

2019 – 2021

Health Careers in Georgia

AHEC: Building a Multifaceted
Healthcare Workforce for Georgia

Table of Contents

Title Page	1
What is AHEC?	2
AHEC Spotlight: Dr. James Hotz	4
Healthcare Trends	6
Georgia's Hot and Growing Health Careers to 2026	8
A Guide to Health Careers in Georgia	9
Health Careers in Georgia	10
Complementary & Integrative Medicine	10
Dentistry	14
Dietetics	18
Healthcare Administration & Information Services	21
Laboratory Sciences	31
Medical Support	38
Medicine	50
Mental Health & Social Services	54
Nursing	60
Pharmacy	70
Public Health	73
Radiologic & Imaging Science	79
Science & Engineering	86
Therapy & Rehabilitation	90
Veterinary Medicine	103
Vision Care	106
How to Pursue a Health Career	109
Pursuing a Health Career	110
Health Education Journey	112
On the Health Education Journey	114
Health Education Financial Aid Opportunities	116
Health Education Programs in Georgia	122
Hospitals & Health Systems in Georgia	132
Index	138
Acknowledgments	140

2019 – 2021

Health Careers in Georgia

**A GEORGIA STATEWIDE
AHEC NETWORK PUBLICATION**

ATTRIBUTIONS

EDITOR:
Lana Brand

ASSISTANT EDITOR:
Sheila Griffin

CONTENT EDITOR:
Melanie Reinhardt

CONTRIBUTORS:
Lana Brand
Teresa Davis
Sheila Griffin
Denise Kornegay
Melanie Reinhardt
Holly Stewart

GRAPHIC DESIGN:
Jeremy Whigham Design, LLC



Foothills Area Health Education Center, Volume 11, 2019-2021

This work is licensed under the Creative Commons Attribution-NonCommercial-NoDerivatives 4.0 International License. To view a copy of this license, visit <http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-nd/4.0/> or send a letter to Creative Commons, PO Box 1866, Mountain View, CA 94042, USA.

What is AHEC?

AHEC is an acronym used nationwide that stands for "Area Health Education Center."

In Georgia, there are six unique not-for-profit AHECs that comprise the Georgia Statewide AHEC Network. These AHECs are dedicated to recruiting, training, and retaining a diverse healthcare professional workforce and to improving the supply and distribution of these professionals across their respective regions, particularly in medically underserved areas. The activities listed below are just some examples of how AHECs achieve their mission.

RECRUIT

AHECs promote health careers to students as well as to those seeking a second career:

- Presenting in classrooms and at club meetings
- Providing one-on-one career counseling
- Exhibiting at career fairs
- Facilitating shadowing experiences and volunteer opportunities
- Coordinating camps and intensive programs with hands-on, interactive activities
- Collecting and sharing credible, high-quality information resources

TRAIN

AHECs assist current healthcare profession students to complete their training in underserved communities:

- Arranging clinical training with community-based preceptors
- Providing housing away from the academic campus when necessary
- Supporting travel to clinical sites if eligible

RETAIN

AHECs increase the availability of low-cost or cost-free continuing education programs and information resources for isolated healthcare professionals to stay current in their respective fields:

- Coordinating face-to-face and online educational events for continuing education credit
- Collaborating with community partners to produce quality educational events and conferences
- Collecting and sharing online library and information resources

If you could benefit from an AHEC service listed above, contact the AHEC on the map serving the county where you live, work, or attend school for assistance. The production and distribution of the *Health Careers in Georgia* publication is just one contribution that AHECs make toward meeting the healthcare workforce needs in the state.

Georgia Statewide AHEC Network

Blue Ridge AHEC

7 Ivy Street NE
Rome, GA 30161
(706) 235-0776
blueridgeahec.org

SPCC Atlanta AHEC

1720 Peachtree Street NW
Suite 440
Atlanta, GA 30309
(404) 815-4996
spcc-atlantaahec.org

Three Rivers AHEC

2022 15th Avenue
Columbus, GA 31901
(706) 507-0894
threeriversahec.org

Foothills AHEC

329 Oak Street, Suite 101
Gainesville, GA 30501
(770) 219-8130
foothillsahec.org

Georgia Statewide AHEC Network

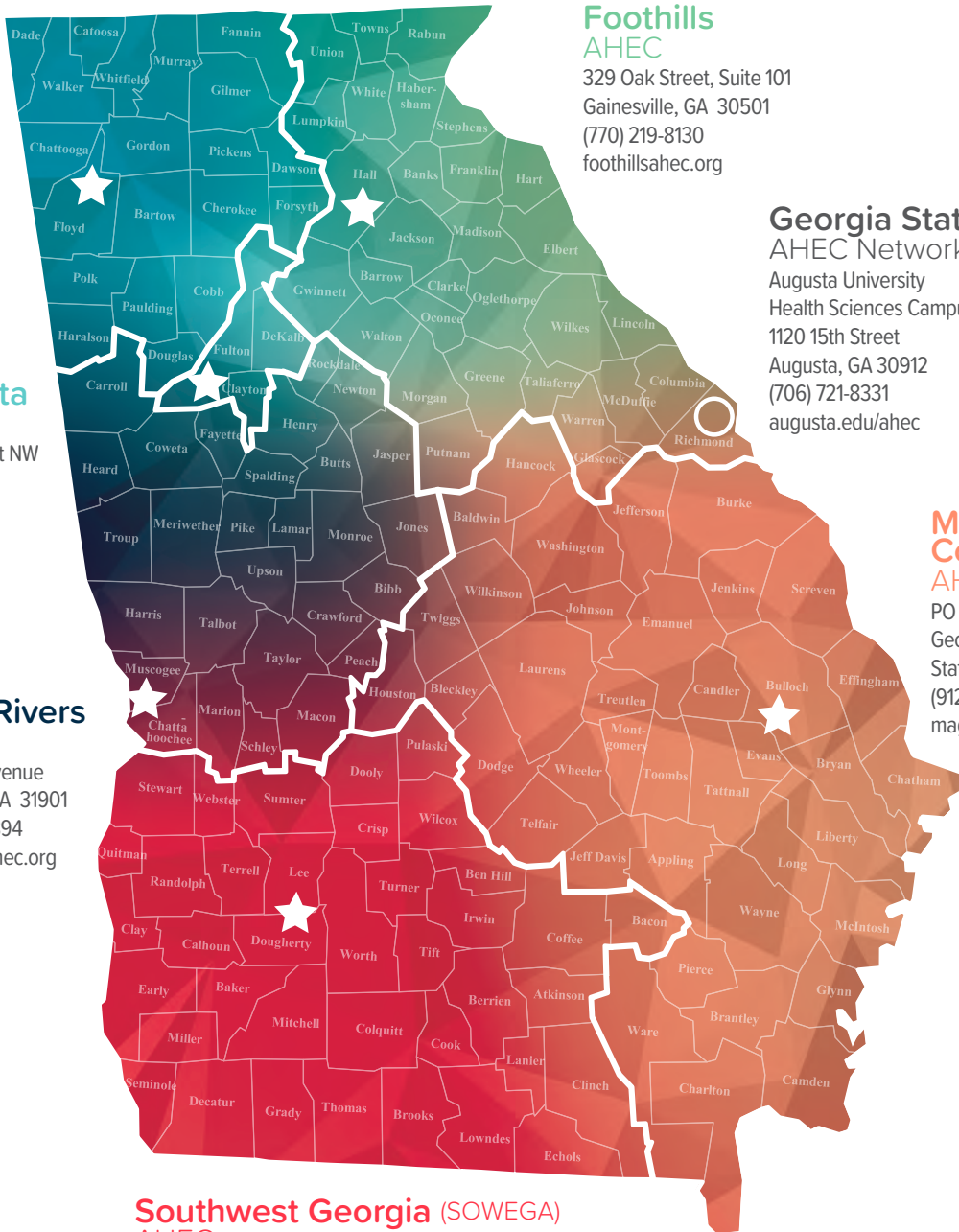
Augusta University
Health Sciences Campus, AA-1057
1120 15th Street
Augusta, GA 30912
(706) 721-8331
augusta.edu/ahec

Magnolia Coastlands AHEC

PO Box 8146
Georgia Southern University
Statesboro, GA 30460
(912) 478-0371
magnoliacoastlandsahec.org

Southwest Georgia (SOWEGA) AHEC

1512 W. 3rd Avenue | Albany, GA 31707
(229) 439-7185 | sowega-ahec.org



AHEC Spotlight



Dr. James Hotz

While there are many dedicated physicians who have chosen to practice primary care in rural areas across the nation, few can say that a major motion picture was based on his story. This is precisely the case with Dr. James Hotz, an internal medicine physician and founding member of Albany Area Primary Health Care (AAPHC) in southwest Georgia.

After graduating from Ohio State Medical School in 1975 and completing his internal medicine residency at Emory University in 1978, Dr. Hotz originally intended to pursue a cardiology practice. However, he was persuaded to take on a temporary assignment of treating patients in the rural, underserved area of Lee County. The assignment turned out to be not-so-temporary – after 40 years, Dr. Hotz still practices as a staff internist and Clinical Services Director at AAPHC. His medical career and dedication to his rural community inspired the novel and subsequent 1995 movie *Doc Hollywood*, in which he is portrayed by Michael J. Fox.

Unsurprisingly, Dr. Hotz's extraordinary career has earned him a number of awards and recognitions. In 1995, *Georgia Trend* magazine named him one of the "100 Most Powerful and Influential People in Georgia," and he was chosen for the Community Health Leadership Award by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation for his efforts in promoting healthcare reform.

He currently serves in several community leadership roles, including his membership on the Board of Directors for Southwest Georgia (SOWEGA) AHEC, which he helped form in 1990.

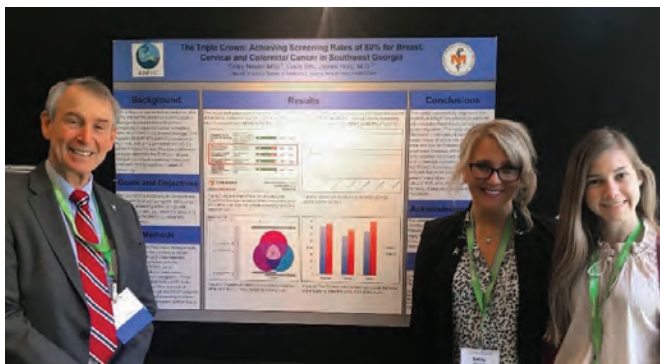
For many years, Dr. Hotz has served as the chair for the Statewide AHEC Primary Care Workgroup, which prioritizes projects, program pilots, and other interventions and strategies with the goal of making primary care more accessible to rural and medically underserved areas in Georgia. For Denise Kornegay, the Executive Director for the Georgia Statewide AHEC Network, his pioneering spirit in this role is invaluable.

"Dr. Hotz has so much energy and passion," Denise states. "Not only is he an active participant in many organizations, he also provides leadership to complex groups. Jim has served as the chair of the Workgroup since its inception in 2008. In this capacity, he helps plan and lead the bi-annual

"I plan on carrying the torch as a physician in rural Georgia and serving my future patients as he has served his."

– Emily Nesbit

Mercer University medical student



2017 Emily Nesbit



1995 Jack Kearsse / Emory Medicine

“He is an inspiration and a constant reminder that we cannot give up when so much is at stake.”

– Denise Kornegay

Georgia Statewide AHEC Network Executive Director

Primary Care Summit, which results in policy development. He never tires. He is an inspiration and a constant reminder that we cannot give up when so much is at stake.”

Dr. Hotz’s commitment to rural and underserved medicine is not just reflected on the big screen or in the numerous accolades he has received. As a community-based preceptor for medical students, he takes a sincere interest in cultivating the next generation of medical professionals. Emily Nesbit, a Mercer University medical student, was so impacted by her first three-week clinical experience with Dr. Hotz that she decided to narrow her focus to practicing primary care in a rural area in Georgia.

“I arrived in Albany in May of 2017 for my first rotation after the most challenging year of my life. My father had been diagnosed with esophageal cancer (now in remission), and it was an extremely low point in my life. I was

struggling, but Dr. Hotz reminded me daily why I chose to pursue a career in medicine,” Emily remarks. “In three weeks, I went from having no clue what I wanted to do to knowing with certainty that I wanted to follow in his footsteps. I plan on carrying the torch as a physician in rural Georgia and serving my future patients as he has served his.”

Dr. Hotz’s commitment to offering quality student clinical experiences in rural Georgia is a true representation of the Georgia Statewide AHEC Network’s mission to increase the number of physicians who consider primary care as a career. He not only teaches these students the skills they will use in their profession, but he encourages them to be the best they can be, personally and professionally. “Dr. Hotz has challenged me to reach my highest potential, both as a medical student and a person,” says Emily. “He is the epitome of what every future physician should aspire to be.”



2013 Jennifer Maddox Parks / Albany Herald

To learn more about Dr. Hotz and his impact on healthcare in Georgia, watch the documentary *Primary Concern*.

This documentary on the critical shortage of primary care physicians and its severe effect on the healthcare system in America first aired in 2013 on Georgia Public Broadcasting and was archived by Foothills Area Health Education Center through HealthTec^{dl}.

> Watch it now at www.healthtecdl.org/primary-concern

Healthcare Trends



Each week seems to bring a new twist in the direction of healthcare policy for the country.

Amid a chaotic environment for all industry players, healthcare workforce demands are at an all-time high. According to the Georgia Department of Labor's *An Analysis of Long-term Employment Projections to 2026*, healthcare and social assistance employment sectors will lead all industry sectors both in terms of job growth (+99,000 jobs) and growth rate (20.4 percent), as it accounts for nearly one-fifth of the 525,000 new jobs created in the state through 2026. Occupational groups growing at the fastest annual average growth rate through 2026 in Georgia include healthcare support occupations growing by 2 percent per year to about 123,400 jobs, personal care and service occupations growing by 1.8 percent per year to nearly 151,400 total jobs, and healthcare practitioners and technical occupations growing by 1.7 percent per year reaching nearly 285,500 jobs. The environment must be mapped, and emerging healthcare trends such as those listed below should be studied and addressed.

Doctoral dual-degree programs

Healthcare is a rapidly growing and evolving field that requires an approach that is multidisciplinary in caring for individuals and in finding long-term, maintainable solutions for improving health within the population. Universities are offering more dual-degree programs at the doctoral level in order to meet increasing student demand for specialized educational options. A dual-degree program is one in which a student enrolls simultaneously in two graduate programs (usually within the same university) and works towards two degrees with the support and blessing of both programs. Examples include MD/PhD, MD/MBA, MD/MPH, MD/MS, MD/MSCR as well as DO/MBA, DO/MPH, and DO/CAGS. There are also examples in pharmacy (PharmD/MBA), dentistry (DMD/PhD or DMD/MS), and physical therapy (PT/MPH). In the last few decades, the number of students choosing to supplement their health profession doctoral degrees with others in different disciplines is climbing, and more schools have begun offering formal PhD, MPH, and MA dual-degree programs. The number of joint MD/MBA programs in America has grown from 6 to 65 in 20 years. More than half of these programs opened after the year 2000.

New innovative training models

Medical practice has changed tremendously, and health profession education must prepare professionals to meet the rapidly changing demands of the U.S. healthcare system – emphasizing patient-centered, preventive, and primary care. Health profession programs are implementing innovative curriculum to provide more interprofessional education and practice opportunities, to integrate behavioral health into physical health training, and to focus on a more patient-centered approach to healthcare delivery. The future health professional will need to have exemplary clinical skills, work well within an interprofessional team, adopt the latest clinical and health systems technology, be engaged with the legislative issues affecting healthcare, communicate effectively, and commit to lifelong learning.

To view a list of dual doctoral degree and innovative training programs, visit:

foothillsahec.org/dual-degree-programs

Opioid use and abuse

Opioid overdoses are now the leading cause of death for U.S. adults younger than 50. This is a phenomenon too big to solve by only one player. There is a role for everyone across the healthcare landscape—from prescribers, to payers, to the pharmaceutical industry—in order to reverse this trend. Healthcare strategies must now encompass behavioral and mental health, and providers are responsible for designing their systems in a way that addresses the needs of these individuals. This is especially important at a time when opioid abuse has become one of this nation's most challenging public health crises.

Social determinants come to the forefront

The United States spends more on healthcare per capita per year than any other nation, but the return on investment is poor compared to other peer nations' health outcomes. To improve health while saving money, the industry needs to expand the borders and definitions of healthcare. This means thinking beyond the walls of the hospital and looking holistically at the full profile of a patient, beyond their specific health issue. Social determinants of health are conditions in the environments in which people are born, live, learn, work, play, worship, and age that affect a wide range of health, functioning, and quality-of-life outcomes and risks.

Telehealth and accessibility

One of the paramount challenges in healthcare to date has been physically connecting patients with providers. Patients may have mobility issues or live in rural areas. Adverse weather conditions may affect travel. A care plan may include a long series of visits and sometimes non-negotiable physical appointments, taking up time for both the clinician and the patient. By 2017, telehealth utilization worldwide grew to 1.8 million patients. Taking advantage of telehealth modalities gives healthcare providers the opportunity to efficiently boost communication with patients while cutting costs. The convergence of high-quality, affordable technology, changes in consumer expectations, and new telemedicine business plans has created a viable environment for expansion. Patients have also become more interested in using phone calls, photo sharing, and video conferencing to receive care, especially for common and routine medical problems.

Cyber security in healthcare

Following a year marked by major, industry-wide cybersecurity breaches and a 525% increase in medical device cybersecurity vulnerabilities reported by the government, healthcare providers must take quick, decisive action to maintain data privacy, secure the thousands of connected medical devices on their networks, and protect patients. Companies must treat cybersecurity incidents as a “non-natural” disaster and invest more in planning, defensive measures, and personnel. New professional degrees focused on this area will emerge.

Healthcare mergers and acquisitions

As healthcare mergers and acquisition (M&A) activity continues at a record pace, industry experts at the Health Research Institute do not anticipate the trend to slow down. Regulatory uncertainty will drive the increase in healthcare M&A deals. “Regulation and policy uncertainty, including ACA’s future, are exacerbating reimbursement and cost pressures, making income predictability more challenging and increasing the appeal of inorganic growth,” the report stated. “At the same time, Health Services companies are considering tax reform’s impact on capital and organizational decisions, which could influence deal criteria.” Inpatient volume pressure and high drug and labor costs should also drive organizations to reexamine their facility mixes, supply chains, and staffing processes, leading organizations to consider new partnerships and divestures to remain profitable. The push toward value-based care and population health management will require healthcare organizations to bolster their data analytics capabilities through new deals.

A GUIDE TO Health Careers in Georgia

You can use the following pages to explore more than 80 health careers.

Use the Table of Contents on the inside front cover or the Index on pages 138-139 to find a particular career.

CAREER TITLE:
The job title by which the career is most often described. Alternate job titles for the career are listed in the Index for easy reference.

CAREER SUMMARY:
A 1-2 sentence description of the job activities that the career entails.

IDEAL ATTRIBUTES:
A list of personal qualities that would make someone well-suited for the career.

AREAS OF SPECIALIZATION:
A list of official tracks for specialization. Sometimes these tracks are offered during your academic education, and other times they are certifications offered through professional organizations.

WORK ENVIRONMENTS:
A list of places a person in this career might work.

ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS:
The level and type of education required or preferred in order to pursue this career. You can find the careers organized by length of study in the Health Education Journey section on page 112-113.

Physician Assistant

- Provides medical and surgical services under a supervising physician
- Conducts physical exams, diagnoses and treats illnesses, prescribes medications, and orders and interprets tests

Ideal Attributes

- Compassionate & dedicated
- Effective communicator
- Lifelong learner
- Team-oriented

Physician assistants (PAs) are healthcare professionals who partner with supervising physicians to practice medicine. Physicians may delegate to PAs those medical duties that are within the physician's scope of practice and the PA's training and experience. These highly trained healthcare professionals allow the increase in quality as well as quantity of medical care services. PAs perform a vital service in rural and underserved regions of Georgia by providing access to quality healthcare where there is a shortage of physicians. The demand for PAs is on the rise, and the profession is considered one of the fastest growing in the country with the profession expanding to other nations as well.

Median Salary: \$102,024 or \$49.05 an hour

AREAS OF SPECIALIZATION

- Cardiovascular and thoracic surgery
- Cardiology
- Emergency medicine
- Hospital and critical care medicine
- Neonatology
- Nephrology
- Oncology
- Orthopaedic surgery
- Pediatrics
- Psychiatry
- Sports medicine

WORK ENVIRONMENTS

- Clinics
- Community health centers
- Health maintenance organizations
- Hospitals
- Medical colleges and universities

- Military bases and deployment
- Nursing homes
- Pain management centers
- Physician practices
- Prisons
- Research institutions
- Student health centers
- Trauma centers

ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS

- A bachelor's degree and previous healthcare experience required for admission into a physician assistant program
- A master's degree from an educational program accredited by the Accreditation Review Commission on Education for the Physician Assistant that includes classroom and laboratory instruction

LICENSURE AND CERTIFICATION

- Required state licensure from the Georgia Composite Medical Board
- Required national certification from the National Commission on Certification of Physician Assistants for the Physician Assistant, Certified (PA-C) credential

PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

- American Academy of Physician Assistants
www.aapa.org
- Georgia Association of Physician Assistants
www.gapa.net
- Physician Assistant Education Association
www.paeonline.org

Educational Programs

MASTER'S DEGREE

- Augusta University
- Emory University
- Mercer University
- Morehouse School of Medicine
- Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine - Georgia Campus
- South University

foothillsahec.org/hcgm 41

CAREER PHOTO:
An image depicting a person performing job tasks as part of his or her career.

CAREER DESCRIPTION:
A more in-depth, paragraph-long description of the career.

MEDIAN SALARY:
The median annual and hourly salary in Georgia for the career. The amount listed is in the middle of the salary range, meaning half of workers in this career make more than this salary and half of workers make less than this salary. Remember that education, job experience, and location will significantly impact salary for all careers.

LICENSURE AND CERTIFICATION:
A list of required and voluntary licenses and certifications granted at the state or national level, as well as the corresponding licensing or certifying organizations.

PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS:
A list of career-related professional organizations and their websites.

EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS:
A list of accredited educational programs organized by level offered for that career in the state of Georgia or, if unavailable, in surrounding states.

HEALTH CAREERS IN GEORGIA ONLINE:
The URL where the *Health Careers in Georgia 2019-2021* publication can be accessed online.



Complementary & Integrative Medicine

Complementary medicine refers to practices and products not generally considered a part of mainstream medicine.

Examples include but are not limited to acupuncture, chiropractic manipulation, dietary supplements, deep breathing exercises, herbal medicines, massage therapy, meditation, and yoga. When healthcare providers incorporate complementary medicine into mainstream healthcare, it is referred to as integrative medicine. Many areas of complementary medicine are gaining support in the traditional medical community, and the number of Americans who use some form of complementary medicine is growing according to the 2017 National Health Interview Survey conducted by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's National Center for Health Statistics.

ACUPUNCTURIST

CHIROPRACTOR

MASSAGE THERAPIST 

Acupuncturist

- Inserts thin needles in specific points to relieve pain, improve organ function, and treat disease
- Promotes stress reduction and well-being

Ideal Attributes

- Hand-eye coordination
- Manual dexterity
- Problem-solver
- Strong interpersonal skills

Acupuncture, a type of traditional Chinese medicine, has been refined over thousands of years. The practice is effectively used in modern healthcare to treat conditions including acute or chronic pain, anxiety, digestive disorders, headaches, and insomnia. The practice of acupuncture involves any insertion and manipulation of sterile, hair-thin, filiform acupuncture needles for a therapeutic purpose based upon both traditional theoretical understanding and modern scientific study of the musculoskeletal and nervous system. An acupuncturist may also use other techniques such as acupressure, auricular therapy (ear points), cupping (suction), electro-acupuncture (electrical impulses), and moxibustion (heat). Many acupuncturists prescribe medicinal herbal formulas to enhance therapeutic effect.

Median Salary: \$57,616 or **\$27.70** an hour

WORK ENVIRONMENTS

- Complementary health centers
- Hospice programs
- Hospitals
- Pain management clinics
- Private practice
- Public health clinics

ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS

- An associate or bachelor's degree is usually required for admission to an accredited program
- A master's degree from an educational program accredited by the Accreditation Commission for Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine (www.acaom.org)
- Doctoral programs are also available

LICENSURE AND CERTIFICATION

- Required state licensure from the Georgia Composite Medical Board (medicalboard.georgia.gov) for the Licensed Acupuncturist (LAc) credential
- Voluntary national certification from the National Certification Commission for Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine (www.nccaom.org) for the Diplomate of Acupuncture (Dipl. Ac.) credential
- Physicians licensed to practice acupuncture after successfully completing acupuncture training

PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

American Association of Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine
www.aaaomonline.org

Council of Colleges of Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine
www.ccaom.org

Georgia Association of Acupuncture and Asian Medicine
www.gaaam.org

Educational Programs

MASTER'S DEGREE

Atlanta University of Health Sciences
Georgia Central University

Chiropractor

- Provides a natural, whole-body approach to health and wellness to create care plans
- Uses hands or specialized instruments to adjust bones of the spine or extremities

Ideal Attributes

- Desires to serve others
- Lifelong learner
- Strong interpersonal skills
- Strong motor skills

Chiropractors serve as primary healthcare providers and wellness partners. They focus care on the nervous system (brain, spinal cord, and nerves) which controls and coordinates all bodily functions. When the system functions properly, the body is better able to endure and overcome physical, emotional, and chemical stresses. Chiropractors take patient case histories, perform physical and neurological examinations, and order tests and x-rays to create comprehensive care plans. At the core of the plan is the chiropractic adjustment, allowing optimum nervous system function. Plans may also include counseling on nutrition, fitness routines, stress management, and physiotherapy interventions. Chiropractors do not prescribe medications, perform surgery, or use radiation.

Median Salary: \$55,328 or \$26.60 an hour

AREAS OF SPECIALIZATION

- Chiropractic acupuncture
- Clinical neurology
- Forensic sciences
- Internal disorders
- Nutrition
- Occupational health
- Orthopedics
- Pediatrics
- Radiology
- Rehabilitation
- Sports medicine

WORK ENVIRONMENTS

- Athletic teams
- Chiropractic colleges
- Military bases
- Private practice
- Wellness centers

ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS

- Completion of specific college-level prerequisites, primarily in health sciences, necessary for acceptance into a Doctor of Chiropractic (DC) program
- A bachelor's degree in a related field may be required
- A doctoral degree from an educational program accredited by the Council on Chiropractic Education (www.cce-usa.org)
- Optional post-graduate continuing education in specialty fields

LICENSURE AND CERTIFICATION

- Required state licensure from the Georgia Board of Chiropractic Examiners (sos.ga.gov/index.php/licensing/plb/14)

PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

Each chiropractic specialty has a corresponding specialty council. Visit www.acatoday.org/membership/specialty-councils for a listing.

American Chiropractic Association
www.acatoday.org

Georgia Chiropractic Association
www.gachiro.org

Georgia Council of Chiropractic
www.georgiachiropractic.org

International Chiropractors Association
www.chiropractic.org

Educational Programs

DOCTORAL DEGREE

Life University

Massage Therapist

- Massages soft tissues to increase joint flexibility and improve postural disorders
- Promotes stress reduction, relaxation, and well-being

Ideal Attributes

- Compassionate
- Effective time manager
- Physical endurance
- Professional

Using touch to manipulate muscles and soft tissues of the body, massage therapists can reduce stress, relieve pain, improve circulation, help heal injuries, and increase relaxation for their clients. Massage therapists may use their hands, forearms, feet, and massage instruments, as well as dry and steam heat, oil, and lighting during a massage. They may choose to specialize in several modalities—such as neuromuscular therapy, sports and fitness massage, craniosacral therapy, shiatsu, and manual lymphatic drainage. They may also choose to focus their practice on a particular type of client—such as prenatal and postpartum women, athletes, or even animals.

Median Salary: \$37,710 or **\$18.13** an hour

WORK ENVIRONMENTS

- Chiropractic practices
- Health clubs
- Hospitals
- Pain management clinics
- Private practice
- Professional athletics
- Resorts
- Salons
- Spas
- Wellness centers

ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS

- A high school diploma or equivalent
- A minimum of 500 training hours from a program approved by the Georgia Board of Massage Therapy (sos.ga.gov/index.php/licensing/plb/33)

LICENSURE AND CERTIFICATION

- Required state licensure from the Georgia Board of Massage Therapy (sos.ga.gov/index.php/licensing/plb/33) for the Licensed Massage Therapist (LMT) credential
- Voluntary national board certification from the National Certification Board for Therapeutic Massage and Bodywork (www.ncbtmb.org) after meeting educational and professional requirements for the Nationally Certified in Therapeutic Massage and Bodywork (NCTMB) credential
- Voluntary certification in various specialties available

PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

- American Massage Therapy Association
www.amtamassage.org
- American Massage Therapy Association, Georgia Chapter
www.amtaga.org
- Associated Bodywork and Massage Professionals
www.abmp.com

Educational Programs

CERTIFICATE

Atlanta School of Massage
Atlanta University of Health Sciences
Augusta School of Massage
Cohutta Healing Arts Institute
Elaine Sterling Institute
Georgia Career Institute
Georgia Massage School
Miller-Motte Technical College

Peachtree City School of Massage
Touch for Healing
Woodruff Medical Training and Testing

DIPLOMA

Coastal Pines Technical College
Gwinnett Colleges & Institute
International School of Skin, Nailcare, and Massage Therapy

Ogeechee Technical College
Southern Regional Technical College
Wiregrass Georgia Technical College



Dentistry

Dentists, dental hygienists, and dental assistants work together to diagnosis and treat oral health problems.

As the nature of oral health problems has come to be better understood, the emphasis in dentistry has changed from treatment to prevention. Using a team approach, dental care providers are committed to preventing oral health problems through patient education programs that deal with good oral hygiene. When problems occur, the dentist and his or her team can provide treatments to restore and repair oral tissues. The demand for cosmetic and dental treatments along with the aging population ensure that careers in dentistry will continue to be of great value and in high demand.

DENTAL ASSISTANT  **GROWING**
DENTAL HYGIENIST  **HOT CAREER**
DENTIST

Dental Assistant

- Works alongside dentists to increase efficiency in providing quality oral healthcare
- Prepares patients and materials for exams or treatments

Ideal Attributes

- Manual dexterity
- Moves quickly between tasks
- Patient
- Strong interpersonal skills

Dental assistants greet patients, make them comfortable, take and develop their dental x-rays, record their histories, and monitor their vital signs. They sterilize instruments and prepare other dental materials, providing easy access for the dentist. They also take teeth impressions used for study models. Dental assistants show patients how to floss and brush their teeth and instruct them on post-surgical oral care. With specialized training, they may assist in oral surgery procedures such as biopsies, implants, root canals, tooth extractions, and periodontal surgery. An expanded functions certification allows them to perform more advanced duties like making temporary teeth and applying sealants. They are also trained in office management, such as scheduling, billing, filing insurance, and ordering supplies.

Median Salary: \$37,050 or \$17.81 an hour

WORK ENVIRONMENTS

- Community health agencies
- Dental and dental assisting schools
- General and specialty dental practices
- Hospitals
- Managed care organizations
- Military bases
- Prisons
- Private and state institutions
- Public health departments
- Veterans Affairs healthcare facilities

ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS

- A high school diploma or equivalent
- Completion of an educational program accredited by the Commission on Dental Accreditation (www.ada.org/en/coda) preferred
- On-the-job training sometimes available

LICENSURE AND CERTIFICATION

- Five voluntary national certifications from the Dental Assisting National Board (www.danb.org), including the Certified Dental Assistant (CDA) credential
- Voluntary certification from the Georgia Board of Dentistry (gbd.georgia.gov) for the Expanded Duty Dental Assistant (EDDA) credential after successful completion of expanded duties course

PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

American Dental Assistants Association
www.adaausa.org

Educational Programs

CERTIFICATE

Atlanta Technical College
Coastal Pines Technical College
Gwinnett Technical College
United Medical and Business Institute
West Georgia Technical College

DIPLOMA

Albany Technical College
Altierus Career College
Athens Technical College
Atlanta Technical College
Augusta Technical College
Central Georgia Technical College
Columbus Technical College
Fortis College

Georgia Northwestern Technical College
Gwinnett Technical College
Lanier Technical College
Ogeechee Technical College
Savannah Technical College
Southern Crescent Technical College
United Education Institute
West Georgia Technical College
Wiregrass Georgia Technical College



Dental Hygienist

- Performs diagnostic and preventive dental services
- Provides oral health education to patients

Ideal Attributes

- Flexible
- Hand-eye coordination
- Strong interpersonal skills
- Works well under pressure

Dental hygienists are integral members of the oral healthcare team. They examine teeth and oral tissues for abnormalities, remove tooth deposits, apply fluoride and sealants, and perform preventive services. They instruct patients on methods to improve and maintain their oral health, including brushing, flossing, and eating the proper foods. They record patient histories, update patient charts, and make impressions of teeth so that dentists can evaluate treatment options. They also perform oral cancer and blood pressure screenings and take x-rays. Some dental hygienists design and implement school and community health programs.

Median Salary: \$67,610 or \$32.50 an hour

WORK ENVIRONMENTS

- Community health agencies
- Dental and dental assisting schools
- Dental companies
- Dental practices
- Managed care organizations
- Public health departments

ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS

- An associate degree or bachelor's degree from an educational program accredited by the Commission on Dental Accreditation (www.ada.org/en/coda)
- Further education is optional at the bachelor's and master's levels in dental hygiene or related fields, such as biology, health education, or public health

LICENSURE AND CERTIFICATION

- Required state licensure from the Georgia Board of Dentistry (gbd.georgia.gov) for the Registered Dental Hygienist (RDH) credential

PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

American Dental Hygienists' Association
www.adha.org

Georgia Dental Hygienists' Association
www.gdha.org

Educational Programs

ASSOCIATE DEGREE

Albany State University
Athens Technical College
Atlanta Technical College
Central Georgia Technical College
Columbus Technical College
Fortis College
Georgia Highlands College

Lanier Technical College
Perimeter College at Georgia State University
Savannah Technical College
Southeastern Technical College
West Georgia Technical College
Wiregrass Georgia Technical College
(with Valdosta State University)

BACHELOR'S DEGREE

Augusta University
Clayton State University
Georgia Highlands College

Dentist

- Examines, diagnoses, and treats teeth, gums, and oral tissues
- Performs surgery to correct dental deformities

Ideal Attributes

- Good judgment
- Effective communicator
- Hand-eye coordination
- Works well under pressure

Dentists diagnose and treat diseased and injured teeth, gums, and oral tissues. They also educate people about oral health and prevention of dental problems. This involves guidance in both hygiene and nutrition. Dentists help improve their patients' physical appearance through dental treatments, such as braces and dentures. Through surgery, dentists can correct facial and dental deformities from accidents or birth defects. Usually self-employed, dentists run businesses and supervise staff. Dentistry offers a comfortable lifestyle with a good income and regular work hours.

Median Salary: \$154,211 or \$74.14 an hour

AREAS OF SPECIALIZATION

- Dental public health
- Endodontics
- Oral and maxillofacial pathology
- Oral and maxillofacial radiology
- Oral and maxillofacial surgery
- Orthodontics and dentofacial orthopedics
- Pediatric dentistry
- Periodontics
- Prosthodontics

WORK ENVIRONMENTS

- Community health centers
- Dental schools
- Equipment manufacturing companies
- Industrial or pharmaceutical companies
- Military bases
- Private practice
- Public health departments

ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS

- A bachelor's degree or at least 3 years of college for admission to a dentistry program
- Passing the Dental Admission Test administered by the American Dental Association
- Other admissions requirements may apply
- A doctoral degree, either Doctor of Dental Medicine (DMD) or Doctor of Dental Surgery (DDS), from a program accredited by the Commission on Dental Accreditation (www.ada.org/en/coda)
- Optional specialization by completing a CDA-accredited post-doctoral program

LICENSURE AND CERTIFICATION

- Required state licensure from the Georgia Board of Dentistry (gbd.georgia.gov)

PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

Each dental specialty has a corresponding professional organization. Visit www.ada.org/en/education-careers/careers-in-dentistry/dental-specialties/specialty-national-organizations for a listing.

American Dental Association
www.ada.org

American Dental Education Association
www.adea.org

Georgia Dental Association
www.gadental.org

National Dental Association
www.ndaonline.org

Educational Programs

DOCTORAL DEGREE

Augusta University



Dietetics

The field of dietetics is concerned with applying the principles of food and nutrition to health.

Professionals in dietetics are passionate about empowering people to take charge of their well-being by helping them make healthful food choices. The food we eat has a direct relationship with the maintenance and restoration of good health. Therefore, dietetics is crucial in preventing and treating illnesses, as well as in rehabilitation and recovery. Because of increased public interest in nutrition and disease prevention, dietetics is a vital and growing profession with many career possibilities.

**DIETETIC TECHNICIAN
DIETITIAN**

Dietetic Technician

- Delivers safe, culturally competent, and high-quality food and nutrition services and support
- Plays an important role in managing foodservice and providing nutritional care

Ideal Attributes

- Effective communicator
- Enjoys food preparation
- Organized
- Strong interpersonal skills

Dietetic technicians work in a wide variety of settings and their duties vary depending upon the work environment. As a team member in patient care settings under the supervision of a registered dietitian, they may conduct screenings to identify nutritional problems in order to treat or prevent disease or assist in providing nutritional therapy. Working independently in other settings, they may teach classes about proper nutrition and help clients to plan meals within their budgets and diets. Dietetic technicians are also involved in managing foodservice operations. They develop menus, prepare budgets, supervise foodservice personnel, and purchase and control inventory. They are often responsible for ensuring sanitation and safety standards.

Median Salary: \$23,010 or \$11.06 an hour

WORK ENVIRONMENTS

- Community health programs
- Company cafeterias
- Correctional facilities
- Day care centers
- Foodservice industry
- Government agencies
- Health clubs
- Home health agencies
- Hospice programs
- Hospitals
- K-12 schools
- Long-term care facilities
- Managed care organizations
- Private practice with dietitians
- Public health nutrition programs
- Research laboratories
- Restaurants

ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS

- An associate degree from an educational program accredited by the Accreditation Council for Education in Nutrition and Dietetics (eatrightpro.org/acend)
- A bachelor's degree from a regionally accredited college or university and completion of an ACEND-accredited Didactic Program in Dietetics also acceptable

LICENSURE AND CERTIFICATION

- Voluntary national certification from the Commission on Dietetic Registration (www.cdrnet.org) for the Dietetic Technician, Registered (DTR) or Nutrition and Dietetics Technician, Registered (NDTR) credentials awarded upon passing the Registration Examination for Dietetic Technicians

PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics
www.eatright.org

Georgia Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics
www.eatrightgeorgia.org

Educational Programs

GEORGIA DOES NOT HAVE ANY DIETETIC TECHNICIAN PROGRAMS.

Programs listed are located in neighboring states.

ASSOCIATE DEGREE

Hillsborough Community College (FL)
www.hccfl.edu

Gaston College (NC)
www.gaston.edu

Dietitian

- Develops appropriate meal plans for individuals with specific dietary needs
- Educates people about food and nutrition

Ideal Attributes

- Critical thinker
- Effective communicator
- Independent worker
- Strong math & science skills

Dietitians are experts in food, nutrition, and good health. They are involved in every aspect of nutrition to assist in improving the quality of life. Registered dietitians' job responsibilities depend upon their practice settings. In hospitals, they develop the most nutritious meal plans possible for patients who can eat traditional foods; for patients who cannot tolerate traditional foods, they provide other diets. They also educate patients about the best nutrition to aid recovery, to address nutritional deficiencies and toxicities, or to maintain health. They may work with individuals who are at a higher risk of poor health including pregnant women, children, the elderly, and those with very limited resources. They also supervise dietary personnel, plan institutional menus, and manage budgets.

Median Salary: \$51,771 or \$24.89 an hour

AREAS OF SPECIALIZATION

- Bariatric surgery nutrition
- Cardiac rehabilitation
- Clinical dietetics
- Community dietetics
- Diabetes education
- Food science
- Gerontological nutrition
- Management/food administration
- Nutrition support
- Obesity and weight management
- Oncology nutrition
- Pediatric nutrition
- Renal nutrition
- School nutrition
- Sports dietetics

WORK ENVIRONMENTS

- Business and industry
- Colleges and universities
- Corporate wellness programs
- Foodservice industry
- Government agencies
- Health clubs
- Hospitals
- K-12 schools
- Nursing homes
- Private practice or consulting
- Public health departments

ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS

- A bachelor's degree from an educational program accredited by the Accreditation Council for Education in Nutrition and Dietetics (eatrightpro.org/acend)
- Completion of approved supervised practice in conjunction with an accredited educational program or a 1200-hour Dietetics Internship after completing an accredited educational program

LICENSURE AND CERTIFICATION

- Required state licensure from the Georgia Board of Examiners of Licensed Dietitians (sos.ga.gov/index.php/licensing/plb/19) for the Registered Dietitian (RD) credential

PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics
www.eatright.org

Georgia Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics
www.eatrightgeorgia.org

Society for Nutrition Education and Behavior
www.sneb.org

Educational Programs

BACHELOR'S DEGREE

Life University
University of Georgia

POST-BACCALAUREATE CERTIFICATE

Georgia Southern University

MASTER'S DEGREE

Augusta University
Georgia State University
University of Georgia

DOCTORAL DEGREE

University of Georgia

Health Administration & Information Services

MAP YOUR CAREER in Health Information Services at www.hicareers.com/CareerMap

The healthcare industry relies on the organized communication of information and the management of complex organizations.

Professionals who work in the fields of health administration and information services provide behind-the-scenes services that ensure the delivery of high-quality healthcare. Healthcare administrators work to create smooth-running organizations and must be skilled in financial planning, human resource management, long-range planning, and public relations. Others in this professional area oversee medical records or organize and analyze data in reports, filling the need for accurate and reliable information. Others provide health information by locating, collecting, organizing, and distributing it or by creating visual materials through various forms of art media. These careers require a special flair for organization and detail. They often have limited patient contact and can range from the clerical level all the way to senior management.

- HEALTHCARE ADMINISTRATOR **HOT CAREER**
- HEALTH INFORMATICS PROFESSIONAL **HOT CAREER**
- HEALTH INFORMATION ADMINISTRATOR **HOT CAREER**
- HEALTH INFORMATION TECHNICIAN **GROWING**
- HEALTH SCIENCES LIBRARIAN
- MEDICAL CODER
- MEDICAL ILLUSTRATOR
- MEDICAL SECRETARY **GROWING**
- MEDICAL TRANSCRIPTIONIST

Healthcare Administrator

- Oversees the general operation of hospitals, nursing homes, or other healthcare organizations
- Manages budgets, sets policies, and leads staff

Ideal Attributes

- Effective communicator
- Ethical
- Problem-solver
- Strong leadership skills

Healthcare administrators, also called medical and health services managers or healthcare executives, serve as leaders of hospitals and other healthcare organizations. Some head up specific departments or services while others manage entire facilities or systems such as nursing homes, physician practices, hospitals, home health agencies, and health systems. Healthcare administrators ensure good communication between administration, committees, departments, and medical staff. They create a smooth-running organization with well-planned departments, such as nursing, marketing and public relations, finance, and human resources. They are responsible for the institution's resources and sound financial standing as well as for coordinating space and planning future expansions.

Median Salary: \$93,704 or \$45.05 an hour

WORK ENVIRONMENTS

- Clinics
- Community health organizations
- Government agencies
- Health insurance organizations
- Healthcare consulting firms
- Hospitals and health systems
- Mental health organizations
- Nursing homes
- Physician practices/groups
- Public health departments
- Rehabilitation centers
- Universities and research institutions

ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS

- A bachelor's degree in business, health policy, or healthcare administration may qualify some for entry-level positions
- A master's degree in business, healthcare, or public administration or public health is the standard for most management positions

LICENSURE AND CERTIFICATION

- Required state licensure for nursing home administrators from the Georgia State Board of Nursing Home Administrators (sos.ga.gov/index.php/licensing/plb/35)
- Voluntary national certification from the professional organizations listed and others

PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

American College of Health Care Administrators
www.achca.org

American College of Healthcare Executives
www.ache.org

Association of University Programs in Health Administration
www.aupha.org

Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Management Education
www.cahme.org

Medical Group Management Association
www.mgma.com

Educational Programs

BACHELOR'S DEGREE

Brewton-Parker College
College of Coastal Georgia
Georgia Highlands College
Herzing University
Piedmont College
Truett McConnell University

BACHELOR'S AND MASTER'S DEGREE

Albany State University
Argosy University
Augusta University
Brenau University
Clayton State University
DeVry University
Mercer University
Middle Georgia State University
South University
Valdosta State University

MASTER'S DEGREE

Berry College
Columbus State University
Emory University
Georgia State University
Shorter University
University of Georgia

MASTER'S AND DOCTORAL DEGREE

Georgia Southern University

Health Informatics Professional

- Builds and manages computerized systems to collect, store, and retrieve health information
- Analyzes and interprets data to facilitate decisions and actions in healthcare

Ideal Attributes

- Effective communicator
- Organized
- Strong computing skills
- Strong project manager

Health informatics professionals work in an interdisciplinary field incorporating business, healthcare, and technology. They collaborate with clinicians, administrators, researchers, and public health professionals to develop new technologies and efficient health information systems, which allow secure access to complete and accurate data. This data may help clinicians and patients make vital decisions regarding diagnoses and treatments, administrators to solve problems and evaluate the quality of care, or public health professionals to conduct research, surveillance, and prevention/intervention campaigns. With the switch to electronic health records and the data-driven healthcare industry, there is a critical shortage of these professionals to meet the increasing demand.

Median Salary: \$88,000 or \$42.31 an hour

AREAS OF SPECIALIZATION

- Clinical informatics
- Public health informatics

WORK ENVIRONMENTS

- Academic research centers
- Colleges and universities
- Government agencies
- Hospitals and health systems
- Insurance companies
- Medical and physician groups
- Mental and behavioral health facilities
- Outpatient clinics
- Pharmaceutical companies
- Private healthcare organizations
- Public health organizations

ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS

- A background in information technology, computer science, or healthcare
- Most formal educational programs offered at the bachelor's or graduate level
- Some certificate programs also available

LICENSURE AND CERTIFICATION

- Voluntary national certification from the American Health Information Management Association for various credentials including Certified Health Data Analyst (CHDA) and Certified Professional in Health Informatics (CPHI)
- Voluntary national certification from the Healthcare Information and Management Systems Society for the Certified Associate or Professional in Healthcare Information and Management Systems (CAHIMS/CPHIMS) credentials

PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

American Health Information Management Association
www.ahima.org

American Medical Informatics Association
www.amia.org

Commission on Accreditation for Health Informatics and Information Management Education
www.cahiim.org

Georgia Health Information Management Association
www.ghima.org

Healthcare Information and Management Systems Society
www.himss.org

Educational Programs

BACHELOR'S DEGREE

College of Coastal Georgia
Georgia Southern University
Georgia State University
Mercer University
Middle Georgia State University

POST-BACCALAUREATE CERTIFICATE

Columbus State University
Georgia State University

MASTER'S DEGREE

Augusta University
Emory University

Georgia State University
Kennesaw State University
Mercer University
Middle Georgia State University

DOCTORAL DEGREE

Emory University



Health Information Administrator

- Creates systems to organize, analyze, and archive medical information
- Ensures electronic health information meets administrative, privacy, and security regulations

Ideal Attributes

- Detail-oriented & organized
- Strong computing skills
- Strong medical vocabulary
- Strong project manager

Health information administrators (HIAs), also called health information management professionals, use their knowledge of information technology and records management to form links between clinicians, administrators, information technology professionals, and technology designers. They are responsible for ensuring that data meets clinical, legal, and regulatory requirements. HIAs help other administrators manage costs and revenue, physicians assess healthcare quality, accrediting agencies evaluate healthcare delivery, and patients navigate the complicated healthcare system. Some HIAs ensure proper reimbursement amounts, establish department policies and procedures, formulate budgets, and oversee compliance with regulations. They may also hire, supervise, motivate, and evaluate employees.

Median Salary: \$76,000 or \$36.54 an hour

WORK ENVIRONMENTS

- Clinics
- Colleges and universities
- Consultant firms
- Health maintenance organizations
- Home health agencies
- Hospitals and health systems
- Information systems vendors
- Insurance companies
- Law firms
- Long-term care facilities
- Medical software companies
- Mental health facilities
- Pharmaceutical companies
- Public health departments
- Research institutions
- State and federal health agencies

ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS

- A bachelor's degree from a health information administration/management program

LICENSURE AND CERTIFICATION

- Voluntary national certification from the American Health Information Management Association for the Registered Health Information Administrator (RHIA) credential available for graduates of programs accredited by the Commission on Accreditation for Health Informatics and Information Management Education (www.cahiim.org)

PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

American Health Information Management Association
www.ahima.org

Georgia Health Information Management Association
www.ghima.org

Educational Programs

BACHELOR'S DEGREE

Augusta University
Dalton State College
Gordon State College



Health Information Technician

- Collects, analyzes, and interprets patient data to improve the quality of care
- Reviews, organizes, and evaluates medical records for completeness and accuracy

Ideal Attributes

- Detail-oriented
- Effective communicator
- Intense, sustained focus
- Strong computing skills

Health information technicians have a unique career that combines technology, management, and healthcare. Working with computer information systems, they manage patient health information and medical records that doctors, nurses, and other healthcare professionals rely on to provide quality patient care. As technology advances, the role of the health information technician expands. Their duty is to adapt to new methods of capturing healthcare information, storing that information, and easily accessing it electronically. This work is essential to maintain accurate, organized, and secure electronic data that allows daily healthcare routines to carry on smoothly with the new technological advancements.

Median Salary: \$37,550 or **\$18.05** an hour

WORK ENVIRONMENTS

- Ambulatory care centers
- Attorney offices
- Behavioral health facilities
- Biopharmaceutical companies
- Clinics
- Consultant firms
- Detention facilities
- Healthcare vendors
- Home health agencies
- Hospice
- Hospitals and health systems
- Information technology companies
- Insurance companies
- Long-term care facilities
- Managed care organizations
- Non-profit organizations
- Physician groups
- Rehabilitation centers
- State and federal health agencies

ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS

- An associate degree from an educational program accredited by the Commission on Accreditation for Health Informatics and Information Management Education (www.cahiim.org)

LICENSURE AND CERTIFICATION

- Voluntary national certification through the American Health Information Management Association for the Registered Health Information Technician (RHIT) credential upon passing the required exam

PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

American Health Information Management Association
www.ahima.org

Georgia Health Information Management Association
www.ghima.org

Educational Programs

ASSOCIATE DEGREE

Albany State University
Albany Technical College
Athens Technical College
Atlanta Technical College
Augusta Technical College

Georgia Northwestern Technical College
Georgia Piedmont Technical College
Gwinnett Technical College
Lanier Technical College
Ogeechee Technical College
Southern Regional Technical College

West Georgia Technical College
Wiregrass Georgia Technical College

Health Sciences Librarian

- Assists healthcare providers, patients, and students with research
- Provides access to medical books, journals, and other health information resources

Ideal Attributes

- Detail-oriented
- Moves quickly between tasks
- Organized
- Strong computing skills

Health sciences librarians—also known as medical librarians, clinical librarians, or informationists—help health profession students, physicians, and other healthcare providers navigate biomedical resources. They may also help patients and their loved ones seek out consumer-focused health information to aid in their care. These librarians select, purchase, and catalog medical books, journals, and databases. They manage library operations, plan budgets, market services, supervise staff, answer reference questions, and teach classes. Technology skills are very important to the role, and some health sciences librarians work closely with the electronic medical records team. Many health sciences librarians work side-by-side with healthcare providers and offer real-time research and reference services during patient care.

Median Salary: \$58,620 or \$28.18 an hour

WORK ENVIRONMENTS

- Colleges and universities
- Consumer health libraries
- Health education consortia
- Hospitals and health systems
- Insurance companies
- Pharmaceutical companies
- Professional associations
- Research centers and foundations
- State and federal government agencies

ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS

- A bachelor's degree for admission to a library and information science master's degree program
- A master's degree from an educational program accredited by the American Library Association (www.ala.org)
- Optional supervised fieldwork or internship in a healthcare information setting
- Doctoral degrees available but not required

LICENSURE AND CERTIFICATION

- Voluntary national membership in the Academy of Health Information Professionals (AHIP), a credentialing program sponsored by the Medical Library Association, based on experience and accomplishments

PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

- Georgia Health Sciences Library Association
www.ghsla.org
- Medical Library Association
www.mlanet.org
- National Library of Medicine
www.nlm.nih.gov
- Southern Chapter Medical Library Association
southernchaptermla.wildapricot.org

Educational Programs

MASTER'S DEGREE

Valdosta State University

Medical Coder

- Assigns appropriate codes from medical documentation for the reimbursement of claims

Ideal Attributes

- Detail-oriented
- Intense, sustained focus
- Strong computing skills
- Team-oriented

Medical coders assign a code to each healthcare service, supply, and diagnosis that healthcare providers document in a medical record. These codes are used to ensure proper reimbursement for the provider who delivered the care, as well as for research, health planning analysis, and clinical decisions. Medical coders must possess many important skills such as a high degree of accuracy, excellent communication and research skills, and knowledge of medical terminology, anatomy, physiology, and human diseases. The ability to work independently, a strong sense of ethics, and critical thinking skills are also important qualities for these professionals especially because there are so many opportunities for them to work remotely.

Median Salary: \$54,500 or \$15.42 an hour

WORK ENVIRONMENTS

- Attorney offices
- Behavioral health facilities
- Community health centers
- Freelance/contract
- Hospitals
- Insurance companies
- Long-term care facilities
- Managed care organizations
- Physician practices

ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS

- A high school diploma or equivalent
- Basic coding programs lead to a certificate
- Formal educational programs offered at the diploma and/or associate level
- Online courses available through the American Health Information Management Association and the American Association of Professional Coders

LICENSURE AND CERTIFICATION

- Voluntary national certifications from the American Health Information Management Association for the Certified Coding Associate (CCA), Certified Coding Specialist (CCS), and Certified Coding Specialist - Physician-based (CCS-P) credentials
- Voluntary national certifications from the American Association of Professional Coders for the Certified Professional Coder (CPC), Certified Outpatient Coder (COC), and Certified Inpatient Coder (CIC) credentials

Educational Programs

CERTIFICATE

Albany State University
Atlanta Technical College
Augusta Technical College
Cambridge College of Healthcare & Technology
Central Georgia Technical College
Coastal Pines Technical College
Columbus Technical College
Georgia Northwestern Technical College
Kennesaw State University
Miller-Motte Technical College
North Georgia Technical College
Ogeechee Technical College
Savannah Technical College
South Georgia Technical College

University of Georgia
West Georgia Technical College

DIPLOMA

Albany Technical College
Altierus Career College
Athens Technical College
Atlanta Technical College
Georgia Piedmont Technical College
Lanier Technical College
Southern Regional Technical College
Wiregrass Georgia Technical College

DIPLOMA AND ASSOCIATE DEGREE

Gwinnett Colleges & Institute
Herzing University

PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

American Association of Professional Coders
www.aapc.com

American Health Information Management Association
www.ahima.org

Georgia Health Information Management Association
www.ghima.org

Medical Illustrator

- Creates visual materials using a variety of media to explain medical and scientific information

Ideal Attributes

- Creative
- Detail-oriented
- Strong technology skills
- Verbal to visual interpreter

Medical illustrators are highly-trained, professional artists who create medical art and animation that is used to explain complicated scientific and technical information to students, physicians, patients, and consumers. Medical illustrators should have a strong background in art, science, and medicine. They use a variety of classic and digital media including pen and ink, watercolor, acrylics, sculpting, photography, animation, and computer graphics to create images. Some medical illustrators specialize in a single art medium or in a particular area of medicine, such as neurosurgery or orthopedics.

Median Salary: \$70,000 or \$33.65 an hour

WORK ENVIRONMENTS

- Advertising agencies
- Medical, dental, and veterinary schools
- Medical publishing companies
- Medical specialty institutes
- Multimedia companies
- Self-employed
- Teaching and research hospitals

ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS

- A bachelor's degree in art, zoology (the study of animals), or a multidisciplinary major combining art and an area of the life sciences needed for admission into a medical illustration program
- A master's degree from an educational program accredited by the Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs (www.caahep.org)

LICENSURE AND CERTIFICATION

- Voluntary national certification available through the Board of Certification of Medical Illustrators (ami.org/medical-illustration/board-certification) for the Certified Medical Illustrator (CMI) credential

PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

Association of Medical Illustrators
www.ami.org

Guild of Natural Science Illustrators
www.gnsi.org

Educational Programs

MASTER'S DEGREE

Augusta University

Medical Secretary

- Performs routine administrative tasks in a medical office setting
- Answers calls, schedules appointments, greets patients, and maintains files

Ideal Attributes

- Detail-oriented & organized
- Moves quickly between tasks
- Values confidentiality
- Works well under pressure

Medical secretaries, also known as medical office assistants or medical administrative assistants, perform a variety of administrative duties in order to keep a medical office running smoothly. They possess strong computer skills and knowledge of software applications used for word processing, data processing, and bookkeeping. Familiar with medical terminology, anatomy, and physiology, they can transcribe dictation. Medical secretaries establish patient charts, update records, prepare bills, record payments, and complete insurance forms. Speaking another language, such as Spanish, is very helpful in this career field.

Median Salary: \$32,073 or \$15.42 an hour

WORK ENVIRONMENTS

- Chiropractic practices
- Clinics
- Dental practices
- Home health agencies
- Hospitals and health systems
- Insurance companies
- Managed care organizations
- Pharmaceutical companies
- Physician practices
- Public health departments
- Veterinarian practices

ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS

- A high school diploma or equivalent
- On-the-job training sometimes offered but formal education preferred

LICENSURE AND CERTIFICATION

- Voluntary national certification from the American Medical Technologists for the Certified Medical Administrative Specialist (CMAS) credential and from the National Healthcareer Association for the Certified Medical Administrative Assistant (CMAA) credential

PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

American Association of Healthcare Administrative Management
www.aaham.org

American Medical Technologists
www.americanmedtech.org

International Association of Administrative Professionals
www.iaap-hq.org

National Healthcareer Association
www.nhanow.com

Educational Programs

CERTIFICATE, DIPLOMA, AND ASSOCIATE DEGREE

Albany Technical College
Augusta Technical College
Central Georgia Technical College
Coastal Pines Technical College
Georgia Northwestern Technical College
Oconee Fall Line Technical College
Savannah Technical College
Southeastern Technical College
South Georgia Technical College
West Georgia Technical College

CERTIFICATE

Columbus Technical College
Georgia Piedmont Technical College
Gwinnett Technical College
Kennesaw State University
Lanier Technical College
North Georgia Technical College
Ogeechee Technical College
Southern Regional Technical College
United Medical and Business Institute
University of Georgia

DIPLOMA

Chattahoochee Technical College

Fortis College
Gwinnett Colleges & Institute
Gwinnett Technical College
Helms College
North Georgia Technical College
Southern Regional Technical College
United Medical and Business Institute
Wiregrass Georgia Technical College

ASSOCIATE DEGREE

Chattahoochee Technical College
Gwinnett Colleges & Institute
Ogeechee Technical College



Medical Transcriptionist

- Types medical information recorded by healthcare providers
- Reviews and edits transcribed records for accuracy, spelling, grammar, and punctuation

Ideal Attributes

- Detail-oriented
- Grammar knowledge
- Independent worker
- Intense, sustained focus

A medical transcriptionist, also known as a healthcare documentation specialist, medical language specialist, or scribe, listens to live or recorded information and transcribes the dictation into a clear and concise record. When necessary, medical transcriptionists must utilize appropriate problem-solving techniques if the content is inaccurate or contradictory. They use computers to complete many medical documents, including medical histories, physicals, operative reports, and consultations. They record procedures and treatments for the medical record and for the healthcare practitioner's reference.

Median Salary: \$31,640 or \$15.21 an hour

WORK ENVIRONMENTS

- Clinics
- Hospitals and health systems
- Insurance companies
- Physician practices
- Private transcription companies
- Self-employed

ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS

- A high school diploma or equivalent
- Completion of a certificate program, which typically last from 9 to 18 months
- Online programs available

LICENSURE AND CERTIFICATION

- Voluntary national certification from the Association for Healthcare Documentation Integrity for the Registered Healthcare Documentation Specialist (RHDS) credential for those with less than 2 years of experience and the Certified Healthcare Documentation Specialist (CHDS) credential for those with 2 or more years of experience

PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

Association for Healthcare Documentation Integrity
www.ahdionline.org

Educational Programs

CERTIFICATE

Central Georgia Technical College
Coastal Pines Technical College
Georgia Northwestern Technical College
Southern Regional Technical College
Wiregrass Georgia Technical College

Laboratory Science

Careers in laboratory science are critical to the modern practice of medicine.

Laboratory specialists provide data necessary for the detection, diagnosis, and monitoring of a disease and its treatment. Using sophisticated instruments, they perform tests and report their findings to physicians and researchers. These healthcare professionals must exhibit great precision, attention to detail, and patience. The laboratory environment offers daily opportunities to discover clues as to the body's responses to injury and disease. These challenging careers are in great demand as there are always more discoveries to be made.

- CLINICAL LABORATORY SCIENTIST **GROWING**
- CLINICAL LABORATORY TECHNICIAN **GROWING**
- CYTOGENETIC TECHNOLOGIST
- CYTOTECHNOLOGIST
- HISTOTECHNICIAN & HISTOTECHNOLOGIST
- PHLEBOTOMIST **GROWING**



Clinical Laboratory Scientist

- Prepares and studies body tissues and fluids
- Provides data to determine presence and extent of disease as well as effectiveness of treatment

Ideal Attributes

- Independent worker
- Organized
- Problem-solver
- Works well under pressure

Clinical laboratory scientists, also known as medical laboratory technologists or medical laboratory scientists, are the backbone of every medical laboratory. Using sophisticated instruments and technology, they test body tissues and fluids for bacteria, drugs, or diseases such as cancer, diabetes, HIV/AIDS, and leukemia. Clinical laboratory scientists understand the reasons for doing specific tests and the significance of test results. They ensure a well-run operation by providing reliable results, controlling quality, and training and supervising clinical laboratory technicians. They often choose to specialize in a particular area of laboratory science and are prepared for management positions in the laboratory.

Median Salary: \$57,930 or \$27.85 an hour

AREAS OF SPECIALIZATION

- Blood banking
- Clinical chemistry
- Hematology
- Microbiology

WORK ENVIRONMENTS

- Blood banks/community blood services
- Colleges and universities
- Commercial and private laboratories
- Consulting firms
- Crime laboratories
- Government facilities
- Hospital laboratories
- Medical supply and sales companies
- Physician practices
- Public health departments
- Research facilities

ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS

- A bachelor's degree including a clinical practice component from an educational program accredited by the National Accrediting Agency for Clinical Laboratory Sciences (www.naacls.org)
- Certificate and master's degree programs available for students with a bachelor's degree in another science or related area

LICENSURE AND CERTIFICATION

- Required national certification from the American Society for Clinical Pathology Board of Certification for the Medical Laboratory Scientist (MLS) credential or from the American Medical Technologists for the Medical Technologist (MT) credential

PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

American Medical Technologists
www.americanmedtech.org

American Society for Clinical Laboratory Science
www.ascls.org

American Society for Clinical Pathology
www.ascp.org

Educational Programs

BACHELOR'S DEGREE

Augusta University
Georgia Southern University
Thomas University

POST-BACCALAUREATE CERTIFICATE

Emory Healthcare

MASTER'S DEGREE

Augusta University

Clinical Laboratory Technician

- Examines and analyzes blood, body fluids, tissues, and cells
- Gathers data used to determine absence or presence and extent of disease

Ideal Attributes

- Critical thinker
- Detail-oriented
- Moves quickly between tasks

Clinical laboratory technicians, also known as medical laboratory technicians, work under the supervision of clinical laboratory scientists. They use microscopes, computers, and very complicated laboratory equipment to gather data that helps physicians determine the best course of treatment for their patients as well as monitor their patients' progress. Clinical laboratory technicians perform many duties such as counting and evaluating red and white blood cells and platelets, testing for various diseases, analyzing urine samples, staining and reading slides, and keeping records. They also group and type blood, perform antibody studies, and prepare blood for transfusion. As they gain experience, they are given more responsibility and perform more complex testing.

Median Salary: \$34,300 or \$16.49 an hour

WORK ENVIRONMENTS

- Blood donation centers
- Colleges and universities
- Commercial and private laboratories
- Crime laboratories
- Hospital laboratories
- Pharmaceutical companies
- Physician practices
- Public health departments
- Research facilities

ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS

- An associate degree with laboratory experience from an educational program accredited by the National Accrediting Agency for Clinical Laboratory Sciences (www.naacls.org)

LICENSURE AND CERTIFICATION

- Required national certification from the American Society for Clinical Pathology Board of Certification or from the American Medical Technologists for the Medical Laboratory Technician (MLT) credential

PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

American Medical Technologists
www.americanmedtech.org

American Society for Clinical Laboratory Science
www.ascls.org

American Society for Clinical Pathology
www.ascp.org

Educational Programs

ASSOCIATE DEGREE

Albany State University
Central Georgia Technical College
Chattahoochee Technical College
Coastal Pines Technical College
Dalton State College
Georgia Piedmont Technical College
North Georgia Technical College
Southeastern Technical College
Southern Regional Technical College
West Georgia Technical College

Cytogenetic Technologist

- Analyzes chromosomes to aid in the study, diagnosis, or treatment of genetic diseases

Ideal Attributes

- Able to multi-task
- Detail-oriented & organized
- Problem-solver
- Strong visual perception

Cytogenetic technologists prepare and analyze chromosomes found in specimens like blood, amniotic fluid, bone marrow, and solid tissues. This work enables diagnosis of constitutional or inherited genetic disorders both prenatally and postnatally and is essential in the diagnosis and prognosis of acquired disorders such as leukemias, lymphomas, or solid tumors. They culture and harvest specimens, prepare slides, perform staining techniques, utilize microscopy, and analyze computer images and karyotypes. Molecular cytogenetic techniques such as fluorescence in situ hybridization (FISH) are also components of most cytogenetic laboratories. Cytogenetic technologists analyze and interpret chromosome and FISH results and learn standard genetic nomenclature to describe and document their findings.

Median Salary: \$58,219 or \$27.99 an hour

WORK ENVIRONMENTS

- Colleges and universities
- Government agencies
- Hospital laboratories
- Private laboratories
- Public health facilities
- Research laboratories

ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS

- A bachelor's degree in a scientific discipline
- One to two years of post-baccalaureate training from an educational program accredited by the National Accrediting Agency for Clinical Laboratory Sciences (www.naacls.org) or a minimum of one year on-the-job-training in a cytogenetics laboratory
- Advanced degrees in genetics also available

LICENSURE AND CERTIFICATION

- Voluntary national certification from the American Society for Clinical Pathology Board of Certification for the CG(ASCP) credential

PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

American Society for Clinical Pathology
www.ascp.org

Association of Genetic Technologists
www.agt-info.org

Educational Programs

BACHELOR'S DEGREE

Kennesaw State University

Cytotechnologist

- Evaluates cell samples for abnormalities in cell structure, color, shape, and size
- Prepares specimens to be evaluated

Ideal Attributes

- Detail-oriented
- Patient
- Strong visual perception
- Values accuracy

Cytotechnologists are health professionals who specialize in the study of cells from the human body. They use microscopes to evaluate cell samples from various body sites by looking for abnormalities that could be signs of cancer, precancerous lesions, non-cancerous tumors and infections. They work closely with pathologists (physicians who interpret and diagnose the changes caused by disease in tissues and body fluids) to provide an accurate diagnosis for the patient. New automated microscopes, digital imaging, and molecular technologies are enhancing the ability of cytotechnologists to provide a correct diagnosis. They help save lives by identifying certain diseases at an early stage and monitoring a patient's response to treatment.

Median Salary: \$70,720 or **\$34.00** an hour

WORK ENVIRONMENTS

- Colleges and universities
- Commercial and private laboratories
- Government agencies
- Hospital laboratories
- Research facilities

ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS

- Three years of education with required biology, chemistry, and math credits usually recommended before admission into a cytotechnology program accredited by the Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs (www.caahep.org)
- One to two years of education in a cytotechnology program leading to a bachelor's degree, post-baccalaureate certificate, or master's degree

LICENSURE AND CERTIFICATION

- Voluntary national certification from the American Society for Clinical Pathology Board of Certification for the CT(ASCP) credential

PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

American Society for Clinical Pathology
www.ascp.org

American Society for Cytotechnology
www.asct.com

American Society of Cytopathology
www.cytopathology.org

Educational Programs

GEORGIA DOES NOT HAVE ANY CYTOTECHNOLOGY PROGRAMS.

Programs listed are located in neighboring states.

POST-BACCALAUREATE CERTIFICATE

Central Piedmont Community College (NC)
www.cpcc.edu

MASTER'S DEGREE

University of Tennessee Health Science Center (TN)
www.uthsc.edu

Histotechnician & Histotechnologist

- Prepares slides from human, animal, or plant tissues for examination by a pathologist

Ideal Attributes

- Detail-oriented
- Manual dexterity
- Patient
- Works well under pressure

Histology is the microscopic study of tissues and their structures. Histotechnicians and histotechnologists prepare slides of tissues by immersing them in fluid to prevent decay, replacing the specimen's water with wax, slicing the tissue, and applying dyes. These slides are microscopically examined by a pathologist or scientist to detect tissue abnormalities and to diagnose diseases. Slides may also be used for teaching and research. Histotechnologists perform more specialized procedures, such as electron microscopy to identify tissue parts and to relate them to body functions. They can also establish new laboratory and quality control procedures.

Median Salary: \$55,640 or \$26.75 an hour / \$62,046 or \$29.83 an hour

WORK ENVIRONMENTS

- Commercial and private laboratories
- Crime laboratories
- Hospital laboratories
- Pharmaceutical companies
- Physician practices
- Public health facilities
- Research facilities

ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS

- **Histotechnician:** An associate degree or a certificate from a histology program accredited by the National Accrediting Agency for Clinical Laboratory Sciences (www.naacls.org) or an associate degree plus 1 year of laboratory experience

- **Histotechnologist:** A bachelor's degree, post-baccalaureate certificate, or master's degree from a NAACLS-accredited histology program

LICENSURE AND CERTIFICATION

- Recommended national certification from the American Society for Clinical Pathology Board of Certification for the Histotechnician (HT) and Histotechnologist (HTL) credentials

PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

American Society for Clinical Laboratory Science
www.ascls.org

American Society for Clinical Pathology
www.ascp.org

National Society for Histotechnology
www.nsh.org

Educational Programs

Histotechnician Programs

ASSOCIATE DEGREE

Albany State University

POST-ASSOCIATE CERTIFICATE

Albany State University

Histotechnologist Programs

GEORGIA DOES NOT HAVE ANY HISTOTECHNOLOGIST PROGRAMS.

Programs listed are located in neighboring states.

BACHELOR'S DEGREE

Barry University (FL)
www.barry.edu

POST-BACCALAUREATE CERTIFICATE

Carolinas College of Health Sciences (NC)
online.carolinascollege.edu

MASTER'S DEGREE

University of Tennessee Health Science Center (TN)
www.uthsc.edu



Phlebotomist

- Collects and processes blood for donation, laboratory testing, medical research, or transfusion

Ideal Attributes

- Empathetic & ethical
- Manual dexterity
- Strong interpersonal skills
- Works well under pressure

Phlebotomists are trained to draw blood with the least possible anxiety and discomfort to the patient. They have a great deal of patient contact and help calm nervous patients before beginning the blood collection process. Because they risk exposure to diseases, phlebotomists are trained in laboratory safety and careful collection of blood. They are usually supervised by a clinical laboratory scientist.

Median Salary: \$31,180 or \$14.99 an hour

WORK ENVIRONMENTS

- Blood donation centers
- Clinics
- Home health agencies
- Hospitals
- Insurance companies
- Pheresis (blood separation) centers
- Physician practices
- Public health departments
- Reference laboratories

ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS

- A high school diploma or equivalent
- On-the-job training requiring 1040 hours of instruction or formal education lasting several months from a phlebotomy program accredited by the National Accrediting Agency for Clinical Laboratory Sciences (www.nacls.org)

LICENSURE AND CERTIFICATION

- Voluntary national certification from the American Society for Clinical Pathology, American Society of Phlebotomy Technicians, American Medical Technologists, American Certification Agency for Healthcare Professionals (acacert.com), and National Center for Competency Testing (www.ncctinc.com)

PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

American Medical Technologists
www.americanmedtech.org

American Society for Clinical Pathology
www.ascp.org

American Society of Phlebotomy Technicians
www.aspt.org

National Phlebotomy Association
www.nationalphlebotomy.org

Educational Programs

CERTIFICATE

Albany State University
Athens Technical College
Atlanta Technical College
Cambridge College of Healthcare & Technology
Central Georgia Technical College

Coastal Pines Technical College
Columbus Technical College
Dalton State College
Georgia Northwestern Technical College
Georgia Piedmont Technical College
Kennesaw State University
Lanier Technical College
New Horizons Medical Institute

North Georgia Technical College
Savannah Technical College
South Georgia Technical College
Southern Crescent Technical College
Southern Regional Technical College
West Georgia Technical College
Wiregrass Georgia Technical College



Medical Support

Technical advances and specialized procedures have created numerous medical support careers.

As members of the medical team, professionals providing medical support perform a wide range of functions in a variety of settings. They may operate life-sustaining equipment, provide medical treatment at the scene of an accident, or assist surgeons in the operating room. Some perform direct patient care under a supervising physician while others oversee office responsibilities. Providing anesthesia or evaluating and treating sleep disorders are other roles in the medical support category. Whatever the position, these professionals are vital team players ensuring the delivery of quality healthcare.

ANESTHESIOLOGIST ASSISTANT

EMERGENCY MEDICAL TECHNICIAN **GROWING**

HOME HEALTH AIDE & PERSONAL CARE AIDE **GROWING**

MEDICAL ASSISTANT **GROWING**

MEDICAL INTERPRETER

NEURODIAGNOSTIC TECHNOLOGIST

PARAMEDIC **GROWING**

PERFUSIONIST

PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT **HOT CAREER**

POLYSOMNOGRAPHIC TECHNOLOGIST

SURGICAL TECHNOLOGIST **GROWING**



Anesthesiologist Assistant

- Works under the direction of a licensed anesthesiologist to provide quality anesthesia care

Ideal Attributes

- Detail-oriented
- Effective communicator
- Manual dexterity
- Works well under pressure

Anesthesiologist assistants are trained to medically manage patient conditions under anesthesia. They work as part of the anesthesia care team to help develop and implement the anesthesia care plan, administer drugs, obtain vascular access, apply and interpret monitors, establish and maintain the patient's airway, and assist with preoperative assessment. They are currently allowed to practice in 16 states, the District of Columbia, and the United States territory of Guam. With the growing demand, many other states will likely open their doors to these professionals.

Median Salary: \$145,537 or \$69.97 an hour

WORK ENVIRONMENTS

- Ambulatory surgical centers
- Hospitals
- Pain centers

ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS

- A bachelor's degree with completion of pre-medical curriculum for admission to an anesthesiologist assistant program
- A master's degree from an educational program accredited by the Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs (www.caahep.org) including classroom and clinical work

LICENSURE AND CERTIFICATION

- Required state licensure from the Georgia Composite Medical Board (medicalboard.georgia.gov)
- Voluntary national certification from the National Commission for Certification of Anesthesiologist Assistants (www.aa-nccaa.org) for the Certified Anesthesiologist Assistant (CAA) credential

PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

American Academy of Anesthesiologist Assistants
aaaa.memberclicks.net

American Society of Anesthesiologists
www.asahq.org

Georgia Academy of Anesthesiologist Assistants
www.georgiaaaa.org

Educational Programs

MASTER'S DEGREE

Emory University
South University



Emergency Medical Technician

- Provides basic medical care and life support in emergency situations

Ideal Attributes

- Assertive
- Effective communicator
- Strong & agile
- Works well under pressure

Emergency medical technicians (EMTs) are highly-trained professionals who respond to varying degrees of medical- and trauma-related emergencies such as fires, car accidents, heart attacks, unexpected childbirth, and security or natural disasters. They are trained to assess and treat life-threatening conditions as well as skillfully operate ambulances to transport patients to a healthcare facility capable of providing appropriate treatment. They perform cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR), control bleeding, place splints on broken bones, and check pulse and respiration. EMTs with advanced training can also provide limited pharmacological interventions.

Median Salary: \$37,256 or \$17.91 an hour

WORK ENVIRONMENTS

- Air ambulances
- Clinics
- Colleges and universities
- Critical care transport units
- Fire departments
- Hospital ambulance services
- Hospital emergency departments
- Law enforcement agencies
- Physician practices
- Public and private ambulance services
- Surgery centers

ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS

- A high school diploma or equivalent
- Completion of a Basic EMT certificate program lasting 2 or more semesters or of an Advanced EMT (AEMT) certificate program lasting an additional 1 to 2 semesters

LICENSURE AND CERTIFICATION

- Required state licensure from the Georgia Department of Public Health Office of Emergency Medical Services (dph.georgia.gov/EMS)
- Required national certification from the National Registry of Emergency Medical Technicians (www.nremt.org)

PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

National Association of Emergency Medical Technicians
www.naemt.org

Georgia Association of Emergency Medical Services
www.georgiaems.net

Educational Programs

Contact your Regional EMS Office (dph.georgia.gov/regional-EMS-offices-0) for additional state-approved EMT programs in your area.

CERTIFICATE

Albany State University
Augusta Technical College
South Georgia Technical College
West Georgia Technical College

CERTIFICATE AND DIPLOMA

Albany Technical College
Athens Technical College
Atlanta Technical College
Central Georgia Technical College
Coastal Pines Technical College
Columbus Technical College
Georgia Northwestern Technical College
Georgia Piedmont Technical College
Gwinnett Technical College
Lanier Technical College

North Georgia Technical College
Oconee Fall Line Technical College
Ogeechee Technical College
Savannah Technical College
Southeastern Technical College
Southern Crescent Technical College
Southern Regional Technical College
Wiregrass Georgia Technical College

DIPLOMA

Chattahoochee Technical College



Home Health Aide & Personal Care Aide

- Offers care and support for people unable to care for themselves

Ideal Attributes

- Compassionate & patient
- Dependable & responsible
- Discreet
- Effective communicator

Home health aides and personal care aides are two of the fastest growing occupations in Georgia and the United States. They provide an alternative to institutional living by providing care at a client's personal home or residential facility. Home health aides perform basic health-related services under the direct supervision of medical professionals. In some states, they are allowed to take vital signs such as pulse, temperature, and respiration rate and to give prescribed medications. Personal care aides provide companionship and assist with daily tasks such as planning and cooking meals, cleaning, and shopping. They can also help clients bathe, dress, groom, and eat. Both professionals may keep records and report to a supervisor, medical staff, or the family about the client's condition and progress.

Median Salary: \$22,256 or \$10.70 an hour

WORK ENVIRONMENTS

- Assisted living facilities
- Home health agencies
- Hospice facilities
- Private homes
- Residential care facilities

ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS

- A high school diploma or equivalent
- On-the-job training often provided by the client's family or home health agency
- Courses helpful for this career offered online and by some high schools and technical colleges

LICENSURE AND CERTIFICATION

- Voluntary national certification from the National Association for Home Care and Hospice

PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

Georgia Association for Home Health Agencies, Inc.
www.gahha.org

Georgia Association of Community Care Providers
www.gaccp.org

National Association for Home Care and Hospice
www.nahc.org

Private Duty Homecare Association
www.pdhca.org

Educational Programs

Contact local high schools, technical colleges, or home health agencies to find courses available in your area.

You may also contact the National Association for Home Care and Hospice (www.nahc.org) for online training opportunities.

Medical Assistant

- Prepares patients for exams by taking medical histories and recording vital signs
- Schedules appointments and updates medical records

Ideal Attributes

- Detail-oriented
- Effective communicator
- Empathetic
- Team-oriented

The versatility, knowledge, and skills medical assistants possess due to their cross-training in clinical and administrative duties make them valuable members of the healthcare team. Working in a variety of settings, they perform many clinical duties such as taking blood pressure, temperature, pulse, and respiration rate. They assist with first aid, collect and prepare laboratory specimens, perform procedures such as EKGs, and may assist with office surgery and physical exams. They also perform many administrative tasks including greeting patients, filing patient medical records, and arranging hospital admissions. They type reports, process health insurance forms, order supplies, and keep financial records. An experienced medical assistant can advance to other administrative positions.

Median Salary: \$31,553 or \$15.17 an hour

WORK ENVIRONMENTS

- Chiropractic practices
- Medical clinics
- Optometric practices
- Physical therapy clinics
- Physician practices
- Podiatrist practices

ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS

- A high school diploma or equivalent

- On-the-job training available but education from an accredited certificate, diploma, or associate degree program recommended

LICENSURE AND CERTIFICATION

- Voluntary national certification from the American Association of Medical Assistants for the Certified Medical Assistant (CMA) credential

- Voluntary national certification from the American Medical Technologists for the Registered Medical Assistant (RMA) credential

PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

American Association of Medical Assistants
www.aama-ntl.org

American Medical Technologists
www.americanmedtech.org

Educational Programs

CERTIFICATE

Cambridge College of Healthcare & Technology
Kennesaw State University
Lincoln Tech
New Horizons Medical Institute
Omnitech Institute
Woodruff Medical Training and Testing

DIPLOMA

Altierus Career College
Athens Technical College
Atlanta Technical College
Augusta Technical College
Coastal Pines Technical College
Columbus Technical College

Gwinnett Technical College
Helms College
Oconee Fall Line Technical College
Ogeechee Technical College
Savannah Technical College
Southeastern Technical College
Southern Crescent Technical College
South Georgia Technical College
United Education Institute
United Medical and Business Institute
West Georgia Technical College

DIPLOMA AND ASSOCIATE DEGREE

Albany Technical College
Central Georgia Technical College
Chattahoochee Technical College

Fortis College
Georgia Northwestern Technical College
Georgia Piedmont Technical College
Gwinnett Colleges & Institute
Lanier Technical College
North Georgia Technical College
Southern Regional Technical College
Wiregrass Georgia Technical College

ASSOCIATE DEGREE

Miller-Motte Technical College
South University



Medical Interpreter

- Ensures accurate and effective communication between healthcare providers and patients
- Improves healthcare outcomes and patient safety by removing language barriers

Ideal Attributes

- Ethical
- Strong linguistic skills
- Strong medical vocabulary
- Values accuracy

With the increasing diversity in our country, healthcare providers are treating more and more Limited English Proficient (LEP) patients. Language, cultural, and communication barriers can lead to serious healthcare problems including delay of treatment and lack of trust. The quality of care often depends as much on the interpreter as the provider. Medical interpreters are trained and qualified professionals who follow a code of ethics in interpreting. Everything spoken must be interpreted, and nothing can be added, omitted, or changed. In addition, confidentiality must be kept. Medical interpreters primarily interact directly with patients and providers, but they may also work with family members and other staff. They may also provide services over the phone or through video.

Median Salary: \$49,135 or \$23.62 an hour

WORK ENVIRONMENTS

- Federally-funded clinics
- Hospitals
- Interpreting service agencies
- Mental health facilities
- Nursing homes
- Physician practices
- Private clinics
- Public health departments
- Rehabilitation centers

ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS

- A high school diploma or equivalent
- A certificate from an educational program including a minimum of 40 hours of instruction and training as required by the National Council on Interpreting in Health Care (www.ncihc.org)

LICENSURE AND CERTIFICATION

- Voluntary national certification from the National Board of Certification for Medical Interpreters (www.certifiedmedicalinterpreters.org) for the Certified Medical Interpreter (CMI) credential and/or from the Certification Commission for Healthcare Interpreters (www.cchicertification.org) for the Certified Healthcare Interpreter (CHI) credential

PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

Cross Cultural Health Care Program
www.xculture.org

International Medical Interpreters Association
www.imiaweb.org

Medical Interpreters Network of Georgia
www.mingweb.org

Educational Programs

CERTIFICATE

Georgia State University
Kennesaw State University
University of Georgia

Various organizations and healthcare facilities offer training programs for medical interpreters.

Contact the professional organizations listed above for additional training opportunities.



Neurodiagnostic Technologist

- Measures and records electrical activity in the brain, spinal cord, and peripheral nerves using a variety of techniques and instruments

Ideal Attributes

- Compassionate
- Good judgment
- Manual dexterity
- Reasoning skills

Neurodiagnostic technologists (NDTs), also called electroneurodiagnostic technologists, monitor and record nervous system function that neurologists use to diagnose, monitor, and effectively treat neurological diseases and conditions like Alzheimer's disease, brain trauma, epilepsy, and stroke. NDTs prepare patients for procedures by applying electrodes on the scalp or other parts of the body. They also comfort patients during the procedures, which can range from several minutes to several hours to multiple days for long term monitoring. They monitor instrument settings and are able to recognize normal and abnormal electrical activity. NDTs prepare descriptive reports of the recorded activity for the physician to review and interpret.

Median Salary: \$40,300 or **\$19.38** an hour

AREAS OF SPECIALIZATION

- Autonomics
- Electroencephalograph (EEG)
- Evoked potentials
- Intraoperative neurophysiologic monitoring
- Long term monitoring
- Nerve conduction studies

WORK ENVIRONMENTS

- Clinics
- Hospitals
- Physician practices
- Research facilities
- Self-employed
- Specialized epilepsy and sleep centers

ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS

- A certificate or associate degree from an educational program accredited by the Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs (www.caahep.org)

LICENSURE AND CERTIFICATION

- Voluntary national certification from ABRET: Neurodiagnostic Credentialing and Accreditation (www.abret.org) for the Certified Autonomics Professional (CAP), Registered Electro-encephalograph Technologist (R. EEG T.), Registered Evoked Potentials Technologist (R. EP T.), Certified Long Term Monitoring Technologist (CLTM), and Certified Neurophysiologic Intraoperative Monitoring Technologist (CNIM) credentials
- Voluntary national certification for nerve conduction studies from the American Association of Electrodiagnostic Technologists for the Registered Nerve Conduction Study Technologist (RNCST) credential or the American Board of Electrodiagnostic Medicine for the Certified Nerve Conduction Technologist (CNCT) credential

PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

American Association of Electrodiagnostic Technologists
www.aet.info

American Association of Neuromuscular and Electrodiagnostic Medicine
www.aanem.org

ASET: The Neurodiagnostic Society
www.aset.org

Educational Programs

GEORGIA DOES NOT HAVE ANY NEURODIAGNOSTIC TECHNOLOGY PROGRAMS.

Programs listed are located in neighboring states. Visit www.aset.org for a list of online programs.

ASSOCIATE DEGREE

Catawba Valley Community College (NC)
www.cvcc.edu

Pamlico Community College (NC)
www.pamlicocc.edu

POST-ASSOCIATE CERTIFICATE

Vanderbilt University Medical Center (TN)
ww2.mc.vanderbilt.edu

Paramedic

- Provides advanced life support techniques in emergency situations

Ideal Attributes

- Good judgment
- Strong & agile
- Strong leadership skills
- Works well under pressure

In addition to all the skills of an emergency medical technician (EMT), paramedics are trained to provide advanced life support techniques. Paramedics use monitors and other complex equipment to conduct electrocardiograms (EKGs), cardiac monitoring and defibrillation, and advanced airway management procedures including endotracheal intubation. They can also administer medications and intravenous fluids under direction of an off-site designated physician. In some communities, paramedics provide home visits to people with chronic conditions such as asthma, diabetes, and high blood pressure in order to provide increased access to primary and preventive care and to decrease unnecessary ambulance transport and emergency department visits.

Median Salary: \$45,206 or \$21.73 an hour

AREAS OF SPECIALIZATION

- Community paramedic
- Critical care paramedic
- Flight paramedic
- Tactical paramedic

WORK ENVIRONMENTS

- Air ambulances
- Ambulance services
- Clinics
- Colleges and universities
- Critical care transport units
- Fire departments
- Hospital emergency departments
- Law enforcement agencies
- Physician practices
- Surgery centers

ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS

- Completion of a 15-month to 2-year educational program accredited by the Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs that builds upon Advanced EMT (AEMT) training

LICENSURE AND CERTIFICATION

- Required state licensure from the Georgia Department of Health Office of EMS (dph.georgia.gov/EMS)
- Required national certification from the National Registry of EMTs (www.nremt.org) for the NREMT-P credential
- Specialty certification available from the International Board of Specialty Certification (www.ibscertifications.org)

PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs
www.caahep.org

Click on the **Students** tab for a list of accredited educational programs offered by emergency medical services and/or fire departments in your area.

Georgia Emergency Medical Services Association
www.georgiaems.net

National Association of Emergency Medical Technicians
www.naemt.org

Educational Programs

CERTIFICATE

Albany State University
Augusta University

DIPLOMA

Coastal Pines Technical College
Oconee Fall Line Technical College
Ogeechee Technical College

DIPLOMA AND ASSOCIATE DEGREE

Albany Technical College
Athens Technical College
Atlanta Technical College
Central Georgia Technical College
Chattahoochee Technical College
Columbus Technical College
Fortis College
Georgia Northwestern Technical College
Georgia Piedmont Technical College
Gwinnett Technical College

Lanier Technical College
North Georgia Technical College
Savannah Technical College
Southeastern Technical College
Southern Crescent Technical College
Southern Regional Technical College
Wiregrass Georgia Technical College

ASSOCIATE DEGREE

Albany State University

Perfusionist

- Monitors and manages the heart-lung machine during open-heart surgeries
- Monitors and maintains stable condition of patient

Ideal Attributes

- Detail-oriented
- Effective communicator
- Independent worker
- Strong math & science skills

Perfusionists are members of the open-heart surgical team. They operate the heart-lung machine, which performs the function of the human heart and lungs, and are responsible for maintaining the patient's physiological state during surgery. Perfusionists sometimes perform similar functions outside of the operating room such as monitoring and maintaining artificial hearts, ventricular assist devices, and other circulatory assist devices. They must have a thorough knowledge of pathophysiology, pharmacology, anatomy, physiology, and artificial circulation technology in order to perform these duties competently and safely. Perfusion care is performed in a team-oriented setting and is considered to be highly stressful.

Median Salary: \$119,845 or \$57.62 an hour

WORK ENVIRONMENTS

- Equipment manufacturers
- Hospitals
- Perfusion service companies

ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS

- A bachelor's degree, post-baccalaureate certificate, or master's degree from an educational program accredited by the Accreditation Committee for Perfusion Education (ac-pe.org)
- Strong background in science and experience in a clinical setting recommended by most programs for admission

LICENSURE AND CERTIFICATION

- Required state licensure from the Georgia Composite Medical Board (medicalboard.georgia.gov)
- Required national certification from the American Board of Cardiovascular Perfusion (www.abcp.org) for the Certified Clinical Perfusionist (CCP) credential

PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

American Academy of Cardiovascular Perfusion
www.theaacp.com

American Society of ExtraCorporeal Technology
www.amsect.org

Educational Programs

GEORGIA DOES NOT HAVE ANY PERFUSIONIST PROGRAMS.

Programs listed are located in neighboring states.

BACHELOR'S DEGREE

Barry University (FL)
www.barry.edu

POST-BACCALAUREATE CERTIFICATE

Vanderbilt University Medical Center (TN)
ww2.mc.vanderbilt.edu

MASTER'S DEGREE

Medical University of South Carolina (SC)
www.musc.edu

Physician Assistant

- Provides medical and surgical services under a supervising physician
- Conducts physical exams, diagnoses and treats illnesses, prescribes medications, and orders and interprets tests

Ideal Attributes

- Compassionate & dedicated
- Effective communicator
- Lifelong learner
- Team-oriented

Physician assistants (PAs) are healthcare professionals who partner with supervising physicians to practice medicine. Physicians may delegate to PAs those medical duties that are within the physician's scope of practice and the PA's training and experience. These highly trained healthcare professionals allow the increase in quality as well as quantity of medical care services. PAs perform a vital service in rural and underserved regions of Georgia by providing access to quality healthcare where there is a shortage of physicians. The demand for PAs is on the rise, and the profession is considered one of the fastest growing in the country with the profession expanding to other nations as well.

Median Salary: \$102,024 or \$49.05 an hour

AREAS OF SPECIALIZATION

- Cardiovascular and thoracic surgery
- Cardiology
- Emergency medicine
- Hospital and critical care medicine
- Neonatology
- Nephrology
- Oncology
- Orthopaedic surgery
- Pediatrics
- Psychiatry
- Sports medicine

WORK ENVIRONMENTS

- Clinics
- Community health centers
- Health maintenance organizations
- Hospitals
- Medical colleges and universities

- Military bases and deployment
- Nursing homes
- Pain management centers
- Physician practices
- Prisons
- Research institutions
- Student health centers
- Trauma centers

ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS

- A bachelor's degree and previous healthcare experience required for admission into a physician assistant program
- A master's degree from an educational program accredited by the Accreditation Review Commission on Education for the Physician Assistant (www.arc-pa.org) that includes classroom and laboratory instruction

LICENSURE AND CERTIFICATION

- Required state licensure from the Georgia Composite Medical Board (medicalboard.georgia.gov)
- Required national certification from the National Commission on Certification of Physician Assistants (www.nccpa.net) for the Physician Assistant, Certified (PA-C) credential

PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

American Academy of Physician Assistants
www.aapa.org

Georgia Association of Physician Assistants
www.gapa.net

Physician Assistant Education Association
www.paeaonline.org

Educational Programs

MASTER'S DEGREE

Augusta University
Emory University
Mercer University
Morehouse School of Medicine
Philadelphia College of Osteopathic
Medicine - Georgia Campus
South University



Polysomnographic Technologist

- Assists in evaluating, treating, and caring for patients with sleep disorders
- Gathers data during a sleep study and generates a report

Ideal Attributes

- Critical thinker
- Effective communicator
- Independent worker
- Strong troubleshooting skills

Over 80 sleep-related disorders such as obstructive sleep apnea, periodic limb movement disorder, narcolepsy, and rapid eye movement behavior disorder have been linked to many health problems such as hypertension, cardiac failure, obesity, diabetes, and stroke. Under the direction of physicians, polysomnographic technologists, also known as sleep technologists, apply necessary equipment for testing and treatment, accumulate data throughout the recording process, score the data, and print a preliminary report. They use a great deal of independent judgment to make recommendations to the healthcare team regarding the patient's visit to the sleep lab.

Median Salary: \$54,412 or \$26.16 an hour

WORK ENVIRONMENTS

- Colleges and universities
- Home health agencies
- Hospitals
- Medical centers
- Portable labs
- Private clinics
- Research facilities

ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS

- A high school diploma or equivalent
- On-the-job training available but completion of a formal educational program accredited by the Committee on Accreditation for Respiratory Care (www.coarc.com) preferred
- Eight-month certificate program available for credentialed respiratory therapists

PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

American Academy of Sleep Medicine
www.aasm.org

American Association of Sleep Technologists
www.aastweb.org

Georgia Association of Sleep Professionals
www.gasleep.org

LICENSURE AND CERTIFICATION

- Voluntary national certification from the Board of Registered Polysomnographic Technologists (www.brpt.org) for the entry-level Certified Polysomnographic Technician (CPSGT) credential and the advanced level Registered Polysomnographic Technologist (RPSGT) credential or from the American Board of Sleep Medicine (absm.org) for the Registered Sleep Technologist (RST) credential

Educational Programs

DIPLOMA

Central Georgia Technical College

POST-ASSOCIATE CERTIFICATE

Southern Crescent Technical College

Surgical Technologist

- Works with the surgical team to facilitate safe and effective surgery
- Passes instruments and supplies to the surgeon and operates specialty equipment

Ideal Attributes

- Intense, sustained focus
- Moves quickly between tasks
- Team-oriented
- Works well under pressure

Surgical technologists work closely with surgeons, anesthesiologists, and nurses to provide safe care for patients before, during, and after surgery. A surgical technologist in the scrub role handles the necessary instruments, supplies, and equipment during the surgical procedure. They must have an understanding of the procedure being performed, anticipate the needs of the surgeon, and have the necessary knowledge and ability to ensure quality patient care during the procedure while monitoring and maintaining the sterile field. A surgical technologist in the circulating role obtains additional instruments, supplies, and equipment during the surgical procedure. They monitor the conditions in the operating room and constantly assess the needs of the patient and surgical team.

Median Salary: \$43,409 or **\$20.87** an hour

WORK ENVIRONMENTS

- Ambulatory surgical facilities
- Animal hospitals
- Autopsy labs
- Colleges and universities
- Crime labs
- Hospitals
- Medical supply and equipment sales companies
- Organ procurement organizations
- Veterinary practices

ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS

- Completion of an educational program accredited by the Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs (www.caahep.org) or Accrediting Bureau of Health Education Schools (www.abhes.org)

LICENSURE AND CERTIFICATION

- Recommended national certification from the National Board of Surgical Technology and Surgical Assisting (www.nbstsa.org) for the Certified Surgical Technologist (CST) credential

PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

Association of Surgical Technologists
www.ast.org

Georgia State Assembly of AST
www.ast-gasa.org

Educational Programs

DIPLOMA

Albany Technical College
Athens Technical College
Central Georgia Technical College
Coastal Pines Technical College
Georgia Northwestern Technical College
Ogeechee Technical College
Southern Crescent Technical College
Southern Regional Technical College
West Georgia Technical College

ASSOCIATE DEGREE

Athens Technical College
Atlanta Technical College
Augusta Technical College
Chattahoochee Technical College
Coastal Pines Technical College
Columbus Technical College
Georgia Northwestern Technical College
Gwinnett Technical College
Lanier Technical College

Savannah Technical College
Southern Crescent Technical College
Southern Regional Technical College
Wiregrass Georgia Technical College



Medicine



Professionals in the field of medicine are some of the most trusted and respected members of the healthcare team and community.

The profession requires responsible, hard-working individuals who can deal with considerable stress. They must possess a sincere commitment to helping others, much compassion, extensive patience, excellent judgment, good decision-making skills, and a willingness to make personal sacrifices. A desire to learn is essential because physicians must keep up with new advances in technology, equipment, procedures, and medications. They act as the “coach” of the team by overseeing other healthcare associates. A career in medicine is one of the most challenging positions in the world but also offers some of the most exciting and rewarding opportunities to serve people.

DOCTOR OF MEDICINE  **HOT CAREER**

DOCTOR OF OSTEOPATHIC MEDICINE  **HOT CAREER**

PODIATRIST

Doctor of Medicine

- Takes medical histories, performs physical exams, and advises patients on preventive healthcare
- Orders, performs, and interprets lab and x-ray studies as well as other diagnostic and/or surgical procedures

Ideal Attributes

- Empathetic & ethical
- Lifelong learner
- Strong leadership skills
- Works well under pressure

Doctors of medicine, also known as allopathic physicians or MDs, are trained to diagnose and treat illnesses and injuries, prescribe appropriate medications and lifestyle modifications, and perform therapeutic procedures. Physicians work in teams with other physicians and healthcare professionals. They advise people how to care for themselves by helping them to understand the effects of diet, exercise, and aging. In addition to caring for patients, physicians may choose to teach or to research new ways to diagnose, control, and cure diseases. Most physicians specialize in an area such as family medicine, obstetrics, pediatrics, or surgery. As the population continues to grow and age, the need for physicians, especially primary care physicians in rural and other underserved areas, continues to rise.

Median Salary: \$226,948 or \$109.11 an hour

AREAS OF SPECIALIZATION

Certification from the American Board of Medical Specialties (www.abms.org) can be obtained in the following specialty/subspecialty areas:

- Allergy and immunology
- Anesthesiology
- Colon and rectal surgery
- Dermatology
- Emergency medicine
- Family medicine
- Internal medicine
- Medical genetics and genomics
- Neurological surgery
- Neurology
- Nuclear medicine
- Obstetrics and gynecology
- Ophthalmology
- Orthopaedic surgery
- Otolaryngology
- Pathology
- Pediatrics
- Physical medicine and rehabilitation
- Plastic surgery
- Preventive medicine
- Psychiatry
- Radiology
- Surgery
- Thoracic surgery
- Urology

WORK ENVIRONMENTS

- Community health centers
- HIV/AIDS clinics
- Hospitals and health systems
- Indian Health Service facilities
- Managed care organizations
- Medical schools
- Military bases
- Prisons
- Private or group medical practices
- Public health departments
- Research facilities
- Substance use disorder treatment centers
- Urgent care centers
- Veterans Affairs healthcare facilities

ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS

- A bachelor's degree with a strong foundation in math and science and completion of the Medical College Admission Test (MCAT) required for admission to medical school
- A doctoral degree from an allopathic medical school accredited by the Liaison Committee on Medical Education (www.lcme.org)
- Completion of a residency program accredited by the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (www.acgme.org)
 - Specialty training requires 3-5 years
 - Subspecialty training requires an additional 1-3 years

LICENSURE AND CERTIFICATION

- Required state licensure from the Georgia Composite Medical Board (medicalboard.georgia.gov)
- Voluntary national specialty and subspecialty certification from the 24 ABMS Member Boards

PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

American Medical Association
www.ama-assn.org

Georgia State Medical Association
www.gsmanet.org

Medical Association of Georgia
www.mag.org

National Medical Association
www.nmanet.org

Educational Programs

DOCTORAL DEGREE

Augusta University
Emory University
Mercer University
Morehouse School of Medicine

Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine

- Takes medical histories, performs physical exams, and orders, performs, and interprets lab and x-ray studies as well as other diagnostic and/or surgical procedures
- Uses a whole person, hands-on approach to medicine

Ideal Attributes

- Empathetic & ethical
- Lifelong learner
- Strong leadership skills
- Works well under pressure

Doctors of osteopathic medicine (DOs) work in partnership with their patients to emphasize the role that preventive medicine, health education, diet, and exercise play in achieving a high level of wellness. Also known as osteopathic physicians, their training includes the art of osteopathic manipulative medicine, which recognizes the role of the musculoskeletal system (nerves, joints, muscles, and bones) in disease, illness, and injury. This system of therapy is used to help alleviate pain, restore motion, support the body's natural functions, and influence the body's structure to help it function more efficiently. DOs are licensed to practice medicine in all 50 states and most practice in primary care specialties, such as family medicine, internal medicine, pediatrics, and obstetrics and gynecology.

Median Salary: \$226,948 or **\$109.11** an hour

AREAS OF SPECIALIZATION

Certification from the American Board of Medical Specialties (www.abms.org) and/or the American Osteopathic Association (www.osteopathic.org) can be obtained in the following specialty/subspecialty areas:

- Allergy and immunology
- Anesthesiology
- Colon and rectal surgery
- Dermatology
- Emergency medicine
- Family medicine
- Internal medicine
- Medical genetics and genomics
- Neurological surgery
- Neurology
- Neuromusculoskeletal medicine
- Nuclear medicine
- Obstetrics and gynecology
- Ophthalmology
- Orthopaedic surgery
- Otolaryngology
- Pathology
- Pediatrics
- Physical medicine and rehabilitation
- Plastic surgery
- Preventive medicine
- Proctology
- Psychiatry
- Radiology
- Surgery
- Thoracic surgery
- Urology

WORK ENVIRONMENTS

- Colleges and universities
- Community health centers
- HIV/AIDS clinics
- Hospitals
- Indian Health Service facilities
- Managed care organizations
- Military bases
- Prisons
- Private or group medical practices
- Public health departments
- Research facilities
- Substance use disorder treatment centers
- Urgent care centers
- Veterans Affairs healthcare facilities

ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS

- A bachelor's degree with a strong foundation in math and science and completion of the Medical College Admission Test (MCAT) required for admission to medical school
- A doctoral degree from a college of osteopathic medicine accredited by the AOA Commission on Osteopathic College Accreditation
- Completion of a residency program accredited by the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (www.acgme.org)
 - Specialty training requires 3-7 years
 - Subspecialty training requires an additional 1-3 years

LICENSURE AND CERTIFICATION

- Required state licensure from the Georgia Composite Medical Board (medicalboard.georgia.gov)
- Voluntary national specialty and subspecialty certification from the 24 ABMS Member Boards and/or from the 18 AOA Specialty Certifying Boards

PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

American Association of Colleges of Osteopathic Medicine
www.aacom.org

American Osteopathic Association
www.osteopathic.org

Georgia Osteopathic Medical Association
www.goma.org

Student Osteopathic Medical Association
www.studentdo.org

Educational Programs

DOCTORAL DEGREE

Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine - Georgia Campus

Podiatrist

- Diagnoses and treats disorders, diseases, and injuries of the foot, ankle, and leg

Ideal Attributes

- Effective communicator
- Lifelong learner
- Manual dexterity
- Works well with all ages

Podiatrists, also called doctors of podiatric medicine (DPMs), are physicians who can prescribe medications, admit patients to hospitals, treat emergencies in the emergency room, order physical therapy, and perform surgery. Podiatrists treat conditions such as calluses, ingrown toenails, hammertoes, bunions, and injuries to the foot, ankle, and leg. They are trained to apply braces, design custom-made shoes, and fit corrective inserts—called orthotics—inside the shoes of patients. The foot is sometimes the first part of the human body to reveal a serious condition, such as diabetes. As a result of the growing aging population and rates of obesity and diabetes, podiatrists will be in high demand and have job security.

Median Salary: \$97,240 or **\$46.75** an hour

AREAS OF SPECIALIZATION

- Biomechanics
- Geriatrics
- Orthopedics
- Podopediatrics
- Primary podiatric medicine
- Sports medicine
- Surgery
- Wound care and management

WORK ENVIRONMENTS

- Community health departments
- Health professions schools
- Hospitals
- Long-term care facilities
- Managed care organizations
- Military bases
- Private or group practices
- Public health departments
- Veterans Affairs healthcare facilities

ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS

- A bachelor's degree required for admission to a podiatry program
- A doctoral degree including clinical rotations from a podiatry program accredited by the Council on Podiatric Medical Education (www.cpme.org)
- Completion of an additional 3-4 year post-graduate residency program
- Post-residency fellowship programs also available

LICENSURE AND CERTIFICATION

- Required state licensure from the Georgia State Board of Podiatry Examiners (sos.ga.gov/index.php/licensing/plb/41)
- Voluntary national board certification from the American Board of Podiatric Medicine (www.abpmed.org) and the American Board of Foot and Ankle Surgery (www.abfas.org)

PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

American Association of Colleges of Podiatric Medicine
www.aacpm.org

American Podiatric Medical Association
www.apma.org

Georgia Podiatric Medical Association
www.gapma.com

Educational Programs

GEORGIA DOES NOT HAVE ANY PODIATRY PROGRAMS.

Programs listed are located in neighboring states.

DOCTORAL DEGREE

Barry University (FL)
www.barry.edu



Mental Health & Social Services

The mental health and social services field requires caring hearts as well as talented minds.

Since pain often goes far beyond the physical body, these workers are needed to assist an individual in total recovery. Their responsibilities may include promoting mental health; identifying, treating, and rehabilitating persons with psychological disorders; or serving as a bridge between people and resources needed to help resolve challenges. Many times, these professionals are needed to help those experiencing abuse, family strife, and behavioral problems. These professionals often humanize and personalize the healthcare process. Although extremely challenging and diverse, these careers offer much satisfaction and personal reward.

- COUNSELOR **HOT CAREER**
- GENETIC COUNSELOR
- HUMAN SERVICES WORKER **GROWING**
- PSYCHOLOGIST **GROWING**
- SOCIAL WORKER **HOT CAREER**



Counselor

- Helps people solve their personal, psychological, social, and vocational problems

Ideal Attributes

- Emotionally stable
- Empathetic & sensitive
- Good listener
- Objective & discreet

Counseling is defined by the American Counseling Association as a professional relationship that empowers diverse individuals, families, and groups to accomplish mental health, wellness, education, and career goals. Depending on their specialty, counselors may help people struggling with substance-use disorders or other addictions such as gambling; help people with emotional, mental, physical, or social challenges become more self-sufficient; or help individuals, couples, and families work through conflicts by improving communication and relationships. They often collaborate with other professionals to assist clients in recovery. Some counselors help the elderly population with the difficulties of aging. Others help people make career decisions. The demand for counselors is expected to continue growing.

Median Salary: \$44,928 or \$21.60 an hour

AREAS OF SPECIALIZATION

- Addiction counseling
- Career counseling
- Children and adolescents counseling
- Clinical mental health counseling
- Gerontological counseling
- Marriage, couple, and family counseling
- Pastoral counseling
- Rehabilitation counseling
- School counseling
- Student affairs and college counseling

WORK ENVIRONMENTS

- Career resource centers
- Colleges and universities
- Churches
- Drug rehabilitation centers
- Halfway houses
- Hospice programs
- Hospitals
- Human resources departments
- K-12 schools
- Mental health centers
- Nursing homes
- Prisons
- Private practices
- Social service agencies
- State and federal government agencies

ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS

- A bachelor's degree in education, social work, sociology, psychology, criminal justice, or health science often required

for admission to counseling graduate programs

- A master's degree (at minimum) including supervised clinical work
- Specialist and doctoral programs available
- Some areas of specialization require a PhD or both counseling and teaching certificates

LICENSURE AND CERTIFICATION

- Required state licensure from the Georgia Composite Board of Professional Counselors, Social Workers, and Marriage and Family Therapists (sos.ga.gov/index.php/licensing/plb/43) for the Licensed Professional Counselor (LPC) credential
- Required state certification for school counselors from the Georgia Professional Standards Commission (www.gapsc.com)
- Voluntary national specialty certifications from the National Board for Certified Counselors (www.nbcc.org), Commission on Rehabilitation Counselor Certification (www.crcrcertification.com), and others

PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

American Counseling Association
www.counseling.org

American School Counselor Association
www.schoolcounselor.org

Educational Programs

MASTER'S DEGREE

Albany State University
Brenau University
Clark Atlanta University
Clayton State University
Columbus State University
Fort Valley State University
Georgia Southern University
LaGrange College
Richmont Graduate University
South University
Thomas University
Truett McConnell University
University of North Georgia
Valdosta State University

MASTER'S AND DOCTORAL DEGREE

Argosy University
Augusta University
Georgia State University
Mercer University
University of Georgia
University of West Georgia

Genetic Counselor

- Provides genetic risk assessment, education, and support to individuals and families impacted by conditions with a genetic component

Ideal Attributes

- Analytical & curious
- Compassionate
- Effective communicator
- Strong interpersonal skills

Genetic counselors (GCs) have master's level training in medical genetics and counseling. GCs provide services to patients and families with a diverse set of genetic or genomic indications. They interpret family and medical histories to perform risk assessment, provide education about inheritance, genetic testing options and management, and offer counseling support and resources. GCs specialize in a variety of clinical areas including reproductive, pediatric, cancer, and cardiovascular genetics. They also serve as an educational resource in genetics for other healthcare professionals and the general public. An increasing number of GCs are involved in clinical genetics research. Due to the rapid advances in genetic medicine, the demand for GCs is expected to grow by 72% in the next decade.

Median Salary: \$80,080 or \$38.50 an hour

WORK ENVIRONMENTS

- Clinics
- Colleges and universities
- Disease support organizations
- Genetic testing laboratories
- Government agencies
- Hospitals
- Managed care organizations
- Pharmaceutical companies
- Physician practices
- Private practice
- Public health organizations
- University medical centers

ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS

- A bachelor's degree in a relevant field including biology, genetics, nursing, psychology, public health, or social work
- A master's degree in genetic counseling from an educational program accredited by the Accreditation Council for Genetic Counseling (www.gceducation.org)

LICENSURE AND CERTIFICATION

- Required national certification from the American Board of Genetic Counseling (www.abgc.net) for the Certified Genetic Counselor (CGC) credential

PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

Georgia Association of Genetic Counselors
www.georgiagenetics.org

National Society of Genetic Counselors
www.nsgc.org

Educational Programs

MASTER'S DEGREE

Emory University

Human Services Worker

- Serves as a liaison between people and the resources that can meet their needs

Ideal Attributes

- Analytical problem-solver
- Effective communicator
- Ethical
- Patient

Human services workers, also known as social service assistants or social service technicians, help people who are not always able to take care of their own needs. After evaluating the needs of an individual, family, or group, they connect them to resources such as public health clinics, food banks, crisis stabilization units, drug treatment programs, and mental health centers that can provide the appropriate services. The goal of the human services worker is to empower people to function as effectively and independently as possible in their homes, communities, and places of employment. They serve consumers in a variety of public outreach organizations while working alongside social workers, probation officers, family and children's services workers, detectives, doctors, and other specialists.

Median Salary: \$27,081 or \$13.02 an hour

WORK ENVIRONMENTS

- Adult day care facilities
- Advocacy centers
- Case management offices
- Community mental health centers
- Councils on Aging
- Crisis units
- Day treatment centers
- Domestic violence shelters
- Group homes
- Homeless shelters
- Hospice programs
- K-12 schools
- Military bases
- Nursing homes
- Prisons
- Public health departments
- Public welfare agencies
- Residential treatment centers
- Substance use disorder treatment centers

ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS

- An associate or bachelor's degree

LICENSURE AND CERTIFICATION

- Voluntary national certification from the Center for Credentialing and Education (www.cce-global.org) for the Human Services Board Certified Practitioner (HS-BCP) credential

PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

Council for Standards in Human Service Education
www.cshse.org

National Organization for Human Services
www.nationalhumanservices.org

Educational Programs

ASSOCIATE DEGREE

Georgia Highlands College

BACHELOR'S DEGREE

Clayton State University
College of Coastal Georgia
Gordon State College

Kennesaw State University
Mercer University
Middle Georgia State University
Point University
Shorter University
Spelman College
University of North Georgia

MASTER'S DEGREE

Argosy University
Mercer University

Psychologist

- Identifies and treats problems with mental or physical health, personal relationships, and academic or occupational functioning

Ideal Attributes

- Analytical problem-solver
- Effective communicator
- Emotionally stable
- Self-aware

Psychologists specialize in human behavior. With tools like interviews, tests, and questionnaires, they find out about a person's thoughts, feelings, development, information processing, intellectual level, perceptions, and relationships. Depending upon their specialty area, psychologists are committed to preventing, identifying, and treating problems with clients' mental or physical health, personal relationships, and academic or occupational functioning. Working with all ages, they deal with issues such as stress, depression, anxiety, self-esteem, eating disorders, anger management, aggressive/violent behavior, relationship conflict, and substance use disorders. They also work with people with autism, attention deficit disorder, learning disabilities, and traumatic brain injury.

Median Salary: \$84,572 or \$40.66 an hour

AREAS OF SPECIALIZATION

- Behavioral and cognitive psychology
- Clinical child and adolescent psychology
- Clinical health psychology
- Clinical neuropsychology
- Clinical psychology
- Cognitive and behavioral psychology
- Counseling psychology
- Couple and family psychology
- Forensic psychology
- Geropsychology
- Group psychology
- Organizational and business consulting psychology
- Police and public safety psychology
- Psychoanalysis
- Rehabilitation psychology
- School psychology

WORK ENVIRONMENTS

- Colleges and universities
- Consulting firms
- Corporations
- Federal and state agencies
- Market research firms
- Medical hospitals
- Mental health clinics
- Military bases
- Prisons
- Private practices
- Psychiatric hospitals
- Rehabilitation centers
- Veterans Affairs healthcare facilities

ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS

- A bachelor's degree in a relevant field for admission to graduate-level psychology programs
- A doctoral degree from an educational program accredited by the American Psychological Association, including a year-long internship for clinical and counseling programs
- A specialist or doctoral degree from a school psychology program approved by the National Association of School Psychologists, along with a 1200 hour internship
- Optional post-doctoral training

LICENSURE AND CERTIFICATION

- Required state licensure from the Georgia State Board of Examiners of Psychologists (sos.ga.gov/index.php/licensing/plb/44)
- Required state certification for school psychologists from the Georgia Professional Standards Commission (www.gapsc.com)
- Voluntary national specialty certifications from the American Board of Professional Psychology (www.abpp.org)
- Voluntary national certification from the National Association of School Psychologists for the Nationally Certified School Psychologist (NCSP) credential

PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

American Psychological Association
www.apa.org

Georgia Psychological Association
www.gapsychology.org

National Association of School Psychologists
www.nasponline.org

Educational Programs

Clinical and Counseling Psychology Programs

DOCTORAL DEGREE

Argosy University
Emory University
Georgia Southern University
Georgia State University
Mercer University
University of Georgia

School Psychology Programs

DOCTORAL AND SPECIALIST DEGREE

Georgia Southern University
Georgia State University
University of Georgia



Social Worker

- Improves the lives of others by helping them cope with and resolve needs, conditions, and crises

Ideal Attributes

- Analytical problem-solver
- Empathetic
- Respectful
- Team-oriented

Social workers ensure that individuals, families, and communities have the resources they need to address problems such as discrimination, social injustice, child abuse, homelessness, drug abuse, and poverty. They provide counseling to clients in every stage of life on issues such as divorce, death, stress, and unemployment. Social workers seek social justice for vulnerable and oppressed populations and are committed to positive social change. These professionals often assist with placing people back into society after hospitalization or rehabilitation. They may also organize support groups for families of patients suffering from cancer, AIDS, Alzheimer's disease, or other illnesses. Simply put, social workers help people help themselves.

Median Salary: \$47,507 or **\$22.84** an hour

AREAS OF SPECIALIZATION

The National Association of Social Workers offers credentials for the following specialization areas:

- Addictions
- Case management
- Clinical
- Education
- Gerontology
- Healthcare
- Hospice and palliative care
- Military
- Youth and family

WORK ENVIRONMENTS

- Advocacy and lobbying groups
- Colleges and universities
- Government agencies
- Group homes
- HIV/AIDS clinics
- Home health agencies
- Hospice programs
- Hospitals and health systems
- K-12 schools
- Mental health centers
- Non-profit organizations
- Nursing homes
- Prisons
- Social service agencies
- Substance use disorder treatment facilities

ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS

- A bachelor's degree in social work from a program accredited by the Council on Social Work Education (www.cswe.org) for entry-level positions
- A master's degree in social work from a CSWE-accredited program usually pursued after gaining work experience and often necessary to work in clinical settings; considered the terminal degree for professional practice
- Doctoral degree programs focused on research also available

LICENSURE AND CERTIFICATION

- Required state licensure for most jobs from the Georgia Composite Board of Professional Counselors, Social Workers, and Marriage and Family Therapists (sos.ga.gov/index.php/licensing/plb/43) for the Licensed Clinical Social Worker (LCSW) or the Licensed Master Social Worker (LMSW) credentials
- Voluntary national certification in specialty areas from the National Association of Social Workers Credentialing Center or other reputable institutes

PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

National Association of Social Workers (NASW)
www.socialworkers.org

NASW Georgia Chapter
www.naswga.org

Educational Programs

BACHELOR'S, MASTER'S, AND DOCTORAL DEGREE

Clark Atlanta University
University of Georgia

BACHELOR'S DEGREE

Albany State University
Augusta University
Dalton State College
Fort Valley State University
Georgia State University
Savannah State University
Thomas University

MASTER'S DEGREE

Albany State University
Georgia State University
Kennesaw State University
Savannah State University
Valdosta State University

Nursing

MAP YOUR CAREER in Nursing at
www.discovernursing.com/explore-specialties

Nursing, a demanding but rewarding profession, is one of the most in-demand health careers.

Nurses are critical because they expand access to healthcare, improve the quality and safety of healthcare, and reduce healthcare costs. The profession of nursing offers a wide variety of career opportunities through multiple levels of education and professional practice. Becoming a nursing assistant can be achieved in a short time through a certification program, while a licensed practical nurse program requires up to 2 years of study. Registered nursing programs are offered at the associate, bachelor's, master's, and doctoral levels, and graduate-level programs provide advanced education and training in fields such as anesthesia and midwifery. Because they provide personal and direct patient care, nurses require excellent clinical skills combined with high levels of sensitivity, stamina, compassion, and judgment in order to meet the physical and emotional needs of their patients.

CLINICAL NURSE SPECIALIST

LICENSED PRACTICAL NURSE  **GROWING**

NURSE ANESTHETIST

NURSE EDUCATOR

NURSE MIDWIFE

NURSE PRACTITIONER  **HOT CAREER**

NURSING ASSISTANT  **GROWING**

REGISTERED NURSE  **HOT CAREER**

Clinical Nurse Specialist

- Provides direct patient care and education to individuals, families, groups, and communities
- Promotes the advancement of nursing practice in a variety of healthcare settings

Ideal Attributes

- Able to multi-task
- Critical thinker
- Effective communicator
- Works well under pressure

Clinical nurse specialists (CNSs) are advanced practice registered nurses who improve outcomes in patient care through their expertise in clinical practice, patient education, research, and consultation. They practice in a specialized area of nursing that focuses on a type of disease or medical subspecialty (such as diabetes or oncology), a setting (such as the emergency room or the intensive care unit), a population (such as pediatric, adult, or geriatric), a type of problem (such as pain or wound care), or a type of care (such as rehabilitation). CNSs can also provide consultation, education, and training for nursing staffs, implement improvements in healthcare delivery systems, and assist in health-related research and innovation.

Median Salary: \$91,796 or **\$44.13** an hour

AREAS OF SPECIALIZATION

The American Nurses Credentialing Center (www.nursingworld.org/ancc) offers certifications in the following specialty areas:

- Adult-gerontology
- Neonatal
- Pediatrics

WORK ENVIRONMENTS

- Colleges and universities
- Community agencies
- Hospitals and health systems
- Nursing homes
- Physician practices
- Public health departments/clinics

ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS

- A bachelor of science in nursing (BSN) degree and a current nursing license for admission to a CNS program

- A master of science in nursing (MSN) degree or post-MSN certificate from an educational program accredited by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (www.aacnursing.org/ccne) or the Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing (www.acenursing.org)

LICENSURE AND CERTIFICATION

- Required state licensure and advanced practice authorization from the Georgia Board of Nursing (www.sos.ga.gov/index.php/licensing/plb/45) for the Advanced Practice Registered Nurse (APRN) credential
- Voluntary national specialty certifications from the American Nurses Credentialing Center (www.nursingworld.org/ancc) and other organizations accredited by the Accreditation Board for Specialty Nursing Certification (www.absnc.org)

PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

American Association of Colleges of Nursing
www.aacnursing.org

American Nurses Association
www.nursingworld.org

Georgia Nurses Association
www.georgianurses.org

National Association of Clinical Nurse Specialists
www.nacns.org

Educational Programs

GEORGIA DOES NOT HAVE ANY CLINICAL NURSE SPECIALIST PROGRAMS.

Programs listed are located in neighboring states.

MASTER'S DEGREE

East Carolina University (NC)
www.ecu.edu

University of South Alabama (AL)
www.southalabama.edu



Licensed Practical Nurse

- Provides basic nursing care and treatment to patients in a variety of healthcare settings

Ideal Attributes

- Detail-oriented & flexible
- Follows instructions well
- Strong interpersonal skills
- Works well under pressure

Licensed practical nurses (LPNs) work under the supervision of a physician or a registered nurse to provide limited nursing care. Their duties may include collecting specimens for laboratory tests, changing dressings, evaluating patient needs, and implementing care plans. LPNs often check vital signs such as temperature, pulse, respiration, and blood pressure. In some states they may administer prescribed injections, medications, and intravenous fluids. They also observe patients and chart their reaction to medications and treatments. In an office setting, LPNs may help with administrative tasks such as making appointments and keeping patient records. In a home setting, LPNs can instruct families on nursing care. In addition to their nursing duties, experienced LPNs may supervise nursing assistants.

Median Salary: \$40,331 or \$19.39 an hour

WORK ENVIRONMENTS

- Community health clinics
- Dialysis centers
- Hospitals
- K-12 schools
- Long-term care facilities
- Mental health institutions
- Nursing homes
- Medical practices
- Private residences
- Public health departments
- Visiting nurse associations

ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS

- A high school diploma or equivalent
- A certificate or diploma from an educational program accredited by the Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing (www.acenursing.org)

LICENSURE AND CERTIFICATION

- Required state licensure from the Georgia Board of Nursing (sos.ga.gov/index.php/licensing/plb/45) for the Licensed Practical Nurse (LPN) credential
- Voluntary national certification from the National Association for Practical Nurse Education and Service in long-term care, pharmacology, and IV therapy

PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

National Association of Licensed Professional Nurses
napln.org

National Association for Practical Nurse Education and Service
www.napnes.org

Educational Programs

CERTIFICATE

Dalton State College

DIPLOMA

Albany Technical College
Athens Technical College
Augusta Technical College
Central Georgia Technical College
Chattahoochee Technical College
Coastal Pines Technical College
Columbus Technical College
Georgia Northwestern Technical College
Georgia Piedmont Technical College

Lanier Technical College
North Georgia Technical College
Oconee Fall Line Technical College
Ogeechee Technical College
Savannah Technical College
Southeastern Technical College
Southern Crescent Technical College
Southern Regional Technical College
South Georgia Technical College
West Georgia Technical College
Wiregrass Georgia Technical College

Nurse Anesthetist

- Administers and adjusts the dosage of anesthetic drugs and other medications
- Monitors vital signs, manages the airway, and controls breathing during surgery

Ideal Attributes

- Analytical problem-solver
- Intense, sustained focus
- Manual dexterity
- Works well under pressure

Anesthesia is the use of drugs, gases, and nerve blocks to provide a partial or total loss of awareness and pain during surgery. Caring for patients before, during, and after surgical procedures, nurse anesthetists blend nursing skills with the practice of anesthesia. They provide services similar to those of anesthesiologists and may work independently or in collaboration with a physician. Nurse anesthetists are often the sole anesthesia provider in rural areas. They interview patients before surgery and design a customized plan of care based on medical history and type of surgery. During surgery, they assure optimal patient safety and comfort. The critical responsibility of safeguarding surgical patients makes this job one of the most demanding advanced practice nurse roles.

Median Salary: \$145,537 or \$69.97 an hour

AREAS OF SPECIALIZATION

- Nonsurgical pain management

WORK ENVIRONMENTS

- Ambulatory surgical centers
- Dental practices
- Hospitals
- Military bases
- Pain clinics
- Private physician surgical centers
- Public health services

ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS

- A minimum of a bachelor of science in nursing (BSN) degree, a current nursing license, and one year's experience as a registered nurse in critical care required for admission to a nursing anesthesia program
- A doctoral degree from an educational program accredited by the Council on Accreditation of Nurse Anesthesia Educational Programs (www.coacrna.org)
- All programs will be required to graduate students at the doctoral level by 2025

LICENSURE AND CERTIFICATION

- Required state licensure and advanced practice authorization from the Georgia Board of Nursing (sos.ga.gov/index.php/licensing/plb/45) for the Advanced Practice Registered Nurse (APRN) credential
- Required national certification from the National Board of Certification and Recertification for Nurse Anesthetists (www.nbcrna.com) for the Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist (CRNA) credential

PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

American Association of Nurse Anesthetists
www.aana.com

Georgia Association of Nurse Anesthetists
www.gana.org

Educational Programs

DOCTORAL DEGREE

Augusta University
Emory University



Nurse Educator

- Educates the next generation of nurses
- Designs, teaches, and evaluates nursing curriculum

Ideal Attributes

- Critical thinker
- Motivational & supportive
- Passionate
- Professional

Our nation is facing a serious nursing shortage that is expected to continue over the next decade. Across the country, thousands of qualified applicants are turned away from nursing programs due to the insufficient number of nursing faculty. Nurse educators play a vital role in preparing future generations of nurses. Nurse educators are registered nurses with graduate-level education in nursing and extensive clinical experience. Nurse educators are employed as faculty members in nursing schools, or they may work as hospital-based staff development educators or clinical supervisors. They design education programs, develop lesson plans, teach courses, and oversee students' clinical practice. Many nurse educators also choose to continue clinical practice in addition to teaching.

Median Salary: \$69,190 or \$33.26 an hour

WORK ENVIRONMENTS

- Colleges and universities
- Community health agencies
- Healthcare facilities
- Healthcare research centers
- Home health agencies
- Hospital-based schools of nursing
- Hospitals and health systems
- Long-term care facilities

ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS

- A master's degree, post-master's certificate, or doctoral degree from an educational program accredited by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (www.aacnursing.org/ccne)
- A doctoral degree preferred for academic-based nurse educators

LICENSURE AND CERTIFICATION

- Required state licensure from the Georgia Board of Nursing (sos.ga.gov/index.php/licensing/plb/45)
- Voluntary national certification from the National League for Nursing for the Certified Nurse Educator (CNE) credential
- Specialty certification as a nurse practitioner, clinical nurse specialist, nurse midwife, or nurse anesthetist required if teaching in those specific areas

PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

American Association of Colleges of Nursing
www.aacnursing.org

American Nurses Association
www.nursingworld.org

National League for Nursing
www.nln.org

Educational Programs

MASTER'S DEGREE AND POST-MASTER'S CERTIFICATE

Albany State University
Columbus State University
Georgia College & State University
Georgia Southwestern State University
Thomas University
University of North Georgia
University of West Georgia

MASTER'S DEGREE

Brenau University
Kennesaw State University

DOCTORAL DEGREE

Emory University
Georgia State University
Kennesaw State University
Mercer University
University of West Georgia

Nurse Midwife

- Provides care for healthy women before, during, and after childbirth
- Gives regular well-woman gynecological care across the lifespan

Ideal Attributes

- Compassionate & patient
- Effective communicator
- Strong interprofessional skills
- Works well under pressure

Certified nurse midwives (CNMs) are advanced practice registered nurses who are educated in midwifery and receive additional training in women's healthcare. During pregnancy, they give emotional and physical care to the mother. They also provide labor support, conduct the birth, help with newborn care and breastfeeding, and counsel mothers on infant growth and future pregnancies. CNMs are prized members of the childbirth team because they offer safe, accessible birth care. This is especially true in rural and inner-city areas with few physicians. CNMs have helped to reduce infant mortality by providing early care to pregnant women and by increasing the use of prenatal care facilities. CNMs also provide annual exams, contraception, and hormone therapy throughout a woman's lifespan.

Median Salary: \$99,840 or \$48.00 an hour

WORK ENVIRONMENTS

- Birthing centers
- Clinics
- Hospitals
- Managed care organizations
- Physician practices
- Private practice
- Public health departments

ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS

- A bachelor of science in nursing (BSN) degree and a current nursing license required for admission into a nurse midwifery program; work experience may be also be required
- A bachelor of science degree in another field acceptable for some accelerated master's degree programs that include nursing education
- A master's degree or a post-master's certificate from an educational program accredited by the Accreditation Commission for Midwifery Education (www.midwife.org/accreditation)

LICENSURE AND CERTIFICATION

- Required state licensure and advanced practice authorization from the Georgia Board of Nursing (sos.ga.gov/index.php/licensing/plb/45) for the Advanced Practice Registered Nurse (APRN) credential
- Required national certification from the American Midwifery Certification Board (www.amcbmidwife.org) for the Certified Nurse Midwife (CNM) credential

PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

American College of Nurse-Midwives
www.midwife.org

Educational Programs

MASTER'S DEGREE

Emory University

POST-MASTER'S CERTIFICATE

Emory University

Nurse Practitioner

- Conducts health histories, screenings, and physical exams to assess health conditions
- Identifies and diagnoses problems, prescribes tests and medications, and develops plans to improve health outcomes

Ideal Attributes

- Effective communicator
- Lifelong learner
- Team-oriented
- Works well under pressure

Nurse practitioners (NPs) are advanced practitioners with graduate education and specialty certification. In addition to clinical care, NPs focus on health promotion and disease prevention by educating patients and their families regarding their conditions and the need for preventive activities. In Georgia, NPs work in collaboration with physicians and other providers; in other states, they may work independently. They deliver primary care in diverse settings including underserved regions, rural communities, and inner-city areas. Some NPs own their own practices and are reimbursed for services by state and federal government as well as many insurance companies. As the nation continues to experience a lack of qualified healthcare providers, the healthcare system will depend on NPs to provide quality care.

Median Salary: \$98,660 or \$47.43 an hour

AREAS OF SPECIALIZATION

The American Academy of Nurse Practitioners Certification Board (www.aanpcert.org) and the American Nurses Credentialing Center (www.nursingworld.org/ancc) offer certifications in the following areas:

- Acute care
- Adult-gerontology acute care
- Adult-gerontology primary care
- Adult health
- Emergency care
- Family health
- Gerontological health
- Pediatric primary care
- Psychiatric/mental health
- School health

WORK ENVIRONMENTS

- Colleges and universities
- Community health centers
- Home health agencies
- Hospitals
- Managed care organizations
- Migrant health centers
- Military bases
- Nursing homes
- Private physician or NP practices
- Public health departments
- Retail store clinics
- Rural health clinics

ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS

- A bachelor of science in nursing (BSN) degree and a current nursing license for admission to a nurse practitioner program
- A master's degree, post-master's certificate, or doctoral degree from an educational program accredited by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (www.aacnursing.org/ccne)

LICENSURE AND CERTIFICATION

- Required state licensure and advanced practice authorization from the Georgia Board of Nursing (sos.ga.gov/index.php/licensing/plb/45) for the Advanced Practice Registered Nurse (APRN) credential
- Required national certification for areas of specialization from the ANCC or the AANPCB

PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

American Association of Nurse Practitioners
www.aanp.org

American Nurses Association
www.nursingworld.org

Georgia Nurses Association
www.georgianurses.org

Educational Programs

MASTER'S DEGREE

Columbus State University
Georgia Southwestern State University
Kennesaw State University
Middle Georgia State University
Valdosta State University

MASTER'S DEGREE AND POST-MASTER'S CERTIFICATE

Albany State University
Brenau University
Clayton State University
Emory University
Georgia College & State University
Georgia State University
South University
University of North Georgia

MASTER'S DEGREE, POST-MASTER'S CERTIFICATE, AND DOCTORAL DEGREE

Georgia Southern University
Mercer University

POST-MASTER'S CERTIFICATE AND DOCTORAL DEGREE

Augusta University

Nursing Assistant

- Provides routine patient care

Ideal Attributes

- Compassionate & patient
- Follows instructions well
- Physical endurance
- Strong interpersonal skills

Certified nursing assistants (CNAs), also known as certified nurse aides, play a vital role in healthcare delivery working under the supervision of a registered nurse, licensed practical nurse, or physician. They answer patient call lights, serve meals, and check blood pressure, temperature, pulse, and respiration. CNAs visit with patients while helping them change position, walk, bathe, and eat. They generally have a great deal of patient contact and are important in developing patient relationships that foster trust. CNAs employed by home health agencies allow patients who need additional care to recover at home rather than in hospitals or nursing homes. They assist with medications, change linens, and teach family members to care for the patient during recovery.

Median Salary: \$23,857 or \$11.47 an hour

WORK ENVIRONMENTS

- Assisted living facilities
- Home health agencies
- Hospice programs
- Hospitals
- Mental health institutions
- Nursing homes
- Physician practices
- Private homes

ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS

- A high school diploma or equivalent recommended
- A certificate from a state-approved educational program including at least 85 hours of classroom and laboratory instruction and 24 hours of supervised clinical experience

LICENSURE AND CERTIFICATION

- Required state certification for the Certified Nurse Aide (CNA) credential and registration with the Georgia Nurse Aide Registry awarded after successful completion of the National Nurse Aide Assessment Program examination

PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

Georgia Medicaid Management Information System
www.mmis.georgia.gov

Click on the **Nurse Aide** tab for a list of state-approved educational programs offered by nursing homes, acute care facilities, home health agencies, high schools, technical colleges, colleges, and private post-secondary schools.

Educational Programs

CERTIFICATE

Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College
Albany Technical College
Athens Technical College
Atlanta Technical College
Augusta Technical College
Central Georgia Technical College
Chattahoochee Technical College
Coastal Pines Technical College
Columbus Technical College

Georgia Highlands College
Georgia Northwestern Technical College
Georgia Piedmont Technical College
Gwinnett Technical College
Helms College
Kennesaw State University
Lanier Technical College
New Horizons Medical Institute
North Georgia Technical College
Oconee Fall Line Technical College
Ogeechee Technical College

Savannah Technical College
Southeastern Technical College
Southern Crescent Technical College
Southern Regional Technical College
South Georgia Technical College
University of West Georgia
West Georgia Technical College
Wiregrass Georgia Technical College
Woodruff Medical Training and Testing



Registered Nurse

- Delivers direct care and health education to individuals, families, groups, and communities in a variety of healthcare settings

Ideal Attributes

- Compassionate
- Flexible & organized
- Service-oriented
- Works well under pressure

Registered nurses (RNs) work closely with physicians and other professionals as part of a healthcare team. RNs use a broad knowledge base to assess and understand problems, administer treatments, and make decisions about patient care. They interpret and respond to patient symptoms, reactions, and progress. RNs also teach patients and families about health promotion, assist in patient rehabilitation, and provide emotional and physical support to promote recovery and well-being. RNs may supervise nurse aides, nursing assistants, and licensed practical nurses. Nursing is a challenging and highly rewarding career that will continue to be in high demand well into the future.

Median Salary: \$66,110 or \$31.78 an hour

AREAS OF SPECIALIZATION

There are many work environments, patient populations, and medical conditions in which an RN can specialize such as pediatrics, geriatrics, psychiatric/mental health, school nursing, public health nursing, and informatics. Visit the Accreditation Board for Specialty Nursing Certification (www.absnc.org) to see a list of all accredited specialty nursing certification programs.

WORK ENVIRONMENTS

- Birthing centers
- Colleges and universities
- Community health centers
- Dialysis centers
- Hospitals
- Industry
- K-12 schools
- Long-term care facilities
- Mental health institutions
- Migrant centers
- Military bases
- Physician practices
- Prisons
- Private residences
- Public health departments
- Rehabilitation centers
- Surgery centers

ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS

- An associate degree or a bachelor's degree from an educational program approved by the Georgia Board of Nursing (sos.ga.gov/index.php/licensing/plb/45)
- Optional advanced education and training leading to master's or doctoral degree for specialists including clinical nurse specialists, nurse anesthetists, nurse educators, nurse informaticists, nurse leaders, nurse midwives, and nurse practitioners

LICENSURE AND CERTIFICATION

- Required state licensure from the Georgia Board of Nursing (sos.ga.gov/index.php/licensing/plb/45) for the Registered Nurse (RN) credential
- Voluntary national specialty certifications from the American Nurses Credentialing Center (www.nursingworld.org/anc) and other nurse certification organizations accredited by the American Board of Nursing Specialties (www.nursingcertification.org)

PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

American Association of Colleges of Nursing
www.aacnursing.org

American Nurses Association
www.nursingworld.org

Georgia Nurses Association
www.georgianurses.org

National League for Nursing
www.nln.org

Educational Programs

Many of the following schools offer bridge or completion programs (examples: LPN to RN, EMT to RN, RN to BSN, RN to MSN) that allow you to move to the next career level while giving credit for skills already learned through school or work experience. Many schools offer online classes as well as satellite programs for registered nursing education on other college campuses. Contact the individual schools for more information or visit the Georgia Board of Nursing website (sos.ga.gov/index.php/licensing/plb/45) to see a list of approved schools and satellite programs.

ASSOCIATE DEGREE

Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College
Albany State University
Albany Technical College
Andrew College
Athens Technical College
Atlanta Technical College
Augusta Technical College
Central Georgia Technical College
Chattahoochee Technical College
College of Coastal Georgia
Columbus Technical College
Dalton State College
Georgia Highlands College
Georgia Northwestern Technical College
Gordon State College
Gwinnett Technical College
Lanier Technical College
Middle Georgia State University
North Georgia Technical College
Oconee Fall Line Technical College
Perimeter College at Georgia State University
Southeastern Technical College
Southern Crescent Technical College
Southern Regional Technical College
South Georgia State College
West Georgia Technical College
Wiregrass Georgia Technical College

BACHELOR'S DEGREE

Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College
Albany State University
Augusta University
Berry College
Brenau University
Chamberlain College of Nursing
Clayton State University
College of Coastal Georgia
Columbus State University
Dalton State College
Emory University
Georgia College & State University
Georgia Gwinnett College
Georgia Highlands College
Georgia Southern University
Georgia Southwestern State University
Georgia State University
Gordon State College
Herzing University
Kennesaw State University
LaGrange College
Mercer University
Middle Georgia State University
Piedmont College
Reinhardt University
Shorter University
South Georgia State College
South University
Thomas University
Toccoa Falls College
Truett McConnell University
University of North Georgia
University of West Georgia
Valdosta State University
Wesleyan College

MASTER'S DEGREE

Albany State University
Augusta University
Brenau University
Clayton State University
Columbus State University
Emory University
Georgia College & State University
Georgia Southern University
Georgia Southwestern State University
Georgia State University
Kennesaw State University
Mercer University
Middle Georgia State University
South University
Thomas University
University of North Georgia
University of West Georgia
Valdosta State University

DOCTORAL DEGREE

Augusta University
Brenau University
Emory University
Georgia College & State University
Georgia Southern University
Georgia State University
Mercer University
South University
University of West Georgia



Pharmacy

Members of the pharmacy team are some of the most accessible healthcare professionals.

These individuals are responsible for providing their clients with confidence, guidance, and awareness about using medications. Pharmacists work with physicians to accurately prepare prescriptions and dosages. Safely dispensing effective medicines to cure, prevent, or alleviate disease is a primary goal of these specialists. Individuals in this career shoulder great responsibility, but they also enjoy the challenge and gratification of helping consumers make informed choices.

PHARMACIST  **GROWING**

PHARMACY TECHNICIAN  **GROWING**

Pharmacist

- Verifies the accuracy and appropriateness of medications prescribed by physicians or advanced practitioners
- Counsels patients on appropriate medication use, safety, and side effect management

Ideal Attributes

- Detail-oriented & precise
- Moves quickly between tasks
- Organized
- Strong interpersonal skills

Pharmacists serve as medication specialists on patient care teams by providing information to assure optimal health outcomes with drug therapy. Pharmacists partner with physicians to assist patients in managing chronic diseases such as diabetes or hypertension. They educate and counsel patients on aspects of their disease or condition and the medications used to treat it. In some specialty pharmacies, pharmacists compound and dispense patient-specific medications that are not commercially available. They also help consumers select the proper over-the-counter medications for minor health problems. Many pharmacists own or manage pharmacies and may have other duties such as supervising pharmacy staff and purchasing medications and other health-related supplies.

Median Salary: \$121,243 or \$58.29 an hour

AREAS OF SPECIALIZATION

- Ambulatory care pharmacy
- Cardiology pharmacy
- Compounded sterile preparations pharmacy
- Critical care pharmacy
- Geriatric pharmacy
- Infectious disease pharmacy
- Nuclear pharmacy
- Nutrition support pharmacy
- Oncology pharmacy
- Pediatric pharmacy
- Pharmacotherapy
- Psychiatric pharmacy

WORK ENVIRONMENTS

- Clinics
- Colleges and universities
- Community pharmacies
- Government agencies
- Hospitals
- Managed care organizations
- Military bases
- Pharmaceutical companies
- Public health departments
- Retail pharmacies

ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS

- Completion of 2 to 3 years of pre-pharmacy undergraduate coursework and of the Pharmacy College Admissions Test for admission to a pharmacy program
- A doctoral degree in pharmacy (PharmD) from an educational program accredited by the Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education (www.acpe-accredit.org)
- Optional 1 to 2 years of residency training for clinical and specialty practice

LICENSURE AND CERTIFICATION

- Required state licensure from the Georgia State Board of Pharmacy (gbp.georgia.gov)
- Voluntary national specialty certifications from the Board of Pharmacy Specialties (www.bpsweb.org)

PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy
www.aacp.org

American Pharmacists Association
www.pharmacist.com

Georgia Pharmacy Association
www.gpha.org

Georgia Society of Health-System Pharmacists
www.gshp.org

Educational Programs

DOCTORAL DEGREE

Mercer University
Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine - Georgia Campus
South University
University of Georgia

Pharmacy Technician

- Prepares and distributes medications under the direct supervision of a pharmacist

Ideal Attributes

- Dependable & flexible
- Hand-eye coordination
- Effective communicator
- Team-oriented

Pharmacy technicians perform many routine pharmacy operations. They are trained to receive and verify prescription orders for completeness and accuracy. Then, with a great deal of precision, these health professionals fill orders by measuring, compounding (mixing), counting, and labeling medications. Pharmacy technicians also prepare intravenous solutions. They order, stock, package, and maintain the inventory of medications. Pharmacy technicians must be skilled in performing basic computer operations, determining drug charges, processing insurance claims, and providing excellent customer service.

Median Salary: \$28,121 or \$13.52 an hour

WORK ENVIRONMENTS

- Clinics
- Compounding pharmacies
- Home health pharmacies
- Home infusion pharmacies
- Hospitals
- Mail order pharmacies
- Managed care organizations
- Military bases
- Nuclear pharmacies
- Nursing home and long-term care pharmacies
- Prison pharmacies
- Retail pharmacies

ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS

- A high school diploma or equivalent
- On-the-job training available
- Formal training available at the certificate, diploma, and associate degree levels

LICENSURE AND CERTIFICATION

- Required state registration from the Georgia Board of Pharmacy (gbp.georgia.gov)
- Voluntary national certification from the Pharmacy Technician Certification Board (www.ptcb.org) for the Certified Pharmacy Technician (CPhT) credential

PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

American Pharmacists Association
www.pharmacist.com

American Society of Health-System Pharmacists
www.ashp.org

National Pharmacy Technician Association
www.pharmacytechnician.org

Educational Programs

CERTIFICATE

Coastal Pines Technical College
Kennesaw State University
University of Georgia

DIPLOMA

Central Georgia Technical College
Fortis College
Lanier Technical College
Ogeechee Technical College
West Georgia Technical College


DIPLOMA AND ASSOCIATE DEGREE

Albany Technical College
Atlanta Technical College
Augusta Technical College
Columbus Technical College
North Georgia Technical College
Oconee Fall Line Technical College
Southern Crescent Technical College
Wiregrass Georgia Technical College

Public Health

Public health professionals are involved in the promotion of good health and the prevention of disease and injury.

Rather than focusing on diagnosing and treating disease in individuals, public health professionals seek to improve the health of communities through prevention and health promotion. They may analyze statistical data to identify health trends in communities, work to ensure a healthy environment and workplace, study disease, or teach health education programs. These professionals have contributed to public health achievements including the fluoridation of drinking water, increased car seat and seat belt use, tobacco-free environments, and control of infectious diseases.

- BIostatistician
- COMMUNITY HEALTH WORKER
- ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SPECIALIST
- EPIDEMIOLOGIST
- HEALTH EDUCATOR  GROWING



Biostatistician

- Creates methods of collecting, interpreting, and analyzing vast amounts of medical and health data

Ideal Attributes

- Effective communicator
- Strong computing skills
- Strong math skills

Biostatisticians use their knowledge of statistics to design new and innovative studies, collect relevant information, and compile raw data into a sensible form. They work closely with epidemiologists, survey researchers, local community planners, state and national health policy analysts, and government officials to pinpoint the cause of disease and injuries and to identify health trends in communities. Their duties include designing and directing research studies related to public health, monitoring clinical trials, and designing surveys to assess health. Biostatisticians may analyze and interpret clinical and survey data related to such things as the occurrence of gun violence, drunken driving injuries, the efficacy of new drugs, trends in cancer incidence, or morbidity and mortality from specific diseases.

Median Salary: \$72,610 or \$34.91 an hour

WORK ENVIRONMENTS

- Colleges and universities
- Consulting firms
- Health insurance companies
- Hospitals and health systems
- Industry
- International health agencies
- Local, state, and federal government agencies
- Non-profit organizations
- Pharmaceutical companies
- Private health agencies
- Public health departments
- Research institutions
- Research laboratories

ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS

- A bachelor's, master's, or doctoral degree in biostatistics from an educational program accredited by the Council on Education for Public Health (ceph.org)

LICENSURE AND CERTIFICATION

- Voluntary national certification from the American Statistical Association for the Graduate Statistician (GStat) and Accredited Professional Statistician (PStat) credentials

PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

American Public Health Association
www.apha.org

American Statistical Association
www.amstat.org

International Biometric Society
www.biometricsociety.org

Society for Clinical Trials
www.sctweb.org

Educational Programs

MASTER'S DEGREE

Augusta University
Emory University
Georgia Southern University
Georgia State University
University of Georgia

DOCTORAL DEGREE

Augusta University
Emory University
Georgia Southern University
University of Georgia



Community Health Worker

- Improves access to healthcare, social services, and education for communities
- Implements health education and promotion programs

Ideal Attributes

- Effective communicator
- Flexible
- Good judgment
- Resourceful

Community health workers improve the well-being of communities that lack access to adequate healthcare and social services due to cultural, economic, geographic, and/or language barriers. They understand the attitudes, cultures, languages, and perspectives of the community members they serve and use that knowledge to improve the quality and cultural appropriateness of the services and information offered. They build the capacity of community members to participate in their own care by promoting healthy behaviors such as prenatal care, breastfeeding, healthy eating, exercise, and compliance with prescribed treatments for chronic diseases such as cancer, diabetes, and hypertension. They may also provide informal counseling and social support as well as first aid and health screenings.

Median Salary: \$34,510 or **\$16.59** an hour

WORK ENVIRONMENTS

- Businesses
- Churches
- Clinics
- Community centers
- Hospitals
- K-12 schools
- Private residences
- Public health departments
- Shelters
- Social service agencies

ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS

- A high school diploma or equivalent
- On-the-job training provided by employers
- Formal education and training at the certificate or diploma level sometimes available through community colleges and/or health and social service agencies

LICENSURE AND CERTIFICATION

- State-level certification programs available in some states, but Georgia does not currently offer this option

PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

American Public Health Association - Community Health Worker Section
www.apha.org/apha-communities/member-sections/community-health-workers

Georgia Department of Public Health
dph.georgia.gov/community-health-workers

Educational Programs

CERTIFICATE

Morehouse School of Medicine

Check with the Centers for Disease Control, American Cancer Society, American Red Cross, or your local AHEC for courses that offer beneficial training.



Environmental Health Specialist

- Evaluates and responds to the environmental quality of a community
- Takes action to safeguard human health and safety

Ideal Attributes

- Analytical, critical thinker
- Effective communicator
- Problem-solver
- Strong science skills

Environmental health specialists collect and analyze data related to air, food, soil, and water to determine if a hazard to the public exists and to respond with prevention and elimination strategies to protect the environment. They may pursue careers in community planning and development, epidemiology, food safety, legislation, risk assessment, toxicology, waste management, or workplace health and safety. They are responsible for enforcing state and federal regulations that pertain to environmental issues such as air and water quality, cleanliness and safety of housing and institutional environments, and handling of hazardous and infectious wastes. They may inspect childcare facilities, food establishments, residences, schools, sewage and water systems, spas, swimming pools, and tattoo shops.

Median Salary: \$62,630 or **\$30.11** an hour

WORK ENVIRONMENTS

- Colleges and universities
- Consulting firms
- Environmental and other government agencies
- Local and state health departments
- Non-profit or community organizations
- Private companies
- Private research facilities

ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS

- A bachelor's degree in environmental health or related field with strong science background for entry-level positions

- A graduate degree in public health with an environmental health focus from a program accredited by the Council on Education for Public Health (ceph.org) for career advancement or for roles within the Commissioned Corps of the U.S. Public Health Service

LICENSURE AND CERTIFICATION

- Voluntary national certifications from the National Environmental Health Association including the Registered Environmental Health Specialist/Registered Sanitarian (RHES/RS) credential
- Voluntary national certification from the American Board of Industrial Hygiene (www.abih.org) for the Certified Industrial Hygienist (CIH) credential

PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

American Industrial Hygiene Association
www.aiha.org

Georgia Environmental Health Association
www.geha-online.org

National Center for Environmental Health
www.cdc.gov/nceh

National Environmental Health Association
www.neha.org

Educational Programs

BACHELOR'S DEGREE

Georgia State University
University of Georgia
Young Harris College

MASTER'S DEGREE

Augusta University
Emory University
Fort Valley State University
Georgia Southern University
Georgia State University
University of Georgia

DOCTORAL DEGREE

Emory University
Georgia Southern University
Georgia State University
University of Georgia



Epidemiologist

- Investigates the causes of diseases and ways to predict, prevent, and control them
- Uses statistics to identify and measure patterns of disease occurrence in populations

Ideal Attributes

- Analytical problem-solver
- Critical thinker
- Effective communicator
- Strong math skills

Epidemiologists study the causes, risk factors, and impact of diseases, injuries, and other health-related conditions in populations and how diseases work inside the body. Epidemiologists can be broken down into three groups: applied, research, and clinical. Applied epidemiologists usually work in communities where there is prevalent disease. They evaluate the status of a disease and construct programs for effective prevention, intervention, and control of the disease. Research epidemiologists study infectious and chronic diseases that can affect the entire body, attempting to eradicate or control these diseases. Clinical epidemiologists work primarily as consultants for hospitals. They inform the medical staff of infectious outbreaks and provide containment solutions.

Median Salary: \$58,718 or **\$28.23** an hour

WORK ENVIRONMENTS

- Colleges and universities
- Consulting firms
- Hospitals
- Local, state, and federal government
- Non-profit organizations
- Private companies
- Public health departments
- Research institutions
- Research laboratories

ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS

- A bachelor's degree for admission to a graduate program
- A master's degree in public health (MPH or MSPH) with a concentration in epidemiology from an educational program accredited by the Council on Education for Public Health (ceph.org)

- A doctoral degree (PhD or DrPH) suggested for research/academia or leadership/management, respectively

LICENSURE AND CERTIFICATION

- Voluntary national certification from the Certification Board of Infection Control and Epidemiology (www.cbic.org) for the Certified in Infection Prevention and Control (CIC) credential
- Voluntary national certification from the National Board of Public Health Examiners (www.nbphe.org) for the Certified in Public Health (CPH) credential

PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

American College of Epidemiology
www.acepidemiology.org

Association for Professionals in Infection Control and Epidemiology
www.apic.org

Council of State and Territorial Epidemiologists
www.cste.org

International Epidemiological Association
www.ieaweb.org

Society for Epidemiologic Research
epiresearch.org

Educational Programs

MASTER'S DEGREE

Emory University
Georgia Southern University
Georgia State University
University of Georgia

DOCTORAL DEGREE

Emory University
Georgia Southern University
Georgia State University
University of Georgia

Health Educator

- Promotes, maintains, and improves the health of individuals and communities through interventions designed to encourage healthy behaviors

Ideal Attributes

- Desires to serve others
- Detail-oriented
- Effective communicator
- Organized

Health educators collect and analyze data using assessments and evaluations to determine the needs of the people they serve. They plan and implement programs to improve their audience's health, while ensuring the programs are culturally appropriate, and then monitor the interventions to determine their effectiveness. They often focus on specific populations or issues such as chronic or infectious diseases, human relations, nutrition, obesity, safety, stress management, and substance use disorders. They may also assist individuals or communities in securing grants, collaborate with organizations to solve health problems, and advocate for policy and environmental changes that encourage healthy lifestyles. They are skilled in advocacy, teaching, public speaking, and writing educational materials.

Median Salary: \$80,940 or \$38.91 an hour

WORK ENVIRONMENTS

- Business and industry
- Colleges and universities
- Community health organizations
- Faith-based organizations
- Hospitals and other healthcare facilities
- International organizations
- K-12 schools
- Local, state, and federal government agencies
- Private companies

ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS

- A bachelor's degree in public health, health education, community health, health promotion and behavior, or related area
- Master's and doctoral degrees in public health for career advancement

LICENSURE AND CERTIFICATION

- Voluntary national certification from the National Commission for Health Education Credentialing (www.nchec.org) for the Certified Health Education Specialist (CHES) and Master Certified Health Education Specialist (MCHES) credentials

PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

American Public Health Association
www.apha.org

Georgia Public Health Association
www.gapha.org

Georgia Society for Public Health Education
www.gasophe.org

Society for Public Health Education
www.sophe.org

Educational Programs

BACHELOR'S DEGREE

Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College
Clayton State University
College of Coastal Georgia
Columbus State University
Emory University
Georgia College & State University
Georgia Southern University
Georgia State University
Kennesaw State University
Mercer University
Piedmont College

South University
University of Georgia
University of West Georgia
Valdosta State University

MASTER'S DEGREE

Augusta University
Emory University
Georgia College & State University
Georgia Southern University
Georgia State University
Mercer University

Morehouse School of Medicine
Piedmont College
South University
University of Georgia

DOCTORAL DEGREE

Emory University
Georgia Southern University
Georgia State University
University of Georgia

Radiologic & Imaging Science

Professionals in the field of radiologic and imaging science provide the healthcare team with diagnostic and therapeutic services.

They produce images, provide diagnoses, treat cancer, and explore body functions and structures using radiation, radioactivity, ultrasound, and other methods. The information they provide on the presence and extent of an injury, disease, or impairment is used by the healthcare team to make decisions on how to treat the identified problem. These professionals are trained to operate diagnostic equipment, keep accurate records, and protect the patient and themselves from any harmful effects of a procedure. A career in this field offers challenging and rewarding opportunities.

CARDIOVASCULAR TECHNOLOGIST
DIAGNOSTIC MEDICAL SONOGRAPHER
MEDICAL DOSIMETRIST
NUCLEAR MEDICINE TECHNOLOGIST
RADIATION THERAPIST
RADIOLOGIC TECHNOLOGIST **GROWING**

Cardiovascular Technologist

- Performs diagnostic tests to determine how well the heart and blood vessels function
- Assists physicians in interventional roles to treat specific cardiovascular diseases during procedures

Ideal Attributes

- Detail-oriented
- Lifelong learner
- Manual dexterity
- Works well under pressure

Cardiovascular technologists (CVTs) assist physicians in diagnosing and treating various cardiovascular disorders. Some CVTs specialize in invasive procedures that involve entering the body, such as heart catheterization and angioplasty. They may also help examine and repair blood vessels in the brain, neck, abdomen, and extremities. Other CVTs who specialize in non-invasive procedures use sonography (ultrasound) to produce images of the heart's chambers and valves and of other non-cardiac vessels. They also use electrocardiography or stress tests to monitor the heart's condition during exercise. CVTs can also specialize in cardiac electrophysiology to assist cardiologists in diagnosing and treating patients with cardiac arrhythmias. CVTs also obtain medical histories, monitor patients, and draw blood.

Median Salary: \$53,460 or **\$25.70** an hour

AREAS OF SPECIALIZATION

- Cardiac electrophysiology
- Invasive cardiovascular technology
- Non-invasive echocardiography (ECG/EKG)
- Non-invasive vascular ultrasound

WORK ENVIRONMENTS

- Clinics
- Hospitals
- Medical centers
- Mobile units
- Physician practices

ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS

- A diploma, degree, or certificate from an educational program accredited by the Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs Joint Review Committee on Cardiovascular Technology (www.jrccvt.org)

LICENSURE AND CERTIFICATION

- Voluntary national certification for specialty areas from Cardiovascular Credentialing International (www.cci-online.org) for the Registered Cardiac Electrophysiology Specialist (RCES), Registered Cardiovascular Invasive Specialist (RCIS), Registered Cardiac Sonographer (RCS), and Registered Vascular Specialist (RVS) credentials and from the American Registry for Diagnostic Medical Sonographers (www.ardms.org) for the Registered Diagnostic Cardiac Sonographer (RDCS) and Registered Vascular Technologist (RVT) credentials
- Certification required by most employers

PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

Alliance of Cardiovascular Professionals
www.acp-online.org

American Society of Echocardiography
www.asecho.org

Society for Vascular Ultrasound
www.svunet.org

Educational Programs

ASSOCIATE DEGREE

Augusta Technical College (administered with University Hospital)
Central Georgia Technical College
Georgia Northwestern Technical College
Gwinnett Technical College
Ogeechee Technical College
Southern Regional Technical College

BACHELOR'S DEGREE

Georgia Southern University
Piedmont College (administered with Northeast Georgia Medical Center)

POST-BACCALAUREATE CERTIFICATE

Piedmont College (administered with Northeast Georgia Medical Center)

Diagnostic Medical Sonographer

- Produces diagnostic images using ultrasound (high-frequency sound waves)

Ideal Attributes

- Effective communicator
- Problem-solver
- Strong technological aptitude
- Works well with others

Diagnostic medical sonographers use ultrasound equipment to produce dynamic images of internal structures—including the heart, blood vessels, abdomen, and breasts—as well as to measure fetal growth and development in expectant mothers. Diagnostic medical sonographers prepare patients for exams, explain procedures, select appropriate equipment, and operate the ultrasound machine. They display images on a video monitor and are able to identify the anatomy and pathology of various organs. The images they produce are reviewed and interpreted by a physician in order to assess and diagnose abnormalities or medial conditions. They keep accurate records, including patient information and sonographic data, and may also be responsible for some preliminary image interpretation.

Median Salary: \$62,320 or \$29.96 an hour

AREAS OF SPECIALIZATION

- Abdomen
- Adult echocardiography (ECG/EKG)
- Breast
- Fetal echocardiography (ECG/EKG)
- Musculoskeletal
- Obstetrics and gynecology
- Pediatric echocardiography (ECG/EKG)
- Pediatric sonography
- Vascular technology

WORK ENVIRONMENTS

- Clinics
- Colleges and universities
- Hospitals
- Imaging centers
- Mobile units
- Physician practices
- Veterinary practices

ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS

- A degree or certificate from an educational program accredited by the Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs (www.caahep.org)

LICENSURE AND CERTIFICATION

- Voluntary national certification from the American Registry for Diagnostic Medical Sonography (www.ardms.org) for the Registered Diagnostic Medical Sonographer (RDMS) credential and other specialty credentials or the American Registry of Radiologic Technologists (www.arrt.org) for the Registered Technologist, Sonography (RT[S]) credential and other specialty credentials
- Certification required by most employers

PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

- American Institute of Ultrasound in Medicine
www.aium.org
- American Society of Radiologic Technologists
www.asrt.org
- Society of Diagnostic Medical Sonography
www.sdms.org

Educational Programs

DIPLOMA

Institute of Medical Ultrasound

ASSOCIATE DEGREE

Albany State University
Augusta Technical College

Cambridge College of Healthcare & Technology
Columbus Technical College
Georgia Northwestern Technical College
Gwinnett Technical College
Oconee Fall Line Technical College
Ogeechee Technical College

POST-ASSOCIATE CERTIFICATE

Grady Health System

BACHELOR'S DEGREE

Georgia Southern University

Medical Dosimetrist

- Creates treatment plans to accurately deliver radiation prescribed by an oncologist

Ideal Attributes

- Critical thinker
- Effective communicator
- Strong computing skills
- Works well with others

Medical dosimetrists are vital members of the radiation oncology team who work in collaboration with radiation oncologists (physicians specializing in the treatment of cancer through radiation) and medical physicists (scientists assuring the safe and effective delivery of radiation) in creating radiation treatment plans for patients. They use digital imaging of the patient's anatomy and specialized 3-D computers to deliver high doses of radiation to a tumor while limiting the amount of radiation reaching the surrounding normal structures. They may also be involved in research and in the development of new therapy techniques. These medical professionals must be good communicators and work well under stressful conditions while maintaining a high level of concentration.

Median Salary: \$85,000 or **\$40.87** an hour

WORK ENVIRONMENTS

- Cancer treatment centers
- Colleges and universities
- Hospitals
- Medical research laboratories
- Vendor sales/support

ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS

- A diploma or post-baccalaureate certificate from an educational program accredited by the Joint Review Committee on Education in Radiologic Technology (www.jrcert.org)

LICENSURE AND CERTIFICATION

- Voluntary national certification from the Medical Dosimetrist Certification Board (mdcb.org) for the Certified Medical Dosimetrist (CMD) credential

PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

American Association of Medical Dosimetrists
www.medicaldosimetry.org

American Society of Radiologic Technologists
www.asrt.org

Educational Programs

GEORGIA DOES NOT HAVE ANY MEDICAL DOSIMETRY PROGRAMS.

Programs listed are located in neighboring states.

DIPLOMA

Pitt Community College (NC)
pittcc.edu

POST-BACCALAUREATE CERTIFICATE

21st Century Oncology (FL)
www.21co.com

University of North Carolina School of Medicine (NC)
www.med.unc.edu

Nuclear Medicine Technologist

- Uses radioactive materials and complex instruments to visualize organs and body functions

Ideal Attributes

- Adaptive to new technology
- Decisive
- Independent worker
- Team-oriented

Nuclear medicine technologists work under the direction of nuclear medicine physicians or radiologists to prepare and administer radioactive materials used to diagnose and treat diseases. They use sophisticated radiation-detecting instruments to visualize organs or organ systems where radioactive material concentrates. The resulting images are used by physicians for diagnostic interpretation. The use of new nuclear imaging technologies, including positron emission tomography/computed tomography systems (PET/CT) and single photon emission computed tomography (SPECT), are expected to increase and to contribute to employment growth. The wider use of this imaging to observe metabolic and biochemical changes during neurology, cardiology, and oncology procedures will also spur demand.

Median Salary: \$72,120 or **\$34.67** an hour

AREAS OF SPECIALIZATION

- Advanced nuclear medicine
- Computed tomography (CT)
- Nuclear cardiology technology
- Positron emission tomography (PET)
- Radiation safety

WORK ENVIRONMENTS

- Cancer centers
- Cardiology centers
- Clinics
- Government agencies
- Hospitals
- Imaging centers
- Pharmaceutical companies
- Research facilities

ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS

- A bachelor's degree from an educational program accredited by the Joint Review Committee on Educational Programs in Nuclear Medicine Technology (www.jrcnmt.org)

LICENSURE AND CERTIFICATION

- Voluntary national certification from the Nuclear Medicine Technology Certification Board (www.nmtcb.org) for the Certified Nuclear Medicine Technologist (CNMT) credential and other specialty credentials
- Voluntary national certification from the American Registry of Radiologic Technologists (www.arrt.org) for the Registered Technologist, Nuclear (RT[N]) credential
- Certification required by most employers

PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

American Society of Radiologic Technologists
www.asrt.org

Society of Nuclear Medicine and Molecular Imaging
www.snmmi.org

Educational Programs

BACHELOR'S DEGREE

Augusta University

POST-BACCALAUREATE CERTIFICATE

Georgia Southern University



Radiation Therapist

- Administers radiation treatments to cancer patients

Ideal Attributes

- Detail-oriented & precise
- Effective communicator
- Empathetic & patient
- Strong technological aptitude

Radiation plays a major role in treating cancer and other diseases by relieving symptoms and, many times, producing a cure. Radiation therapists work closely with nurses, medical physicists (scientists assuring the safe and effective delivery of radiation), and radiation oncologists (physicians specializing in using radiation to treat cancer) to skillfully deliver prescribed doses of radiation. They educate patients, provide emotional support, and ensure proper positioning to avoid overexposure during procedures. They are responsible for the operation of machines such as linear accelerators and computed tomography (CT) scanners. They also use computer systems to verify the treatment parameters and the radiation dosage, perform quality assurance of radiation machinery, and keep detailed records.

Median Salary: \$77,916 or \$37.46 an hour

WORK ENVIRONMENTS

- Colleges and universities
- Hospitals
- Outpatient cancer centers

ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS

- An associate or bachelor's degree from an educational program accredited by the Joint Review Committee on Education in Radiologic Technology (www.jrcert.org)
- A certificate for graduates with an associate or bachelor's degree in radiologic science

PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

American Society of Radiologic Technologists
www.asrt.org

Georgia Society of Radiologic Technologists
www.gsrt.wildapricot.org

LICENSURE AND CERTIFICATION

- Required national certification from the American Registry of Radiologic Technologists (www.arrt.org) for the Registered Technologist, Radiation Therapy (RT[T]) credential

Educational Programs

ASSOCIATE DEGREE

Cambridge College of Healthcare & Technology

POST-ASSOCIATE CERTIFICATE

Grady Health System

BACHELOR'S DEGREE

Augusta University
Georgia Southern University

POST-BACCALAUREATE CERTIFICATE

Georgia Southern University

Radiologic Technologist

- Produces radiographic images used to diagnose disease or injury using a variety of techniques

Ideal Attributes

- Effective communicator
- Follows instructions well
- Strong interpersonal skills
- Strong technological aptitude

Radiologic technologists, also called radiographers, work closely with radiologists (physicians who specialize in the use of radiation for the diagnosis and treatment of disease). They use their knowledge of radiation, equipment, computers, and anatomy to produce high-quality images. Radiologic technologists understand the benefits and hazards of radiation and are experts in safeguarding their patients and personnel from excessive radiation exposure. They educate patients on procedures and ensure accurate positioning in order to obtain a quality diagnostic image. They may choose to specialize in one or more specific imaging techniques such as magnetic resonance imaging (MRI), sonography, nuclear medicine, computed tomography (CT), or radiation therapy.

Median Salary: \$54,400 or **\$26.15** an hour

AREAS OF SPECIALIZATION

- Bone densitometry
- Breast sonography
- Cardiac-interventional
- Computed tomography (CT)
- Magnetic resonance imaging (MRI)
- Mammography
- Nuclear medicine
- Radiation therapy
- Registered radiologist assistant
- Sonography
- Vascular-interventional
- Vascular sonography

WORK ENVIRONMENTS

- Clinics
- Colleges and universities
- Equipment sales companies
- Government facilities
- Hospitals
- Mobile units
- Physician practices
- Public health departments
- Specialized imaging centers
- Urgent care centers

ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS

- An associate or bachelor's degree from an educational program accredited by the Joint Review Committee on Education in Radiologic Technology (www.jrcert.org)
- A certificate for graduates with an associate degree or higher

LICENSURE AND CERTIFICATION

- Required national certification from the American Registry of Radiologic Technologists (www.arrt.org) for the Registered Technologist, Radiography (RT[R]) credential and for voluntary national certification for other specialty credentials

PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

American Society of Radiologic Technologists
www.asrt.org

Georgia Society of Radiologic Technologists
www.gsrwildapricot.org

Educational Programs

ASSOCIATE DEGREE

Albany State University
Albany Technical College
Athens Technical College
Atlanta Technical College
Augusta Technical College
Cambridge College of Healthcare & Technology
Central Georgia Technical College
Chattahoochee Technical College
Coastal Pines Technical College
College of Coastal Georgia
Columbus Technical College
Dalton State College
DeKalb Medical (administered with Perimeter College at Georgia State University)
Georgia Northwestern Technical College
Grady Health System (administered with Atlanta Metropolitan State College and/

or Perimeter College at Georgia State University)
Gwinnett Technical College
Lanier Technical College
Oconee Fall Line Technical College
Ogeechee Technical College
Southeastern Technical College
Southern Crescent Technical College
Southern Regional Technical College
West Georgia Technical College
Wiregrass Georgia Technical College

BACHELOR'S DEGREE

Emory University
Georgia Southern University

POST-BACCALAUREATE CERTIFICATE

University Hospital



Science & Engineering

The field of medical engineering and scientific research offers the opportunity to become a healthcare detective.

Using science, technology, and engineering skills, professionals in this field enjoy the challenge of making new discoveries and the satisfaction of finding innovative solutions. Biomedical engineers create solutions to patients' medical problems by designing medical devices, products, and systems. Biomedical equipment technicians install, inspect, repair, and test medical equipment. Geneticists study genes in humans, plants, and animals and hunt for genes that may cause inherited diseases. Naturally curious, these professionals are precise in their work and enjoy solving problems.

**BIOMEDICAL ENGINEER
BIOMEDICAL EQUIPMENT TECHNICIAN
GENETICIST**

Biomedical Engineer

- Develops and evaluates new medical devices and therapies in order to advance or improve medical treatment and healthcare

Ideal Attributes

- Analytical problem-solver
- Effective communicator
- Inquisitive
- Strong science skills

Biomedical engineers combine their biology and engineering knowledge to create solutions in medicine and healthcare that will improve the quality of life for many people. Some work with other engineers, scientists, and healthcare professionals to design medical devices such as battery-powered artificial limbs, cardiac pacemakers, heart valves, medical imaging systems, and neurostimulators. Others use software to model parts of the human body to design and improve medical devices. Biomedical engineers may also develop materials or processes to grow replacement tissues and organs or design new ways to deliver drugs or therapies to specific parts of the body. They might also help companies test devices or drugs for clinical trials by serving as the person who interfaces with doctors and nurses.

Median Salary: \$68,420 or **\$32.89** an hour

AREAS OF SPECIALIZATION

- Bioinstrumentation
- Biomaterials
- Biomechanics
- Biomedical electronics
- Bionanotechnology
- Cellular, tissue, and genetic engineering
- Clinical engineering
- Medical imaging
- Neural engineering
- Orthopedic bioengineering
- Regenerative medicine
- Systems physiology

WORK ENVIRONMENTS

- Biotechnology companies
- Colleges and universities
- Government regulatory agencies
- Health information technology
- Hospitals and health systems
- Medical device companies
- Pharmaceutical companies
- Research facilities
- Space and undersea programs

ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS

- A bachelor's degree in biomedical engineering or bioengineering or in mechanical, electrical, or chemical engineering with an emphasis/specialty in biomedical engineering
- A master's or doctoral degree helpful for specialization or career advancement

LICENSURE AND CERTIFICATION

- Optional state licensure from the Georgia Board of Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors (sos.ga.gov/index.php/licensing/plb/22)
- Voluntary national certification from the American College of Clinical Engineering for the Certified Clinical Engineer (CCE) credential

PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

American College of Clinical Engineering
www.accenet.org

Biomedical Engineering Society
www.bmes.org

IEEE Engineering in Medicine and Biology Society
www.embs.org

Tissue Engineering and Regenerative Medicine International Society
www.termis.org

Educational Programs

BACHELOR'S AND MASTER'S DEGREE

Georgia Institute of Technology
Mercer University
University of Georgia

DOCTORAL DEGREE

Georgia Institute of Technology
(administered with Emory University)
University of Georgia

Biomedical Equipment Technician

- Installs, inspects, and maintains electronic medical equipment

Ideal Attributes

- Detail-oriented
- Problem-solver
- Strong math & science skills
- Strong technological aptitude

Biomedical equipment technicians are specialists in electronic and computerized mechanical equipment used to sustain life and to diagnose, analyze, and treat diseases. They install sophisticated devices and diagnostic equipment such as anesthesia machines, artificial kidney machines, electrocardiograph machines, patient monitoring systems, fetal monitoring systems, sterilizers, ventilators, and x-ray equipment. They also test and inspect equipment for patient and operator safety and make calibrations and repairs to ensure proper operation. They maintain service records, keep an adequate supply of spare parts in inventory, and ensure all regulatory procedures are in compliance. They also demonstrate the use of equipment for other medical personnel and propose new purchases or modifications.

Median Salary: \$51,147 or \$24.59 an hour

WORK ENVIRONMENTS

- Clinics
- Dialysis centers
- Government agencies
- Hospitals
- Independent third-party service organizations
- Medical equipment manufacturers
- Medical schools
- Private companies

ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS

- A certificate, diploma, or associate degree in biomedical equipment technology, electronics, or an engineering-related field
- On-the-job training sometimes available for technicians with electronics experience

LICENSURE AND CERTIFICATION

- Voluntary national certification from the Association for the Advancement of Medical Instrumentation Credentials Institute for the Certified Biomedical Equipment Technician (CBET), Certified Radiology Equipment Specialist (CRES), and Certified Laboratory Equipment Specialist (CLES) credentials
- Voluntary national certification from the Electronics Technician Association International for the Biomedical Electronics Technician (BMD) and Biomedical Imaging Equipment Technician (BIET) credentials

PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

Association for the Advancement of Medical Instrumentation
www.aami.org

Electronics Technician Association International
www.eta-i.org

Georgia Biomedical Instrumentation Society
www.gbis.wildapricot.org

Educational Programs

DIPLOMA AND ASSOCIATE DEGREE

Albany Technical College
Augusta Technical College
Southern Regional Technical College
West Georgia Technical College

DIPLOMA

Coastal Pines Technical College
Oconee Fall Line Technical College

ASSOCIATE DEGREE

Chattahoochee Technical College
Georgia Piedmont Technical College

Geneticist

- Studies genes, genomes, and variations passed from parent to offspring

Ideal Attributes

- Adaptive to new technology
- Analytical problem-solver
- Detail-oriented
- Strong science skills

Using sophisticated laboratory methods, geneticists analyze genes and gene products found in cells, viruses, and bacteria and breed a variety of organisms to study inherited traits. Computers enable them to analyze and compare the genome sequence of humans and other organisms and to scrutinize large populations for variations that make some more susceptible to inherited diseases or birth defects. They may diagnose inherited diseases and hunt for new genes that cause disease. Human geneticists may specialize in forensics using DNA analysis in criminal investigation, establishment of family relationships, or mass fatality identification. Some geneticists modify plant genes to improve crop production and disease resistance or develop new plants, drugs, and foods to improve quality of life worldwide.

Median Salary: \$72,590 or \$34.90 an hour

AREAS OF SPECIALIZATION

- Clinical biochemical genetics
- Clinical genetics and genomics
- Computational genetics
- Evolutionary genetics
- Genetic research scientist
- Genomics
- Laboratory genetics and genomics
- Medical biochemical genetics
- Molecular genetic pathology
- Plant genetics
- Population genetics
- Statistical genetics

WORK ENVIRONMENTS

- Agricultural companies
- Biotechnology companies
- Clinics
- Colleges and universities
- Crime or forensic laboratories
- Hospitals
- Medical schools
- Obstetrics practices
- Pharmaceutical companies
- Public health agencies
- Research laboratories

ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS

- A bachelor's degree in genetics, biology, or another branch of life sciences
- A master's or doctoral degree in genetics usually required
- Two or more years of post-doctoral research in a specialized area of genetics after completion of a doctoral degree
- Physicians attain specialization in clinical genetics through accredited residency programs

LICENSURE AND CERTIFICATION

- Required state licensure for physicians who work as clinical geneticists from the Georgia Composite Medical Board (medicalboard.georgia.gov)
- Voluntary national certification from the American Board of Medical Genetics and Genomics (www.abmagg.org) for clinical biochemical genetics, clinical genetics and genomics, laboratory genetics and genomics, medical biochemical genetics, and molecular genetic pathology

PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

American College of Medical Genetics and Genomics
www.acmg.net

American Society of Human Genetics
www.ashg.org

Genetics Society of America
www.genetics-gsa.org

Educational Programs

BACHELOR'S AND MASTER'S DEGREE

University of Georgia

DOCTORAL DEGREE

Emory University
University of Georgia



Therapy & Rehabilitation

Often considered the “human element” of recovery, therapy and rehabilitation help people return to independence and self-reliance.

Professionals in this field specialize in a variety of modalities to facilitate recovery and design programs for patients of all ages with physical, emotional, social, and mental challenges who need stimulation of their muscles and minds. Some apply the benefits of art, dance, drama, music, or recreation, while others develop therapeutic treatment plans to reduce pain and increase mobility or to teach skills for completing everyday activities. Treating hearing and balance disorders or language, speech, and swallowing disorders are other challenging pursuits. Some careers involve developing and executing exercise and nutrition programs to increase fitness or rehabilitate injuries. Other opportunities include designing, fabricating, and fitting artificial limbs or helping people breathe easier. In this rewarding and satisfying field, specialists are highly committed, patient, and compassionate while helping patients reach their potential and lead more enjoyable lives.

ATHLETIC TRAINER

AUDIOLOGIST

CREATIVE ARTS THERAPIST

EXERCISE PHYSIOLOGIST

OCCUPATIONAL THERAPIST  GROWING

OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY ASSISTANT

ORTHOTIST & PROSTHETIST

PHYSICAL THERAPIST  HOT CAREER

PHYSICAL THERAPIST ASSISTANT  GROWING

RECREATIONAL THERAPIST

RESPIRATORY THERAPIST  GROWING

SPEECH-LANGUAGE PATHOLOGIST  GROWING

Athletic Trainer

- Prevents, examines, diagnoses, and treats injuries and medical conditions
- Provides therapeutic intervention and rehabilitation of these injuries and medical conditions

Ideal Attributes

- Critical thinker
- Effective communicator
- Resourceful
- Strong interpersonal skills

Athletic trainers are allied healthcare professionals who provide medical services to patients of all ages and ability levels, not just to athletes participating in sports. In collaboration with a physician, their duties involve the prevention, evaluation, and treatment of emergency, acute, and chronic injuries and medical conditions in a variety of settings. Athletic trainers are risk managers who understand how environmental factors, physical conditioning, nutritional programming, and correct protective equipment interact to prevent injury and illness. When injuries do occur, they determine the nature and severity, develop and execute treatment and rehabilitation plans, and design patient education strategies to improve functional outcomes and to reduce healthcare costs.

Median Salary: \$46,210 or **\$22.22** an hour

WORK ENVIRONMENTS

- Colleges and universities
- Fitness and recreational sports centers
- High schools
- Hospitals
- Industrial and commercial enterprises
- Military and other government agencies
- Orthopaedic and other physician practices
- Performing arts organizations
- Professional sports teams
- Public safety agencies
- Sports medicine clinics

ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS

- A bachelor's or master's degree from an educational program accredited by the Commission on Accreditation of Athletic Training Education (www.caate.net)

LICENSURE AND CERTIFICATION

- Required state licensure from the Georgia Board of Athletic Trainers (sos.ga.gov/index.php/licensing/plb/7)
- Voluntary national certification from the Board of Certification for the Athletic Trainer (www.bocatc.org) for the Athletic Trainer, Certified (ATC) credential

PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

Georgia Athletic Trainers' Association
gat3a.roundtablelive.org

National Athletic Trainers' Association
www.nata.org

Educational Programs

BACHELOR'S DEGREE

Georgia Southern University
University of Georgia

MASTER'S DEGREE

Georgia College & State University
Georgia Southern University
Life University
Mercer University
Piedmont College

University of North Georgia

DOCTORAL DEGREE

University of Georgia

Audiologist

- Identifies and provides management services for auditory and balance disorders
- Promotes hearing health to improve patients' quality of life

Ideal Attributes

- Compassionate
- Effective communicator
- Organized
- Problem-solver

Audiologists prevent, diagnose, evaluate, and treat hearing and balance disorders at all stages of life. They identify and assess the nature and degree of hearing, balance, and related problems and evaluate their impact on an individual's daily life. Audiologists work closely with educators, psychologists, physicians, and speech-language pathologists to make a diagnosis and determine appropriate treatment. They may conduct research, perform monitoring during surgical procedures, provide hearing conservation and audiology services related to legal issues, teach audiology students, or service patients who are candidates for or recipients of cochlear and other implantable devices. They also provide counseling, communication strategies, and other assistance to patients and their families to help them adapt.

Median Salary: \$63,211 or \$30.39 an hour

AREAS OF SPECIALIZATION

- Cochlear implant specialist
- Intraoperative monitoring
- Pediatric audiology

WORK ENVIRONMENTS

- Colleges and universities
- Hearing aid and equipment manufacturers
- Hearing conservation programs
- Hospitals
- K-12 schools
- Local, state, and federal government agencies
- Outpatient clinics
- Physician practices
- Public health departments
- Rehabilitation centers
- Research laboratories
- Residential healthcare facilities
- Self-employed/private practice
- Speech and hearing centers
- Veterans Affairs healthcare facilities

ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS

- A doctoral degree from an educational program accredited by the Council on Academic Accreditation in Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology (caa.asha.org)

LICENSURE AND CERTIFICATION

- Required state licensure from the Georgia Board of Examiners for Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology (sos.ga.gov/index.php/licensing/plb/49)
- Voluntary national certification from the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association for the Certificate of Clinical Competence in Audiology (CCC-A) credential
- Voluntary national board certification and specialty certifications from the American Audiology Board of Intraoperative Monitoring (www.aabiom.com) and the American Board of Audiology (www.boardofaudiology.org)

PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

American Academy of Audiology
www.audiology.org

American Speech-Language-Hearing Association
www.asha.org

Georgia Academy of Audiology
www.georgiaaudiology.org

Georgia Speech-Language-Hearing Association
gsa.memberclicks.net

Educational Programs

GEORGIA DOES NOT HAVE ANY AUDIOLOGY PROGRAMS.

Programs listed are located in neighboring states.

DOCTORAL DEGREE

Auburn University (AL)
www.auburn.edu

University of Florida (FL)
www.ufl.edu

Vanderbilt University (TN)
www.vanderbilt.edu

Creative Arts Therapist

- Uses art, dance, drama, or music processes to achieve therapeutic goals

Ideal Attributes

- Creative
- Empathetic & ethical
- Motivational & supportive
- Strong interpersonal skills

Many physicians, mental health professionals, and other healthcare providers acknowledge the value of creative arts therapies (e.g., art, dance, drama, and music) to encourage healing, improve well-being, and promote quality of life. Therapists in these disciplines work with people of all ages who have developmental, medical, social, physical, or mental health challenges. They conduct assessments and develop treatment plans in collaboration with other healthcare providers. They design and implement therapy sessions using art, dance, drama, or music techniques to help clients improve health, relieve stress, build self-confidence, and increase social and communication skills. These interventions can create a non-threatening, relaxed atmosphere in which to achieve therapeutic goals.

Median Salary: \$53,318 or **\$25.63** an hour

WORK ENVIRONMENTS

- Colleges and universities
- Correctional facilities
- Day treatment centers
- Home health agencies
- Homeless shelters
- Hospice programs
- Hospitals
- K-12 schools
- Long-term care facilities
- Mental health centers
- Neonatal intensive care units
- Non-profit organizations
- Nursing homes
- Outpatient clinics
- Private practice
- Rehabilitation facilities
- Residential treatment centers
- Substance use disorder programs
- Wellness centers

ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS

- Art therapist: A master's degree from an educational program approved by the American Art Therapy Association (arttherapy.org) and a minimum of 1000 post-graduate supervised clinical hours
- Dance/movement therapist: A master's degree from an educational program approved by the American Dance Therapy Association (www.adta.org) or a master's degree with completion of ADTA-approved Alternate Route coursework/fieldwork and

700 supervised clinical hours

- Drama therapist: A master's degree from an educational program accredited by the North American Drama Therapy Association (www.nadta.org) or a related master's degree with completion of NADTA Alternative Training Program including 800 clinical hours with a Board Certified Trainer
- Music therapist: A bachelor's degree or Music Therapy Equivalency approved by the American Music Therapy Association (www.musictherapy.org) and 1200 clinical hours with a board-certified music therapist

LICENSURE AND CERTIFICATION

- Art therapist: Voluntary national certification from the Art Therapy Credentials Board for the Registered Art Therapist (ATR) and Board Certified Art Therapist (ATR-BC) credentials
- Dance/movement therapist: Voluntary national certification from the Dance/Movement Therapy Certification Board for the Registered Dance/Movement Therapist (R-DMT) and Board Certified Dance/Movement Therapist (BC-DMT) credentials
- Drama therapist: Voluntary national certification from the NADTA for the Registered Drama Therapist (RDT) credential
- Music therapist: Required state licensure from Georgia's Professional Licensing Boards Division and voluntary national

certification from the Certification Board for Music Therapists for the Music Therapist - Board Certified (MT-BC) credential

Educational Programs

Art Therapist MASTER'S DEGREE

Georgia College & State University

Dance/Movement and Drama Therapist

THE SOUTHEAST DOES NOT HAVE DANCE/MOVEMENT OR DRAMA THERAPY PROGRAMS.

Contact the ADTA about Alternate Route Training and the NADTA about Alternative Training, respectively.

Music Therapist BACHELOR'S DEGREE AND POST-BACCALAUREATE CERTIFICATE

University of Georgia

BACHELOR'S AND MASTER'S DEGREE

Georgia College & State University

Exercise Physiologist

- Designs and provides fitness and exercise programs to improve overall patient health

Ideal Attributes

- Compassionate
- Decisive
- Detail-oriented
- Strong interpersonal skills

Exercise physiologists work with clients ranging from healthy athletes to patients with chronic medical conditions. Clinical exercise physiologists work with physicians to provide medically-supervised exercise programs for people who suffer from medical concerns such as cancer, diabetes, obesity, and cardiovascular, pulmonary, or neuromuscular diseases. Using exercise as medicine, they develop programs designed to speed recovery and to improve cardiovascular function. Applied exercise physiologists help healthy individuals or those with controlled disease reach fitness goals. After evaluating medical histories and conducting fitness tests, they customize programs to help clients to lose weight, to increase fitness, and to improve flexibility as well as muscular strength and endurance.

Median Salary: \$43,222 or \$20.78 an hour

WORK ENVIRONMENTS

- Cardiopulmonary rehabilitation centers
- Colleges and universities
- Community fitness and wellness centers
- Corporate wellness programs
- Government agencies
- Hospitals
- Nursing/residential care facilities
- Outpatient care centers
- Physician practices
- Rehabilitation facilities

ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS

- A bachelor's degree in exercise physiology/science, kinesiology, sport science, human performance, or other related disciplines
- A master's degree in exercise physiology/science or kinesiology often required

LICENSURE AND CERTIFICATION

- Voluntary national certification from the American Society of Exercise Physiologists for the Exercise Physiologist Certified (EPC) credential
- Voluntary national certification from the American College of Sports Medicine for the Certified Exercise Physiologist (EP-C) and Certified Clinical Exercise Physiologist (CEP) credentials for candidates with a bachelor's degree and the Registered Clinical Exercise Physiologist (RCEP) credential for candidates with a master's degree

PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

American Association of Cardiovascular and Pulmonary Rehabilitation
www.aacvpr.org

American College of Sports Medicine
www.acsm.org

American Society of Exercise Physiologists
www.asep.org

Clinical Exercise Physiology Association
www.acsm-cepa.org

National Strength and Conditioning Association
www.nasca.com

Educational Programs

BACHELOR'S DEGREE

Albany State University
Berry College
Brenau University
College of Coastal Georgia
Emmanuel College
Georgia Gwinnett College
Georgia Southwestern State University
LaGrange College
Morehouse College

Piedmont College
Point University
Truett McConnell University

BACHELOR'S AND MASTER'S DEGREE

Augusta University
Columbus State University
Georgia College & State University
Georgia Southern University

Kennesaw State University
Life University
University of North Georgia
Valdosta State University

BACHELOR'S, MASTER'S, AND DOCTORAL DEGREE

Georgia State University
University of Georgia

Occupational Therapist

- Helps people to develop or regain the ability to do the activities needed or wanted for everyday living

Ideal Attributes

- Compassionate & dedicated
- Flexible
- Independent worker
- Strong interpersonal skills

Occupational therapists (OTs) help people of all ages lead independent, productive, and satisfying lives. Many of their clients have physical, developmental, social, or emotional conditions that impact their ability to engage in everyday activities such as self-care, education, work, and play. OTs enable them to function in their chosen environments including home, work, school, and community by teaching new skills and/or adapting the activity or environment to support participation in desired activities. They may also recommend and/or design splints, special devices, and assistive technology to promote and maintain independent functioning. The OT's ultimate goal is to enhance the client's quality of life by helping them achieve the highest level of participation and independence possible.

Median Salary: \$80,270 or **\$38.59** an hour

AREAS OF SPECIALIZATION

- Driving and community mobility
- Environmental modification
- Feeding, eating, and swallowing
- Gerontology
- Low vision
- Mental health
- Pediatrics
- Physical rehabilitation
- School systems

WORK ENVIRONMENTS

- Adult day care facilities
- Assisted living centers
- Early intervention programs
- Home health agencies
- Hospice programs
- Hospitals
- K-12 schools
- Long-term care facilities
- Mental health centers
- Outpatient clinics
- Outpatient pediatric practices
- Physician practices
- Prisons
- Rehabilitation centers
- Retirement communities
- Skilled nursing facilities

ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS

- A master's degree including field work from an educational program accredited by the American Occupational Therapy Association's Accreditation Council for Occupational Therapy Education

LICENSURE AND CERTIFICATION

- Required state licensure from the Georgia State Board of Occupational Therapy (sos.ga.gov/index.php/licensing/plb/36)
- Required national certification from the National Board for Certification in Occupational Therapy (www.nbcot.org) for the Registered Occupational Therapist (OTR) credential
- Voluntary national board certification and several specialty certifications from the American Occupational Therapy Association

PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

American Occupational Therapy Association
www.aota.org

Georgia Occupational Therapy Association
www.gaota.com

Educational Programs

MASTER'S DEGREE

Augusta University
Brenau University
Georgia State University

DOCTORAL DEGREE

Brenau University

Occupational Therapy Assistant

- Uses therapeutic activities and daily occupations to help people adapt to physical, emotional, cognitive, or developmental disabilities

Ideal Attributes

- Compassionate & patient
- Creative
- Independent thinker & worker
- Works well with others

Occupational therapy assistants (OTAs) work with people of all ages, from newborns to the very old, helping them develop, improve, or recover skills needed for daily living. OTAs help individuals whose abilities may be impaired by the aging process, physical injury, or disease; who have psychological, social, or learning disabilities; or who face other challenges that affect their day-to-day functioning. They are directly involved in providing educational, recreational, vocational, and self-care activities designed to restore independence and self-reliance. Assisting the occupational therapist, they participate in evaluations, develop and deliver individualized treatment and interventions, and document and review patient progress.

Median Salary: \$64,251 or \$30.89 an hour

AREAS OF SPECIALIZATION

- Driving and community mobility
- Environmental modification
- Feeding, eating, and swallowing
- Low vision
- School systems

WORK ENVIRONMENTS

- Adult day care facilities
- Assisted living facilities
- Home health agencies
- Hospice programs
- Hospitals
- K-12 schools
- Mental health centers
- Nursing homes
- Outpatient clinics
- Physician practices
- Prisons
- Rehabilitation centers

ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS

- An associate or bachelor's degree from an educational program accredited by the American Occupational Therapy Association's Accreditation Council for Occupational Therapy Education

LICENSURE AND CERTIFICATION

- Required state licensure from the Georgia State Board of Occupational Therapy (sos.ga.gov/index.php/licensing/plb/36)
- Required national certification from the National Board for Certification in Occupational Therapy (www.nbcot.org) for the Certified Occupational Therapy Assistant (COTA) credential
- Specialty certifications recognizing proficiency in chosen specialty area available from the American Occupational Therapy Association

PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

American Occupational Therapy Association
www.aota.org

Georgia Occupational Therapy Association
www.gaota.com

Educational Programs

ASSOCIATE DEGREE

Albany State University
Augusta Technical College
Chattahoochee Technical College
Middle Georgia State University



Orthotist & Prosthetist

- Creates treatment plans and designs, fabricates, and fits artificial limbs and orthopedic braces for people with physical impairments

Ideal Attributes

- Creative
- Effective communicator
- Independent worker
- Problem-solver

Orthotists and prosthetists evaluate people who have physical impairments and mobility issues and create solutions for them. They work with a team to achieve rehabilitation objectives and to tailor a plan of care to the client's lifestyle and goals. Orthotists specifically treat people with weakness or deformities of the limbs, spine, or head by utilizing treatments such as a Halo for life threatening neck injuries and ankle/foot orthoses for children with cerebral palsy while prosthetists design and fit prostheses (artificial limbs) for people with limb loss, such as amputation due to diabetes, vascular disease, or accidents. Developing the plan of care combines specialized component parts, hand skills and techniques, computer-aided design, and construction using lightweight materials.

Median Salary: \$72,176 or \$34.70 an hour

WORK ENVIRONMENTS

- Government agencies
- Hospitals
- Privately-owned facilities
- Rehabilitation centers
- Research and design laboratories
- Private practice
- Veterans Affairs healthcare facilities

ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS

- A master's degree from an educational program accredited by the National Commission on Orthotic and Prosthetic Education (www.ncope.org)

LICENSURE AND CERTIFICATION

- Required state licensure from the Georgia Composite Medical Board (medicalboard.georgia.gov)
- Required national certification from the American Board for Certification in Orthotics, Prosthetics and Pedorthics (www.abcop.org) for the Certified Orthotist (CO), Certified Prosthetist (CP), and/or Certified Prosthetist-Orthotist (CPO) credentials

PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

American Academy of Orthotists and Prosthetists
www.oandp.org
www.opcareers.org

Educational Programs

MASTER'S DEGREE

Georgia Institute of Technology

Physical Therapist

- Prescribes skilled therapeutic treatment plans to help clients achieve wellness goals, reduce pain, and improve or restore mobility and quality of life

Ideal Attributes

- Effective communicator
- Effective teacher
- Innovator
- Strong leadership skills

Physical therapists (PTs) work with people of all ages and with various disabilities and/or wellness goals. They help clients conquer the challenges of recovery—an athlete needing to gain strength and flexibility, an accident victim learning to use an artificial limb, or a stroke patient needing rehabilitation at home. They use a variety of interventions such as exercises, joint mobilization/manipulation, electrical stimulation, massage, and other physical agents such as water immersion, ultrasound, heat, and cold. These therapies help clients develop endurance and coordination, increase joint mobility and range of motion, increase muscle strength, decrease pain, and prevent further injury. PTs also work with patients to overcome emotional and physical barriers that hinder recovery.

Median Salary: \$85,720 or \$41.21 an hour

AREAS OF SPECIALIZATION

- Acute care
- Cardiovascular and pulmonary
- Clinical electrophysiology
- Geriatrics
- Neurology
- Oncology
- Orthopedics
- Pediatrics
- Sports
- Women's health
- Wound management

WORK ENVIRONMENTS

- Colleges and universities
- Home health agencies
- Hospice programs
- Hospitals
- K-12 schools
- Nursing homes
- Outpatient clinics
- Physical therapy clinics
- Private practice
- Rehabilitation centers
- Research institutions
- Sports facilities
- Workplace wellness programs

ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS

- A bachelor's degree for application to a physical therapy doctoral program
- A doctoral degree from an educational program accredited by the Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education (www.capteonline.org)
- Post-professional residency programs in specialty areas and fellowship programs in subspecialty areas available

LICENSURE AND CERTIFICATION

- Required state licensure from the Georgia State Board of Physical Therapy (sos.ga.gov/index.php/licensing/plb/39) for the Physical Therapist (PT) credential
- Voluntary national board certification in specialty areas from the American Board of Physical Therapy Specialties (www.abpts.org)

PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

American Physical Therapy Association
www.apta.org

Physical Therapy Association of Georgia
www.ptagonline.org

Educational Programs

DOCTORAL DEGREE

Augusta University
Brenau University
Emory University
Georgia Southern University
Georgia State University
Mercer University
Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine - Georgia Campus
University of North Georgia



Physical Therapist Assistant

- Carries out physical therapy interventions designed to help clients regain functional movement and manage pain

Ideal Attributes

- Effective communicator
- Follows instructions well
- Physical endurance
- Strong interpersonal skills

Physical therapist assistants (PTAs) provide physical therapy services under the direction and supervision of a physical therapist. PTAs help people of all ages who have health-related conditions that interfere with their ability to function in their daily lives. PTAs perform many of the same functions as physical therapists but do not evaluate clients or develop their plan of care. PTAs duties include carrying out the plan of care designed by a physical therapist, educating patients in activities of daily living, teaching therapeutic exercises, and providing treatments using special equipment. PTAs measure and document their clients' response to treatment and communicate changes to the physical therapist.

Median Salary: \$56,850 or \$27.33 an hour

AREAS OF SPECIALIZATION

- Acute care
- Cardiovascular/pulmonary
- Geriatrics
- Oncology
- Orthopedics
- Pediatrics
- Wound management

WORK ENVIRONMENTS

- Colleges and universities
- Home health agencies
- Hospitals
- K-12 schools
- Outpatient physical therapy clinics
- Rehabilitation centers
- Skilled nursing facilities
- Sports medicine clinics
- Workplace wellness programs

ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS

- An associate degree from an educational program accredited by the Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education (www.capteonline.org)
- Advanced Proficiency Pathways program for specialty areas available from the American Physical Therapy Association

LICENSURE AND CERTIFICATION

- Required state licensure from the Georgia State Board of Physical Therapy (sos.ga.gov/index.php/licensing/plb/39)

PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

- American Physical Therapy Association
www.apta.org
- Physical Therapy Association of Georgia
www.ptagonline.org

Educational Programs

ASSOCIATE DEGREE

Albany State University
Athens Technical College
Atlanta Technical College
Central Georgia Technical College
Chattahoochee Technical College
Lanier Technical College
South University

Recreational Therapist

- Implements purposeful recreation and activity interventions and measures individual improvement
- Improves the functional abilities and quality of life for individuals with disabling conditions

Ideal Attributes

- Creative
- Empathetic & patient
- Flexible
- Problem-solver

Recreational therapists, also known as therapeutic recreation specialists, use recreation and leisure activities to improve the health, quality of life, functional ability, and independence of individuals of all ages with temporary or permanent disabilities or illnesses. They plan and implement treatment programs utilizing a variety of techniques including adventure therapy, anger management, animal-assisted therapy, aquatic therapy, exercise or other physical activity, expressive arts, leisure education, play therapy, relaxation strategies, social skill interventions, and therapeutic reminiscence. Recreational therapists set goals and objectives developed from individual assessments that identify clients' needs, abilities, and interests to improve their physical, cognitive, emotional, or social health.

Median Salary: \$42,870 or **\$20.61** an hour

AREAS OF SPECIALIZATION

- Adaptive sports and recreation
- Behavioral health
- Community inclusion services
- Developmental disabilities
- Geriatrics
- Pediatrics
- Physical medicine/rehabilitation

WORK ENVIRONMENTS

- Adult day care programs
- Camps
- Hospice programs
- Hospitals
- K-12 school systems
- Mental health centers
- Nursing homes
- Parks and recreation departments
- Prisons
- Private practice
- Psychiatric hospitals
- Rehabilitation hospitals
- Residential treatment centers
- Substance use disorder treatment centers
- Veterans Affairs healthcare facilities

ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS

- A bachelor's degree in recreational therapy (or in recreation with an emphasis in recreational therapy) along with an internship of at least 560 hours under the supervision of a Certified Therapeutic Recreation Specialist
- Graduate programs also available

LICENSURE AND CERTIFICATION

- Voluntary national certification from the National Council for Therapeutic Recreation Certification (www.nctrc.org) for the Certified Therapeutic Recreation Specialist (CTRS) credential and for specialty certifications

PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

American Therapeutic Recreation Association
www.atra-online.com

Educational Programs

BACHELOR'S DEGREE

Georgia Southern University

Respiratory Therapist

- Administers respiratory care and life support to patients with heart and lung difficulties

Ideal Attributes

- Effective communicator
- Problem-solver
- Strong mechanical aptitude
- Works well with others

Respiratory therapists (RTs), under the direction of physicians, care for people with respiratory ailments and cardiopulmonary diseases. Some of these conditions include asthma, chronic bronchitis, emphysema, pneumonia, and heart disease. RTs may also care for heart or lung transplant patients, heart attack and stroke patients, trauma victims, and premature infants. They measure lung function, analyze blood samples for gases, initiate and monitor life support equipment, and use equipment that delivers oxygen or enhances breathing. RTs may also participate in pulmonary rehabilitation, home health care, smoking cessation counseling, and polysomnography. They use independent judgment to make recommendations to the healthcare team regarding patients' respiratory care.

Median Salary: \$55,960 or \$26.90 an hour

AREAS OF SPECIALIZATION

- Adult critical care
- Asthma and chronic obstructive pulmonary disease management
- Neonatal/pediatric critical care
- Pulmonary function
- Sleep disorders

WORK ENVIRONMENTS

- Home health agencies
- Hospice programs
- Hospitals
- Insurance companies
- Medical supply and equipment sales
- Private companies
- Nursing homes
- Physician practices
- Public health agencies

ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS

- An associate or bachelor's degree from an educational program accredited by the Commission on Accreditation for Respiratory Care (www.coarc.com)

LICENSURE AND CERTIFICATION

- Required state licensure from the Georgia Composite Medical Board (medicalboard.georgia.gov)
- Required national certification from the National Board for Respiratory Care (www.nbrc.org) for the advanced practice Registered Respiratory Therapist (RRT) credential
- Voluntary national certifications available for specialty areas

PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

American Association for Respiratory Care
www.aarc.org

Georgia Society for Respiratory Care
www.gsrc.org

Educational Programs

ASSOCIATE DEGREE

Albany State University
Andrew College
Augusta Technical College
Coastal Pines Technical College
Columbus Technical College
Dalton State College
Georgia Northwestern Technical College

Gwinnett Technical College
Oconee Fall Line Technical College
Southern Crescent Technical College
Southern Regional Technical College

BACHELOR'S DEGREE

Augusta University
Georgia Southern University

Georgia State University
Middle Georgia State University

MASTER'S DEGREE

Georgia State University

Speech-Language Pathologist

- Assesses and treats language, speech, and swallowing disorders

Ideal Attributes

- Effective communicator
- Patient & organized
- Problem-solver
- Works well with others

Speech-language pathologists (SLPs) address problems involving auditory comprehension, memory, pronunciation, slurred speech, stuttering, swallowing disorders, word organization, and word recall. These problems could be a result of emotional issues, head injury, hearing loss, intellectual disability, learning barriers, or stroke. SLPs conduct evaluations to determine the extent of the problem and then develop treatment programs accordingly. About half of their patients are children, but they also work with adults and the elderly. SLPs may work alongside audiologists due to the importance of hearing to oral communication. They also work with case managers, dietitians, lactation consultants, nurses, occupational therapists, otolaryngologists, physical therapists, physicians, social workers, and teachers.

Median Salary: \$74,510 or \$35.82 an hour

WORK ENVIRONMENTS

- Colleges and universities
- Early intervention centers
- Home health agencies
- Hospitals
- K-12 schools
- Nursing homes
- Outpatient clinics
- Physician practices
- Private practice
- Public health departments
- Rehabilitation centers
- Speech and hearing centers

ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS

- A master's degree from an educational program accredited by the Council on Academic Accreditation in Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology (caa.asha.org)
- Doctoral degree programs available

LICENSURE AND CERTIFICATION

- Required state licensure from the Georgia Board of Examiners for Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology (sos.ga.gov/index.php/licensing/plb/49)
- Voluntary national certification from the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association for the Certificate of Clinical Competence in Speech-Language Pathology (CCC-SLP) credential
- Required state certification from the Georgia Professional Standards Commission (www.gapsc.com) to work in school settings

PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

American Speech-Language-Hearing Association
www.asha.org

Georgia Speech-Language-Hearing Association
www.gsha.org

Educational Programs

MASTER'S DEGREE

Georgia Southern University
Georgia State University
University of Georgia
University of West Georgia
Valdosta State University

DOCTORAL DEGREE

Georgia State University
University of Georgia
Valdosta State University

Veterinary Medicine

Veterinary professionals work closely with pets, livestock, and their owners.

They must be patient with animals and sensitive to the feelings of the owners. Manual dexterity and good communication skills are necessary. Veterinarians and veterinary technicians often work long hours, including evenings and weekends. They may be bitten, kicked, or scratched while treating their patients; however, for the person who loves animals and is fascinated by science and medicine, these are rewarding careers. These professionals enjoy diverse employment opportunities including in public health, wildlife preservation, private practice, education, research, and government.

VETERINARIAN

VETERINARY TECHNICIAN  **GROWING**



Veterinarian

- Works to maintain the health of animals, humans, and the environment through the prevention, diagnosis, treatment, and research of diseases that impact all species

Ideal Attributes

- Compassionate
- Effective communicator
- Effective team leader
- Lifelong learner

Veterinarians, or doctors of veterinary medicine, provide healthcare for animals. They may choose a focus from a number of areas within the field. Many treat companion animals such as dogs, cats, birds, reptiles, and horses. Others provide veterinary services to food and fiber animals such as cattle, sheep, and alpacas. Veterinarians also help prevent the spread of diseases in the animals supporting food production industries such as cattle, poultry, and swine by teaching food producers better animal care, management, and production techniques. Other veterinarians work with government agencies to investigate infectious disease outbreaks. They play a critical role in the research to prevent, treat, and limit the transmission of diseases like avian influenza, rhinovirus, rabies, salmonella, and tuberculosis.

Median Salary: \$81,078 or \$38.98 an hour

AREAS OF SPECIALIZATION

There are currently 22 recognized specialty organizations representing 40 distinct veterinary specializations. For more information, contact the American Board of Veterinary Specialties (www.avma.org/professionaldevelopment/education/specialties).

- Anesthesia
- Animal behavior
- Animal welfare
- Dentistry
- Dermatology
- Emergency and critical care
- Internal medicine
- Laboratory animal medicine
- Microbiology
- Nutrition
- Ophthalmology
- Pathology
- Pharmacology
- Poultry medicine
- Preventive medicine
- Radiology
- Sports medicine and rehabilitation
- Surgery
- Theriogenology
- Toxicology
- Veterinary practice
- Zoological medicine

WORK ENVIRONMENTS

- Agribusiness
- Aquariums
- Emergency care centers
- Food animal industries
- Government agencies
- Military bases
- Pharmaceutical companies
- Private practice
- Public health departments
- Research institutions
- Veterinary colleges
- Wildlife conservation/rehabilitation facilities
- Zoos

ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS

- A bachelor's degree or completion of required courses, Graduate Record Examination (GRE) scores, and 250 hours of veterinary experience directly supervised by a veterinarian
- A Doctorate of Veterinary Medicine (DVM) degree from a college accredited by the American Veterinary Medical Association Council on Education
- Optional 1-year internship for additional training in a particular area
- Optional 2 to 3 years of residency training for specialty areas

LICENSURE AND CERTIFICATION

- Required state licensure from the Georgia State Board of Veterinary Medicine (sos.ga.gov/index.php/licensing/plb/53)
- Voluntary national specialty certifications available from veterinary specialty organizations recognized by the American Veterinary Medical Association

PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

American Veterinary Medical Association
www.avma.org

Association of American Veterinary Medical Colleges
www.aavmc.org

Georgia Veterinary Medical Association
www.gvma.net

Educational Programs

DOCTORAL DEGREE

University of Georgia

Veterinary Technician

- Performs routine laboratory and clinical procedures on animals

Ideal Attributes

- Compassionate & patient
- Desires to serve others
- Detail-oriented
- Moves quickly between tasks

Veterinary technicians, also known as veterinary technologists, work under the supervision of veterinarians in a role similar to a nurse. They are trained to take an animal's medical history from its owner, perform laboratory tests, sterilize instruments, dress wounds, monitor anesthesia, assist during diagnostic and surgical procedures, and take x-rays. In some animal clinics, veterinary technicians also serve as office managers. These professionals allow a veterinarian to function at peak capacity.

Median Salary: \$30,130 or **\$14.48** an hour

AREAS OF SPECIALIZATION

- Anesthesia and analgesia
- Behavior
- Clinical pathology
- Clinical practice
- Dentistry
- Dermatology
- Emergency and critical care
- Equine nursing
- Internal medicine
- Laboratory animal medicine
- Nutrition
- Ophthalmology
- Physical rehabilitation
- Surgical
- Zoological medicine

WORK ENVIRONMENTS

- Agribusiness
- Aquariums
- Colleges and universities
- Government agencies
- Pharmaceutical companies
- Research institutions
- Veterinarian/veterinary technician schools
- Veterinary practices
- Veterinary sales companies
- Wildlife conservation/rehabilitation facilities
- Zoos

ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS

- An associate or bachelor's degree from an educational program accredited by the American Veterinary Medical Association Committee on Veterinary Technician Education and Activities

LICENSURE AND CERTIFICATION

- Required state licensure from the Georgia State Board of Veterinary Medicine (sos.ga.gov/index.php/licensing/plb/53) for the Registered Veterinary Technician (RVT) credential
- Voluntary national specialty certification available from specialty academies recognized by the National Association of Veterinary Technicians in America for the Veterinary Technician Specialist (VTS) credential

PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

American Veterinary Medical Association
www.avma.org

Georgia Veterinary Technician and Assistant Association
www.gvtaa.org

National Association of Veterinary Technicians in America
www.navta.net

Educational Programs

ASSOCIATE DEGREE

Athens Technical College
Gwinnett Technical College
Ogeechee Technical College
Southern Regional Technical College

BACHELOR'S DEGREE

Fort Valley State University



Vision Care

The gift of sight is one of our most valuable senses.

Vision care professionals detect and correct optical problems through eye examinations, prescription glasses, contact lenses, and vision therapy exercises. These experts also promote the prevention of eye injury and good vision maintenance. Advances in technology, public awareness, and the aging population will increase the demand for vision care specialists faster than many healthcare occupations.

**OPTICIAN
OPTOMETRIST**

Optician

- Fills the prescriptions of optometrists and ophthalmologists for both glasses and contact lenses

Ideal Attributes

- Coordinated
- Dedicated
- Good listener
- Physical endurance

Opticians help patients select glasses according to lifestyle, occupation, and facial features. They prepare the glasses order according to the prescription, curvature placement, lens size and material, and frame style, material, and color. They are trained to use specialized equipment for cutting, grinding, edging, and finishing glasses to very strict manufacturing and optical standards. They verify the prescription after it is filled and make adjustments to ensure proper fit and lens positioning. They also fit contact lenses according to the measurements provided by an optometrist or ophthalmologist. Opticians may own and operate eyewear manufacturing laboratories or their own business where office management, sales, and repairs are part of their daily routine.

Median Salary: \$31,540 or \$15.16 an hour

WORK ENVIRONMENTS

- Department stores
- Eyewear manufacturers
- Ophthalmologist or optometrist practices
- Retail chain and independent stores
- Private, optician-owned stores
- Wholesale labs

ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS

- A diploma or associate degree or 2 years in a state registered apprenticeship under a licensed optician, optometrist, or ophthalmologist

LICENSURE AND CERTIFICATION

- Required state licensure from the Georgia State Board of Dispensing Opticians (sos.ga.gov/index.php/licensing/plb/20) for the Licensed Dispensing Optician (LDO) credential
- Required national certification from the American Board of Opticianry and the National Contact Lens Examiners (www.abo-ncle.org) for the American Board of Opticianry Certification (ABOC) and National Contact Lens Certification (NCLEC) credentials

PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

Contact Lens Society of America
www.clsa.info

National Academy of Opticianry
www.nao.org

Opticians Association of America
www.oaa.org

Opticians Association of Georgia
www.oagonline.org

Educational Programs

DIPLOMA

Georgia Piedmont Technical College
Ogeechee Technical College
Wiregrass Georgia Technical College

ASSOCIATE DEGREE

Georgia Piedmont Technical College
Ogeechee Technical College
Wiregrass Georgia Technical College

Optometrist

- Diagnoses and treats conditions of the human visual system

Ideal Attributes

- Critical thinker
- Effective communicator
- Lifelong learner
- Problem-solver

Optometrists, also called optometric physicians, are independent healthcare professionals who are specifically licensed to diagnose and treat eye diseases as well as difficulties with vision that are not related to disease. Optometrists usually treat patients with medications, eyeglasses, contact lenses, or vision therapy. Since many general health problems may affect the eyes, optometrists are often the first to find signs of conditions such as diabetes and hypertension. Many optometrists choose to specialize in an area of practice such as low vision rehabilitation, contact lenses, family practice, and vision therapy by completing a residency program. Most optometrists are self-employed and therefore must know how to develop and manage a business.

Median Salary: \$93,830 or \$45.11 an hour

AREAS OF SPECIALIZATION

- Brain injury vision rehabilitation
- Community health optometry
- Cornea and contact lenses
- Family practice optometry
- Geriatric optometry
- Low vision rehabilitation
- Ocular disease
- Pediatric optometry
- Primary eye care
- Refractive and ocular surgery
- Vision therapy and rehabilitation

WORK ENVIRONMENTS

- Colleges and universities
- Hospital-based clinics
- Military bases
- Multi-doctor practices
- Private practice
- Public health departments
- Research institutions
- Retail eye care centers

ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS

- A bachelor's degree with completion of prerequisite courses and a passing score on the Optometry Admissions Test required for admission into an optometry program
- A doctoral degree from an educational program accredited by the American Optometric Association's Accreditation Council on Optometric Education
- One-year minimum residency in an area of emphasis recommended

LICENSURE AND CERTIFICATION

- Required state licensure from the Georgia State Board of Optometry (sos.ga.gov/index.php/licensing/plb/37) for the Doctor of Optometry (OD) credential

PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

American Academy of Optometry
www.aaopt.org

American Optometric Association
www.aoa.org

Association of Schools and Colleges of Optometry
www.optometriceducation.org

Georgia Optometric Association
www.goaeyes.com

Educational Programs

GEORGIA DOES NOT HAVE ANY OPTOMETRY PROGRAMS.

Programs listed are located in neighboring states.

DOCTORAL DEGREE

University of Alabama at Birmingham (AL)
www.uab.edu

NOVA Southeastern University (FL)
www.nova.edu

Southern College of Optometry (TN)
www.sco.edu

How to Pursue a Health Career

Pursuing a Health Career

Recommendations on how to prepare academically for a health career, explore health careers to identify professional preferences, network within the healthcare industry, and gain experience in and exposure to healthcare settings

Health Education Journey

Health careers organized by the length of study needed

On the Health Education Journey

Resources for academic preparation, career exploration, and financial aid planning including information about HSTE and HOSA

Health Education Financial Aid Opportunities

Scholarship and grant information specific to health education programs organized by career category

Health Education Programs in Georgia

A listing of the institutions in Georgia and the educational programs they offer to prepare students for the health careers listed in this publication

Hospitals & Health Systems in Georgia

A listing of hospitals and health systems in Georgia

Pursuing a Health Career

Prepare for your career with appropriate core curriculum classes and choose elective classes in Healthcare Science Technology Education (HSTE).

- Follow recommended planning checklists: www.gafutures.org
- Follow a Georgia Department of Education Health Science Plan of Study: www.gadoe.org/Curriculum-Instruction-and-Assessment/CTAE/Pages/POS-Health-Science.aspx
- Enroll in HSTE classes: www.gadoe.org/Curriculum-Instruction-and-Assessment/CTAE/Pages/cluster-HS.aspx
- Enroll in challenging math and science classes, such as Advanced Placement or Honors courses.
- Participate in a work-based learning program as a junior or senior in high school to gain work experience and networking opportunities.
- Consider dual enrollment with a college or technical college for healthcare courses (e.g., Certified Nursing Assistant [CNA], Medical Terminology).
 - Technical College System of Georgia: tcsgeorgia.edu/dual-enrollment
 - University System of Georgia: www.usg.edu/student_affairs/prospective_students/opportunities

Explore health careers to find your interests, your desired salary range, a positive job outlook, and obtainable academic requirements.

- Create a GAfutures profile to generate a list of potential health careers that may interest you: www.gafutures.org
- Utilize the *Health Careers in Georgia* manual:
 - To access career information.
 - To explore the planning resources provided on the following pages.
 - To link to the websites of professional organizations listed on each career page.
 - To investigate the websites of the accredited colleges and universities listed on each career page.
- Interview individuals working in your career(s) of interest.
- Search careers online with caution to make sure the information is accurate and from reliable sources (e.g., .org, .edu, and .gov websites).
- Research scholarships and grants now to be aware of the eligibility requirements (e.g., On the Health Education Journey [p. 114], Health Education Financial Aid Opportunities [p. 116-121], HOPE Program [www.gafutures.org/hope-state-aid-programs], community clubs, local healthcare organizations). Be conscious of scholarship scams: www.finaid.org/scholarships/scams.phtml
- Attend college, career, and Probe fairs (www.gaprobe.org).



Although opportunities specific to high school are listed, the majority of these suggestions are appropriate for all ages.

Network within the healthcare industry.

- Talk to counselors and others about your career interests and ask for referrals to professionals in the healthcare industry to gather additional information and guidance.
- Contact the professional organizations listed on the career pages in *Health Careers in Georgia*.
 - Connect with health professionals whenever you are in a healthcare environment and question them about their careers (influences, pathway, challenges, rewards, daily duties, balance with lifestyle, etc.).

3

Gain Experience and exposure in healthcare settings.

- Volunteer at workplaces and events related to your health career interests (e.g., teen volunteer programs at hospitals, healthcare facilities, and blood drives).
 - Inquire with local facilities and personal contacts to shadow in the healthcare industry. Follow professionals on the job to learn career benefits and challenges.
 - Work a part-time job in the healthcare industry.
 - Participate in clubs, particularly HOSA, as a member and in leadership roles: www.georgiahosa.org
 - Participate in AHEC-sponsored programs
 - Blue Ridge AHEC: www.blueridgeahec.org/k-12-education
 - Foothills AHEC: www.foothillsahec.org/recruit
 - Magnolia Coastlands AHEC: magnoliacoastlandsahec.org/recruitment-for-health-careers
 - Southwest Georgia AHEC: sowega-ahec.org/recruit
 - SPCC Atlanta AHEC: spcc-atlantaahec.org/health-career-exploration
 - Three Rivers AHEC: www.threeriversahec.org/health-careers-exploration
 - Participate in other health-related extra-curricular activities: Healthcare programs sponsored by colleges and universities (e.g., Augusta University Summer Academy, Brenau University Medical Scholars Program, Emory University Summer Science Academy, Georgia Southern University Health Career Camp, Piedmont College-Foothills AHEC Health Scholars Program, University of Georgia-Foothills AHEC Health Careers Youth Conference); National Youth Leadership Forum - Medicine (www.envisionexperience.com/explore-our-programs/national-youth-leadership-forum-medicine); Health Care Career Exploring (www.exploring.org/health-care)

4

5

Journal your experiences including program names, dates, contact information, lessons learned, and reflections to have readily available for scholarship applications, college-entry applications, and resumes.

Health Education Journey

3 - 6 months

Community Health Worker (OJT)
 Dental Assistant (OJT)
 Emergency Medical Technician - Basic (C)
 Home Health Aide (OJT, C)
 Medical Interpreter (C)
 Medical Secretary (OJT, C)
 Nursing Assistant (C)
 Personal Care Aide (OJT, C)
 Phlebotomist (OJT, C)

6 - 12 months

Dental Assistant (C)
 Emergency Medical Technician - Advanced (C)
 Massage Therapist (C)

Medical Assistant (C)
 Medical Coder (C)
 Medical Transcriptionist (C)

1 - 2 years

Biomedical Equipment Technician (D)
 Dental Assistant (D)
 Licensed Practical Nurse (D)
 Massage Therapist (D)

Medical Assistant (D)
 Medical Coder (D)
 Medical Secretary (D)
 Optician (D)

Paramedic (C, D)
 Pharmacy Technician (D)
 Polysomnographic Technologist (D)
 Surgical Technologist (D)

Biomedical Equipment Technician (A, PAC)
 Cardiovascular Technologist (A)
 Clinical Laboratory Technician (A)
 Dental Hygienist (A)
 Diagnostic Medical Sonographer (A, PAC)
 Dietetic Technician (A)

Health Information Technician (A)
 Histotechnician (A, PAC)
 Human Services Worker (A)
 Medical Assistant (A)
 Medical Secretary (A)
 Neurodiagnostic Technologist (A, PAC)

Occupational Therapy Assistant (A)
 Optician (A)
 Paramedic (A)
 Pharmacy Technician (A)
 Physical Therapist Assistant (A)
 Polysomnographic Technologist (PAC)

Athletic Trainer (B)
 Biomedical Engineer (B)
 Cardiovascular Technologist (B, PBC)
 Clinical Laboratory Scientist (B, PBC)
 Cytogenetic Technologist (B, OJT)
 Cytotechnologist (PBC)

Dental Hygienist (B)
 Diagnostic Medical Sonographer (B)
 Dietitian (B)
 Environmental Health Specialist (B)
 Exercise Physiologist (B)
 Healthcare Administrator (B)

Health Educator (B)
 Health Informatics Professional (B, PBC)
 Health Information Administrator (B)
 Histotechnologist (B, PBC)
 Human Services Worker (B)
 Medical Dosimetrist (PBC)

Acupuncturist (M, DOC)
 Anesthesiologist Assistant (M)
 Art Therapist (M)
 Athletic Trainer (M, DOC)
 Audiologist (DOC)
 Biomedical Engineer (M, DOC)
 Biostatistician (M, DOC)
 Chiropractor (DOC)

Clinical Laboratory Scientist (M)
 Clinical Nurse Specialist (M, PMC)
 Counselor (M, DOC)
 Cytotechnologist (M)
 Dance/Movement Therapist (M)
 Dentist (DOC)
 Dietitian (M, DOC)
 Doctor of Medicine (DOC)

Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine (DOC)
 Drama Therapist (M)
 Environmental Health Specialist (M, DOC)
 Epidemiologist (M, DOC)
 Exercise Physiologist (M)
 Genetic Counselor (M)
 Geneticist (M, DOC)
 Healthcare Administrator (M, DOC)

OJT - on-the-job training
 C - certificate
 D - diploma
 A - associate degree
 PAC - post-associate degree certificate
 B - bachelor's degree
 PBC - post-baccalaureate certificate
 M - master's degree
 PMC - post-master's certificate
 DOC - doctoral degree

2 - 3 years

Radiation Therapist (A, PAC)
 Radiologic Technologist (A)
 Registered Nurse (A)
 Respiratory Therapist (A)
 Surgical Technologist (A)
 Veterinary Technician (A)

4 - 5 years

Music Therapist (B)
 Nuclear Medicine Technologist (B)
 Perfusionist (B, PBC)
 Radiation Therapist (B, PBC)
 Radiologic Technologist (PAC, B)
 Recreational Therapist (B)

Registered Nurse (B)
 Respiratory Therapist (B)
 Social Worker (B)

6+ years

Health Educator (M, DOC)
 Health Informatics Professional (M, DOC)
 Health Sciences Librarian (M, DOC)
 Medical Illustrator (M)
 Music Therapist (M)
 Nurse Anesthetist (DOC)
 Nurse Educator (M, PMC, DOC)
 Nurse Midwife (M, PMC)

Nurse Practitioner (M, PMC, DOC)
 Occupational Therapist (M)
 Optometrist (DOC)
 Orthotist (M)
 Perfusionist (M)
 Pharmacist (DOC)
 Physical Therapist (DOC)
 Physician Assistant (M)

Podiatrist (DOC)
 Prosthetist (M)
 Psychologist (DOC)
 Registered Nurse (M, DOC)
 Social Worker (M, DOC)
 Speech-Language Pathologist (M, DOC)
 Veterinarian (DOC)

On the Health Education Journey

As you move forward on the path to a health career, you will make an educational journey that involves academic preparation, career exploration, and financial aid planning. The resources listed below will help you on this journey, however long it may be.

GAfutures

www.gafutures.org

GAfutures provides a one-stop shop for career, high school, college, and financial aid planning resources, including an individualized portfolio to help you keep track of what you have accomplished and what you have left to do. You can access planning timelines, check your GPA, explore dual enrollment opportunities, compare costs and financial aid awards among schools, learn about the HOPE and Zell Miller Scholarships, and more.

ACADEMIC PREPARATION

Georgia Department of Education (DoE) Career Clusters and Pathways

www.gadoe.org/Curriculum-Instruction-and-Assessment/CTAE/Pages/Career-Cluster-homepage.aspx

The Georgia DoE has created a Health Science Career Cluster containing Career Pathways and sequenced courses for each pathway to be followed as a guide through high school to help prepare for post-secondary studies.

Health Science Career Cluster Pathway Courses: www.gadoe.org/Curriculum-Instruction-and-Assessment/CTAE/Pages/cluster-HS.aspx

Health Science Career Cluster Pathway Plans of Study: www.gadoe.org/Curriculum-Instruction-and-Assessment/CTAE/Pages/POS-Health-Science.aspx

BigFuture

bigfuture.collegeboard.org

BigFuture is a source for finding colleges as well as planning and paying for college hosted by the College Board, a non-profit organization that helps students prepare for a successful transition to college through programs and services, such as the SAT and the Advanced Placement Program.

CAREER EXPLORATION

Georgia Career Information Center (GCIC)

www.gcic.edu

GCIC, through its password-protected Georgia Career Information System (GCIS), provides current and accurate occupational and educational information for schools and agencies to help people make informed career choices. Ask your counselor or administrator for the username and password.

ExploreHealthCareers

explorehealthcareers.org

ExploreHealthCareers is a multi-disciplinary, interactive website that gives students and educators a reliable, comprehensive source of accurate, up-to-date information about the health professions including education/training programs, financial aid resources, and current healthcare issues.

Health Care Career Exploring

www.exploring.org/health-care

Health Career Exploring, sponsored by the Learning for Life organization, is a hands-on program open to young men and women from the 6th grade to 20 years old with an interest in learning more about careers in the healthcare field. Click the Join Today button to find the office nearest to you.

Career One Stop

www.careeronestop.org

Career One Stop, sponsored by the U.S. Department of Labor, is a place to explore careers, find training and local help, search for jobs, utilize the job toolkit, and access resources unique to your status.

FINANCIAL AID PLANNING

Take a look at pages 116-121 for a list of scholarships specific to health professional education. Consult the resources below for more general financial aid planning information.

Federal Student Aid

studentaid.ed.gov/sa

Federal Student Aid, an office of the U.S. Department of Education, is the federal government's source for learning more about college preparation, types of financial aid, who gets financial aid, the Free Application for Federal Student Aid Application (FAFSA), and how to repay your student loans.

FinAid

www.finaid.org

FinAid is a nationally-recognized, comprehensive source of student financial aid information, advice, and tools.

State of Georgia Path2College 529 Plan

www.path2college529.com

Path2College 529 Plan is a tax-advantaged college savings plan provided by the State of Georgia that helps families and individuals save for the cost of higher education.

HSTE: Healthcare Science Technology Education

The Georgia Healthcare Science Technology Education (HSTE) program provides excellent opportunities for middle and high school students to explore health careers. Through this program, students receive an excellent foundation of healthcare knowledge and skills and a smooth transition into post-secondary nursing, medical, or allied health education. Program participation can also potentially prepare students to acquire an entry-level medical position in the workforce or the military.

The HSTE high school level curriculum exposes students to general healthcare knowledge and skills and provides more in-depth study of the career area in which they are interested by following the appropriate career pathway. The pathways currently available include Allied Health and Medicine, Dental Science, Emergency Medical Responder, Exercise Physiology, Patient Care, Pharmacy, Public Health, Public Safety Communications, Sports Medicine, Surgical Technology, Clinical Lab, Phlebotomy, Non-Invasive Technology in Healthcare, Health Information Management/Medical Office, Health Information Technology, Biotechnology Research and Development, and Support Services. A strong emphasis is placed on the integration of academics into the curriculum with the necessary employability skills such as problem-solving, teamwork, and critical thinking. Students may also have opportunities to participate in work-based learning, dual enrollment, and state or national certification or credentialing exams. The Health Science Curriculum is also available for middle school students.

Employment in the healthcare industry will provide students with a financially stable and rewarding career of service to others. Having a chance to begin this quest while still in middle or high school is a wonderful way for students to prepare for their future. The participation of students in this program offers healthcare business and industry a more defined pipeline of students who are interested in health careers.

For more information, please contact Georgia Department of Education Healthcare Science Program Specialist.

GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION HEALTHCARE SCIENCE CURRICULUM

www.gadoe.org/Curriculum-Instruction-and-Assessment/CTAE/Pages/cluster-HS.aspx

HOSA: Future Health Professionals

HOSA is an association of future health professionals that provides a unique program of skill development, motivation, and recognition exclusively for middle school, secondary, post-secondary, and collegiate students and advisors who have an interest in healthcare. The association was created to enhance the delivery of compassionate, quality healthcare by providing opportunities for knowledge, skill, and leadership development of all Healthcare Science Technology Education (HSTE) students.

Since its inception in 1976, HOSA has grown steadily reaching nearly 250,000 members through 51 chartered HOSA state associations. HOSA is a powerful instructional tool that works best when it is integrated into the HSTE curriculum and classroom.

The rapidly changing healthcare industry needs dedicated workers who, in addition to their technical skills, are people-oriented and capable of playing a leadership or followership role as a member of the healthcare team. If you do not have a chapter at your school, speak with your healthcare science teacher about starting one today.

Helpful Websites

GEORGIA HOSA

www.georgiahosa.org

HOSA

www.hosa.org

Health Education Financial Aid Opportunities

	PROGRAM	FUNDER	WEBSITE	OBJECTIVE
COMP & INT MED	ACF Scholarship Awards	American Chiropractic Foundation	www.acatoday.org/acf	Recognize academic excellence and provide financial assistance to Student ACA members
	AMTA Student Scholarship	American Massage Therapy Association	www.amtamassage.org/forms/scholarshipformintro.aspx	Provide financial support for students enrolled in a massage therapy program
DENTISTRY	ADAA Student Achievement Award	American Dental Assistants Association	www.adaausa.org/Membership/Awards-and-Scholarship-Information	Reward a student who has demonstrated leadership ability through some activity related to dentistry
	Dentists for Rural Areas Assistance Program	State of Georgia via Georgia Board for Physician Workforce	gbpw.georgia.gov/loan-repayment-programs	Assist dentists in repaying outstanding loans in return for providing care in rural areas of Georgia
	Fisher Foundation Dental Education Scholarships	Georgia Dental Association	www.fisherdentaleducation.org	Have a positive impact on the quality of dental services in Georgia by awarding scholarships to deserving dental and dental hygiene students
	Sandra Waller Neville Endowed Scholarship	Central Savannah River Area Dental Hygiene Society	www.cfcsra.org/SandraNeville	Provide funding for students pursuing their dental hygiene degree
DIETETICS	Academy Foundation Student Scholarships	Academy of Nutrition & Dietetics Foundation	www.eatrightacend.org/ACEND/content.aspx?id=6442485586	Support the education of dietetic professionals
	Ellen Jurgens Memorial and GDF Scholarships	Georgia Dietetic Foundation	www.eatrightgeorgia.org/georgia-dietetic-foundation.html	Promote health and well-being in Georgia through nutrition education by supporting the education of dietetic professionals
HEALTH ADMINISTRATION & INFORMATION SERVICES	AAHAM National Scholarship	American Assn. of Healthcare Administrative Management	www.aaham.org/Scholarship.aspx	Promote the advancement of the patient account management profession and the individual growth of its members through education programs
	ACHE Scholarship Opportunities	American College of Healthcare Executives	www.ache.org/abt_ache/scholarships.cfm	Help offset tuition costs, student loans, and expenses for students in healthcare management
	AHIMA Foundation Merit Scholarships	American Health Information Management Association	www.ahimafoundation.org/education/MeritScholarships.aspx	Attract and support new talent in the health information management industry by improving educational opportunities
	AMI Scholarships	Association of Medical Illustrators through the Vesalius Trust	www.ami.org/medical-illustration/enter-the-profession/education/scholarships	Support students in the field of visual communications in the health sciences
	GHIMA Scholarship	Georgia Health Information Management Association	www.ghima.org/members/scholarship	Support and recognize Georgia students pursuing their education in health information management
	HIMSS Foundation Scholarships	Healthcare Information & Management Systems Society	www.himss.org/health-it-education/scholarships	Reward student members who have achieved academically and have the potential to lead in healthcare information and management systems
	MLA Grants, Scholarships, and Fellowships	Medical Library Association	www.mlanet.org/page/grants-scholarships-fellowships	Assist qualified students in graduate library science programs
	NLM Associate Fellowship Program for Librarians	National Library of Medicine	www.nlm.nih.gov/about/training/associate	Provide a broad foundation in health sciences information services and to prepare librarians for future leadership roles in health sciences libraries and in health services research
LABORATORY SCIENCE	AMTIE Scholarships & Awards	American Medical Technologists Institute for Excellence	www.americanmedtech.org/Schools/Scholarships-Awards	Enhance educational and competency opportunities for current and future allied healthcare professionals
	ASCP Foundation Laboratory Student Scholarship	American Society for Clinical Pathology Foundation	www.ascp.org/scholarships	Help build a well-trained and strong workforce of laboratory professionals
	Barbara J. Kaplan Scholarship	Foundation for Genetic Technology	agt-info.org/awards-and-scholarships-barbara-j-kaplan	Acknowledge and honor outstanding undergraduate and certificate students in cytogenetics and molecular genetic technology
	Dolbey Graduate & Undergraduate Scholarships	American Society for Clinical Laboratory Science Education & Research Fund	www.ascls.org/edward-c-dolbey-graduate-and-undergraduate-scholarships	Provide scholarships for students enrolled in clinical laboratory science, clinical laboratory technician, histotechnology, or cytotechnology programs
	Geraldine Colby Zeiler Award	College of American Pathologists Foundation	www.cytotechnology.org/geraldine-colby-zeiler-award/?id=2097	Stimulate and reward high achievement by cytotechnology students during their training
	NSH Scholarships & Awards	National Society for Histotechnology	www.nsh.org/learn/scholarships	Recognize outstanding histology students
MEDICAL SUPPORT	ASET Foundation Tuition Grants	ASET Foundation	www.asetfoundation.org/grants/tuition-grants	Assist and encourage qualified students to further their interest in selecting neurodiagnostic technology as a career
	FST Student Scholarship	Foundation for Surgical Technologists	ffst.org/scholarship.aspx	Encourage and reward educational excellence and respond to the financial need demonstrated by the surgical technology student
	GAPA Scholarships	Georgia Association of Physician Assistants	www.gapa.net/gapa-students/scholarships	Provide educational assistance to deserving physician assistant students
	Maxine Williams Scholarship Fund	American Association of Medical Assistants	www.aama-ntl.org/about/endowment/scholarship-application	Provide educational assistance to deserving medical assisting students
	Physician Assistant Loan Repayment Program	State of Georgia via Georgia Board for Physician Workforce	gbpw.georgia.gov/loan-repayment-programs	Assist physician assistants in repaying outstanding loans in return for providing care in rural areas of Georgia
	Physician Assistant Student Scholarships	Physician Assistant Foundation	www.pa-foundation.org/scholarships-fellowships/pa-student-scholarships	Provide educational assistance to deserving physician assistant students

UNDERGRAD/ GRADUATE	GA RESIDENCY REQUIRED	ANNUAL AWARD	INSTITUTION RESTRICTIONS	NEED-BASED
G	N	Varies	A chiropractic program accredited by the Council on Chiropractic Education	N
U	N	\$5,000	N/A	N
U	N	Varies	A dental assisting program accredited by the Commission on Dental Accreditation	N
G	N	Up to \$25,000 per year	An accredited graduate dental education program or provisional accreditation by the American Dental Association's Commission on Dental Accreditation	N
U/G	Y	Varies	Augusta University College of Dental Medicine or one of Georgia's dental hygiene programs accredited by the Commission on Dental Accreditation	N
U	Y	\$1,000	Eligible applicants must attend Augusta University and reside in Wilkes, Burke, Lincoln, McDuffie, Warren, Glasscock, Jefferson, Richmond or Columbia counties	N
U/G	N	\$500-10,000	An educational program accredited by the Accreditation Council for Education in Nutrition and Dietetics	N
U/G	N	Up to \$1,500	Georgia institutions	N
U	N	\$1,000-2,500	N/A	N
G	N	\$5,000	N/A	Y
U/G	N	\$1,000-2,500	An educational program related to health information management	N
G	N	Varies	A medical illustration program accredited by the Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Programs	N
U/G	Y	Varies	An educational program accredited by the Commission on Accreditation for Health Informatics and Information Management Education	N
U/G	N	\$5,000	An educational program related to healthcare information and management systems	N
G	N	\$2,000-6,500	A graduate degree program accredited by the American Library Association	N
G	N	Annual stipend and relocation support	A graduate degree from a program accredited by the American Library Association	N
U	N	\$135-500	An educational program that will lead to a career in one of the disciplines certified by the American Medical Technologists	Y
U/G	N	\$1,000	An educational program accredited by the National Accrediting Agency for Clinical Laboratory Science	N
U	N	Varies	A cytogenetics program accredited by the National Accrediting Agency for Clinical Laboratory Science	N
U/G	N	\$1,500-3,000	An educational program accredited by the National Accrediting Agency for Clinical Laboratory Science	N
G	N	\$1,000	A cytotechnology program accredited by the Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Programs	N
U/G	N	\$500-10,000	A histology program accredited by the National Accrediting Agency for Clinical Laboratory Science	N
U	N	\$500-1,000	A neurodiagnostic technology program accredited by the Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs	N
U	N	Varies	An surgical technology program accredited by the Accreditation Review Council on Education in Surgical Technology and Surgical Assisting	Y
G	Y	\$1,000	A physician assistant program in Georgia accredited by the Accreditation Review Commission on Education for the Physician Assistant	N
U	N	\$1,000	A post-secondary medical assisting program accredited by the Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs	N
G	N	Up to \$40,000 over 4 years	A physician assistant program accredited by the Accreditation Review Commission on Education for the Physician Assistant	N
G	N	\$1,000-2,500	A physician assistant program accredited by the Accreditation Review Commission on Education for the Physician Assistant	Varies

Health Education Financial Aid Opportunities

	PROGRAM	FUNDER	WEBSITE	OBJECTIVE
MEDICINE	AMA Medical Education Scholarships	American Medical Association	www.ama-assn.org/content/apply-medical-school-scholarships	Provide financial assistance to deserving medical students
	MUSM Nathan Deal Scholarship	Mercer University School of Medicine and the State of Georgia	medicine.mercer.edu/prpg/nathan-deal-scholarship	Award students who are committed to practice medicine in medically underserved rural areas of Georgia
	Physicians for Rural Areas Assistance	State of Georgia via Georgia Board for Physician Workforce	gbpw.georgia.gov/loan-repayment-programs	Pay medical education student loan debt for physicians who agree to practice medicine full-time in a rural county in Georgia
	Primary Care Loans	U.S. Dept. of HHS Health Resources & Services Administration	bhwh.hrsa.gov/loansscholarships/schoolbasedloans	Provide long-term, low interest rate loans to full-time, financially needy students to pursue a degree in allopathic or osteopathic medicine
MENTAL HEALTH & SOCIAL SERVICES	ACAF Graduate Student Essay Competitions	American Counseling Association Foundation	www.acafoundation.org/articles/essay_contest_main.php	Provide financial support and recognition to deserving graduate students while encouraging all counseling students to think about the future of this profession and the role they will be playing in it
	APF Graduate Student Scholarships	American Psychological Foundation	www.apa.org/apf/funding/scholarships/index.aspx	Help graduate students further their education in psychology
	NASP Funding for Graduate Students	National Association of School Psychologists	www.nasponline.org/resources-and-publications/school-psychology-graduate-students	Help graduate students further their education in school psychology
	NASW Foundation Fellowships, Scholarships, & Research Awards	National Association of Social Workers Foundation	www.naswfoundation.org/fellowships.asp	Help graduate students further their education in social work
	NOHS Outstanding Human Services Student Award & Maloney Scholarship	National Organization for Human Services	www.nationalhumanservices.org/awards-scholarships	Help students further their education in human services
NURSING	AACN Scholarships & Financial Aid	American Association of Colleges of Nursing and various partners	www.aacnursing.org/Students/Financial-Aid	Support students who are seeking a baccalaureate, master's, or doctoral degree in nursing
	Advanced Practice Registered Nurse Loan Repayment Program	State of Georgia via Georgia Board for Physician Workforce	gbpw.georgia.gov/loan-repayment-programs	Assist APRN's in repaying their advanced nursing education loan debt in return for practicing in an underserved rural Georgia county
	GANE Nursing Scholarships	Georgia Association for Nursing Education	georgiaassociationfornursingeducation.com/gane-scholarships-and-awards/gane-scholarships/	Support students enrolled in Georgia's associate and baccalaureate nursing programs
	GNF/GNA Nursing Scholarship Awards	Georgia Nurses Foundation & Georgia Nurses Association	www.georgianurses.org/?Scholarships	Provide financial assistance to qualified applicants studying nursing in an accredited school, college, or university
	NURSE Corps Scholarship Program	U.S. Dept. of HHS Health Resources & Services Administration	bhwh.hrsa.gov/loansscholarships/nursecorps/scholarship	Fund educational costs for nursing students in exchange for working at an eligible NURSE Corps site upon graduation
	Nurse Faculty Loan Program	U.S. Dept. of HHS Health Resources & Services Administration	bhwh.hrsa.gov/loansscholarships/schoolbasedloans	Assist registered nurses in completing their graduate education to become qualified nurse faculty
	Nursing Student Loans	U.S. Dept. of HHS Health Resources & Services Administration	bhwh.hrsa.gov/loansscholarships/schoolbasedloans	Provide long-term, low-interest rate loans to students pursuing a course of study leading to a diploma, associate, baccalaureate, or graduate degree in nursing
	West Georgia Health Scholarship for Nursing Studies	West Georgia Health	www.wghealth.org/work-here/scholarships/	Provide funding for all costs associated with a nursing degree in exchange for working at West Georgia Health for up to 3 years upon graduation
PHARMACY	APhA Student Scholarship Program	American Pharmacists Association Foundation	www.aphafoundation.org/student-scholarship-program	Recognize students who choose to invest their time in their school's APhA - ASP chapter to help shape the future of the profession
	Express Scripts Scholars Program	American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy & Express Scripts	www.aacp.org/resources/student/financialaid/Pages/default.aspx	Provide supplemental funding for pharmacy students enrolled in a dual degree program
	Georgia Pharmacy Association Scholarships	Georgia Pharmacy Foundation	www.gpha.org/foundation	Attract and develop the best and brightest in Georgia pharmacy
	RESpy Award Program	Pharmacy Times & Wal-Mart	www.pharmacytimes.com/respy-award	Recognize pharmacy students nationwide for extraordinary humanitarian work in the community
PUBLIC HEALTH	GEHA Awards	Georgia Environmental Health Association	www.geha-online.org/awards	Recognize outstanding individuals who show excellent promise for success in environmental health practice
	NEHA/AAS Scholarship	Nat'l Environmental Health Assn. & Am. Academy of Sanitarians	www.neha.org/professional-development/students/nehaaas-scholarship/scholarship-information	Positively impact the future of environmental health
	SHAPE Scholarships	Society of Health and Physical Educators	www.shapeamerica.org/scholarships	Reward outstanding students in health education programs
	SOPHE Student Member Fellowships & Awards	Society of Public Health Education	www.sophe.org/about/awards-fellowships-scholarships	Support students pursuing a health education degree

UNDERGRAD/ GRADUATE	GA RESIDENCY REQUIRED	ANNUAL AWARD	INSTITUTION RESTRICTIONS	NEED-BASED
G	N	\$10,000	A medical school accredited by the Liaison Committee on Medical Education	N
G	Y	85-100% tuition for a maximum of 4 academic years	Mercer University School of Medicine	N
G	N	Up to \$100,000 total	N/A	N
G	N	Varies	An accredited U.S. school	Y
G	N	\$350-1,000	N/A	N
G	N	Varies	An accredited U.S. school	N
G	N	Varies	A school psychology program approved by the National Association of School Psychologists	N
G	N	Varies	N/A	Varies
G	N	Varies	An educational program with "human services" in the title	N
U/G	N	Varies	An American Association of Colleges of Nursing member institution	N
U/G	N	Up to \$40,000 over 4 years	Institution of nursing education that received accreditation or provisional accreditation by a national accrediting body in nursing education	N
U	Y	Minimum of \$500	An eligible Georgia institution	N
U/G	Y	Minimum of \$500 each, every odd year	N/A	N
U/G	N	Monthly stipend of approx. \$1,316	An accredited school of nursing in the U.S.	Y
G	N	Loan forgiveness of up to 85% of the loan over 4 years	A participating school	N
U/G	N	Varies	A participating school	Y
U	Y	Varies	N/A	N
G	N	Varies	A college or school of pharmacy accredited by the Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education	N
G	N	\$10,000	A college or school of pharmacy accredited by the Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education	N
G	N	\$1,000	A college or school of pharmacy in Georgia accredited by the Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education	N
G	N	\$1,000	A college or school of pharmacy accredited by the Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education	N
U	Y	\$750-2,000	A college or school of public health accredited by the Council on Education for Public Health	N
U/G	N	\$1,000-2,000	A college or school of public health accredited by the Council on Education for Public Health	N
U/G	N	\$1,000-1,750	A college or school of public health accredited by the Council on Education for Public Health	N
U/G	N	\$250-3,000	A college or school of public health accredited by the Council on Education for Public Health	N

Health Education Financial Aid Opportunities

	PROGRAM	FUNDER	WEBSITE	OBJECTIVE
RADIOLOGIC & IMAGING SCIENCE	AAMD Foundation Student Scholarships	American Association of Medical Dosimetrists Education Foundation	www.aamdfoundation.org/scholarships	Help students enrolled in medical dosimetry programs
	ASRT Foundation Scholarships	American Society of Radiologic Technologists	foundation.asrt.org/what-we-do/scholarships	Help students get the support they need to achieve a successful, sustainable career in radiologic technology
	SDMS Foundation Student Scholarship Program	Society of Diagnostic Medical Sonography	www.sdms.org/foundation/programs/scholarships/sonography-student	Reward a deserving sonography student
SCIENCE & ENGINEER	AAMI Foundation Scholarship Program	Association for the Advancement of Medical Instrumentation Foundation	www.aami.org/professionaldevelopment	Provide funding to students aspiring to become biomedical equipment technicians and clinical engineers
	ASHG Essay Contest & Video Challenge	American Society of Human Genetics	www.ashg.org/education/k12.shtml	Promote students' examination, questioning, and reflection on important concepts in genetics
THERAPY & REHABILITATION	AATA Scholarships	American Art Therapy Association	arttherapy.org/scholarships	Honor student members that have made outstanding contributions of lasting importance to the art therapy community
	AMTA Student Level Scholarships	American Music Therapy Association	www.musictherapy.org/careers/scholars	Provide opportunities to qualified members to support the education of music therapy students
	AOTA Scholarships	American Occupational Therapy Association	www.aota.org/education-careers/find-school/aid/scholarships.aspx	Support student members enrolled in occupational therapy programs at all levels
	APTA Scholarships, Awards, & Grants	American Physical Therapy Association	www.apta.org/CurrentStudents/ScholarshipsAwards	Help physical therapy students at all levels with the rising costs of higher education
	ARCF Scholarships & Loans	American Respiratory Care Foundation	www.aarc.org/careers/how-to-become-an-rt/scholarships-and-loans	Support respiratory care students
	GFPT Scholarships	Physical Therapy Association of Georgia	www.ptagonline.org/practice/gfpt/5-apply-gfpt-grants-scholarships	Provide financial assistance to physical therapy and physical therapy assistant students who demonstrate superior capabilities
	GSRC Scholarships	Georgia Society for Respiratory Care	www.gsrc.org/scholarships	Support Georgia respiratory care students
	Jack Bess Memorial Scholarship	Georgia Speech-Language-Hearing Association	gsa.memberclicks.net/honors	Support speech-language pathology and audiology students studying communication disorders
	Lori Mobley Groover Leadership Program	Georgia Athletic Training Association	www.athletictraining.org/scholarships	Recognize students who show leadership potential and a passion for the athletic training profession
	OPERF Practitioner Program Scholarships	Orthotic and Prosthetic Education and Research Foundation	www.opcareers.org/scholarships/practitioners	Provide grants to individuals who are pursuing an education in orthotics and prosthetics
VET	Veterinary Medicine Loan Repayment Program	USDA National Institute of Food & Agriculture	www.nifa.usda.gov/program/veterinary-medicine-loan-repayment-program	Pay educational loans of eligible veterinarians who agree to serve in a NIFA designated veterinarian shortage situation for a period of 3 years
VIS	Optometry Cares Endowed Scholarships	American Optometric Association Foundation	www.aoafoundation.org/endowment-fund/scholarship-grant-information	Provide lasting annual scholarships for optometry students
MULTIPLE HEALTH CAREERS	Archbold Scholarships	Archbold Medical Center	archbold.org/about/archbold-scholarships	Provide funding for for students in healthcare fields in exchange for working at Archbold Medical Center for up to 3 years upon graduation
	CBCF General Mills Health Scholarship	Congressional Black Caucus Foundation	www.cbcfinc.org/scholarships	Increase the number of minority students pursuing degrees in medicine, engineering, technology, nutrition, and other health-related studies
	Faculty Loan Repayment Program	U.S. Dept. of HHS Health Resources & Services Administration	bhwh.hrsa.gov/loansscholarships/flrp	Provide repayment for health professions student loans to faculty from disadvantaged backgrounds in exchange for educating tomorrow's clinicians
	GHCA Education & Research Foundation Scholarship	Georgia Health Care Association	www.ghca.info/scholarships	Help more healthcare professionals obtain their education and encourage them to work in the field of long-term care
	Health Professions Student Loans	U.S. Dept. of HHS Health Resources & Services Administration	www.hrsa.gov/loan-scholarships/loans/index.html	Provide long-term, low interest rate loans to full-time students in dentistry, optometry, pharmacy, podiatric medicine, or veterinary medicine programs
	Hispanic Health Professional Student Scholarship	National Hispanic Health Foundation	nhmafoundation.org/programs/the-nhhf-scholarship	Support Hispanic students who are committed to careers in dentistry, medicine, nursing, or public health
	National Health Services Corps Loan Repayment & Scholarships	U.S. Dept. of HHS Health Resources & Services Administration	nhsc.hrsa.gov	Provide repayment for health profession student loans for dental, medical, or mental health clinicians or educational funding for dental, medical, or mental health students in return for working at least 2 years at an approved site
Ty Cobb Scholarship	Ty Cobb Educational Foundation	www.tycobbfoundation.com	Provide funding for students pursuing their undergraduate, dental, or medical/osteopathic degrees	

UNDERGRAD/ GRADUATE	GA RESIDENCY REQUIRED	ANNUAL AWARD	INSTITUTION RESTRICTIONS	NEED-BASED
G	N	Varies	A medical dosimetry program accredited by the Joint Review Committee on Education in Radiologic Technology	N
U	N	Varies	An educational program accredited by the Joint Review Committee on Education in Radiologic Technology	N
U	N	\$2,500	An educational program in diagnostic medical sonography or cardiovascular technology accredited by the Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Educational Programs	N
U/G	N	\$3,000.00	N/A	N
U	N	\$100-1,500	N/A	N
G	N	Varies	N/A	N
U/G	N	\$500-1,000	N/A	N
U/G	N	\$150-5,000	An educational program accredited by the Accreditation Council for Occupational Therapy Education	N
U/G	N	Varies	An educational program accredited by the Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education	N
U/G	N	\$1,000-7,500	A respiratory care program accredited by the Committee on Accreditation for Respiratory Care	N
U/G	Y	\$500-1,000	An educational program in Georgia accredited by the Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education	N
U	Y	\$500	A respiratory care program accredited by the Committee on Accreditation for Respiratory Care	Varies
G	Y	\$500	An educational program in Georgia accredited by the Council on Academic Accreditation in Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology	N
U/G	Y	\$500-750	An educational program in Georgia accredited by the Commission on Accreditation of Athletic Training Education	N
G	N	\$500-1,000	N/A	N
G	N	\$25,000	A college or school of veterinary medicine accredited by the American Veterinary Medical Association	N
G	N	Varies	A college or school of optometry accredited by the Accreditation Council on Optometric Education	N
U/G	Y	Varies	N/A	Y
U/G	N	\$2,000	Eligible applicants must be qualified African-American or black students who reside or attend school in a CBC member district	Y
G	N	Up to \$40,000 total	An accredited U.S. school	Y
U/G	Y	\$1,000 per year up to \$4,000	Eligible applicants must have been employed in a GHCA-member skilled nursing care center for at least the past year and be recommended by the Administrator and the Director of Nursing there	N
G	N	Varies	A college or school of dentistry, optometry, pharmacy, podiatric medicine, or veterinary medicine that participates in the Health Professions Student Loan program	Y
BSN/G	N	\$2,000-10,000	An accredited U.S. school	N
G	N	Loan repayment up to \$50,000 total/ Scholarship varies	An accredited U.S. school	N
U/G	Y	\$2,000-3,000	A college or university accredited by a regional crediting body recognized by the Council for Higher Education	Y

Health Education Programs in Georgia

The following is a list of accredited health education programs available at colleges, universities, technical colleges, proprietary schools, and hospitals in Georgia for the health careers identified in this publication. Many schools have multiple campuses and online courses that increase accessibility to their programs. Institutions with more than one campus may not offer every program at every campus. Some programs are jointly administered with other institutions. Graduation from an accredited program is often required in order to obtain certification, registration, or licensure. Ask about the accreditation status of programs in which you are interested.

Proprietary schools included are indicated by an asterisk (*) and are authorized by the Georgia Nonpublic Postsecondary Education Commission and accredited by an agency recognized by the U.S. Department of Education. Recognized agencies include Accrediting Commission of Career Schools and Colleges, Accrediting Bureau of Health Education Schools, Accrediting Council for Independent Colleges and Schools, Accrediting Council for Continuing Education and Training, and Council on Occupational Education. Massage therapy programs included are approved by the Georgia Board of Massage Therapy.

Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College

Tifton
(800) 733-3653
www.abac.edu

- Health Educator
- Nursing Assistant
- Registered Nurse

Albany State University

East Albany (Main) Campus
West Albany Campus
Cordele Campus
(229) 430-4600
www.asurams.edu

- Clinical Laboratory Technician
- Counselor
- Dental Hygienist
- Diagnostic Medical Sonographer
- Emergency Medical Technician
- Exercise Physiologist
- Healthcare Administrator
- Health Information Technician
- Histotechnician
- Medical Coder
- Nurse Educator
- Nurse Practitioner
- Occupational Therapy Assistant
- Paramedic
- Phlebotomist
- Physical Therapist Assistant
- Radiologic Technologist
- Registered Nurse
- Respiratory Therapist
- Social Worker

Albany Technical College

Albany (Main) Campus
(229) 430-3500
Randolph County Campus
(229) 732-5280
www.albanytech.edu

- Biomedical Equipment Technician
- Dental Assistant
- Emergency Medical Technician
- Health Information Technician
- Licensed Practical Nurse
- Medical Assistant
- Medical Coder
- Medical Secretary
- Nursing Assistant
- Paramedic
- Pharmacy Technician
- Radiologic Technologist
- Registered Nurse
- Surgical Technologist

Altierus Career College *

Norcross Campus
(770) 921-1085
www.altierus.edu

- Dental Assistant
- Medical Assistant
- Medical Coder

Andrew College

Cuthbert
(800) 664-9250
www.andrewcollege.edu

- Registered Nurse
- Respiratory Therapist

Argosy University *

Atlanta Campus
(888) 671-4777
www.argosy.edu/locations/atlanta

- Counselor
- Healthcare Administrator
- Human Services Worker
- Psychologist

Athens Technical College

Athens (Main) Campus
Elbert County Campus - Elberton
Greene County Campus - Greensboro
Walton County Campus - Monroe
(706) 355-5000
www.athenstech.edu

- Dental Assistant
- Dental Hygienist
- Emergency Medical Technician
- Health Information Technician
- Licensed Practical Nurse
- Medical Assistant
- Medical Coder
- Nursing Assistant
- Paramedic
- Phlebotomist
- Physical Therapist Assistant
- Radiologic Technologist
- Registered Nurse
- Surgical Technologist
- Veterinary Technician

Atlanta School of Massage

Atlanta
 (770) 203-0210
 atlantaschoolofmassage.com

- Massage Therapist

Atlanta Technical College

Atlanta
 (404) 225-4400
 www.atlantatech.edu

- Dental Assistant
- Dental Hygienist
- Emergency Medical Technician
- Health Information Technician
- Medical Assistant
- Medical Coder
- Nursing Assistant
- Paramedic
- Pharmacy Technician
- Phlebotomist
- Physical Therapist Assistant
- Radiologic Technologist
- Registered Nurse
- Surgical Technologist

Atlanta University of Health Sciences

Duluth
 (678) 477-5275
 www.atlantauniv.org

- Acupuncturist
- Massage Therapist

Augusta School of Massage

Evans
 (706) 863-4799
 augustamassage.com

- Massage Therapist

Augusta Technical College

Augusta (Main) Campus
 (706) 771-4000

Columbia County Center - Grovetown

(706) 651-7368

Thomson/McDuffie Campus

(706) 595-0166

Waynesboro/Burke Campus

(706) 437-6801

www.augustatech.edu

- Biomedical Equipment Technician
- Cardiovascular Technologist
(administered with University Hospital)
- Dental Assistant
- Diagnostic Medical Sonographer
- Emergency Medical Technician
- Health Information Technician

- Licensed Practical Nurse
- Medical Assistant
- Medical Coder
- Medical Secretary
- Nursing Assistant
- Occupational Therapy Assistant
- Pharmacy Technician
- Radiologic Technologist
- Registered Nurse
- Respiratory Therapist
- Surgical Technologist

Augusta University

Augusta
 (706) 721-0211
 www.augusta.edu

- Biostatistician
- Clinical Laboratory Scientist
- Counselor
- Dental Hygienist
- Dentist
- Dietitian
- Doctor of Medicine
- Environmental Health Specialist
- Exercise Physiologist
- Healthcare Administrator
- Health Educator
- Health Informatics Professional
- Health Information Administrator
- Medical Illustrator
- Nuclear Medicine Technologist
- Nurse Anesthetist
- Nurse Practitioner
- Occupational Therapist
- Paramedic
- Physical Therapist
- Physician Assistant
- Radiation Therapist
- Registered Nurse
- Respiratory Therapist
- Social Worker

Berry College

Mount Berry
 (706) 232-5374
 www.berry.edu

- Exercise Physiologist
- Healthcare Administrator
- Registered Nurse

Brenau University

Gainesville (Main) Campus
 Augusta Campus
 North Atlanta Campus
 South Atlanta Campus
 (800) 252-5119
 www.brenau.edu

- Counselor
- Exercise Physiologist
- Healthcare Administrator
- Nurse Educator
- Nurse Practitioner
- Occupational Therapist
- Physical Therapist
- Registered Nurse

Brewton-Parker College

Mt. Vernon
 (800) 342-1087
 www.bpc.edu

- Healthcare Administrator

Cambridge College of Healthcare & Technology *

Atlanta
 (404) 255-4500
 www.cambridgehealth.edu

- Diagnostic Medical Sonographer
- Medical Assistant
- Medical Coder
- Phlebotomist
- Radiation Therapist
- Radiologic Technologist

Health Education Programs in Georgia

Central Georgia Technical College

Warner Robins (Main) Campus
(478) 988-6800
Macon Campus
(478) 757-3400
Milledgeville Campus
(478) 445-2300
www.centralgatech.edu

- Cardiovascular Technologist
- Clinical Laboratory Technician
- Dental Assistant
- Dental Hygienist
- Emergency Medical Technician
- Licensed Practical Nurse
- Medical Assistant
- Medical Coder
- Medical Secretary
- Medical Transcriptionist
- Nursing Assistant
- Paramedic
- Pharmacy Technician
- Phlebotomist
- Physical Therapist Assistant
- Polysomnographic Technologist
- Radiologic Technologist
- Registered Nurse
- Surgical Technologist

Chamberlain College of Nursing

Atlanta Campus
(404) 250-8500
www.chamberlain.edu/atlanta

- Registered Nurse

Chattahoochee Technical College

Marietta (Main) Campus
Appalachian Campus - Jasper
Austell Campus
Canton Campus
Mountain View Campus - Marietta
North Metro Campus - Acworth
Paulding Campus - Dallas
Woodstock Campus
(770) 528-4545
www.chattahoocheetech.edu

- Biomedical Equipment Technician
- Clinical Laboratory Technician
- Emergency Medical Technician
- Licensed Practical Nurse
- Medical Assistant
- Medical Secretary
- Nursing Assistant
- Occupational Therapy Assistant
- Paramedic
- Physical Therapist Assistant
- Radiologic Technologist

- Registered Nurse
- Surgical Technologist

Clark Atlanta University

Atlanta
(404) 880-8000
www.cau.edu

- Counselor
- Social Worker

Clayton State University

Morrow
(678) 466-4000
www.clayton.edu

- Counselor
- Dental Hygienist
- Healthcare Administrator
- Health Educator
- Human Services Worker
- Nurse Practitioner
- Registered Nurse

Coastal Pines Technical College

Waycross (Main) Campus
Alma Campus
(877) 332-8628
www.coastalpines.edu

- Biomedical Equipment Technician
- Clinical Laboratory Technician
- Dental Assistant
- Emergency Medical Technician
- Licensed Practical Nurse
- Massage Therapist
- Medical Assistant
- Medical Coder
- Medical Secretary
- Medical Transcriptionist
- Nursing Assistant
- Paramedic
- Pharmacy Technician
- Phlebotomist
- Radiologic Technologist
- Respiratory Therapist
- Surgical Technologist

Cohutta Healing Arts Institute

Ellijay
(855) 515-2424
cohuttahealingarts.com

- Massage Therapist

College of Coastal Georgia

Brunswick
(912) 279-5700
www.coga.edu

- Exercise Physiologist
- Healthcare Administrator
- Health Educator
- Health Informatics Professional
- Human Services Worker
- Radiologic Technologist
- Registered Nurse

Columbus State University

Columbus
(866) 264-2035
www.columbusstate.edu

- Counselor
- Exercise Physiologist
- Healthcare Administrator
- Health Educator
- Health Informatics Professional
- Nurse Educator
- Nurse Practitioner
- Registered Nurse

Columbus Technical College

Columbus
(706) 649-1800
www.columbustech.edu

- Dental Assistant
- Dental Hygienist
- Diagnostic Medical Sonographer
- Emergency Medical Technician
- Licensed Practical Nurse
- Medical Assistant
- Medical Coder
- Medical Secretary
- Nursing Assistant
- Paramedic
- Pharmacy Technician
- Phlebotomist
- Radiologic Technologist
- Registered Nurse
- Respiratory Therapist
- Surgical Technologist

Dalton State College

Dalton (Main) Campus
 Gilmer County Campus - Ellijay
 (706) 272-4436
www.daltonstate.edu

- Clinical Laboratory Technician
- Health Information Administrator
- Licensed Practical Nurse
- Phlebotomist
- Radiologic Technologist
- Registered Nurse
- Respiratory Therapist
- Social Worker

DeKalb Medical School of Radiologic Technology

Decatur
 (404) 501-5307
www.dekalbmedical.org

- Radiologic Technologist (administered with Perimeter College at Georgia State University)

DeVry University *

Alpharetta Campus
 (770) 619-3600
 Atlanta Cobb Galleria Campus
 (770) 916-3704
 Decatur Campus
 (404) 270-2700
 Duluth Center
 (770) 381-4400
 Stockbridge Campus
 (678) 284-4700
www.devryuniversity.org/atlanta

- Healthcare Administrator

The Elaine Sterling Institute

Atlanta
 (404) 256-5228
elainesterling.com

- Massage Therapist

Emmanuel College

Franklin Springs
 (800) 860-8800
www.ec.edu

- Exercise Physiologist

Emory Healthcare Medical Laboratory Science Program

Atlanta
 (404) 778-7777
www.emoryhealthcare.org/careers/medical-technology.html

- Clinical Laboratory Scientist

Emory University

Atlanta
 (404) 727-6123
www.emory.edu

- Anesthesiologist Assistant
- Biomedical Engineer (administered with Georgia Institute of Technology)
- Biostatistician
- Doctor of Medicine
- Environmental Health Specialist
- Epidemiologist
- Genetic Counselor
- Geneticist
- Healthcare Administrator
- Health Educator
- Health Informatics Professional
- Nurse Anesthetist
- Nurse Educator
- Nurse Midwife
- Nurse Practitioner
- Physical Therapist
- Physician Assistant
- Psychologist
- Radiologic Technologist
- Registered Nurse

Fort Valley State University

Fort Valley
 (877) 462-3878
www.fvsu.edu

- Counselor
- Environmental Health Specialist
- Social Worker
- Veterinary Technician

Fortis College *

Smyrna
 (770) 980-0002
www.fortis.edu

- Dental Assistant
- Dental Hygienist
- Medical Assistant
- Medical Secretary
- Paramedic
- Pharmacy Technician

Georgia Career Institute

Conyers
 (770) 922-7653
www.gci.edu

- Massage Therapist

Georgia Central University

Atlanta
 (770) 279-0507
www.gcuniv.edu

- Acupuncturist

Georgia College & State University

Milledgeville
 (800) 342-0471
www.gcsu.edu

- Art Therapist
- Athletic Trainer
- Exercise Physiologist
- Health Educator
- Music Therapist
- Nurse Educator
- Nurse Practitioner
- Registered Nurse

Georgia Gwinnett College

Lawrenceville
 (678) 407-5000
www.ggc.edu

- Exercise Physiologist
- Registered Nurse

Georgia Highlands College

Rome
 (800) 332-2406
www.highlands.edu

- Dental Hygienist
- Healthcare Administrator
- Human Services Worker
- Nursing Assistant
- Registered Nurse

Georgia Institute of Technology

Atlanta
 (404) 894-2000
www.gatech.edu

- Biomedical Engineer
- Orthotist
- Prosthetist

Georgia Massage School

Suwanee
 (678) 482-1100
www.georgiamassageschool.com

- Massage Therapist

Health Education Programs in Georgia

Georgia Northwestern Technical College

Floyd County (Main) Campus - Rome
Catoosa County Campus - Ringgold
Gordon County Campus - Calhoun
Polk County Campus - Rockmart
Walker County Campus - Rock Spring
Whitfield Murray Campus - Dalton
(866) 983-4682
www.gntc.edu

- Cardiovascular Technologist
- Dental Assistant
- Diagnostic Medical Sonographer
- Emergency Medical Technician
- Health Information Technician
- Licensed Practical Nurse
- Medical Assistant
- Medical Coder
- Medical Secretary
- Medical Transcriptionist
- Nursing Assistant
- Paramedic
- Phlebotomist
- Radiologic Technologist
- Registered Nurse
- Respiratory Therapist
- Surgical Technologist

Georgia Piedmont Technical College

DeKalb (Main) Campus - Clarkston
Newton Campus - Covington
South DeKalb Campus - Decatur
(404) 297-9522
www.gptc.edu

- Biomedical Equipment Technician
- Clinical Laboratory Technician
- Emergency Medical Technician
- Health Information Technician
- Licensed Practical Nurse
- Medical Assistant
- Medical Coder
- Medical Secretary
- Nursing Assistant
- Optician
- Paramedic
- Phlebotomist

Georgia Southern University

Statesboro (Main) Campus
Armstrong Campus - Savannah
Liberty Campus - Hinesville
(912) 478-4636
www.georgiasouthern.edu

- Athletic Trainer
- Biostatistician
- Cardiovascular Technologist
- Clinical Laboratory Scientist

- Counselor
- Diagnostic Medical Sonographer
- Dietitian
- Environmental Health Specialist
- Epidemiologist
- Exercise Physiologist
- Healthcare Administrator
- Health Educator
- Health Informatics Professional
- Nuclear Medicine Technologist
- Nurse Practitioner
- Physical Therapist
- Psychologist
- Radiation Therapist
- Radiologic Technologist
- Recreational Therapist
- Respiratory Therapist
- Registered Nurse
- Speech-Language Pathologist

Georgia Southwestern State University

Americus
(877) 871-4594
www.gsw.edu

- Exercise Physiologist
- Nurse Educator
- Nurse Practitioner
- Registered Nurse

Georgia State University

Atlanta (Main) Campus
Alpharetta Campus
Clarkston Campus
Decatur Campus
Dunwoody Campus
Newton Campus
(404) 413-2000
www.gsu.edu

- Biostatistician
- Counselor
- Dietitian
- Environmental Health Specialist
- Epidemiologist
- Exercise Physiologist
- Healthcare Administrator
- Health Educator
- Health Informatics Professional
- Medical Interpreter
- Nurse Educator
- Nurse Practitioner
- Occupational Therapist
- Physical Therapist
- Psychologist
- Registered Nurse
- Respiratory Therapist

- Social Worker
- Speech-Language Pathologist

Gordon State College

Barnesville
(678) 359-5555
www.gordonstate.edu

- Health Information Administrator
- Human Services Worker
- Registered Nurse

Grady Health System Schools of Radiation and Imaging Technologies

Atlanta
(404) 616-3610
www.gradyhealth.org/education-training

- Diagnostic Medical Sonographer
- Radiation Therapist
- Radiologic Technologist (administered with Atlanta Metropolitan State College or Perimeter College at Georgia State University)

Gwinnett Colleges & Institute *

Lilburn Campus
(770) 381-7200
Marietta Campus
(770) 859-9779
Sandy Springs Campus
(770) 457-2021
www.gwinnettcollege.edu

- Massage Therapist
- Medical Assistant
- Medical Coder
- Medical Secretary

Gwinnett Technical College

Lawrenceville (Main) Campus
(770) 962-7580
Alpharetta – North Fulton Campus
(470) 282-5400
www.gwinnettech.edu

- Cardiovascular Technologist
- Dental Assistant
- Diagnostic Medical Sonographer
- Emergency Medical Technician
- Health Information Technician
- Medical Assistant
- Medical Secretary
- Nursing Assistant
- Paramedic
- Radiologic Technologist
- Registered Nurse
- Respiratory Therapist
- Surgical Technologist
- Veterinary Technician

Helms College *

Macon Campus
(478) 471-4394
Augusta Campus
(706) 651-9707
helms.edu

- Medical Assistant
- Medical Secretary
- Nursing Assistant

Herzing University *

Atlanta Campus
(404) 586-4265
www.herzing.edu/atlanta

- Healthcare Administrator
- Medical Coder
- Registered Nurse

Institute of Medical Ultrasound

Atlanta
(404) 881-1916
imu.edu

- Diagnostic Medical Sonographer

International School of Skin, Nailcare and Massage Therapy

Atlanta
(404) 843-1005
issnschoolspa.com

- Massage Therapist

Kennesaw State University

Kennesaw (Main) Campus
Marietta Campus
(470) 578-6000
www.kennesaw.edu

- Cytogenetic Technologist
- Exercise Physiologist
- Health Educator
- Health Informatics Professional
- Human Services Worker
- Medical Assistant
- Medical Coder
- Medical Interpreter
- Medical Secretary
- Nurse Educator
- Nurse Practitioner
- Nursing Assistant
- Pharmacy Technician
- Phlebotomist
- Registered Nurse
- Social Worker

LaGrange College

LaGrange
(706) 880-8000
www.lagrangecollege.edu

- Counselor
- Exercise Physiologist
- Registered Nurse

Lanier Technical College

Oakwood (Main) Campus
(770) 531-7000
Barrow Campus - Winder
(770) 297-4500
Dawson Campus - Dawsonville
(706) 216-5461
Forsyth Campus - Cumming
(678) 341-6600
Jackson Campus - Commerce
(706) 335-1931
www.laniercollege.edu

- Dental Assistant
- Dental Hygienist
- Emergency Medical Technician
- Health Information Technician
- Licensed Practical Nurse
- Medical Assistant
- Medical Coder
- Medical Secretary
- Nursing Assistant
- Paramedic
- Pharmacy Technician
- Phlebotomist
- Physical Therapist Assistant
- Radiologic Technologist

- Registered Nurse
- Surgical Technologist

Life University

Marietta
(770) 426-2600
www.life.edu

- Athletic Trainer
- Chiropractor
- Dietitian
- Exercise Physiologist

Lincoln Tech *

Marietta Campus
(770) 226-0056
www.lincolntech.edu

- Medical Assistant

Mercer University

Macon Campus (Main)
Atlanta Campus
Savannah Campus
(800) 637-2378
www.mercer.edu

- Athletic Trainer
- Biomedical Engineer
- Counselor
- Doctor of Medicine
- Healthcare Administrator
- Health Educator
- Health Informatics Professional
- Human Services Worker
- Nurse Educator
- Nurse Practitioner
- Pharmacist
- Physical Therapist
- Physician Assistant
- Psychologist
- Registered Nurse

Health Education Programs in Georgia

Middle Georgia State University

Macon (Main) Campus

(478) 471-2700

Cochran Campus

(478) 934-6221

Dublin Campus

(478) 275-6643

Eastman Campus

(478) 374-6980

Warner Robbins Campus

(478) 929-6700

www.mga.edu

- Healthcare Administrator
- Health Informatics Professional
- Human Services Worker
- Nurse Practitioner
- Occupational Therapy Assistant
- Registered Nurse
- Respiratory Therapist

Miller-Motte Technical College *

Augusta Campus

(706) 619-2090

Columbus Campus

(706) 225-5637

Macon Campus

(478) 257-3912

www.miller-motte.edu

- Massage Therapist
- Medical Assistant
- Medical Coder

Morehouse College

Atlanta

(470) 639-0999

www.morehouse.edu

- Exercise Physiologist

Morehouse School of Medicine

Atlanta

(404) 752-1500

www.msm.edu

- Community Health Worker
- Doctor of Medicine
- Health Educator
- Physician Assistant

New Horizons Medical Institute *

Norcross (Main) Campus

(770) 447-0722

Winder Campus

(678) 963-0387

www.newhorizonsmedical.com

- Medical Assistant
- Nursing Assistant
- Phlebotomist

North Georgia Technical College

Clarksville (Main) Campus

(706) 754-7700

Blairsville Campus

(706) 439-6300

Currahee Campus - Toccoa

(706) 779-8100

northgatech.edu

- Clinical Laboratory Technician
- Emergency Medical Technician
- Licensed Practical Nurse
- Medical Assistant
- Medical Coder
- Medical Secretary
- Nursing Assistant
- Paramedic
- Pharmacy Technician
- Phlebotomist
- Registered Nurse

Oconee Fall Line Technical College

North (Main) Campus - Sandersville

(877) 399-8324

South Campus - Dublin

(800) 200-4484

www.oftc.edu

- Biomedical Equipment Technician
- Diagnostic Medical Sonographer
- Emergency Medical Technician
- Licensed Practical Nurse
- Medical Assistant
- Medical Secretary
- Nursing Assistant
- Paramedic
- Pharmacy Technician
- Radiologic Technologist
- Registered Nurse
- Respiratory Therapist

Ogeechee Technical College

Statesboro

(912) 681-5500

www.ogeecheetech.edu

- Cardiovascular Technologist
- Dental Assistant
- Diagnostic Medical Sonographer
- Emergency Medical Technician
- Health Information Technician
- Licensed Practical Nurse
- Massage Therapist
- Medical Assistant
- Medical Coder
- Medical Secretary
- Nursing Assistant
- Optician
- Paramedic
- Pharmacy Technician
- Radiologic Technologist
- Surgical Technologist
- Veterinary Technician

Omnitech Institute *

Atlanta

(404) 888-1800

omnitech.edu

- Medical Assistant

Peachtree City School of Massage

Peachtree City

(678) 723-8990

ptcsom.com

- Massage Therapist

Perimeter College at Georgia State University

Dunwoody

(770) 274-5000

perimeter.gsu.edu

- Dental Hygienist
- Radiologic Technologist (administered with DeKalb Medical or Grady Health System)
- Registered Nurse

Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine

Georgia Campus - Suwanee
South Georgia Campus - Moultrie
(678) 225-7500
www.pcom.edu

- Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine
- Pharmacist
- Physical Therapist
- Physician Assistant

Piedmont College

Demorest Campus
Athens Campus
(800) 277-7020
www.piedmont.edu

- Athletic Trainer
- Cardiovascular Technologist
(administered with Northeast Georgia Medical Center)
- Exercise Physiologist
- Health Educator
- Healthcare Administrator
- Registered Nurse

Point University

West Point
(706) 385-1000
point.edu

- Exercise Physiologist
- Human Services Worker

Reinhardt University

Waleska
(770) 720-5600
www.reinhardt.edu

- Registered Nurse

Richmont Graduate University

Atlanta
(888) 924-6774
www.richmont.edu

- Counselor

Savannah State University

Savannah
(912) 358-4778
www.savannahstate.edu

- Social Worker

Savannah Technical College

Savannah (Main) Campus
(912) 443-5700
Crossroads Campus - Savannah
(912) 443-3012
Effingham Campus - Rincon
(912) 443-4100
Liberty Campus - Hinesville
(912) 408-3024
www.savannahtech.edu

- Dental Assistant
- Dental Hygienist
- Emergency Medical Technician
- Licensed Practical Nurse
- Medical Assistant
- Medical Coder
- Medical Secretary
- Nursing Assistant
- Paramedic
- Phlebotomist
- Surgical Technologist

Shorter University

Rome
(800) 868-6980
www.shorter.edu

- Healthcare Administrator
- Human Services Worker
- Registered Nurse

Southeastern Technical College

Vidalia (Main) Campus
(912) 538-3100
Swainsboro Campus
(478) 289-2200
www.southeasterntech.edu

- Clinical Laboratory Technician
- Dental Hygienist
- Emergency Medical Technician
- Licensed Practical Nurse
- Medical Assistant
- Medical Secretary
- Nursing Assistant
- Paramedic
- Radiologic Technologist
- Registered Nurse

Southern Crescent Technical College

Griffin (Main) Campus
(770) 228-7348
Flint River Campus - Thomaston
(706) 646-6148
www.sctech.edu

- Dental Assistant
- Emergency Medical Technician
- Licensed Practical Nurse
- Medical Assistant
- Nursing Assistant
- Paramedic
- Pharmacy Technician
- Phlebotomist
- Polysomnographic Technologist
- Radiologic Technologist
- Registered Nurse
- Respiratory Therapist
- Surgical Technologist

Southern Regional Technical College

Thomasville (Main) Campus
(888) 205-3449
Cairo Campus
(229) 378-2901
Moultrie Campus
(229) 891-7000
Tifton Campus
(229) 391-2600
southernregional.edu

- Biomedical Equipment Technician
- Cardiovascular Technologist
- Clinical Laboratory Technician
- Emergency Medical Technician
- Health Information Technician
- Licensed Practical Nurse
- Massage Therapist
- Medical Assistant
- Medical Coder
- Medical Secretary
- Medical Transcriptionist
- Nursing Assistant
- Paramedic
- Phlebotomist
- Radiologic Technologist
- Registered Nurse
- Respiratory Therapist
- Surgical Technologist
- Veterinary Technician

Health Education Programs in Georgia

South Georgia State College

Douglas (Main) Campus
(912) 260-4206
Waycross Campus
(912) 449-7600
www.sgsc.edu

- Registered Nurse

South Georgia Technical College

Americus (Main) Campus
(229) 931-2394
www.southgatech.edu

- Emergency Medical Technician
- Licensed Practical Nurse
- Medical Assistant
- Medical Coder
- Medical Secretary
- Nursing Assistant
- Phlebotomist

South University

Savannah Campus
Atlanta Campus
(866) 629-2901
www.southuniversity.edu

- Anesthesiologist Assistant
- Counselor
- Healthcare Administrator
- Health Educator
- Medical Assistant
- Nurse Practitioner
- Pharmacist
- Physical Therapist Assistant
- Physician Assistant
- Registered Nurse

Spelman College

Atlanta
(404) 681-3643
www.spelman.edu

- Human Services Worker

Thomas University

Thomasville
(229) 226-1621
www.thomasu.edu

- Clinical Laboratory Scientist
- Counselor
- Nurse Educator
- Registered Nurse
- Social Worker

Toccoa Falls College

Toccoa
(706) 886-7299
tfc.edu

- Registered Nurse

Touch for Healing

Jasper
(706) 692-0255
touchforhealing.net

- Massage Therapist

Truett McConnell University

Cleveland
(706) 865-2134
truett.edu

- Counselor
- Exercise Physiologist
- Healthcare Administrator
- Registered Nurse

United Education Institute *

Morrow
(678) 902-6440
www.uei.edu

- Dental Assistant
- Medical Assistant

United Medical and Business Institute *

East Point
(866) 304-8624
www.umbi.edu

- Dental Assistant
- Medical Assistant
- Medical Secretary

University Hospital

Augusta

Harry T. Harper Jr., MD School of Cardiac & Vascular Technology

(706) 774-8976

Stephen W. Brown, MD School of Radiography

(706) 774-5010

www.universityhealth.org/allied-health

- Cardiovascular Technologist
(administered with Augusta Technical College)
- Radiologic Technologist

University of Georgia

Athens (Main) Campus
(706) 542-3000
Atlanta Campus
(404) 843-4825
Griffin Campus
(770) 228-7306
Gwinnett Campus - Lawrenceville
(678) 985-6800
Tifton Campus
(229) 386-3442
www.uga.edu

- Athletic Trainer
- Biomedical Engineer
- Biostatistician
- Counselor
- Dietitian
- Environmental Health Specialist
- Epidemiologist
- Exercise Physiologist
- Geneticist
- Healthcare Administrator
- Health Educator
- Medical Coder
- Medical Interpreter
- Medical Secretary
- Music Therapist
- Pharmacist
- Pharmacy Technician
- Psychologist
- Social Worker
- Speech-Language Pathologist
- Veterinarian

University of North Georgia

Dahlonega (Main) Campus
(706) 864-1400
Blue Ridge Campus
(706) 946-5460
Cumming Campus
(470) 239-3100
Gainesville Campus
(678) 717-3639
Oconee Campus - Watkinsville
(706) 310-6201
ung.edu

- Athletic Trainer
- Counselor
- Exercise Physiologist
- Human Services Worker
- Nurse Educator
- Nurse Practitioner
- Physical Therapist
- Registered Nurse

University of West Georgia

Carrollton (Main) Campus
(678) 839-5000
Newnan Campus
(678) 839-2300
www.westga.edu

- Counselor
- Health Educator
- Nurse Educator
- Nursing Assistant
- Registered Nurse
- Speech-Language Pathologist

Valdosta State University

Valdosta
(229) 333-5800
www.valdosta.edu

- Counselor
- Dental Hygienist (administered with Wiregrass Georgia Technical College)
- Exercise Physiologist
- Healthcare Administrator
- Health Educator
- Health Sciences Librarian
- Nurse Practitioner
- Registered Nurse
- Social Worker
- Speech-Language Pathologist

Wesleyan College

Macon
(478) 477-1110
www.wesleyancollege.edu

- Registered Nurse

West Georgia Technical College

Carroll (Main) Campus - Carrollton
(770) 836-6800
Coweta Campus - Newnan
(678) 423-2000
Douglas Campus - Douglasville
(770) 947-7200
LaGrange Campus
(706) 845-4323
Murphy Campus - Waco
(770) 537-6000
www.westgatech.edu

- Biomedical Equipment Technician
- Clinical Laboratory Technician
- Dental Assistant
- Dental Hygienist
- Emergency Medical Technician
- Health Information Technician
- Licensed Practical Nurse
- Medical Assistant
- Medical Coder
- Medical Secretary
- Nursing Assistant
- Pharmacy Technician
- Phlebotomist
- Radiologic Technologist
- Registered Nurse
- Surgical Technologist

Wiregrass Georgia Technical College

Valdosta (Main) Campus
(229) 333-2100
Ben Hill-Irwin Campus - Fitzgerald
(229) 468-2000
Coffee County Campus - Douglas
(912) 389-4303
wiregrass.edu

- Dental Assistant
- Dental Hygienist (administered with Valdosta State University)
- Emergency Medical Technician
- Health Information Technician
- Licensed Practical Nurse
- Massage Therapist
- Medical Assistant
- Medical Coder
- Medical Secretary
- Medical Transcriptionist
- Nursing Assistant
- Optician
- Paramedic
- Pharmacy Technician
- Phlebotomist
- Radiologic Technologist
- Registered Nurse
- Surgical Technologist

Woodruff Medical Training and Testing *

Duluth Campus
(678) 820-6245
Gainesville Campus
(770) 744-3919
Tucker Campus
(770) 604-1432
woodruffmedical.edu

- Massage Therapist
- Medical Assistant
- Nursing Assistant

Young Harris College

Young Harris
(800) 241-3754
www.yhc.edu

- Environmental Health Specialist

Hospitals & Health Systems in Georgia

AdventHealth Gordon

Calhoun
(706) 602-7800
www.adventhealth.com

AdventHealth Murray

Chatsworth
(706) 695-4564
www.adventhealth.com

Anchor Hospital

Atlanta
(770) 991-6044
anchorhospital.com

Appling HealthCare System

Baxley
(912) 367-9841
www.ahcs.org

(John D.) Archbold Memorial Hospital

Thomasville
(229) 228-2000
archbold.org

Atlanta Veterans Affairs Medical Center

Decatur
(404) 321-6111
www.atlanta.va.gov

Augusta University Medical Center

Augusta
(706) 721-2273
www.augustahealth.org

Bacon County Hospital & Health System

Alma
(912) 632-8961
www.baconcountyhospital.com

Bleckley Memorial Hospital

Cochran
(478) 934-6211
bleckleymemorial.com

The Bradley Center of St. Francis Hospital

Columbus
(706) 320-3770
www.mystfrancis.com

Brooks County Hospital

Quitman
(229) 263-4171
archbold.org/brooks

Burke Medical Center

Waynesboro
(706) 554-4435
www.burkemedical.net

Candler County Hospital

Metter
(912) 685-5741
www.candlercountyhospital.com

Candler Hospital

Savannah
(912) 819-6000
www.sjchs.org

Carl Vinson Veterans Affairs Medical Center

Dublin
(478) 272-1210
www.dublin.va.gov

Cartersville Medical Center

Cartersville
(770) 382-1530
cartersvillemedical.com

Central State Hospital

Milledgeville
(478) 445-4128
dbhdd.georgia.gov

Charlie Norwood Veterans Affairs Medical Center

Augusta
(706) 733-0188
www.augusta.va.gov

Chatuge Regional Hospital

Hiawassee
(706) 896-2222
www.uniongeneralhospital.com/crh

CHI Memorial Hospital Georgia

Fort Oglethorpe
(706) 858-2000
www.memorial.org

Children's Healthcare of Atlanta at Egleston

Atlanta
(404) 785-5437
www.choa.org

Children's Healthcare of Atlanta at Hughes Spalding

Atlanta
(404) 785-5437
www.choa.org

Children's Healthcare of Atlanta at Scottish Rite

Atlanta
(404) 785-5437
www.choa.org

Children's Hospital of Georgia

Augusta
(706) 721-5437
www.augustahealth.org

Clinch Memorial Hospital

Homerville
(912) 487-5211
clinchmh.org

Coastal Harbor Behavioral Health

Savannah
(912) 354-3911
coastalharbor.com

Coastal Harbor Treatment Center

Savannah
(912) 354-3911
coastalharbor.com

Coffee Regional Medical Center

Douglas
(912) 384-1900
www.coffeeregional.org

Coliseum Center for Behavioral Health

Macon
(478) 464-1359
coliseumhealthsystem.com

Coliseum Medical Centers

Macon
(478) 765-7000
coliseumhealthsystem.com

Coliseum Northside Hospital

Macon
(478) 757-8200
coliseumhealthsystem.com

Colquitt Regional Medical Center

Moultrie
(229) 985-3420
colquittregional.com

Columbus Specialty Hospital
Columbus
(706) 494-4075
www.columbusspecialtyhospital.net

Cook Medical Center
Adel
(229) 896-8000
www.tiftregional.com/cookmedicalcenter

Crescent Pines Hospital
Stockbridge
(770) 474-8888
crescentpineshospital.com

Crisp Regional Hospital
Cordele
(229) 276-3100
www.crispregional.org

DeKalb Medical Downtown Decatur
Decatur
(404) 501-6100
www.dekalbmedical.org

DeKalb Medical Hillandale
Lithonia
(404) 501-8000
www.dekalbmedical.org

DeKalb Medical North Decatur
Decatur
(404) 501-1000
www.dekalbmedical.org

Devereux Georgia
Kennesaw
(770) 427-0147
www.devereux.org

Doctors Hospital of Augusta
Augusta
(706) 651-3232
doctors-hospital.net

Dodge County Hospital
Eastman
(478) 448-4000
www.dodgecountyhospital.com

Donalsonville Hospital
Donalsonville
(229) 524-5217
www.donalsonvillehospital.org

Dorminy Medical Center
Fitzgerald
(229) 424-7100
www.dorminymedical.org

East Central Regional Hospital Augusta
Augusta
(706) 790-2011
dbhdd.georgia.gov

East Central Regional Hospital Gracewood
Gracewood
(706) 790-2011
dbhdd.georgia.gov

East Georgia Regional Medical Center
Statesboro
(912) 486-1000
www.eastgeorgiaregional.com

Eastside Medical Center
Snellville
(770) 979-0200
eastsidemedical.com

Eastside Medical Center South Campus
Snellville
(770) 979-0200
eastsidemedical.com

Effingham Health System
Springfield
(912) 754-6451
www.effinghamhealth.org

(Dwight David) Eisenhower Army Medical Center
Fort Gordon
(706) 787-5811
eisenhower.amedd.army.mil

Elbert Memorial Hospital
Elberton
(706) 283-3151
emhcare.net

Emanuel Medical Center
Swainsboro
(478) 289-1100
www.emanuelmedical.org

Emory Johns Creek Hospital
Johns Creek
(678) 474-7000
www.emoryhealthcare.org

Emory Rehabilitation Hospital
Atlanta
(404) 712-5512
www.emoryhealthcare.org

Emory St. Joseph's Hospital
Atlanta
(678) 843-7001
www.emoryhealthcare.org

Emory University Hospital
Atlanta
(404) 712-2000
www.emoryhealthcare.org

Emory University Hospital at Wesley Woods
Atlanta
(404) 778-7777
www.emoryhealthcare.org

Emory University Hospital Midtown
Atlanta
(404) 686-4411
www.emoryhealthcare.org

Emory University Orthopaedics & Spine Hospital
Tucker
(404) 251-3000
www.emoryhealthcare.org

Encompass Health Rehabilitation Hospital of Newnan
Newnan
(678) 552-6200
www.encompasshealth.com/newnanrehab

Encompass Health Rehabilitation Hospital of Savannah
Savannah
(912) 235-6000
www.encompasshealth.com/savannahrehab

Evans Memorial Hospital
Claxton
(912) 739-5000
www.evansmemorialhospital.org

Fairview Park Hospital
Dublin
(478) 275-2000
fairviewparkhospital.com

Hospitals & Health Systems in Georgia

Fannin Regional Hospital
Blue Ridge
(706) 632-3711
www.fanninregionalthospital.com

Flint River Hospital
Montezuma
(478) 472-3100
www.flintriverhospital.com

Floyd Medical Center
Rome
(706) 509-5000
www.floyd.org

Floyd Polk Medical Center
Cedartown
(770) 748-2500
www.polkhospital.org

Georgia Regional Hospital Atlanta
Decatur
(404) 243-2100
dbhdd.georgia.gov

Georgia Regional Hospital Savannah
Savannah
(912) 356-2011
dbhdd.georgia.gov

Grady General Hospital
Cairo
(229) 377-1150
archbold.org/grady

Grady Memorial Hospital
Atlanta
(404) 616-9304
www.gradyhealth.org

Greenleaf Behavioral Health Hospital
Valdosta
(229) 588-8215
www.greenleafhospital.com

Gwinnett Medical Center Duluth
Duluth
(678) 312-6800
www.gwinnettmedicalcenter.org

Gwinnett Medical Center Lawrenceville
Lawrenceville
(678) 312-1000
www.gwinnettmedicalcenter.org

Habersham Medical Center
Demorest
(706) 754-2161
www.habershammedical.com

Hamilton Medical Center
Dalton
(706) 272-6000
www.hamiltonhealth.com

Higgins General Hospital
Bremen
(770) 812-2000
www.tanner.org

Hillside
Atlanta
(404) 846-5118
hside.org

Houston Medical Center
Warner Robins
(478) 922-4281
www.hhc.org

Irwin County Hospital
Ocilla
(229) 468-3800
www.irwincntyhospital.com

Jasper Memorial Hospital
Monticello
(706) 468-6411
www.jaspermemorialhospital.org

Jeff Davis Hospital
Hazlehurst
(912) 375-7781
www.jeffdavishospital.org

Jefferson Hospital
Louisville
(478) 625-7000
www.jeffersonhosp.com

Jenkins County Medical Center
Millen
(478) 982-4221

Kindred Hospital Rome
Rome
(706) 509-4100
www.kindredhealthcare.com

Laurel Heights Hospital
Atlanta
(404) 888-7860
www.laurelheightshospital.com

Liberty Regional Medical Center
Hinesville
(912) 369-9400
www.libertyregional.org

LifeBrite Community Hospital of Early
Blakely
(229) 723-4241
lifebriteearly.com

Lighthouse Care Center of Augusta
Augusta
(706) 651-0005
www.lighthousecarecenters.com

Martin Army Community Hospital
Fort Benning
(762) 408-2604
martin.amedd.army.mil

Meadows Regional Medical Center
Vidalia
(912) 535-5555
meadowshealth.com

Memorial Health University Medical Center
Savannah
(912) 350-8000
memorialhealth.com

Memorial Hospital & Manor
Bainbridge
(229) 246-3500
www.mh-m.org

Memorial Satilla Health
Waycross
(912) 228-5310
memorialsatillahealth.com

Miller County Hospital
Colquitt
(229) 758-3385
www.millercountyhospital.com

Mitchell County Hospital
Camilla
(229) 336-4600
archbold.org/mitchell

Monroe County Hospital

Forsyth
(478) 994-2521
www.monroehospital.org

Morgan Medical Center

Madison
(706) 342-1667
morganmedical.org

Mountain Lakes Medical Center

Clayton
(706) 782-3100
www.mountainlakesmedicalcenter.com

Navicent Health Baldwin

Milledgeville
(478) 454-3505
www.navicenthealth.org

Navicent Health Medical Center

Macon
(478) 633-1000
www.navicenthealth.org

Navicent Health Medical Center of Peach County

Byron
(478) 654-2000
www.navicenthealth.org

Navicent Health Rehabilitation Hospital

Macon
(478) 201-6500
www.navicenthealth.org

Northeast Georgia Medical Center Barrow

Winder
(770) 867-3400
www.nghs.com

Northeast Georgia Medical Center Braselton

Braselton
(770) 848-8000
www.nghs.com

Northeast Georgia Medical Center Gainesville

Gainesville
(770) 219-9000
www.nghs.com

Northridge Medical Center

Commerce
(706) 335-1000
www.northridgemc.com

Northside Hospital Atlanta

Atlanta
(404) 851-8000
www.northside.com/atlanta

Northside Hospital Cherokee

Canton
(770) 224-1000
www.northside.com/cherokee

Northside Hospital Forsyth

Cumming
(770) 844-3200
www.northside.com/forsyth

Optim Medical Center Screven

Sylvania
(912) 564-7426
www.optimhealth.com

Optim Medical Center Tattnall

Reidsville
(912) 557-1000
www.optimhealth.com

Peachford Hospital

Atlanta
(770) 454-2302
peachford.com

Perry Hospital

Perry
(478) 987-3600
www.hhc.org

Phoebe Putney Memorial Hospital

Albany
(229) 312-1000
www.phoebehealth.com

Phoebe Putney Memorial Hospital North Campus

Albany
(229) 434-2000
www.phoebehealth.com

Phoebe Sumter Medical Center

Americus
(229) 924-6011
www.phoebehealth.com

Phoebe Worth Medical Center

Sylvester
(229) 776-6961
www.phoebehealth.com

Piedmont Athens Regional Medical Center

Athens
(706) 475-7000
www.piedmont.org

Piedmont Atlanta Hospital

Atlanta
(404) 605-5000
www.piedmont.org

Piedmont Columbus Regional Midtown

Columbus
(706) 571-1000
www.piedmont.org

Piedmont Columbus Regional Northside

Columbus
(706) 494-2100
www.piedmont.org

Piedmont Fayette Hospital

Fayetteville
(770) 719-7000
www.piedmont.org

Piedmont Henry Hospital

Stockbridge
(678) 604-1000
www.piedmont.org

Piedmont Mountainside Hospital

Jasper
(706) 692-2441
www.piedmont.org

Piedmont Newnan Hospital

Newnan
(770) 400-1000
www.piedmont.org

Piedmont Newton Hospital

Covington
(770) 786-7053
www.piedmont.org

Piedmont Rockdale Hospital

Conyers
(770) 918-3000
www.piedmont.org

Hospitals & Health Systems in Georgia

Piedmont Walton Hospital

Monroe
(770) 267-8461
www.piedmont.org

Putnam General Hospital

Eatonton
(706) 485-2711
www.putnamgeneral.com

Redmond Regional Medical Center

Rome
(706) 291-0291
redmondregional.com

Regency Hospital of South Atlanta

East Point
(404) 466-4600
southatlanta.selectspecialtyhospitals.com

Regency Macon

Macon
(478) 803-7300
macon.regencyhospital.com

Ridgeview Institute Smyrna

Smyrna
(844) 350-8800
ridgeviewinstitute.com/smyrna

Ridgeview Institute Monroe

Monroe
(844) 350-8800
ridgeviewinstitute.com/monroe

RiverWoods Behavioral Health System

Riverdale
(770) 766-3367
www.riverwoodsbehavioral.com

Roosevelt Warm Springs Rehabilitation Hospital

Warm Springs
(706) 655-5255
www.augustahealth.org

Saint Simons By-The-Sea

St. Simons
(912) 638-1999
ssbythesea.com

St. Francis Hospital

Columbus
(706) 596-4000
www.mystfrancis.com

St. Joseph's Hospital

Savannah
(912) 819-4100
www.sjchs.org

St. Mary's Good Samaritan Hospital

Greensboro
(706) 453-7331
www.stmarysgoodsam.org

St. Mary's Hospital

Athens
(706) 389-3000
www.stmarysathens.org

St. Mary's Sacred Heart Hospital

Lavonia
(706) 356-7800
www.stmaryssacredheart.org

Select Specialty Hospital Augusta

Augusta
(706) 731-1200
augusta.selectspecialtyhospitals.com

Select Specialty Hospital Midtown

Atlanta
(404) 873-2871
midtownatlanta.selectspecialtyhospitals.com

Select Specialty Hospital Savannah

Savannah
(912) 819-7982
savannah.selectspecialtyhospitals.com

Shepherd Center

Atlanta
(404) 352-2020
www.shepherd.org

Smith Northview Hospital

Valdosta
(229) 671-2000
www.sgmc.org

Southeast Georgia Health System Brunswick Campus

Brunswick
(912) 466-7000
www.sghs.org

Southeast Georgia Health System Camden Campus

St. Marys
(912) 576-6200
www.sghs.org

Southern Crescent Hospital for Specialty Care

Riverdale
(770) 897-7600
www.christushealth.org

Southern Regional Medical Center

Riverdale
(770) 991-8000
www.southernregional.org

South Georgia Medical Center

Valdosta
(229) 433-1000
www.sgmc.org

South Georgia Medical Center Berrien Campus

Nashville
(229) 433-8600
www.sgmc.org

South Georgia Medical Center Lanier Campus

Lakeland
(229) 433-8440
www.sgmc.org

Southwest Georgia Regional Medical Center

Cuthbert
(229) 732-2181
www.southwestgeorgiaregionalmedicalcenter.com

Stephens County Hospital

Toccoa
(706) 282-4200
stephenscountyhospital.com

SummitRidge Hospital

Lawrenceville
(678) 442-5858
www.summitridgehospital.net

Talbott Recovery

Atlanta
(844) 782-7081
talbottcampus.com

Tanner Medical Center Carrollton

Carrollton
(770) 812-9666
www.tanner.org

Tanner Medical Center Villa Rica

Villa Rica
(770) 812-3000
www.tanner.org

Taylor Regional Hospital

Hawkinsville
(478) 783-0200
taylorregional.org

Tift Regional Medical Center

Tifton
(229) 382-7120
www.tiftregional.com

Turning Point Hospital

Moultrie
(229) 985-4815
turningpointcare.com

Union General Hospital

Blairsville
(706) 745-2111
www.uniongeneralhospital.com

University Hospital

Augusta
(706) 722-9011
www.universityhealth.org

University Hospital McDuffie

Thomson
(706) 595-1411
www.universityhealth.org

University Hospital Summerville

Augusta
(706) 481-7000
www.universityhealth.org

Upson Regional Medical Center

Thomaston
(706) 647-8111
www.urmc.org

Walton Rehabilitation Hospital an affiliate of Encompass Health

Augusta
(706) 724-7746
www.encompasshealth.com/waltonrehab

Warm Springs Medical Center

Warm Springs
(706) 655-3331
www.warmspringsmc.org

Washington County Regional Medical Center

Sandersville
(478) 240-2000
www.wcrmc.com

Wayne Memorial Hospital

Jesup
(912) 427-6811
wmhweb.com

WellStar Atlanta Medical Center

Atlanta
(404) 265-4000
www.wellstar.org

WellStar Atlanta Medical Center South

East Point
(404) 466-1170
www.wellstar.org

WellStar Cobb Hospital

Austell
(470) 732-4000
www.wellstar.org

WellStar Douglas Hospital

Douglasville
(770) 949-1500
www.wellstar.org

WellStar Kennestone Hospital

Marietta
(770) 793-5000
www.wellstar.org

WellStar North Fulton Hospital

Roswell
(770) 751-2500
www.wellstar.org

WellStar Paulding Hospital

Hiram
(470) 644-7000
www.wellstar.org

WellStar Spalding Regional Hospital

Griffin
(770) 228-2721
www.wellstar.org

WellStar Sylvan Grove Hospital

Jackson
(770) 775-7861
www.wellstar.org

WellStar West Georgia Medical Center

LaGrange
(706) 882-1411
www.wellstar.org

WellStar Windy Hill Hospital

Marietta
(770) 644-1000
www.wellstar.org

West Central Georgia Regional Hospital

Columbus
(706) 568-5000
dbhdd.georgia.gov

Willingway Hospital

Statesboro
(800) 242-9455
willingway.com

Willowbrooke at Tanner

Villa Rica
(770) 812-3266
www.tanner.org

Wills Memorial Hospital

Washington
(706) 678-2151
www.willsmemorialhospital.com

Winn Army Community Hospital

Fort Stewart
(800) 652-9221
winn.amedd.army.mil

Youth Villages Inner Harbor Campus

Douglasville
(770) 852-6300
www.youthvillages.org

Index

- A**
ABOC: American Board of Opticianry Certification 107
acupuncturist 10, 11, 112, 123, 125, 140
AEMT: Advanced Emergency Medical Technician 40, 45
AHEC: Area Health Education Center 1, 2, 4, 5, 7, 75, 111, 140
AHIP: Academy of Health Information Professionals 26
allopathic physician - SEE DOCTOR OF MEDICINE
anesthesiologist - SEE DOCTOR OF MEDICINE/DOCTOR OF OSTEOPATHIC MEDICINE
anesthesiologist assistant 38, 39, 112, 125, 129, 140
applied exercise physiologist - SEE EXERCISE PHYSIOLOGIST
APRN: Advanced Practice Registered Nurse 61, 63, 65, 66, 118, 141
art therapist 93, 112, 120, 125
ATC: Athletic Trainer, Certified 91
athletic trainer 90, 91, 112, 120, 125–128, 130, 140
ATR: Registered Art Therapist 93
ATR-BC: Board Certified Art Therapist 93
audiologist 90, 92, 102, 112, 120, 140
- B**
BC-DMT: Board Certified Dance/Movement Therapist 93, 140
behavioral disorder counselor - SEE COUNSELOR
BIET: Biomedical Imaging Equipment Technician 88
biomedical engineer 86, 87, 112, 120, 125, 127, 130, 140
biomedical equipment technician 86, 88, 112, 120, 140
biostatistician 73, 74, 112, 120, 123, 125, 126, 130, 140
BMD: Biomedical Electronics Technician 88
BSN: Bachelor of Science in Nursing 61, 63, 65, 66, 69, 120, 140
- C**
CAA: Certified Anesthesiologist Assistant 39, 140
CAGS: Certificate of Advanced Graduate Study 6
CAHIMS: Certified Associate in Healthcare Information 23
CAP: Certified Autonomics Professional 44
cardiovascular perfusionist - SEE PERFUSIONIST
cardiovascular technologist 79, 80, 112, 120, 140
career counselor - SEE COUNSELOR
CBET: Certified Biomedical Equipment Technician 88
CCA: Certified Coding Associate 27, 141
CCC-A: Certificate of Clinical Competence in Audiology 92, 141
CCS: Certified Coding Specialist 27
CCS-P: Certified Coding Specialist - Physician-based 27
CCC-SLP: Certificate of Clinical Competence in Speech Language Pathology 102
CCE: Certified Clinical Engineer 87
CCP: Certified Clinical Perfusionist 46, 141
CDA: Certified Dental Assistant 15, 140
CEP: Certified Clinical Exercise Physiologist 94
CG(ASCP): Cytogenetic Technologist 34, 140
CGC: Certified Genetic Counselor 56, 140
CHDA: Certified Health Data Analyst 23
CHDS: Certified Healthcare Documentation Specialist 30
CHES: Certified Health Education Specialist 78
CHI: Certified Healthcare Interpreter 43
chiropractor 10, 12, 112, 116, 127, 140
CIC: Certification in Infection Prevention and Control 77
CIC: Certified Inpatient Coder 27
CIH: Certified Industrial Hygienist 76
CLES: Certified Laboratory Equipment Specialist 88
clinical exercise physiologist - SEE EXERCISE PHYSIOLOGIST
clinical informaticist/informatics specialist - SEE HEALTH INFORMATICS PROFESSIONAL
clinical laboratory scientist 8, 31, 32, 33, 37, 112, 116, 123, 125, 126, 129, 140
clinical laboratory technician 8, 31, 32, 33, 112, 116, 122, 124–126, 128, 129, 131, 140
clinical nurse specialist 60, 61, 112, 118, 120, 140
clinical psychologist - SEE PSYCHOLOGIST
clinical social worker - SEE SOCIAL WORKER
CLTM: Certified Long Term Monitoring Technologist 44
CMA: Certified Medical Assistant 42, 141
CMAA: Certified Medical Administrative Assistant 29
CMAS: Certified Medical Administrative Specialist 29
CMD: Certified Medical Dosimetrist 82, 141
CMI: Certified Medical Illustrator 28, 141
CMI: Certified Medical Interpreter 43, 141
CNA: Certified Nursing Assistant/Certified Nurse Aide 67, 110
CNCT: Certified Nerve Conduction Technologist 44
CNE: Certified Nurse Educator 64, 141
CNIM: Certified Neurophysiologic Intraoperative Monitoring Technologist 44
CNM: Certified Nurse Midwife 65, 141
CNMT: Certified Nuclear Medicine Technologist 83
CNS: Clinical Nurse Specialist 61, 141
CO: Certified Orthotist 97
COC: Certified Outpatient Coder 27
community health worker 73, 75, 112, 128, 140
complementary medicine 10, 116
COTA: Certified Occupational Therapist Assistant 96, 141
counseling psychologist - SEE PSYCHOLOGIST
counselor 8, 54, 55, 112, 118–130, 140
CP: Certified Prosthetist 97
CPC: Certified Professional Coder 27
CPH: Certified in Public Health 77
CPHI: Certified Professional in Health Informatics 23
CPHIMS: Certified Professional in Healthcare Information 23
CPHT: Certified Pharmacy Technician 72, 141
CPO: Certified Prosthetist-Orthotist 97, 141
CPSGT: Certified Polysomnographic Technician 48
CRC: Certified Rehabilitation Counselor 55, 140
creative arts therapist 90, 93, 120, 140
CRES: Certified Radiology Equipment Specialist 88
CRNA: Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist 63, 141
CRT: Certified Respiratory Therapist 141
CST: Certified Surgical Technologist 49, 141
CT(ASCP): Cytotechnologist 35
CTRS: Certified Therapeutic Recreation Specialist 100, 141
CVT: Cardiovascular Technologist 80
cytogenetic technologist 31, 34, 112, 116, 127, 140
cytotechnologist 31, 35, 112, 116, 140
- D**
dance/movement therapist 93, 112
DC: Doctor of Chiropractic 12, 140
DDS: Doctor of Dental Surgery 17
dental assistant 8, 14, 15, 112, 116, 122–126, 128–131, 140
dental hygienist 8, 14, 16, 112, 116, 122–125, 127–130, 140
dentist 6, 14–16, 17, 112, 116, 120, 123, 140
dentistry 6, 14, 15, 116, 120, 140
diagnostic medical sonographer 79, 81, 112, 120, 122–124, 126–128, 140
dietetics 18–20, 116
dietetic technician 18, 19, 112, 116, 140
dietitian 18, 19, 20, 102, 112, 116, 123, 126, 127, 130, 140
Dipl. Ac.: Diplomat of Acupuncture 11
DMD: Doctor of Dental Medicine 6, 17, 140
DO: Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine 52
doctor of medicine 8, 50, 51, 112, 118, 120, 123, 125, 127, 128, 140
doctor of osteopathic medicine 8, 50, 52, 112, 118, 120, 128, 140
doctor of podiatric medicine 53
doctor of veterinary medicine 104
dosimetrist - SEE MEDICAL DOSIMETRIST
DPM: Doctor of Podiatric Medicine 53, 141
drama therapist 93, 112
DrPH: Doctor of Public Health 77
DTR: Dietetic Technician, Registered 19, 140
DVM: Doctorate of Veterinary Medicine 104, 141
- E**
educational counselor - SEE COUNSELOR
electroneurodiagnostic technologist - SEE NEURODIAGNOSTIC TECHNOLOGIST
emergency medical technician 8, 38, 40, 45, 112, 122, 124–126, 128, 129, 140
EMT: Emergency Medical Technician 8, 40, 45, 69
engineering 86, 87, 120
environmental health specialist 73, 76, 112, 118, 120, 123, 125, 126, 130, 131, 140
EP-C: Certified Exercise Physiologist 94
EPC: Exercise Physiologist Certified 94
epidemiologist 73, 77, 112, 120, 125, 126, 130, 140
exercise physiologist 90, 94, 112, 122–128, 130, 140
- F**
family medicine practitioner - SEE DOCTOR OF MEDICINE/DOCTOR OF OSTEOPATHIC MEDICINE
FNP: Family Nurse Practitioner 140
- G**
genetic counselor 54, 56, 112, 125, 140
geneticist 86, 89, 112, 120, 125, 130, 140
GP: General Practitioner - SEE DOCTOR OF MEDICINE/DOCTOR OF OSTEOPATHIC MEDICINE
GStat: Graduate Statistician 74
guidance counselor - SEE COUNSELOR
gynecologist - SEE DOCTOR OF MEDICINE/DOCTOR OF OSTEOPATHIC MEDICINE
- H**
health administration 21, 26, 116
healthcare administrator 8, 21, 22, 112, 116, 122–128, 130, 141
healthcare documentation specialist - SEE MEDICAL TRANSCRIPTIONIST
healthcare executive - SEE HEALTHCARE ADMINISTRATOR
healthcare interpreter/translator - SEE MEDICAL INTERPRETER
healthcare manager - SEE HEALTHCARE ADMINISTRATOR
healthcare social worker - SEE SOCIAL WORKER
health educator 8, 73, 78, 112, 118–128, 130, 141
health informatics professional 8, 21, 23, 112, 116, 123, 124, 126, 127, 141
health information administrator 8, 21, 24, 112, 116, 123, 125, 126, 141
health information coder - SEE MEDICAL CODER
health information manager - SEE HEALTH INFORMATION ADMINISTRATOR
health information services 21, 116
health information technician 8, 21, 25, 112, 116, 122, 123, 126–129, 131, 141
health information technology - SEE HEALTH INFORMATION SERVICES
health inspector - SEE ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SPECIALIST
health sciences librarian 21, 26, 113, 116, 130, 141
health services manager - SEE HEALTHCARE ADMINISTRATOR
histology technician - SEE HISTOTECHNICIAN
histotechnician 31, 36, 112, 116, 122, 141
histotechnologist 31, 36, 112, 116, 141
home care aide - SEE HOME HEALTH AIDE
home health aide 8, 38, 41, 112, 141
HOSA: Future Health Professionals 109, 111, 115
hospitalist - SEE DOCTOR OF MEDICINE/DOCTOR OF OSTEOPATHIC MEDICINE
HS-BCP: Human Services Board Certified Practitioner 57
HSTE: Healthcare Science Technology Education 109, 110, 115
HT: Histotechnician 36, 141
HTL: Histotechnologist 36
human services worker 8, 54, 57, 112, 118, 122, 124–130, 141
- I**
imaging science 79, 120
industrial hygienist - SEE ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SPECIALIST
integrative medicine 10, 116
internist - SEE DOCTOR OF MEDICINE/DOCTOR OF OSTEOPATHIC MEDICINE
- L**
laboratory science 31, 116
LAc: Licensed Acupuncturist 11, 140
LCSW: Licensed Clinical Social Worker 59, 141

LDO: Licensed Dispensing Optician 107, 141
licensed practical nurse 8, 60, **62**, 67, 68, 112, 118, 122–129, 131, 141
licensed vocational nurse - SEE LICENSED PRACTICAL NURSE
LMSW: Licensed Master Social Worker 59
LMT: Licensed Massage Therapist 13, 141
LPC: Licensed Professional Counselor 55, 140, 141
LPN: Licensed Practical Nurse 62, 69

M

marriage and family therapist - SEE COUNSELOR
massage therapist 8, 10, **13**, 112, 116, 122–131, 141
MBA: Master of Business Administration 6, 141
MCHES: Masters Certified Health Education Specialist 78
MD: Doctor of Medicine 6, 51, 130, 140
medical administrative assistant - SEE MEDICAL SECRETARY
medical assistant 8, 38, **42**, 112, 116, 122–131, 141
medical coder 21, **27**, 112, 116, 122–124, 126–130, 141
medical dosimetrist 79, **82**, 112, 120, 141
medical illustrator 21, **28**, 113, 116, 123, 141
medical interpreter 38, **43**, 112, 126, 127, 130, 141
medical laboratory scientist/technician - SEE CLINICAL LABORATORY SCIENTIST/TECHNICIAN
medical laboratory technologist - SEE CLINICAL LABORATORY SCIENTIST
medical language specialist - SEE MEDICAL TRANSCRIPTIONIST
medical librarian - SEE HEALTH SCIENCES LIBRARIAN
medical office assistant - SEE MEDICAL SECRETARY
medical records administrator - SEE HEALTH INFORMATION ADMINISTRATOR
medical records technician - SEE HEALTH INFORMATION TECHNICIAN
medical secretary 8, 21, **29**, 112, 122, 124–130, 141
medical services manager - SEE HEALTHCARE ADMINISTRATOR
medical support 38, 116
medical technologist - SEE CLINICAL LABORATORY SCIENTIST
medical transcriptionist 21, **30**, 112, 126, 129, 131, 141
medicine 50, 120
mental health counselor - SEE COUNSELOR
mental health services 54, 118, 120
midwife - SEE NURSE MIDWIFE
MLS: Medical Laboratory Scientist 32, 140
MLT: Medical Laboratory Technician 33
MPH: Master of Public Health 6, 77, 140
MS: Master of Science 6, 140, 141
MSCR: Master of Science in Clinical Research 6
MSN: Master of Science in Nursing 61, 69, 141
MSPH: Master of Science in Public Health 77
MT: Medical Technologist 32
MT-BC: Music Therapist - Board Certified 93, 140
music therapist 93, 113, 120, 125, 130

N

NCC: National Certified Counselor 141
NCLEC: National Contact Lens Certification 107
NCSP: Nationally Certified School Psychologist 58
NCTMB: Nationally Certified in Therapeutic Massage and Bodywork 13
NDTR: Nutrition and Dietetic Technician, Registered 19
neurodiagnostic technologist 38, **44**, 112, 116, 141
NP: Nurse Practitioner 66
NREMT-P: Nationally Registered Emergency Medical Technician-Paramedics 45, 140
nuclear medicine technologist 79, **83**, 113, 116, 123, 126, 141
nurse - SEE CLINICAL NURSE SPECIALIST, LICENSED PRACTICAL NURSE, NURSE ANESTHETIST, NURSE EDUCATOR, NURSE MIDWIFE, NURSE PRACTITIONER, AND REGISTERED NURSE
nurse aide - SEE NURSING ASSISTANT
nurse anesthetist 60, **63**, 64, 68, 113, 118, 120, 123, 125, 141
nurse educator 60, **64**, 68, 113, 118, 120, 122–124, 126, 127, 129, 130, 141
nurse midwife 60, 64, **65**, 113, 118, 120, 125, 141
nurse practitioner 8, 60, **66**, 113, 118–127, 130, 141
nursing 26, 56, 60–69, 110, 115, 118
nursing assistant 8, 60, 62, **67**, 68, 110, 112, 122–131, 141

nutritionist - SEE DIETITIAN

O

obstetrician - SEE DOCTOR OF MEDICINE/DOCTOR OF OSTEOPATHIC MEDICINE
occupational health and safety inspector/specialist - SEE ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SPECIALIST
occupational therapist 8, 90, **95**, 96, 102, 113, 120, 123, 126, 141
occupational therapy assistant 90, **96**, 112, 120, 122–124, 127, 141
OD: Doctor of Optometry 108, 141
oncologist - SEE DOCTOR OF MEDICINE/DOCTOR OF OSTEOPATHIC MEDICINE
ophthalmologist - SEE DOCTOR OF MEDICINE/DOCTOR OF OSTEOPATHIC MEDICINE
optician 106, **107**, 112, 126, 128, 131, 141
optometrist 106, 107, **108**, 113, 120, 141
orthotist 90, **97**, 113, 120, 125, 141
optometric physician - SEE OPTOMETRIST
osteopathic physician - SEE DOCTOR OF OSTEOPATHIC MEDICINE
OTA: Occupational Therapy Assistant 96
OT: Occupational Therapist 95
OTR: Registered Occupational Therapist 95, 141

P

PA-C: Physician Assistant-Certified 47, 141
paramedic 8, 38, **45**, 112, 122–126, 128, 129, 131, 140
pediatrician - SEE DOCTOR OF MEDICINE/DOCTOR OF OSTEOPATHIC MEDICINE
perfusionist 38, **46**, 113, 141
personal care aide 38, **41**, 112, 141
pharmacist 8, 70, **71**, 72, 113, 118, 120, 127–130, 141
pharmacy 70–72, 115, 118
pharmacy technician 8, 70, **72**, 112, 122–125, 127–130, 141
PharmD: Doctor of Pharmacy 6, 71
PhD: Doctor of Philosophy 6, 55, 77, 140, 141
phlebotomist 8, 31, **37**, 112, 116, 122–129, 131, 141
physical therapist 8, 90, **98**, 99, 102, 113, 120, 123, 125–128, 130, 141
physical therapist assistant 8, 90, **99**, 112, 120, 122–124, 127, 129, 141
physician - SEE DOCTOR OF MEDICINE, DOCTOR OF OSTEOPATHIC MEDICINE, AND PODIATRIST
physician assistant 8, 38, **47**, 113, 116, 123, 125, 127–129, 141
podiatrist 42, 50, **53**, 113, 120, 141
polysomnographic technologist 38, **48**, 112, 124, 129, 141
primary care 4, 5, 6, 51, 52, 66, 118
prosthetist 90, **97**, 113, 120, 125, 141
PStat: Accredited Professional Statistician 74
psychiatrist - SEE DOCTOR OF MEDICINE/DOCTOR OF OSTEOPATHIC MEDICINE
psychologist 8, 54, **58**, 92, 113, 118, 120, 122, 125–127, 130, 141
PT: Physical Therapist 98, 141
PTA: Physical Therapist Assistant 99
public health 7, 11, 15–17, 19, 20, 22, 23, 26, 29, 32–34, 36, 37, 40, 43, 51–53, 56, 57, 61–63, 65, 66, 68, 71, 73–78, 85, 89, 92, 101–104, 108, 115, 118, 120

R

radiation therapist 79, **84**, 113, 123, 126, 141
radiographer - SEE RADIOLOGIC TECHNOLOGIST
radiologic science 79, 120
radiologic technologist 8, 79, 81–84, **85**, 113, 120, 122–131, 141
radiologist - SEE DOCTOR OF MEDICINE/DOCTOR OF OSTEOPATHIC MEDICINE
RCEP: Registered Clinical Exercise Physiologist 94
RCES: Registered Cardiac Electrophysiology Specialist 80
RCIS: Registered Cardiovascular Invasive Specialist 80, 140
RCS: Registered Cardiac Sonographer 80
RD: Registered Dietitian 20, 140
RDCS: Registered Diagnostic Cardiac Sonographer 80
RDH: Registered Dental Hygienist 16
RDMS: Registered Diagnostic Medical Sonographer 81, 140

R-DMT: Registered Dance/Movement Therapist 93
RDT: Registered Drama Therapist 93, 140
recreational therapist 90, **100**, 113, 126, 141
R. EEG T.: Registered Electro-encephalograph Technologist 44, 141
registered nurse 8, 60–67, **68**, 113, 118–131, 141
rehabilitation 12, 18, 20, 24, 26, 43, 51, 52, 55, 58, 59, 61, 68, 90–102, 104, 105, 108, 120, 133–136
rehabilitation counselor - SEE COUNSELOR
R. EP T.: Registered Evoked Potentials Technologist 44
respiratory therapist 8, 48, 90, **101**, 113, 120, 122, 124–129, 141
RHDS: Registered Healthcare Documentation Specialist 30
RHES/RS: Registered Environmental Health Specialist/Registered Sanitarian 76
RHIA: Registered Health Information Administrator 24, 141
RHIT: Registered Health Information Technician 25
RMA: Registered Medical Assistant 42
RN: Registered Nurse 68, 69, 141
RNCST: Registered Nerve Conduction Study Technologist 44
RPSGT: Registered Polysomnographic Technologist 48, 141
RRT: Registered Respiratory Therapist 101, 140, 141
RST: Registered Sleep Technologist 48
RT: Respiratory Therapist 101
RT(N): Registered Technologist, Nuclear 83, 141
RT(R): Registered Technologist, Radiography 85, 141
RT(S): Registered Technologist, Sonography 81
RT(T): Registered Technologist, Radiation Therapy 84, 141
rural health 4, 47, 51, 63, 65, 66, 116, 118
RVS: Registered Vascular Specialist 80
RVT: Registered Vascular Technologist 80, 140
RVT: Registered Veterinary Technician 105, 140
RVIT: Registered Veterinary Technologist 141

S

school counselor - SEE COUNSELOR
school psychologist - SEE PSYCHOLOGIST
science 86, 120
scribe - SEE MEDICAL TRANSCRIPTIONIST
sleep technologist - SEE POLYSOMNOGRAPHIC TECHNOLOGIST
SLP: Speech-Language Pathologist 102
social service assistant/technician - SEE HUMAN SERVICES WORKER
social services 54, 75, 118
social worker 8, 54, 57, **59**, 102, 113, 118, 122–130, 141
sonographer - SEE DIAGNOSTIC MEDICAL SONOGRAPHER
speech-language pathologist 8, 90, 92, **102**, 113, 120, 126, 130, 141
substance abuse counselor - SEE COUNSELOR
surgeon - SEE DOCTOR OF MEDICINE/DOCTOR OF OSTEOPATHIC MEDICINE
surgical technologist 8, 38, **49**, 112, 116, 122–124, 126–130, 141

T

therapeutic recreation specialist - SEE RECREATIONAL THERAPIST
therapist - SEE COUNSELOR
therapy 6, 10–13, 19, 42, 52, 53, 62, 65, 71, 82, 84, 85, 90, 93, 95, 96, 98–100, 106, 108, 120
toxicologist - SEE ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SPECIALIST

U

ultrasound technologist - SEE DIAGNOSTIC MEDICAL SONOGRAPHER

V

veterinarian 29, 103, **104**, 105, 113, 120, 130, 141
veterinary medicine 103–105, 120
veterinary technician 8, 103, **105**, 113, 122, 125, 126, 128, 129, 141
veterinary technologist - SEE VETERINARY TECHNICIAN
vision care 106, 120
vocational counselor - SEE COUNSELOR
VTS: Veterinary Technician Specialist 105, 141

Acknowledgments

Foothills Area Health Education Center (AHEC) is pleased to present the 11th edition of *Health Careers in Georgia*. This publication is produced through the partnership of the Georgia Statewide AHEC Network consisting of six centers with support from the Georgia Department of Community Health and the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Health Resources and Services Administration.

Many community and academic partners contributed time, expertise, and resources in producing this publication for the current and future healthcare workforce. Various content, photos, and/or layout ideas were provided by staff from other Georgia AHECs, Jeremy Whigham Design, the Georgia Department of Labor, the Georgia Health Information & Management Association, the American Society for Cytotechnology, the American Association of Sleep Technologists, the American Music Therapy Association, *Emory Medicine*, the *Albany Herald*, Albany Area Primary Health Care, and Dru Nadler Photography.

We appreciate all of the expert readers listed below for reviewing and editing the content of each career page and thereby enabling us to produce an accurate and reliable guide.

EXPERT READERS

ACUPUNCTURIST: Mark S. McKenzie, PhD, MsOM, LAc – Accreditation Commission for Acupuncture & Oriental Medicine

ANESTHESIOLOGIST ASSISTANT: Katherine S. Monroe, PhD, CAA – Emory University

ATHLETIC TRAINER: Abbey Dondanville, EdD, ATC – Piedmont College

AUDIOLOGIST: Kate Marr, AuD – Georgia Academy of Audiology

BIOMEDICAL ENGINEER: Joanna Thomas, PhD – Mercer University

BIOMEDICAL EQUIPMENT TECHNICIAN: Thomas Wesley, MSIT, BMET – Coastal Pines Technical College

BIostatistician: Steve Rathbun, PhD – University of Georgia

CARDIOVASCULAR TECHNOLOGIST: Kristen Buoy, RRT, RCIS – Gwinnett Technical College

CHIROPRACTOR: Leslie M. King, MEd, DC – Life University

CLINICAL LABORATORY SCIENTIST: Charlotte Bates, MEd, MLS(ASCP) – Georgia Southern University

CLINICAL LABORATORY TECHNICIAN: Lydia Wilkinson, MLS(ASCP), MEd – North Georgia Technical College

CLINICAL NURSE SPECIALIST: Eva M. Horne, PhD, MN, BSN, FNP-BC – Georgia State University

COMMUNITY HEALTH WORKER: Lisa Renee Holderby-Fox, CHW

COUNSELOR: Kristina Henderson, PhD, LPC, CRC, CPCS – Mercer University

CREATIVE ARTS THERAPIST: Chesley S. Mercado, EdD, MT-BC – Georgia College & State University; Dawn Morningstar, BC-DMT, LPC – American Dance Therapy Association; Jeremy Pleasant-Segall, MA, RDT, LCAT – North American Drama Therapy Association

CYTOGENETIC TECHNOLOGIST: Sally J. Kochmar, MS, CG(ASCP) – Association of Genetic Technologists

CYTOTECHNOLOGIST: Deborah MacIntyre Sheldon – American Society of Cytopathology

DENTAL ASSISTANT: Lindsey Evans, BS, RDH, CDA – Central Georgia Technical College

DENTAL HYGIENIST: Susan I. Duley, RDH, EdD, LPC – Clayton State University

DENTIST: Mike Rossitch, DMD – Rossitch Pediatric Dentistry

DIAGNOSTIC MEDICAL SONOGRAPHER: Kim Strong, BA, AS, RDMS, RVT – Gwinnett Technical College

DIETETIC TECHNICIAN: Kristy Cirami, DTR – WellStar Health System

DIETITIAN: Amy Jo Riggs, PhD, RD – Georgia Southern University

DOCTOR OF MEDICINE: Theodore Johnson, MD, MPH – Emory University

DOCTOR OF OSTEOPATHIC MEDICINE: American Association of Colleges of Osteopathic Medicine

EMERGENCY MEDICAL TECHNICIAN & PARAMEDIC: Phillip Tucker, BA, NREMT-P – Georgia Northwestern Technical College

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SPECIALIST: Oreta Samples, RVT, MPH, DHSc – Fort Valley State University

EPIDEMIOLOGIST: Jessica Smith Schwind, PhD, MPH, CPH – Georgia Southern University

EXERCISE PHYSIOLOGIST: Catalina Casaru, PhD – Georgia Southwestern State University

GENETIC COUNSELOR: Cecelia A. Bellcross, PhD, MS, CGC – Emory University

GENETICIST: Rodney Mauricio, PhD – University of Georgia

HEALTHCARE ADMINISTRATOR: David Au, PhD – Valdosta State University

HEALTH EDUCATOR: Joy Thomas, DPH – Columbus State University

HEALTH INFORMATICS PROFESSIONAL: Lee McKinley, MBA, RHIA – College of Coastal Georgia

HEALTH INFORMATION ADMINISTRATOR: Lori Prince, MSA, RHIA, CCS – Augusta University

HEALTH INFORMATION TECHNICIAN: Misty C. Neal, MBA, RHIA – Albany State University

HEALTH SCIENCES LIBRARIAN: Anita Ondrusek, PhD – Valdosta State University

HISTOTECHNICIAN & HISTOTECHNOLOGIST: Taiquanda Winbush, BS, HT(ASCP) – Albany State University

HOME HEALTH AIDE & PERSONAL CARE AIDE: Reid Wilson – CSRA Private Duty, Inc.

HUMAN SERVICES WORKER: Nadia Glover Barnett, LPC, NCC, CPCS – Mercer University

LICENSED PRACTICAL NURSE: Jennifer Baker, MSN – Chattahoochee Technical College

MASSAGE THERAPIST: Starla White, LMT, NMT, MMP – Wiregrass Georgia Technical College

MEDICAL ASSISTANT: Sherry H. Harrison, CMA(AAMA), AAS – Southern Regional Technical College

MEDICAL CODER: Angela Wright, MBA, RMA – Central Georgia Technical College

MEDICAL DOSIMETRIST: Claire Skowronski, MS, RT(R)(T), CMD – 21st Century Oncology, Inc.

MEDICAL ILLUSTRATOR: Amanda Y. Behr, MA, CMI, CCA, FAMI – Augusta University

MEDICAL INTERPRETER: Grace Seoyoung Cruz, CMI – Medical Interpreter Network of Georgia

MEDICAL SECRETARY: Angela Wright, MBA, RMA – Central Georgia Technical College

MEDICAL TRANSCRIPTIONIST: Angela Wright, MBA, RMA – Central Georgia Technical College

NEURODIAGNOSTIC TECHNOLOGIST: Sarah Hess, DEL, RPSGT, R. EEG T., RST – University of North Carolina

NUCLEAR MEDICINE TECHNOLOGIST: Rochelle Bornett Lee, ABD, MBA, RT(N), ARRT – Georgia Southern University

NURSE ANESTHETIST: Kelly L. Wiltse Nicely, PhD, CRNA – Emory University

NURSE EDUCATOR: Sharon Chalmers, PhD, CNE, APRN-BC, FNP – University of North Georgia

NURSE MIDWIFE: Jennifer Foster, PhD, MPH, CNM, FACNM, FAAN – Emory University

NURSE PRACTITIONER: Amy Malcom, DNP, APRN, FNP-BC – Brenau University

NURSING ASSISTANT: Amy Ravotti, RN – Athens Technical College

OCCUPATIONAL THERAPIST: Pamalyn Kearney, EdD, OTR/L – Augusta University

OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY ASSISTANT: Amy Shaffer, MA, COTA/L – Chattahoochee Technical College

OPTICIAN: Lisa Griffin, LDO, BAS – Wiregrass Georgia Technical College

OPTOMETRIST: Shara Draper Mays, OD – TrueVision Eyecare

ORTHOTIST & PROSTHETIST: Gerald Stark, PhD, MSEM, CPO/L, FAAOP(D) – Georgia Institute of Technology

PERFUSIONIST: Cynthia P. Cervantes, MHSA, CCP – Barry University

PHARMACIST: Michael Lee, PhD – Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine

PHARMACY TECHNICIAN: Pedro Valentin, MBA, CPhT – Columbus Technical College

PHLEBOTOMIST: Christy Smith, BHCM, CCHT, RMA – Southern Crescent Technical College

PHYSICAL THERAPIST ASSISTANT: Stephanie Puffer, PT, DPT, PCS – Chattahoochee Technical College

PHYSICAL THERAPIST: Sue Ann S. Kalish, PT, DPT, OCS, Dip SOMM – University of North Georgia

PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT: James W. Becker, MS, HsA, PA-C – Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine

PODIATRIST: Mike Laur, DPM – Village Podiatry

POLYSOMNOGRAPHIC TECHNOLOGIST: Mark Parrish, CRT, RPSGT, RST – Central Georgia Technical College

PSYCHOLOGIST: Hamid Mirsalimi, PhD, ABPP – Argosy University

RADIATION THERAPIST: Kevin Kindle, MBA, RT(T) – Grady Health System Schools of Radiation & Imaging Technologies

RADIOLOGIC TECHNOLOGIST: Betsy Kerr, BMSc, RT(R) – Grady Health System Schools of Radiation & Imaging Technologies

RECREATIONAL THERAPIST: Brent D. Wolfe, PhD, CTRS – Georgia Southern University

REGISTERED NURSE: Tamara Condrey, DNP, RN, CNS, CCRN, CNE – Columbus State University

RESPIRATORY THERAPIST: Teri Miller, MEd, RRT – Middle Georgia State University

SOCIAL WORKER: Irene Searles McClatchey, PhD, LCSW – Kennesaw State University

SPEECH-LANGUAGE PATHOLOGIST: Sandie Bass-Ringdahl, PhD, CCC-A – University of Georgia

SURGICAL TECHNOLOGIST: Ashley Lake, CST, BAS – West Georgia Technical College

VETERINARIAN: Keri Riddick, DVM – Georgia Veterinary Medical Association

VETERINARY TECHNICIAN: Ryan Cheek, RVTg, VTS(ECC) – Gwinnett Technical College



Georgia Statewide
AHEC Network