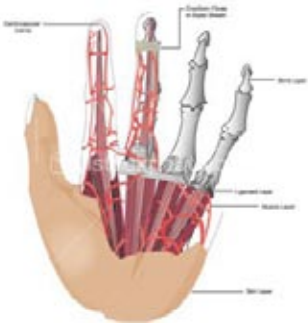




Georgia HOSA's Spotlight on Careers in Healthcare

Medical Illustrator

Medical professions are unique in that they are not only a science, but an art as well. Take a look in one of your healthcare science textbooks. On the majority of the pages, there is a very detailed, colorful, and intricately designed drawing of some medical process or condition. There is actually a specific profession for creating those drawings, and it is called Medical Illustration.



Medical Illustrators are employed by textbook companies, magazine

companies, journals, and educational film corporations, and sometimes, they are even called upon to draft model prostheses for patients with deformed or missing limbs! Their drawing subjects can range anywhere from microorganisms to the structure and function of the Human Nervous System.

Students wishing to pursue a career as a Medical Illustrator should enroll in a high school college preparatory program that emphasizes art and science. In college, students should major in art and minor in science or major in science and minor in art while also enrolling in a pre-medical program. In order to obtain certification, a Medical Illustrator must obtain a graduate degree in medical illustration, undergo a portfolio review, and successfully complete a national examination. The majority of Medical Illustrators have obtained master's degrees in the field from a program that is accredited by Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Educational Programs. The average income of a Medical Illustrator is \$54,000 per year.

Want to know more? Check out the Association of Medical Illustrators at <http://www.medical-illustrators.org>.



Epidemiologist

Most people associate medical careers as direct contact careers, where medical professionals study individuals and their specific conditions. But what about those who study the population as a whole?

Epidemiologists are the census workers of the medical world; they measure the incidence of disease occurrence in the population and relate that with environment and lifestyles. Epidemiologists are employed by various universities, government agencies, international organizations, and private corporations where they perform research, public health practice, and education on disease frequency. Other than researching chronic diseases, infectious diseases, disease outbreaks, injuries, occupations, and environments, epidemiologists are constantly developing and recommending public health policies, such as one would find in restaurants and medical facilities.

Epidemiologists can be separated into two groups—research and clinical. Research epidemiologists conduct research in an effort to control infectious diseases that affect the entire body, such as AIDS. Others may focus only on localized infections of the brain, lungs, or digestive tract. Clinical epidemiologists work primarily in consulting roles at hospitals, informing the medical staff of infectious outbreaks and providing containment solutions. These epidemiologists sometimes are referred to as infection control professionals, and are employed by the Center for Disease Control (CDC).

Students wishing to become an epidemiologist should take a college preparatory program with a strong influence in math and biology. The minimum degree of an Epidemiologist is a master's in Public Health, and the average salary ranges from \$30,000 to \$50,000. Interested? Check out <http://www.apic.org> for more information!



Orthotist and Prosthetist

Most people entering the medical field are fascinated not only by medicine itself, but on some other underlying focus such as mechanics, social interacting, research, or various others. One focusing on social interacting could become a nurse, a pediatrician, or a psychiatrist, and one leaning toward research could become a lab technician, a geneticist, or an epidemiologist. But one concentrating on mechanics can become an Orthotist, a Prosthetist, or both.

Prosthetists design and make replacement limbs. Orthotists work with patients that need extra support for their muscles, spine, or limbs. Both design, make, and fit apparatuses made of plastic, wood, leather, and metal that help stabilize, strengthen or replace body parts. They also make and fit devices that help to align limbs that have grown in a crooked manner. Both are careers in medicine with strong mechanical influences. High school students wishing to pursue a career as either of the above should enroll in a college preparatory program with strong science and mathematic influence. Some colleges and universities offer bachelor degrees in orthotic and prosthetic programs. These programs include courses in anatomy, physics, mathematics, mechanical drawing, and the use of materials used in the making of devices. After a year of experience a person may apply for certification. The average Orthotist/Prosthetist makes from \$25,000 to \$40,000 a year! Want to learn more? Go to <http://www.oandp.org/> for more information on these exciting careers!



Health Administrator

If you are not into the direct contact of many health careers, maybe a career in healthcare administration is the right job for you! Healthcare administrators manage and direct hospitals and other healthcare facilities. They are responsible for financial administration, long-range planning, materials management, personnel administration, purchasing, public affairs and patient administration. Some administrators specialize in specific fields like patient administration or purchasing. Health care administrators also work in HMOs, health agencies, clinics, or for private practices.

Students wishing to pursue a career in hospital administration should take challenging high school courses in business, science, math, and English. Most healthcare administrators hold master's degrees in healthcare administration or business administration. So, if the less gory, less full bloody, medical professions is the one for you, then you should look into Hospital Administration! Want to know more? Check out the American College of Healthcare Executives at <http://www.ache.org/>!



Georgia HOSA Officers from left to right are: Zankhana Patel, Parliamentarian; Ashley Weaver, Secretary; Laura Okolie, Secondary Vice President, Jordanna Lundgren, President; Tyanna Allen, President-elect, Rachael Fairhurst, Post-Secondary Vice President; Chemyeeka Tumblyn, Treasurer; and Kimaya Jones, Public Relations Coordinator.