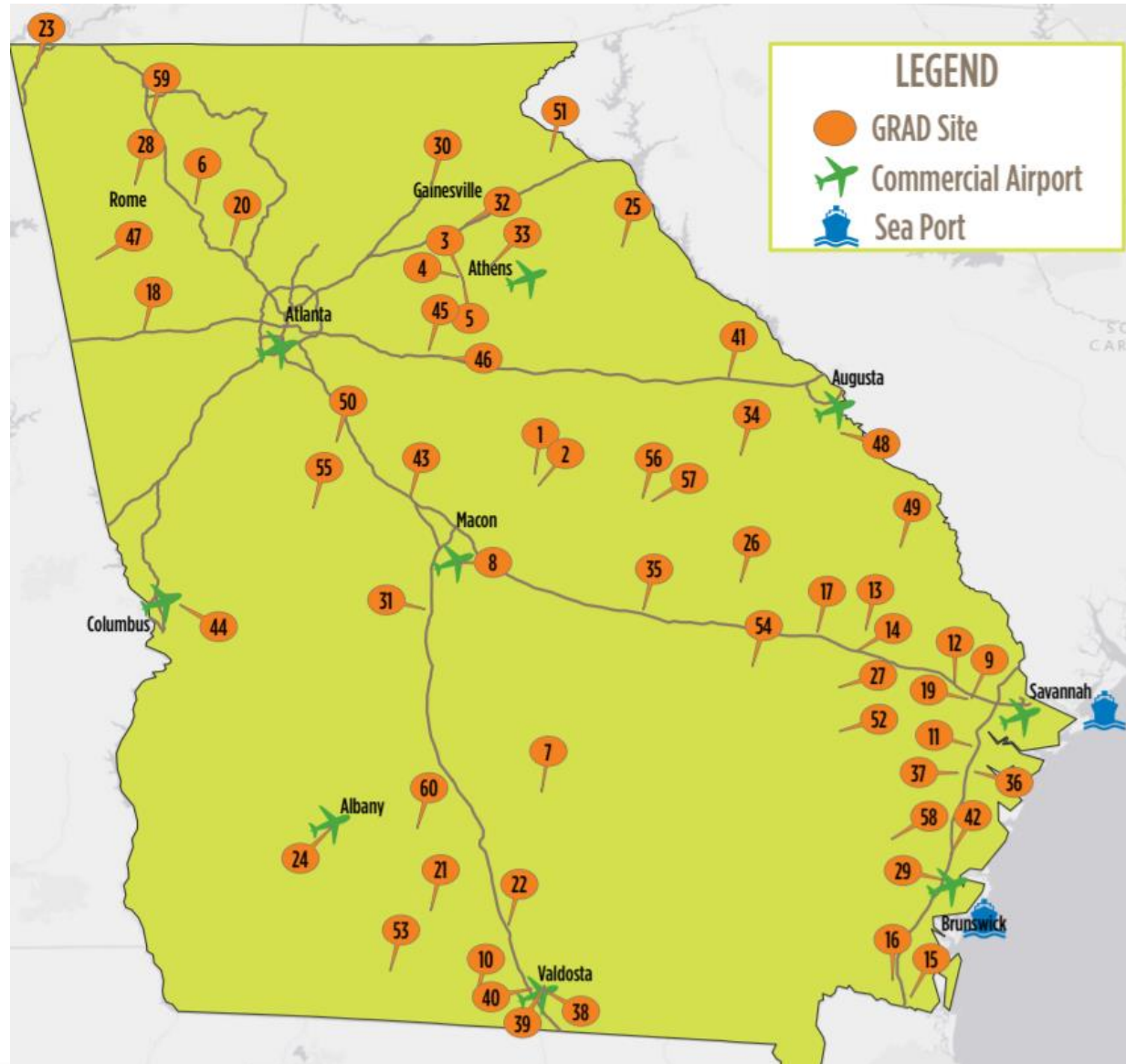
WHEN ARE THE APPLICATION DEADLINES?

- ▶ Applications are reviewed and approved continuously throughout the year
- ▶ Certificates awarded at GEDA:
 - ▶ Annual Meetings in September
 - ▶ Spring Workshops in May
- ▶ Please submit your application *at least two months prior* to the GEDA meeting date
- ▶ Certifications remain valid for 24 months

WHY IS IT GOOD FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT?

- ▶ Eliminates delays
- ▶ Minimizes risks
- ▶ Provides exposure
- ▶ Generates interest; inquiries
- ▶ Qualifies community for “fast-track” and “certified-only” sites searches

WHERE ARE THE EXISTING GRAD SITES?



HOW MUCH DOES IT COST?

- ▶ Many requirements can be addressed at no cost
- ▶ GRAD requirements that may require an additional investment include:
 - ▶ Wetlands Study
 - ▶ Preliminary Geotechnical Investigation
 - ▶ Phase I Environmental Site Assessment, Unique Conditions and Permitting
 - ▶ Cultural Resources and Endangered Species Investigation
 - ▶ Boundary Survey and 2-foot Topographical Map
- ▶ The cost for these studies depends on:
 - ▶ Site size, amount of wetlands, unique environmental conditions, etc.
- ▶ **No charge for the application review**

NEXT STEPS

1. Complete drone video for each site
2. Launch interactive application to enhance user experience
3. Develop an automated re-certification system

<http://www.georgia.org/business-resources/certified-sites/>

The screenshot displays the Georgia USA Certified Sites web application. The header includes the Georgia USA logo and navigation tabs for Competitive Advantages, Business Resources, Georgia Industries, and About Georgia. Below the header is a navigation bar with icons for Buildings, Certified Sites, All Sites, Companies, and Communities, along with utility links for Favorites, Reset Map, Update, and Contact Us. A search bar allows users to look up cities, counties, or regions, with a dropdown for 'For Sale or For Lease'. The main content area features a green sidebar with filters for Sale Price (Min/Max), Property Name, Address, Size (Min/Max), Lease Rate (Min/Max), All Zoning Category, All Eave Height(ft), and Rail Served. The main area lists five certified sites, each with a location pin, name, address, site size, available acres, and status (For Sale/Lease). Each site entry includes a 'View Details' button and a small thumbnail image with a play button icon, indicating a video is available for each site.

Site ID	Site Name	Address	Site Size (acres)	Available (acres)	For Sale	For Lease	Action
28	Meridian 75	TBD Forsyth, GA 31029	257.82	257.82	Yes	Yes	View Details
29	Metter I-16 Industrial Park	TBD Metter, GA 30439	211	211	Yes	Yes	View Details
30	Middle Georgia Corporate Center	TBD Perry, GA 31069	690	679	Yes	No	View Details
31	Milledgeville Baldwin County Industrial Park	TBD Milledgeville, GA 31061	887	414.12	Yes	No	View Details
32	Miller Business Park	TBD Valdosta, GA 31603	360	210	Yes	No	View Details

QUESTIONS?



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