



June 2025

# HEALTH CAREERS GUIDE

*A resource for students, educators, job seekers, and health employers interested in health care information and careers in Mississippi.*

*Through partnerships with educational institutions, health care employers and health care professional organizations, we are working to ensure that the health care needs of Mississippians are cared for by well-trained professionals.*



**MCQW**  
Mississippi Center for  
Quality and Workforce

**HOLD THE CTRL KEY DOWN AND SELECT THE HEALTH CAREER OF INTEREST**

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# CLINICAL LABORATORY SCIENCE

## CYTOGENETIC TECHNOLOGIST: AVERAGE ANNUAL SALARY: \$76,181

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### JOB DESCRIPTION

Cytogenetic technologists evaluate the correct method of collection, transport, and handling of various specimen types for cytogenetic analysis; identify culture techniques based on tissue type and reason for referral; and perform chromosomal staining, microscopic analysis, and karyotyping (organizing chromosomes according to a standardized ideogram). In addition to practicing good general laboratory skills, quality assurance principles, and safety protocols, cytogenetic technologists understand the legal implications of their work environment and exhibit appropriate ethical and professional health care standards while demonstrating professional conduct, stress management, and interpersonal communication skills with patients, peers, other health care personnel, and the public.

### SALARY RANGE

**\$62,742 – \$90,556**

### WORK ENVIRONMENT

- ✓ Hospitals
- ✓ Research Laboratories
- ✓ Private Laboratories
- ✓ Educational Institutions
- ✓ Public Health Facilities
- ✓ Government Facilities

### LICENSURE, CERTIFICATION, REGISTRATION

The Board of Registry of the American Society for Clinical Pathology gives a national certification exam that students take after meeting their academic and laboratory education requirements. Optional certification is also available from the National Credentialing Agency.

### HIGH SCHOOL PREPARATION

Biology, algebra, geometry, chemistry, physics, health education, computer science, English, and physical science.

## COLLEGE REQUIREMENTS

Students usually receive a bachelor's degree from a program accredited by The National Accrediting Agency for Clinical Laboratory Sciences (NAA- CLS). These programs combine classroom work with clinical laboratory rotations.

## PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

### Association of Genetic Technologists

PO Box 19193  
Lenexa, KS 66285  
Phone: (913) 895-4605  
[www.agt-info.org](http://www.agt-info.org)

### American Society for Clinical Pathology

33 West Monroe St  
Chicago, IL 60603  
Phone: (312) 541-4999  
[www.ascp.org](http://www.ascp.org)

### American Society for Clinical Pathology

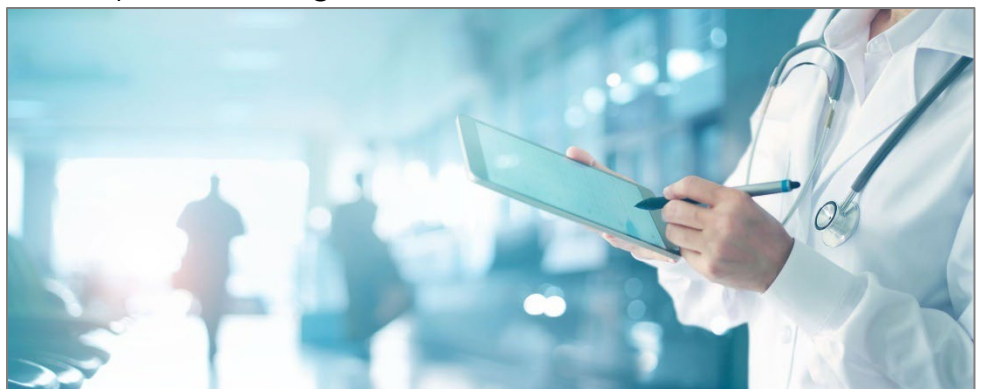
100 West 10th St  
Wilmington, DE 19801  
Phone: (302) 543-6583  
[www.cytopathology.org](http://www.cytopathology.org)

## EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS

- ✓ Blue Mountain Christian University
- ✓ East Mississippi Community College
- ✓ Itawamba Community College
- ✓ Mississippi State University
- ✓ Northwest Mississippi Community College
- ✓ University of Mississippi
- ✓ University of Southern Mississippi

## CAREER OUTLOOK

Employment opportunities for cytogenetic technologists have recently increased. The volume of laboratory tests will increase with population growth and the development of new tests. The rapid growth of the elderly population will be another reason for this growth, since older people tend to have more medical problems that will require more lab work. New advancements in powerful diagnostic tests will also add to a rise in employment in this sector.



# **CYTOLOGIST: Average Annual Salary: \$89,149**

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## **JOB DESCRIPTION**

Cell specimens may be obtained from various body sites, such as the female reproductive tract, the lung, or any body cavity shedding cells. Using special techniques, slides are first prepared from these specimens. Cytotechnologists then examine the slides microscopically, mark cellular changes that are most representative of a disease process, provide an initial interpretation, and submit it to a pathologist for final evaluation. Cytotechnologists can make the final diagnosis for specimens of the female reproductive tract if it is negative for any abnormalities. Using the findings of cytotechnologists, the pathologist is then able, in many instances, to diagnose cancer and other diseases long before they can be detected by other methods. Fine needles have recently been used to aspirate lesions - often deeply seated in the body - thus greatly enhancing the ability to diagnose tumors located in otherwise inaccessible sites. Frequently, cytotechnologists will assist with fine needle aspirations (FNA) by providing an assessment of cellular adequacy and in processing the specimens.

## **SALARY RANGE**

**\$42,140-\$153,420**

## **WORK ENVIRONMENT**

- ✓ Clinics Hospitals
- ✓ Private Laboratories
- ✓ Research Laboratories
- ✓ Educational Institutions
- ✓ Public Health Facilities
- ✓ Government Facilities

## **LICENSURE, CERTIFICATION, REGISTRATION**

The Board of Registry of the American Society for Clinical Pathology gives a national certification exam that students take after meeting their academic and laboratory education requirements. Those who pass this exam may use the initials CT after their names to show they are proficient in the field of Cytotechnology.

## HIGH SCHOOL PREPARATION

High school preparation for work in a laboratory setting should include biology, algebra, geometry, chemistry, physics, health education, computer science, English, and physical science.

## COLLEGE REQUIREMENTS

Students must receive a bachelor's degree from a cytotechnology (CT) program accredited by the Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs (CAAHEP).

## PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

<p><b>American Society for Cytotechnology</b> 1500 Sunday Dr Raleigh, NC 27607 Phone: (919) 861- 5571 <a href="http://www.asct.com">www.asct.com</a></p>	<p><b>American Society for Clinical Pathology</b> 33 West Monroe St Chicago, IL 60603 Phone: (312) 541-4999 <a href="http://www.ascp.org">www.ascp.org</a></p>	<p><b>American Society for Clinical Pathology</b> 100 West 10th St Wilmington, DE 19801 Phone: (302) 543-6583 <a href="http://www.cytopathology.org">www.cytopathology.org</a></p>
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## EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS

- ✓ Blue Mountain Christian University
- ✓ East Mississippi Community College
- ✓ Itawamba Community College
- ✓ Mississippi State University
- ✓ Northwest Mississippi Community College
- ✓ University of Mississippi
- ✓ University of Southern Mississippi
- ✓ University of Mississippi Medical Center (BS)

## CAREER OUTLOOK

Employment opportunities for cytotechnologists have increased over the past years. The volume of laboratory tests has increased with population growth and the development of new tests. The rapidly growing elderly population is another reason for this growth, since older people tend to have more medical problems that will require more lab work. New advancements in powerful diagnostic tests also contributed to a rise in employment in this sector.

# HISTOLOGIC TECHNICIAN AND HISTOTECHNOLOGIST:

**AVERAGE ANNUAL SALARY: \$56,130 – Histologist Tech | \$289,980 – Histotechnologist**

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## JOB DESCRIPTION

Histotechnologists process sections of body tissue by fixation, dehydration, embedding, sectioning, decalcification, microincineration, mounting, and routine and special staining. In addition, histotechnologists perform the more complex procedures for processing and staining tissues, including troubleshooting and problem-solving routine and special stains, immunohistochemistry, and muscle enzyme histochemistry. They identify tissue structures, cell components, and their staining characteristics and relate them to physiological functions; implement and test new techniques and procedures; make judgments concerning the results of quality control measures; and institute proper procedures to maintain accuracy and precision. Histotechnologists apply the principles of management and supervision when they function as section supervisors and of educational methodology when they teach students.

## SALARY RANGE

**\$30,060 - \$77,510 – Histologist Tech**

**\$218,299 - \$378,827 – Histotechnologist**

## WORK ENVIRONMENT

- ✓ Clinics
- ✓ Hospitals
- ✓ Pathology Labs
- ✓ Research Laboratories
- ✓ Pharmaceutical Companies
- ✓ Doctor Offices
- ✓ Government Agencies
- ✓ Public Health Departments



## LICENSURE, CERTIFICATION, REGISTRATION

In addition to all educational requirements, individuals are expected to pass a national examination given by the American Society of Clinical Pathologists (ASCP) to become certified. This designates individuals as HTs and HTLs, depending on specialty.

## HIGH SCHOOL PREPARATION

High school preparation for this type of medical laboratory specialty should include algebra, geometry, biology, chemistry, physics, computer skills, English, health education, and physical education.

## COLLEGE REQUIREMENTS

There are accredited histologic technician programs around the country that offer a certificate or an associate degree upon completion, as well as training programs that are usually offered in hospitals or laboratory facilities. Individuals interested in histology must first obtain a bachelor's degree in histotechnology or another approved major. They must then receive at least one year of training in a histopathology laboratory under a certified pathologist.

## PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

### National Society for Histotechnology

3545 Ellicott Mills Dr  
Elliott City, MD 21043  
Phone: (443) 535-4060  
[www.nsh.org](http://www.nsh.org)

### American Society for Clinical Pathology

33 West Monroe St  
Suite 1600  
Chicago, IL 60603  
Phone: (312) 541-4999  
[www.ascp.org](http://www.ascp.org)

### American Society for Clinical Laboratory Science

3545 Ellicott Mills Drive  
Elliott City, MD 21043  
Phone: (443) 535-4060  
[www.ascls.org](http://www.ascls.org)

## EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS

- ✓ University of Mississippi (Oxford)
- ✓ University of Mississippi Medical Center (BS)

## CAREER OUTLOOK

Employment opportunities for histologists and histologic technicians are expected to grow about as fast as the average for all other occupations. The rapidly growing older population will be one reason for this growth, since older people tend to have more medical problems that will require specialized lab work. New and improved diagnostic tests and other advancements in technology will also add to a rise in employment in this sector.

## **MEDICAL LABORATORY TECHNICIAN: AVERAGE ANNUAL SALARY: \$88,278**

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### **JOB DESCRIPTION**

Laboratory tests play an important role in the detection, diagnosis, and treatment of many diseases and in the promotion of health. Medical laboratory technicians perform these tests under the supervision or direction of pathologists (physicians who diagnose the causes and nature of disease) and other physicians, medical technologists, or other scientists who specialize in clinical chemistry, microbiology, or other biological sciences. Medical laboratory technicians develop data on the blood, tissues, and fluids of the human body by using a variety of precise methodologies and technologies.

### **SALARY RANGE**

**\$31,253 - \$146,796**

### **WORK ENVIRONMENT**

- ✓ Hospital Laboratories
- ✓ Public Health Laboratories
- ✓ Reference Laboratories
- ✓ Biomedical Companies
- ✓ Universities
- ✓ Industrial Medical Laboratories
- ✓ Military
- ✓ Pharmaceutical Companies
- ✓ Forensic Medicine

### **LICENSURE, CERTIFICATION, REGISTRATION**

After completing all educational requirements, candidates must pass a national certification examination given by the Board of Registry of the American Society of Clinical Pathologists, the National Credentialing Agency for Medical Laboratory Personnel, or the American Medical Technologists.

### **HIGH SCHOOL PREPARATION**

High school preparation for a career in medical laboratory sciences should include algebra, geometry, biology, chemistry, physics, computer skills, English, health education, and physical education.

## COLLEGE REQUIREMENTS

Students entering a medical laboratory technician program should have a high school diploma or equivalent. Individuals must complete an associate's degree program in medical laboratory technology that includes clinical training.

## PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

<p><b>American Society for Clinical Laboratory Science</b> 1861 International Dr Tysons Corner, VA 22102 Phone: (571) 748-3770 <a href="http://www.ascls.org">www.ascls.org</a></p>	<p><b>American Society for Clinical Pathology</b> 33 West Monroe St Chicago, IL 60603 Phone: (312) 541-4999 <a href="http://www.ascp.org">www.ascp.org</a></p>	<p><b>American Society for Clinical Pathology</b> 100 West 10th St Wilmington, DE 19801 Phone: (302) 543-6583 <a href="http://www.cytopathology.org">www.cytopathology.org</a></p>
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## EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS

- ✓ Blue Mountain Christian University
- ✓ Coahoma Community College
- ✓ East Mississippi Community College
- ✓ Holmes Community College
- ✓ Itawamba Community College
- ✓ Mississippi State University
- ✓ Northwest Mississippi Community College
- ✓ University of Mississippi
- ✓ University of Southern Mississippi



## CAREER OUTLOOK

Employment opportunities for medical laboratory technicians are expected to grow by 5% between 2023-2033. The rapidly growing older population will be one reason for this growth, since older people tend to have more medical problems that will require lab work. New and exciting advancements in technology will also add to a rise in employment in this sector.

# **MEDICAL TECHNOLOGIST: AVERAGE ANNUAL SALARY: \$57,720**

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## **JOB DESCRIPTION**

In addition to possessing the skills of medical laboratory technicians, medical technologists perform complex analyses, fine-line discrimination, and error correction. They can recognize the interdependency of tests and have knowledge of physiological conditions affecting test results so that they can confirm these results and develop data that may be used by a physician in determining the presence, extent, and, as far as possible, cause of a disease.

Medical technologists assume responsibility and are held accountable for accurate results. They establish and monitor quality assurance and quality improvement programs and design or modify procedures as necessary. Tests and procedures performed or supervised by medical technologists in the clinical laboratory focus on major areas of hematology, microbiology, immune-hematology, immunology, clinical chemistry, and urinalysis.

## **SALARY RANGE**

**\$54,591 - \$61,028**

## **WORK ENVIRONMENT**

- ✓ Hospital Laboratories
- ✓ Clinics
- ✓ Public Health Laboratories
- ✓ Research Facilities
- ✓ College and University Programs
- ✓ Pharmaceutical Companies
- ✓ Industrial Laboratories
- ✓ Military

## **LICENSURE, CERTIFICATION, REGISTRATION**

After completing all educational and clinical requirements, medical technology candidates must pass a national certification examination given by the American Medical Technologists, the National Credentialing Agency for Medical Laboratory Personnel, or the American Society for Clinical Pathology.

## HIGH SCHOOL PREPARATION

High school preparation for students interested in becoming a medical technologist should include biology, chemistry, mathematics, physics, computer skills, English, health professions, physical education, algebra and geometry.

## COLLEGE REQUIREMENTS

Individuals must have a high school diploma or GED and meet requirements for admission to a community college or university for 2-4 years of study. A strong pre-requisite course work in biology, chemistry, mathematics, English, statistics or physics is recommended.

## PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

<p><b>American Society for Clinical Laboratory Science</b> 10700 W Higgins Road Rosemont, IL 60018 Phone: (847) 823-5169 <a href="http://www.ascls.org">www.ascls.org</a></p>	<p><b>American Medical Technologists</b> 1861 International Dr Tysons Corner, VA 22102 Phone: (571) 748-3770 <a href="http://www.americanmedtech.org">www.americanmedtech.org</a></p>
<p><b>American Society for Clinical Laboratory Science</b> PO Box 92 Dundee, MI 48131 Phone: (301) 478-6379 <a href="http://www.ascls.org">www.ascls.org</a></p>	<p><b>American Society for Clinical Pathology</b> 33 West Monroe St Chicago, IL 60603 Phone: (312) 541-4999 <a href="http://www.ascp.org">www.ascp.org</a></p>

## EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS

- ✓ Blue Mountain Christian University
- ✓ East Mississippi Community College
- ✓ Itawamba Community College
- ✓ Mississippi State University
- ✓ Northwest Mississippi Community College
- ✓ University of Mississippi
- ✓ University of Southern Mississippi

## CAREER OUTLOOK

Employment opportunities for medical technologists are expected to grow at an average rate comparable to all occupations in the United States. Although the aging population will increase the need for laboratory tests, technological advances are expected to make it possible for non-laboratory personnel to conduct more routine tests.

# PHLEBOTOMIST: AVERAGE ANNUAL SALARY: \$37,559

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## JOB DESCRIPTION

Phlebotomists collect, transport, handle, and process blood specimens for analysis; identify and select equipment, supplies, and additives used in blood collection; and understand factors that affect specimen collection procedures and test results. Recognizing the importance of specimen collection in the overall patient care system, phlebotomists adhere to infection control and safety policies and procedures. They monitor quality control within predetermined limits while demonstrating professional conduct, stress management, and communication skills with patients, peers, and other health care personnel as well as with the public.

## SALARY RANGE

**\$24,150 – 54,456**

## WORK ENVIRONMENT

- ✓ Hospitals
- ✓ Commercial Laboratories
- ✓ Physician Offices
- ✓ Blood Banks
- ✓ Pharmaceutical Companies
- ✓ Home Health Agencies
- ✓ Public Health Clinics



## LICENSURE, CERTIFICATION, REGISTRATION

Voluntary certification is available from the American Society of Phlebotomy Technicians, the American Society for Clinical Pathology, and the National Certification Agency for Medical Laboratory Personnel.

## HIGH SCHOOL PREPARATION

Students interested in a career as a phlebotomist should concentrate on high school courses in algebra, biology, geometry, chemistry, computer skills, physics, health education, English, and physical education.

## COLLEGE REQUIREMENTS

Phlebotomists complete either on-the-job training or a formal phlebotomy program, which typically lasts 4 to 8 months. On-the-job training is available when there is an employment need in a particular facility.

## PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

### American Society for Clinical Laboratory Science

1861 International Dr  
Tysons Corner, VA 22102  
Phone: (571) 748-3770  
[www.ascls.org](http://www.ascls.org)

### American Society for Clinical Pathology

33 West Monroe St  
Chicago, IL 60603  
Phone: (312) 541-4999  
[www.ascp.org](http://www.ascp.org)

### National Phlebotomy Association

1901 Brightseat Road  
Hyattsville, MD 20785  
Phone: (301) 386-4200  
[www.nationalphlebotomy.org](http://www.nationalphlebotomy.org)

## EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS

- ✓ Mississippi College
- ✓ University of Mississippi
- ✓ University of Southern Mississippi (C)
- ✓ **Community Colleges:**
  - Coahoma (C)
  - East Mississippi
  - Hinds (C)
  - Holmes
  - Mississippi Delta (C)
  - Mississippi Gulf Coast
  - Pearl River
  - Southwest Mississippi

## CAREER OUTLOOK

Employment opportunities for phlebotomists are expected projected to increase by 21% by 2030. The fastest growth in this field is expected in independent medical laboratories because hospitals continue to send a greater amount of their lab work to outside facilities.

# COUNSELING AND MENTAL HEALTH

## COUNSELOR (LPC): AVERAGE ANNUAL SALARY: \$68,109

### JOB DESCRIPTION

Counselors assist people with personal problems to help them become more self-sufficient. They provide support, consultation, and therapeutic approaches to help people deal with difficulties, such as, marital problems, substance abuse, suicidal feelings, stress management, and self-esteem issues. Counselors may specialize in several different areas including mental health, school and career, substance abuse, employment/vocational, rehabilitation, marriage and family, and genetic counseling.

Beginning with the interview process, counselors make observations that help determine a treatment plan that will accomplish the client's goals. They often use personality, aptitude, and psychological tests to determine more precisely the needs of a particular patient. Counselors often work closely with other mental health professionals including psychiatrists, psychologists, and social workers to ensure that all needs are met.

### SALARY RANGE

**\$33,147 - \$107,966**

### WORK ENVIRONMENT

- ✓ Private Practice
- ✓ Hospitals
- ✓ Elementary, Middle, Secondary Schools
- ✓ Correctional Institutions
- ✓ Health Maintenance Organizations
- ✓ Insurance Companies
- ✓ Mental Health Clinics
- ✓ Schools and Universities
- ✓ Drug & Alcohol Rehab Centers
- ✓ Halfway Houses
- ✓ Residential Care Facilities
- ✓ Career Development Facilities
- ✓ Vocational Training Facilities
- ✓ Public Assistance Agencies

### COLLEGE REQUIREMENTS

### LICENSURE, CERTIFICATION, REGISTRATION

Graduates from approved programs must then pass an examination given by the Mississippi Counseling Association or The National Board of Certified Counselors to become licensed.

### HIGH SCHOOL PREPARATION

Students interested in a career in counseling should take high school courses in biology, geometry, algebra, English, health education, sociology, literature, psychology, computer skills, social studies, and speech.

Obtain a bachelor's degree in counseling, psychology, education, sociology, or social work. Most require a master's degree or a doctoral degree. An internship or other professional experience is usually required after receiving a degree.

## PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

### American Counseling Association

5999 Stevenson Ave  
Alexandria, VA 22304  
Phone: (800) 347-6647  
[www.counseling.org](http://www.counseling.org)

### National Board for Certified Counselors, Inc.

3 Terrace Way  
Greensboro, NC 27403  
Phone: (336) 547-0607  
[www.nbcc.org](http://www.nbcc.org)

### Mississippi Counseling Association

PO Box 5827  
Brandon, MS 39047  
Phone: (769) 308-7925  
[www.mica.memberclicks.net](http://www.mica.memberclicks.net)

## EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS

- ✓ Alcorn State University (BS)
  - ✓ Belhaven University
  - ✓ Blue Mountain Christian College
  - ✓ Delta State University (MS) Jackson State University
  - ✓ Mississippi College (MS)
  - ✓ Mississippi State University Meridian
  - ✓ Mississippi State University (MS, PhD)
  - ✓ Mississippi University for Women
  - ✓ Tougaloo College
  - ✓ University of Mississippi
  - ✓ University of Southern Mississippi (MS)
  - ✓ William Carey University
- ✓ **Community Colleges:**
    - Coahoma
    - East Mississippi
    - Holmes
    - Itawamba
    - Mississippi Gulf Coast
    - Northeast
    - Pearl River

## CAREER OUTLOOK

Employment growth rates for counselors vary by location and occupational specialty. Job prospects should be good due to growth and the need to replace people leaving the field. Substance abuse, behavioral disorder, and mental health counselors are in greatest demand, expecting an 18% increase of employment from 2020-2030. Counselors are becoming increasingly involved in crisis management and preventative counseling as it relates to young people.

# MENTAL HEALTH COUNSELOR: AVERAGE ANNUAL SALARY: \$60,920

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## JOB DESCRIPTION

Mental health counselors are professionals who assist individuals with their personal problems to help them become more self-sufficient. Individuals that specialize in mental health counseling concentrate on promoting optimum mental health through various programs and services. They help individuals deal with suicidal impulses, self-esteem issues, addictions and substance abuse, stress management, job and career concerns, marital problems, educational decisions, and issues associated with aging. Beginning with the interview process, mental health counselors make observations that help them determine a treatment plan that will accomplish their client's goals. They often use personality, aptitude, and psychological tests to determine more precisely the needs of a particular patient. They often work closely with other mental health professionals to ensure that all the patient's needs are being met.

## SALARY RANGE

**\$29,833 - \$110,334**

## WORK ENVIRONMENT

- ✓ Private Practice Hospitals
- ✓ Correctional Institutions
- ✓ Mental Health
- ✓ Schools and Universities
- ✓ Drug & Alcohol Rehab Centers
- ✓ Halfway Houses
- ✓ Residential Care Facilities



## LICENSURE, CERTIFICATION, REGISTRATION

To become a Licensed Professional Counselor (LPC) in Mississippi, aspiring mental health counselors need to complete a graduate degree in counseling, pass the National Counselor Examination (NCE), gain supervised clinical experience, and pass the National Clinical Mental Health Counseling Examination (NCMHCE). The process typically involves earning a master's degree, accumulating supervised experience, and then applying for licensure.

## HIGH SCHOOL PREPARATION

Students interested in pursuing a career as an insurance clerk should take high school courses in algebra, biology, English, office procedures, typing, data processing, computer skills, and health education.

## COLLEGE REQUIREMENTS

Individuals interested in mental health counseling must first obtain a bachelor's degree in counseling, psychology, education, sociology, or social work. Most employment opportunities for mental health counselors require a master's degree or a doctoral degree.

## PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

### American Counseling Association

5999 Stevenson Ave  
Alexandria, VA 22304  
Phone: (800) 347-6647  
[www.counseling.org](http://www.counseling.org)

### American Mental Health Counselors Association

801 N. Fairfax St  
Alexandria, VA 22314  
Phone: (701) 548-6002  
[www.amhca.org](http://www.amhca.org)

### Mississippi Counseling Association

PO Box 5827  
Brandon, MS 39047  
Phone: (769) 308-7925  
[www.mica.memberclicks.net](http://www.mica.memberclicks.net)

## EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS

- ✓ Belhaven University (MA)
- ✓ Delta State University (ME)
- ✓ Mississippi College (MS)
- ✓ Mississippi State University (MS)
- ✓ University of Southern Mississippi (MS)

## CAREER OUTLOOK

The job market for mental health counselors is currently strong, with a projected growth rate of 17% from 2020-2030. This growth is faster than the average of all occupations. The demand for mental health services is growing due to factors like increased awareness of mental health issues and a greater emphasis on well-being. This results in a forecasted shortage of mental health professionals across the nation.

# PASTORAL COUNSELOR: AVERAGE ANNUAL SALARY: \$60,920

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## JOB DESCRIPTION

Pastoral counselors are trained in both psychology and theology and thus can provide psychological as well as spiritual guidance to patients and families in health care settings. They perform a variety of tasks including conducting religious masses, delivering religious rites and ordinances, and providing counseling and companionship to patients and family members. They also work with hospital staff to provide ethical and spiritual direction, and instruction on religious practices and beliefs.

They work closely with other medical professionals as part of a team to ensure that all physical and emotional needs of the patient are being met. Pastoral counselors must also remain aware of counselor-client confidentiality, even though state laws concerning this vary greatly.

Individuals interested in pastoral counseling should have a solid academic background, enjoy helping a wide variety of people and have a deep understanding of theology and spirituality.

## SALARY RANGE

**\$29,833 - \$110,334**

## WORK ENVIRONMENT

- ✓ Hospitals Nursing Homes
- ✓ Rehabilitation Facilities
- ✓ Independent Living Centers
- ✓ Psychiatric Facilities
- ✓ Correctional Institutions
- ✓ Residential Care Facilities
- ✓ Hospices



## LICENSURE, CERTIFICATION, REGISTRATION

A license is generally required for pastoral counselors who offer counseling services in private practice or clinical settings. However, if the pastoral counseling provided does not imply a clinical nature, no license may be needed.

## HIGH SCHOOL PREPARATION

Preparation for a career in pastoral counseling should include courses in biology, geometry, algebra, English, health education, literature, psychology, sociology, computer skills, religion/theology, humanities, social studies, and speech.

## COLLEGE REQUIREMENTS

Individuals interested in pastoral counseling must have a high school diploma or the equivalent. Students must obtain a bachelor's degree and then enroll in a 3-year program to acquire a Master of Divinity degree from a seminary.

## PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

### Association of Professional Chaplains

2800 W Higgins  
Hoffman Estates, IL 60169  
Phone: (847) 240-1014

[www.professionalchaplains.org](http://www.professionalchaplains.org)

### The Association for Clinical Pastoral Education, Inc.

1 Concourse Pkwy  
Atlanta, GA 30328  
Phone: (404) 320-1472

[www.acpe.edu](http://www.acpe.edu)

## EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS

Most employers prefer ministers who have been ordained and have a Master of Divinity degree from a seminary.

### Post-Graduate:

- ✓ Belhaven University (MA)
- ✓ Mississippi Baptist Seminary
- ✓ Mississippi College (MS, DPC)
- ✓ Wesley Biblical Seminary

## CAREER OUTLOOK

The career outlook is generally positive, projecting a job growth of 16% - 23% between 2020-2030. Percentage growth is based on the type of counselor. Most every hospital, nursing home, and correctional facility has these mental health professionals on staff to help people with spiritual guidance. Patients, families, and staff will continue to utilize pastoral counselors to help them with psychological and religious issues.

# PSYCHOLOGIST: AVERAGE ANNUAL SALARY: \$104,077

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## JOB DESCRIPTION

Psychologists study the human mind and human behavior. Research psychologists investigate the physical, cognitive, emotional, or social aspects of human behavior. Clinical psychologists—who constitute the largest specialty—work most often in counseling centers, independent or group practices, hospitals, or clinics. They help mentally and emotionally disturbed clients adjust to life and may assist medical and surgical patients in dealing with illnesses or injuries. Some clinical psychologists work in physical rehabilitation settings, treating patients with spinal cord injuries, chronic pain or illness, stroke, arthritis, and neurological conditions. Others help people deal with times of personal crisis, such as divorce or the death of a loved one.

## SALARY RANGE

**\$56,824 - \$150,583**

## WORK ENVIRONMENT

- ✓ Clinics
- ✓ Hospitals
- ✓ Schools and Universities
- ✓ Correctional Facilities
- ✓ Government Agencies
- ✓ Rehabilitation Facilities
- ✓ Private Offices
- ✓ Industries
- ✓ Mental Health Facilities

## HIGH SCHOOL PREPARATION

Students interested in becoming a psychologist should concentrate on high school courses in biology, chemistry, algebra, English (literature and composition), history, psychology, sociology, computer skills, social studies, health education, and foreign languages.

## COLLEGE REQUIREMENTS

Generally required to obtain a Ph.D., a Psy.D. (Doctor of Psychology), or an Ed.S. (Educational Specialist) degree to practice psychology. A doctoral degree will qualify an individual to conduct research, conduct clinical counseling, and teach a variety of topics in schools/universities. To specialize, two years of post-doctoral study is required.

## LICENSURE, CERTIFICATION, REGISTRATION

Licensure is required by the Mississippi Board of Psychology. To be licensed, an individual must graduate from a program approved by the American Psychological Association, complete an internship of post- doctoral work experience, and pass a series of state and national examinations.

Individuals with a master's degree or a bachelor's degree can work under the supervision of a psychologist as a psychological assistant. This allows them to conduct research, perform administrative duties, and conduct psychological evaluations.

## PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

<p><b>American Psychological Association</b>            750 First St NE            Washington, DC 20002            Phone: (202) 336-5500  <a href="http://www.apa.org">www.apa.org</a></p>	<p><b>National Institute of Mental Health</b>            6001 Executive Boulevard            Rockville, MD 20852            Phone: (866) 615-6464  <a href="http://www.nimh.nih.gov">www.nimh.nih.gov</a></p>
<p><b>Mississippi Psychological Association</b>            PO Box 16826            Jackson MS 39236            Phone: (601) 608-7677  <a href="http://www.mpassoc.org">www.mpassoc.org</a></p>	<p><b>Mississippi Board of Psychology</b>            PO Box 20            Jackson, MS 39205            Phone: (601) 576-2577  <a href="http://www.psychologyboard.ms.gov">www.psychologyboard.ms.gov</a></p>

## EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS

- ✓ Alcorn State University (BA)
- ✓ Belhaven College (BA, BS, MA)
- ✓ Delta State University (BA)
- ✓ Jackson State University (PhD)
- ✓ Millsaps College (BA, BS)
- ✓ Mississippi College (BA, BS, MA)
- ✓ Mississippi State University (BA, BS, MS, EdS, PhD)
- ✓ Mississippi University for Women (BA, BS)
- ✓ Rust College (BA)
- ✓ Tougaloo College (BA)
- ✓ University of Mississippi (BA, BS, MA, PhD)
- ✓ University of Southern Mississippi (MA, MS, & PhD)
- ✓ William Carey College (BA, BS, MS)

## CAREER OUTLOOK

The job outlook is positive, with a projected growth of 7% 2023-2033. While the overall demand is predicted to grow 6% nationally, specific areas have stronger projections. Graduates with master's degrees will find the best possibility for employment in positions involving school and industrial organizational psychology. This is because schools and businesses are expected to increase counseling and mental health services. Many companies are beginning to offer employee assistance programs that help employees deal with personal problems. The fastest growth in the health care sector will be in outpatient mental health and substance abuse treatment programs.

# REHABILITATION COUNSELOR: AVERAGE ANNUAL SALARY: \$58,068

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## JOB DESCRIPTION

Three of the key goals of rehabilitation counseling are to empower individuals to make informed choices, help individuals achieve positive mental health and maximize opportunities for economic independence (obtain employment if possible).

Rehabilitation counselors assist people with physical, mental, or emotional disabilities to become or remain self-sufficient, productive citizens. Working directly with an individual with a disability or their advocates, a rehabilitation counselor is a special type of professional counselor who helps evaluate and coordinate needed services to assist people with disabilities in coping with limitations caused by such factors as cognitive and learning difficulties, environmental and societal discrimination and barriers, psychological conflict/distress, or loss of physical/ functional ability. They also provide services to individuals without disabilities who are experiencing stress and coping difficulties, problems with living, career indecision, job displacement, and general mental health issues.

## SALARY RANGE

**\$32,674 - \$72,451**

## WORK ENVIRONMENT

- ✓ State Rehabilitation Agencies
- ✓ Community Rehab Programs
- ✓ Schools, Universities
- ✓ Independent Living Centers
- ✓ Drug and Alcohol Rehab Centers
- ✓ Halfway Houses
- ✓ Correctional Facilities
- ✓ Residential Care Facilities

## LICENSURE, CERTIFICATION, REGISTRATION

The Commission on Rehabilitation Counselor Certification (CRCC) offers voluntary national certification, which is obtained through passing a national examination and completing the required clinical experience.

## HIGH SCHOOL PREPARATION

High school preparation for students interested in a career in rehabilitation counseling should include courses in biology, geometry, algebra, English, health education, literature, psychology, sociology, computer skills, social studies, and speech.

## COLLEGE REQUIREMENTS

Although there are no formal prerequisites, individuals interested in rehabilitation counseling should first obtain a bachelor's degree in rehabilitation services, psychology, sociology, or other human services-related fields. Rehabilitation counselor programs are usually 2-4 years in length and combine academic work as well as field-based clinical experience.

## PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

### American Rehabilitation Counseling Association

6524 Old Main Hill  
Logan, UT 84322  
Phone: (866) 821-5355  
[www.arcaweb.org](http://www.arcaweb.org)

### Commission on Rehabilitation Counselor Certification

1699 E. Woodfield Road  
Schaumburg, IL 60173  
Phone: (847) 944-1325  
[www.crccertification.com](http://www.crccertification.com)

### National Rehabilitation Counseling Association

PO Box 4480  
Manassas, VA 20108  
Phone: (703) 361-2077  
[www.nationalrehabcounselingassociation.wildapricot.org](http://www.nationalrehabcounselingassociation.wildapricot.org)

## EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS

- ✓ Jackson State University (MS)
- ✓ Mississippi State University (MS, EdS, EdD, PhD)
- ✓ University of Southern Mississippi (BS)

## CAREER OUTLOOK

The US Bureau of Labor Statistics projects a 2% growth in employment for rehabilitation counselors from 2023-2033, which is slower than average for all occupations. That increase translates to about 8,000 openings annually. Most of those openings are expected to result from the need to replace workers who transfer to different occupations.



## **SOCIAL WORKER: AVERAGE ANNUAL SALARY: \$72,229**

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### **JOB DESCRIPTION**

Social workers assist individuals and families with problems such as illness, poverty, drug addiction, child and spousal abuse, homelessness, and mental health. Social workers form a vital link for patients between hospitalization/ rehabilitation and their return to a normal and productive member of the community. They may also organize support groups, help patients obtain community services, refer patients to other health professions, and assist with job training. A major function of a social worker is interviewing individual clients and families to assess the physical, social, and psychological needs of a patient. This requires the ability to evaluate a variety of information so that determination can be made on the nature and degree of a client's problems. Social workers may specialize in areas such as geriatric social work, family and child welfare, mental health, substance abuse, or adult and juvenile justice.

### **SALARY RANGE**

**\$32,674 - \$110,807**

### **WORK ENVIRONMENT**

- ✓ Hospitals Schools
- ✓ Military
- ✓ Nursing Homes
- ✓ Correctional Facilities
- ✓ Social Service Agencies
- ✓ Community Mental Health Centers
- ✓ Substance Abuse Centers
- ✓ Courts of Law



### **LICENSURE, CERTIFICATION, REGISTRATION**

A licensed social worker (LSW) must graduate from an accredited institution and pass a licensure exam. A licensed master's social worker (LMSW) must have a Master of Social Work degree and pass the LMSW licensure exam. The licensed certified or clinical social worker (LCSW) must have a Master of Social Work degree or above from an accredited school, have an existing LMSW license, and receive two years of planned LCSW supervision.

## HIGH SCHOOL PREPARATION

Students interested in social work should take high school courses in algebra, biology, political science, psychology, English (literature and composition), sociology, family living, foreign languages, social studies, health education, and computer skills.

## COLLEGE REQUIREMENTS

The minimum requirement for an entry level position in this field is a Bachelor of Social Work (BSW) degree from a school accredited by the Council on Social Work Education.

## PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

<p><b>National Association of Social Workers</b> 750 First St NE Washington, DC 20002 Phone: (202) 408-8600 <a href="http://www.socialworkers.org">www.socialworkers.org</a></p>	<p><b>Council on Social Work Education</b> 1701 Duke St Alexandria, VA 22314 Phone: (703) 683-8080 <a href="http://www.cswe.org">www.cswe.org</a></p>	<p><b>Mississippi Association of Social Workers</b> PO Box 5599 Pearl, MS 39288 Phone: (601) 936-0557 <a href="http://www.naswmschapter.org">www.naswmschapter.org</a></p>
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## EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS

- ✓ Alcorn State University (BSW)
- ✓ Delta State University (BSW)
- ✓ Jackson State University (BSW, MSW)
- ✓ Mississippi College (BSW)
- ✓ Mississippi State University (BSW)
- ✓ Mississippi University for Women (BSW, MSW)
- ✓ Mississippi Valley State University (BSW)
- ✓ Rust College (BSW)
- ✓ University of Mississippi (BSW, MSW)
- ✓ University of Southern Mississippi (BSW & MSW)

## CAREER OUTLOOK

The job outlook is generally positive, expecting an increase of 7% nationally between 2023-2033.

# DENTISTRY

**DENTAL ASSISTANT: AVERAGE ANNUAL SALARY: \$39,912**

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## JOB DESCRIPTION

Dental assistants help dentists and dental hygienists in the delivery and maintenance of oral health care. They perform a wide range of tasks requiring technical as well as people skills. Some of their duties include helping patients feel comfortable before, during, and after treatment, assisting the dentist during treatment, exposing and processing dental radiographs (X-rays), recording the patient's medical history and taking blood pressure and pulse, preparing and sterilizing instruments and equipment for the dentist's use. In addition, dental assistants are tasked with providing patients with oral care instructions following such procedures as surgery or placement of a restoration, teaching patients proper brushing and flossing techniques, making teeth impressions for study casts, performing administrative and scheduling tasks, including using a personal computer, communicating by telephone, and maintaining an inventory supply system.

## SALARY RANGE

**\$23,677 - \$54,930**

## WORK ENVIRONMENT

- ✓ Military
- ✓ Dental Schools
- ✓ Nursing Homes
- ✓ Dental Offices
- ✓ Public Health Clinics
- ✓ Hospital Dental Clinics
- ✓ Health Maintenance Organizations
- ✓ Insurance Companies (claims)
- ✓ Government Agencies
- ✓ Dental Product Sales

## LICENSURE, CERTIFICATION, REGISTRATION

An individual wishing to become certified may take an examination administered by the Dental Assisting National Board, Inc., which will result in the designation of Certified Dental Assistant (CDA). This will assure the public that the dental assistant is prepared to assist completely in the provision of dental care.

## HIGH SCHOOL PREPARATION

High school preparation for dental assisting should include courses in biology, algebra, chemistry, English, geometry, dental/medical assisting, computer skills, health education, physical education and typing.

## COLLEGE REQUIREMENTS

Individuals interested in dental assisting should have a high school diploma or equivalent. Programs offered at community colleges accredited by the Commission on Dental Accreditation usually take 12 to 24 months to complete.

## PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

### American Dental Assistants Association

35 East Wacker Dr  
Chicago, IL 60601  
Phone: (312) 541-1550  
[www.dentalassistant.org](http://www.dentalassistant.org)

### Dental Assisting National Board, Inc.

444 N. Michigan Ave  
Chicago, IL 60611  
Phone: (312) 642-3368  
[www.danb.org](http://www.danb.org)

## EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS

- ✓ Mississippi State University
- ✓ **Community Colleges:**
  - Hinds (AAS, C)
  - Meridian
  - Mississippi Gulf Coast
  - Northeast
  - Pearl River (AAS, C)



## CAREER OUTLOOK

Employment growth rate is expected at approximately 7%. The aging population, increased awareness of oral health, and the demand for preventive dental care are driving the growth in this field. The aging baby boomer population also contributes to this projected increase.

## DENTAL HYGIENIST: AVERAGE ANNUAL SALARY: \$83,307

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### JOB DESCRIPTION

Dental hygienists provide dental hygiene services as they work with dentists in the delivery of dental care to patients. Hygienists are licensed to use their knowledge and clinical skills to provide dental care to patients and their interpersonal skills to motivate and instruct patients on methods to prevent oral disease and maintain oral health. Dental hygienists will often be responsible for performing patient screening procedures, exposing and developing dental radiographs (X rays), removing plaque from teeth, applying preventive materials to teeth, teaching appropriate oral hygiene techniques, counseling on proper nutrition and its impact on oral health and making impressions of teeth for study casts.

### SALARY RANGE

**\$37,883 - \$113,649**

### WORK ENVIRONMENT

- ✓ Private Dental Offices
- ✓ Clinics Hospitals
- ✓ Nursing Homes
- ✓ Research Organizations
- ✓ Education
- ✓ Health Departments
- ✓ Public Health Clinics
- ✓ Dental Supply Sales



### LICENSURE, CERTIFICATION, REGISTRATION

Completion of all educational requirements, as well as national and state board examinations, results in a license and the title of Registered Dental Hygienist (RDH).

### HIGH SCHOOL PREPARATION

High school preparation should include courses in biology, chemistry, algebra, English, health education, geometry, psychology, computer skills, physical education, and speech.

## COLLEGE REQUIREMENTS

Hygienists must complete a two-year associate program, or a four-year baccalaureate program accredited by the American Dental Association's Commission on Dental Accreditation. Upon completion of the educational requirements, students are eligible to take the Dental Hygiene National Board Examination and the state board clinical examination.

## PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

<p><b>American Dental Hygienists Association</b> 444 North Michigan Ave Chicago, IL 60611 Phone: (312) 440-8900 <a href="http://www.adha.org">www.adha.org</a></p>	<p><b>American Dental Education Association</b> 655 K St NW Washington, DC 20005 Phone: (202) 289-7201 <a href="http://www.adea.org">www.adea.org</a></p>	<p><b>American Dental Association</b> 211 East Chicago Ave Chicago, IL 60611 Phone: (312) 440-2500 <a href="http://www.ada.org">www.ada.org</a></p>
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## EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS

- ✓ Mississippi College (2-yr prerequisite)
- ✓ University of Mississippi Medical Center (BS)
- ✓ **Community Colleges:**
  - Meridian (C)
  - Mississippi Delta (C)
  - Mississippi Gulf Coast (C)
  - Northeast Mississippi (C)
  - Pearl River (C)

## CAREER OUTLOOK

The job outlook is positive, with a projected growth of 9% from 2023-2033. Dental hygienists are in high demand due to the growing number of people in need of oral health care, particularly the baby boomer generation.

# DENTAL LABORATORY TECHNICIAN: AVERAGE ANNUAL SALARY: \$48,499

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## JOB DESCRIPTION

Dental laboratory technicians seldom interact directly with patients; rather, they work with dentists by following detailed written instructions to make dental prostheses, which are replacements for natural teeth that enable people who have lost some or all their teeth to eat, chew, talk, and smile in a manner like the way they did before. The dental technician uses impressions (molds) of the patient's teeth or oral soft tissues to create full dentures, removable partial dentures or fixed bridges, crowns, and orthodontic appliances and splints. Dental technicians use sophisticated instruments and equipment and work with a variety of materials for replacing damaged or missing tooth structure, including waxes, plastics, precious and nonprecious alloys, stainless steel, and porcelain.

## SALARY RANGE

**\$26,044 - \$80,026**

## WORK ENVIRONMENT

- ✓ Commercial Dental Labs
- ✓ Dentist offices
- ✓ Hospitals
- ✓ Dental Schools Military
- ✓ Dental Prosthetics Companies

## LICENSURE, CERTIFICATION, REGISTRATION

To become certified, students must pass an examination given by the National Board for Certification in Dental Laboratory Technology.

## HIGH SCHOOL PREPARATION

Biology, algebra, English, chemistry, art, sculpting, anatomy and physiology, computer skills, health education, history, and geometry.

## COLLEGE REQUIREMENTS

Individuals interested in becoming a dental laboratory technician should have a high school diploma or equivalent. Most students complete a two-year certificate or associate degree program that is approved by the Commission on Dental Accreditation. Individuals may also complete a five-year apprenticeship program, which can be substituted for a degree program.

## PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

### National Association of Dental Laboratories

325 John Knox Rd  
Tallahassee, FL 32304  
Phone: (850) 205-5626  
[www.nadl.org](http://www.nadl.org)

### American Dental Education Association

655 K St NW  
Washington, DC 20005  
Phone: (202) 289-7201  
[www.adea.org](http://www.adea.org)

### American Dental Association

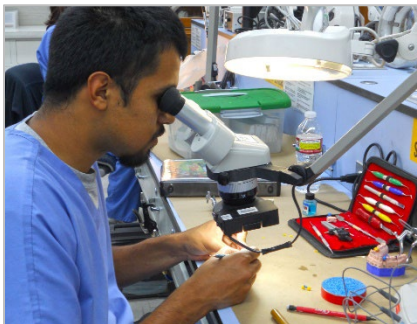
211 East Chicago Ave  
Chicago, IL 60611  
Phone: (312) 440-2500  
[www.ada.org](http://www.ada.org)

## EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS

TN College of Applied Science

## CAREER OUTLOOK

Employment opportunities for dental laboratory technicians are forecasted to decline by 1% from 2023-2033. Despite declining employment, there are 7,000+ openings projected each year. The decline is partially due to 3D printing and other labor-saving technologies used to produce dental parts / appliances.



# DENTIST: AVERAGE ANNUAL SALARY: \$179,924

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## JOB DESCRIPTION

Dentists diagnose, prevent, and treat problems with teeth or mouth tissue. They remove decay, fill cavities, examine x-rays, place protective plastic sealants on children's teeth, straighten teeth, and repair fractured teeth. They also perform corrective surgery on gums and supporting bones to treat gum diseases. Dentists extract teeth and make models and measurements for dentures to replace missing teeth. They provide instruction on diet, brushing, flossing, the use of fluorides, and other aspects of dental care. They also administer anesthetics and write prescriptions for antibiotics and other medications.

## SALARY RANGE

**\$56,351 - \$320,110**

## WORK ENVIRONMENT

- ✓ Military
- ✓ Private Practice
- ✓ Dental Groups
- ✓ Hospitals
- ✓ Government Agencies
- ✓ Educational Institutions
- ✓ Research Facilities
- ✓ Public Health Facilities



## LICENSURE, CERTIFICATION, REGISTRATION

To become a licensed dentist in Mississippi, an individual must graduate from a dental school accredited by the Commission on Dental Accreditation of the American Dental Association. They must also pass both written and practical examinations.

## HIGH SCHOOL PREPARATION

High school preparation for a career in dentistry should include biology, chemistry, physics, algebra, trigonometry, geometry, food and nutrition, computer skills, English (literature and composition), health education, and physical education.

## COLLEGE REQUIREMENTS

To be considered for admission at an accredited dental school, a student must graduate from a pre-dental baccalaureate program or equivalent with an acceptable grade point average. They must also apply through the American Association of Dental Schools Application Service (AAD-SAS) and take the dental admissions examination.

## PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

<p><b>American Dental Association</b> 211 East Chicago Ave Chicago, IL 60611 Phone: (312) 440-2500 <a href="http://www.ada.org">www.ada.org</a></p>	<p><b>American Dental Education Association</b> 655 K St NW Washington, DC 20005 Phone: (202) 289-7201 <a href="http://www.adea.org">www.adea.org</a></p>	<p><b>Mississippi Dental Association</b> 439 B Katherine Dr Flowood, MS 39232 Phone: (601) 664-9691 <a href="http://www.ms dental.org">www.ms dental.org</a></p>
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## EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS

- ✓ University of Mississippi Medical Center – School of Dentistry (DMD)

## CAREER OUTLOOK

Career opportunities are projected to be positive, with employment expected to grow by 5% from 2023-2033. This growth is driven by factors such as aging population and an increasing awareness of oral health.

# DIAGNOSTICS

## ELECTROCARDIOGRAPH TECHNICIAN: AVERAGE ANNUAL SALARY: \$47,092

### JOB DESCRIPTION

An electrocardiogram (ECG) technician performs an ECG by attaching electrodes to a patient then pulling switches on an ECG machine. The machine will trace electrical impulses transmitted by the heart. A doctor then inspects these readings to analyze the heart's condition. ECG technicians also might perform stress tests. This involves hooking up a patient to an ECG monitor for baseline readings and then monitoring the patient's heart while he or she exercises on a treadmill. During the monitoring period, the treadmill speeds up and slows down to produce ECG readings at multiple levels of physical exertion.

### SALARY RANGE

**\$22,730 - \$80,975**

### WORK ENVIRONMENT

- ✓ Hospitals
- ✓ Diagnostic Laboratories
- ✓ Clinics
- ✓ Cardiac Rehabilitation Centers
- ✓ Doctor Offices
- ✓ Diagnostic Imaging Centers

### LICENSURE, CERTIFICATION, REGISTRATION

Graduates from accredited programs may pursue certification through Cardiovascular Credentialing International.

### HIGH SCHOOL PREPARATION

Students interested in becoming an EKG technician should take high school courses in biology, algebra, health education, chemistry, physical education, English, computer skills, emergency medical technology, literature, and typing.

## COLLEGE REQUIREMENTS

Individuals interested in a career as an EKG technician must have a high school diploma or the equivalent. Most people entering this profession receive on-the-job training under the supervision of an experienced EKG technician for 3 to 6 months. There are longer programs offered through community colleges that offer an associate's degree and board certification.

## PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

### Alliance of Cardiovascular Professionals

PO Box 2007  
Midlothian, VA 23113  
Phone: (804) 632-0078  
[www.acp-online.org](http://www.acp-online.org)

### American Society of Echocardiography

2530 Meridian Pkwy  
Durham, NC 27713  
Phone: (919) 861-5574  
[www.asecho.org](http://www.asecho.org)

### Cardiovascular Credentialing International

1500 Sunday Dr  
Raleigh, NC 27607  
Phone: (800) 326-0268  
[www.cci-online.org](http://www.cci-online.org)

## EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS

- ✓ Mississippi College
- ✓ Mississippi State University (Extension)
- ✓ University of Mississippi Oxford
- ✓ **Community Colleges:**
  - Coahoma
  - Hinds
  - Holmes
  - Mississippi Gulf Coast
  - Northwest Mississippi



## CAREER OUTLOOK

Employment opportunities for electrocardiograph technicians are generally positive, with the national average showing growth. According to The US Bureau of Labor Statistics, a 5% growth will take place between 2019-2029, driven by an aging population and increasing chronic conditions. The job market is quite stable, as there is always a need for qualified professionals in health care. This is especially true in rural and underserved areas. In some cases, promotion to Medical Assistant or Patient Care Technicians is probable.

# ELECTRONEURODIAGNOSTIC TECHNICIAN:

**AVERAGE ANNUAL SALARY: \$67,924**

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## JOB DESCRIPTION

Electroneurodiagnostic technologists record electrical activity from the brain, spinal cord, peripheral nerves, and somatosensory or motor nerve systems using a variety of techniques and instruments. Technologists prepare data and documentation for interpretation by a physician.

## SALARY RANGE

**\$34,568 - \$107,018**

## WORK ENVIRONMENT

- ✓ Hospitals
- ✓ Private Neurologist Offices
- ✓ Neurology Laboratories
- ✓ Colleges and Universities
- ✓ Large Medical Centers
- ✓ Psychiatric Facilities
- ✓ Mental Health Care Facilities

## LICENSURE, CERTIFICATION, REGISTRATION

The American Board of Registration of Electroencephalographic and Evoked Potential Technologists (ABRET) awards the credentials of Registered EEG Technologist and Registered Evoked Potential Technologist.

## HIGH SCHOOL PREPARATION

Students interested in electroneurodiagnostic technology should take high school courses in algebra, chemistry, physics, biology, computer science, English, health education, statistics, geometry, and computer skills.

## COLLEGE REQUIREMENTS

Students entering an END technology program should have a high school diploma or the equivalent. Some facilities provide on-the-job training, but most employers prefer applicants with an associate's degree from an accredited program. These programs are typically taught at community colleges and last between one and two years.

## PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

### American Society of Electroneurodiagnostic Technologists

402 East Bannister Road  
Kansas City, MO 64131  
Phone: (816) 931-1120  
[www.aset.org](http://www.aset.org)

### American Association of Electroneurodiagnostic Technology

PO Box 2770  
Cedar Rapids, IA 52406  
Phone: (877) 333-2238  
[www.aact.info](http://www.aact.info)

### American Board of Registration of Electroencephalographic and Evoked Potential Technologists

2509 West Iles Ave  
Springfield, IL 62704  
Phone: (217) 726-7980  
[www.abret.org](http://www.abret.org)

## EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS

No programs in Mississippi

On the job training / Hospital-based programs

Online programs

## CAREER OUTLOOK

Employment opportunities are generally positive. The US Bureau of Labor Statistics projects a growth of 8% from 2019-2029. As medical technology continues to advance, the demand in this field is expected to grow.



# DIETETICS AND NUTRITION

## **DIETETIC TECHNICIAN: AVERAGE ANNUAL SALARY: \$41,740**

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### **JOB DESCRIPTION**

Dietetic technicians assist in shaping the public's food choices and provide nutrition assessment and counseling for people with illnesses or injuries. Technicians work under the supervision of the registered dietitian. They often screen patients to identify nutrition problems, provide uncomplicated patient education and counseling to individuals and groups, develop menus and recipes, supervise food service personnel, purchase food, and monitor inventory and food quality.

### **SALARY RANGE**

**\$27,465 – \$58,718**

### **WORK ENVIRONMENT**

- ✓ Hospitals
- ✓ Prisons
- ✓ Colleges, Universities
- ✓ Government Agencies
- ✓ Nursing Homes
- ✓ Home Health Agencies
- ✓ Community Health Centers
- ✓ Long-Term Care Facilities
- ✓ Research Facilities
- ✓ Food-Related Industries
- ✓ Elementary, Secondary Schools



### **LICENSURE, CERTIFICATION, REGISTRATION**

To become certified and registered, individuals must pass a national examination given by the Commission on Dietetic Registration (CDR).

## HIGH SCHOOL PREPARATION

High school preparation for a career in dietary services should include courses in biology, chemistry, algebra, home economics, English, business, health education, physical education, psychology, and computer skills.

## COLLEGE REQUIREMENTS

Individuals entering a dietetic technician program should have a high school diploma or the equivalent. Most employers require an associate's degree from an accredited community college that is approved by the American Dietetic Association. These programs combine classroom study and practical experience.

## PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

### Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics

120 South Riverside Plaza  
Chicago, IL 60606  
Phone: (800) 877-1600  
[www.eatright.org](http://www.eatright.org)

### American Society for Nutritional Sciences

9211 Corporate Boulevard  
Rockville, MD 20850  
Phone: (240) 428-3650  
[www.nutrition.org](http://www.nutrition.org)

### Mississippi Dietetic Association

2342 Park Place Dr  
Gulfport, MS 39507  
Phone: (228) 297-8972  
[www.eatrightmississippi.org](http://www.eatrightmississippi.org)

## EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS

- ✓ Mississippi State University
- ✓ University of Mississippi
- ✓ University of Southern Mississippi

## CAREER OUTLOOK

Employment opportunities for dietetic technicians are expected to grow at a rate of 7% between 2023-2033. Approximately 6,100 openings are projected each year, on average, over the next decade.

## DIETITIAN: AVERAGE ANNUAL SALARY: \$71,977

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### JOB DESCRIPTION

Dietetics is the science of applying food and nutrition to health. Registered dietitians are nutritionists who integrate and apply the principles derived from the sciences of food, nutrition, biochemistry, physiology, food management, and behavior to achieve and maintain the health status of the public they serve. Clinical registered dietitians are a vital part of the medical team in hospitals, nursing homes, health maintenance organizations, and other health care facilities. Community registered dietitians work in public and home health agencies, day care centers, health and recreation clubs, and in government-funded programs that feed and counsel families, the elderly, pregnant women, children, and individuals with special needs. Educator registered dietitians work in colleges, universities, and medical centers, teach future physicians, nurses, dietitians, and dietetic technicians the science of foods and nutrition. Research registered dietitians work in government agencies, food and pharmaceutical companies, and major universities and medical centers. Consultant registered dietitians work under contract with health care or food companies or in their own business.

### SALARY RANGE

**\$35,042 – \$105,124**

### WORK ENVIRONMENT

- ✓ Hospitals
- ✓ Prisons
- ✓ Health Clubs
- ✓ Colleges, Universities
- ✓ Government Agencies
- ✓ Nursing Homes
- ✓ Research Facilities
- ✓ Food-Related Industries
- ✓ Elementary, Secondary schools



### LICENSURE, CERTIFICATION, REGISTRATION

Employers in Mississippi usually prefer to hire dietitians who are members of the American Dietetic Association (ADA).

## HIGH SCHOOL PREPARATION

High school courses beneficial to dietitians are biology, chemistry, algebra, English, business, physical education, psychology, computer skills, social studies, and home economics.

## COLLEGE REQUIREMENTS

Students must receive a bachelor's degree from an ADA-approved institution and then complete an approved pre-professional practice program or dietetic internship. Once the pre-requisites are met for membership, individuals must pass the ADA examination.

## PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

<p><b>Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics</b> 120 South Riverside Plaza Chicago, IL 60606 Phone: (800) 877-1600 <a href="http://www.eatright.org">www.eatright.org</a></p>	<p><b>American Society for Nutritional Sciences</b> 9211 Corporate Blvd Rockville, MD 20850 Phone: (240) 428-3650 <a href="http://www.nutrition.org">www.nutrition.org</a></p>	<p><b>Mississippi Dietetic Association</b> 2342 Park Place Dr Gulfport, MS 39507 Phone: (228) 297-8972 <a href="http://www.eatrightmississippi.org">www.eatrightmississippi.org</a></p>
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## EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS

- ✓ Alcorn State University (BS)
- ✓ Mississippi State University (BS, MS)
- ✓ University of Mississippi (BS, MS)
- ✓ University of Southern Mississippi (BS, MS, & PhD)

## CAREER OUTLOOK

The job outlook is generally positive, with a projected 7% growth in employment from 2023-2033. This growth is expected to be driven by increasing awareness of the role of nutrition in preventing and treating various diseases. The field of dietetics is projected to grow faster than the average for all occupations, meaning there will be more job openings available.

# EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT / COMMUNICATION

## EMERGENCY MEDICAL DISPATCHER: AVERAGE ANNUAL SALARY: \$43,397

### JOB DESCRIPTION

Emergency medical dispatchers (EMDs) are vital members of the emergency response system. They are usually the first professionals to receive an emergency call about a suddenly ill or injured person. They respond to 911 and other emergency calls by dispatching the appropriate medical or rescue personnel (police, fire, ambulance, etc.) to the scene. EMDs must be able to manage all incoming calls and carefully question the caller to determine the type of emergency that exists, the geographical location of the incident, and the extent of any injuries suffered. Emergency medical dispatchers may also be called upon to give a caller instruction over the phone until emergency service professionals arrive.

### SALARY RANGE

**\$22,256 - \$66,769**

### WORK ENVIRONMENT

- ✓ Dispatch Centers
- ✓ Police Stations
- ✓ Fire Stations
- ✓ Hospitals
- ✓ Independent City Programs

### LICENSURE, CERTIFICATION, REGISTRATION

Emergency Medical Dispatchers must be certified through a state-recognized program.

### HIGH SCHOOL PREPARATION

Students interested in a career as an emergency medical dispatcher should take high school courses in algebra, biology, English, psychology, computer skills, typing, first aid, public speaking, foreign languages, telephone communications, and health education.

## COLLEGE REQUIREMENTS

Individuals interested in emergency medical dispatching should have a high school diploma or equivalent. Educational and training requirements vary greatly depending upon the employer. EMDs often have a background in communications and receive some form of on-the-job training. They need to be able to speak clearly, know basic first aid procedures, and learn how to operate sophisticated telecommunications equipment.

## PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

**National Academy of  
Emergency Medical Dispatch**  
110 South Regent  
Salt Lake City, UT 84111  
Phone: (801) 359-6916  
[www.emergencydispatch.org](http://www.emergencydispatch.org)

**Association of Public Safety  
Communications Officials International**  
351 N. Williamson Blvd  
Daytona Beach, FL 32114  
Phone: (386) 322-2500  
[www.apcointl.org](http://www.apcointl.org)

## EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS

Individuals interested in basic and advanced training in emergency medical dispatching should contact the professional organizations above for information on times and locations of courses.

## CAREER OUTLOOK

The US Bureau of Labor Statistics projects a 4% growth in employment for public safety telecommunicators from 2023-2033, which is average. Consolidation of call centers has led to fewer job openings, potentially impacting the EMD field. However, increasing cell phone use and an aging population may lead to more emergency calls, potentially increasing the demand.

# **EMERGENCY MEDICAL TECHNICIAN: AVERAGE ANNUAL SALARY: \$40,194**

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## **JOB DESCRIPTION**

EMTs must be proficient in Basic Life Support (BLS), and training is centered on recognizing and treating life-threatening conditions outside the hospital environment. EMTs learn the basics of how to handle cardiac and respiratory arrest, heart attacks, seizures, diabetic emergencies, respiratory problems, and other medical emergencies. They also learn how to manage traumatic injuries such as falls, fractures, lacerations, and burns. EMTs also are introduced into patient assessment, history taking, and vital signs. EMTs perform CPR, artificial ventilations, oxygen administration, basic airway management, defibrillation using an Automated External Defibrillator (AED), spinal immobilization, vital signs, bandaging/splinting, and, under the direction of a physician, may administer Nitroglycerin, Glucose, Epinephrine, and Albuterol in special circumstances.

## **SALARY RANGE**

**\$20,362 - \$56,351**

## **WORK ENVIRONMENT**

- ✓ Commercial Ambulance Services
- ✓ Hospitals
- ✓ Rescue Squads
- ✓ Fire and Police Departments
- ✓ Private Industry

## **HIGH SCHOOL PREPARATION**

High school subjects helpful to those preparing for a career as an emergency medical technician or paramedic are biology, chemistry, psychology, physical education, algebra, computer skills, English, geometry, driver's education, first aid, sociology, health education.

## **COLLEGE REQUIREMENTS**

Students entering an EMT training program must be 18 years of age, have a high school diploma and a driver's license with a good driving record. EMT basic classification requires students to complete approximately 120 classroom hours and the EMT paramedic requires students to complete a two-year Associate Degree program in emergency medical technology.

## **LICENSURE, CERTIFICATION, REGISTRATION**

To work in the state of Mississippi, all emergency medical technicians must gain certification by passing a national examination given by the National Registry of Emergency Medical Technicians.

## PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

### National Association of Emergency Medical Technicians

132-A East Northside Dr  
Clinton, MS 39056  
Phone: (601) 924-7744  
[www.naemt.org](http://www.naemt.org)

### National Registry of Emergency Medical Technicians

6610 Busch Blvd  
Columbus, OH 43229  
Phone: (614) 888-4484  
[www.nremt.org](http://www.nremt.org)

## EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS

### ✓ Community Colleges:

- Coahoma
- Copiah-Lincoln
- East Central (AAS, C)
- East Mississippi (AAS, C)
- Hinds (C)
- Holmes (AAS, C)
- Itawamba (AAS, C)
- Jones Junior College (AAS)
- Meridian
- Mississippi Delta
- Mississippi Gulf Coast (AAS)
- Northeast Mississippi
- Northwest Mississippi (AS)
- Southwest



## CAREER OUTLOOK

The job outlook is generally positive. EMTs are in demand, and career advancement opportunities exist within the EMS and related healthcare fields. The US Bureau of Labor Statistics projects a 6% growth in employment from 2023-2033. The aging population, increasing need for emergency medical services, and the need for pre-hospital care are all driving forces for the demand.

# PARAMEDIC: AVERAGE ANNUAL SALARY: \$51,929

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## JOB DESCRIPTION

Paramedics perform all the skills performed by an EMT. In addition, they perform advanced airway management, such as endotracheal intubation, under medical supervision and from a base station, usually in a hospital emergency department. They obtain and interpret electrocardiographs (ECGs), introduce intravenous lines, and administer numerous emergency medications. Paramedics assess ECG tracings and defibrillate. They have extensive education in patient assessment and are exposed to a variety of clinical and field experiences during their education.

## SALARY RANGE

**\$28,412 - \$74,819**

## WORK ENVIRONMENT

- ✓ Commercial Ambulance Services
- ✓ Hospitals
- ✓ Rescue Squads
- ✓ Fire and Police Departments
- ✓ Private Industry

## LICENSURE, CERTIFICATION, REGISTRATION

Mississippi requires all EMTs and Paramedics to gain certification by passing a national examination given by the National Registry of Emergency Medical Technicians.

## HIGH SCHOOL PREPARATION

High school subjects helpful to those preparing for a career as a paramedic are biology, chemistry, psychology, physical education, algebra, computer skills, English, driver's education, first aid, sociology, health education.

## COLLEGE REQUIREMENTS

Students entering an EMT/Paramedic training program must be 18 years of age, have a high school diploma and a driver's license with a good driving record. Individuals must complete a two-year associate's degree program in emergency medical technology and pass a national certification examination given by the National Registry of Emergency Medical Technicians (NREMT).

## PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

### National Association of Emergency Medical Technicians

132-A East Northside Dr  
Clinton, MS 39056  
Phone: (601) 924-7744  
[www.naemt.org](http://www.naemt.org)

### National Registry of Emergency Medical Technicians

6610 Busch Blvd  
Columbus, OH 43229  
Phone: (614) 888-4484  
[www.nremt.org](http://www.nremt.org)

## EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS

### ✓ Community Colleges:

- Coahoma
- Copiah-Lincoln
- East Central (AAS, C)
- East Mississippi (AAS, C)
- Hinds (C)
- Holmes (AAS, C)
- Itawamba (AAS, C)
- Jones Junior College (AAS)
- Meridian
- Mississippi Gulf Coast (AAS)
- Northeast Mississippi
- Northwest Mississippi (AS)



## CAREER OUTLOOK

The US Bureau of Labor Statistics predicts a 6% growth in employment between 2023-2033. Mississippi's job market for paramedics, however, is not very active, with few companies currently hiring. Approximately 19,200 openings for EMTs and paramedics are projected each year, on average over the decade.

# HEALTH ADMINISTRATION

**HEALTH CARE ADMINISTRATOR: AVERAGE ANNUAL SALARY: \$89,304**

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## JOB DESCRIPTION

Health care administrators, or health services administrators, have varying roles and functions depending on the size of the facility they oversee. Generally, health care administrators plan, coordinate, and supervise the functions of health care facilities and the staff that work there. There are two types of administrators, generalists and specialists. Generalists are individuals who are responsible for managing or helping to manage an entire facility. Specialists are individuals who are responsible for the efficient operations of a specific department, such as policy analysis, finance, accounting, budgeting, human resources, or marketing. Health care administrators are often called on to maintain and develop professional standards, procedures, and policies for various institutional activities. They are also responsible for developing and expanding programs for scientific research, preventive medicine, medical and vocational rehabilitation, and community health and welfare.

## SALARY RANGE

**\$46,400 - \$226,349**

## WORK ENVIRONMENT

- ✓ Hospitals
- ✓ Community Health Centers
- ✓ Clinics
- ✓ Private Medical Practices
- ✓ Managed Care Organizations
- ✓ Nursing Homes
- ✓ Other Health Care Facilities

## HIGH SCHOOL PREPARATION

High school preparation for a career in health care administration should include high school courses in algebra, economics, government, accounting, political science, health education, English, geometry, psychology, sociology, and computer skills.

## COLLEGE REQUIREMENTS

Students interested in becoming a health care administrator must have a bachelor's degree from an accredited institution. Most organizations, however, require at least a

## LICENSURE, CERTIFICATION, REGISTRATION

Licensure is required only for nursing home administrators in Mississippi, but most administrators belong to professional organizations such as the American College of Healthcare Executives and the American College of Health Care Administrators. These Organizations offer certification programs, which are often helpful in enhancing professional standing.

master's degree in health services administration, nursing administration, or business administration.

## PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

### American College of Healthcare Executives

300 S. Riverside Plaza  
Chicago, IL 60606  
Phone: (312) 424-2800  
[www.ache.org](http://www.ache.org)

### Association of University Programs in Health Administration

1730 M St NW  
Washington DC 20036  
Phone: (202) 763-7283  
[www.aupha.org](http://www.aupha.org)

### American College of Health Care Administrators

362 Mellon Rd  
Hanover, MD 21076  
Phone: (410) 859-1500  
[www.achca.org](http://www.achca.org)

## EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS

- ✓ Alcorn State University (MBA Healthcare Mgmt)
- ✓ Belhaven University (BHA)
- ✓ Jackson State University (BS)
- ✓ Mississippi College (MHSA, MSHC)
- ✓ Mississippi State University (BS, BA)
- ✓ University of Mississippi Medical Center (BS, MHSA, DHA)
- ✓ William Carey University (BS)

## CAREER OUTLOOK

The US Bureau of Labor Statistics projects that employment of medical and health managers will grow significantly faster than the average for all occupations. A 15.4% growth rate in jobs is projected between 2023-2033. The Mississippi Dept. of Employment Security projects a 6.8% growth rate over the decade leading up to 2028, indicating a promising outlook for this field within the state. The aging baby boomer population and the increasing demand for health care services are major drivers of this growth.

# HUMAN RESOURCES MANAGER: AVERAGE ANNUAL SALARY: \$81,580

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## JOB DESCRIPTION

Human resources professionals perform the vital function of managing personnel issues in health care facilities. In general, they are responsible for managing and improving the delivery of high-quality employment-related services to various departments to effectively recruit, select, retain, develop, and manage an organization's workforce. Depending on the size of the facility, human resources professionals in a health care setting usually consist of human resources assistants, recruiters, placement managers, employer relations representatives, compensation & benefits specialists, training & development specialists, and a director of human resources. Some of the various issues that these professionals address include limiting job turnover, improving morale and productivity, effectively utilizing employee skills, providing training opportunities to enhance those skills, and boosting employees' satisfaction with their jobs and working conditions.

## SALARY RANGE

**\$36,936 - \$122,645**

## WORK ENVIRONMENT

- ✓ Hospitals
- ✓ Nursing Homes
- ✓ Clinics
- ✓ Rehabilitation Facilities
- ✓ Community Health Centers
- ✓ Academic Medical Centers
- ✓ Managed Care Organizations



## LICENSURE, CERTIFICATION, REGISTRATION

Optional training and certification are available from trade associations, such as, the American Society for Healthcare Human Resources Administration and the Society for Human Resource Management. The most common certifications are Professional of Human Resources and Senior Professional of Human Resources.

## HIGH SCHOOL PREPARATION

Students interested in human resources should take high school courses in algebra, biology, computer skills, data processing, psychology, English, health, government, history, literature, foreign language, anatomy, and sociology.

## COLLEGE REQUIREMENTS

Because of the diversity of duties and levels of responsibility, the educational requirements for human resources professionals vary greatly. Many employers seek college graduates who have majored in human resources, personnel administration, business, or liberal arts.

## PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

**American Society for  
Healthcare Human Resources Administration**

155 North Wacker  
Chicago, IL 60606  
Phone: (312) 422-3720  
[www.ashhra.org](http://www.ashhra.org)

## EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS

- ✓ Belhaven University (BS, MBA)
- ✓ Mississippi State University (BBA)
- ✓ Mississippi University for Women (BBA)
- ✓ University of Mississippi (BBA)
- ✓ University of Southern Mississippi (BSBA, MS)

## CAREER OUTLOOK

The job outlook is strong in our state, with the field expected to grow 6% by 2033. The US Bureau of Labor Statistics projects about 17,400 openings each year on average. HR professionals are increasingly taking on a strategic role in shaping the future of work, focusing on areas like inclusive culture, employee engagement, and workforce development. The future will involve more strategic thinking, technology integration, and a focus on creating a positive and inclusive work environment.

# FINANCE SPECIALIST – CFO: AVERAGE ANNUAL SALARY: \$227,906

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## JOB DESCRIPTION

Chief financial officers (CFOs), or finance specialists, plan and direct an organization's financial goals, objectives, and budgets. Because these financial managers work extensively with various departments in each health care facility, broad knowledge of a variety of health-related issues is essential. Financial specialists usually supervise cash management activities, execute capital-raising strategies to support a facility's maintenance and expansion, oversee the investment of funds and calculate the associated risks, and deal with mergers and acquisitions. As computers and other technologies are increasingly used to record and organize data, many financial managers are spending more time developing strategies and implementing the long-term goals of their organizations. Interpersonal skills are vital to chief financial officers because they usually manage a large staff and work as part of a team to solve the complex financial issues that face health care facilities.

## SALARY RANGE

**\$45,314 – \$348,569**

## WORK ENVIRONMENT

- ✓ Hospitals
- ✓ Clinics
- ✓ Community Health Centers
- ✓ Managed Care Organizations
- ✓ Nursing Homes
- ✓ Private Medical Practices
- ✓ Other Health Care Facilities

## LICENSURE, CERTIFICATION, REGISTRATION

While licensure is not required for financial specialists in Mississippi, most CFOs hold certifications in various financial specialties. They may also belong to professional organizations such as The Association for Financial Professionals or Institute of Management Accountants.

## HIGH SCHOOL PREPARATION

High school preparation for a career as a chief financial officer should include high school courses in algebra, economics, government, accounting, political science, health education, English, geometry, psychology, sociology, and computer skills.

## COLLEGE REQUIREMENTS

Most employers seek graduates with a master's degree or higher, preferably in business administration, economics, finance, or risk management. Continuing education is also a vital component for financial managers, because they must cope with the growing complexity of health care finances.

## PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

### Association for Financial Professionals

4520 East-West Hwy  
Bethesda, MD 20814  
Phone: (301) 907-2862  
[www.afponline.org](http://www.afponline.org)

### Institute of Management Accountants

10 Paragon Dr  
Montvale, NJ 07645  
Phone: (201) 573-9000  
[www.imanet.org](http://www.imanet.org)

## EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS

- ✓ Alcorn State University (BSA)
- ✓ Belhaven University (BSBA)
- ✓ Delta State University (BBA)
- ✓ Jackson State University (BBA, MPA)
- ✓ Mississippi College (BSBA, MBA, MACC)
- ✓ Mississippi State University (BACC, MBA, MPA, MSIS, MTX)
- ✓ Mississippi University for Women (BBA)
- ✓ Tougaloo College (BSBA, BBA)
- ✓ University of MS (Bachelor, Masters, PhD)
- ✓ University of Southern Mississippi (BSBA, MPA)

## CAREER OUTLOOK

The forecast in Mississippi is generally positive, with the US Bureau of Labor Statistics projecting a 9% growth in employment from 2023-2033. All companies require finance employees and there is a wide range of opportunities in various sectors.

# HEALTH INFORMATION MANAGEMENT

## **DRG COORDINATOR: AVERAGE ANNUAL SALARY: \$54,155**

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### **JOB DESCRIPTION**

A DRG (Diagnosis Related Group) Coordinator is a professional in the healthcare field who manages and oversees the coding and billing processes related to DRGs, ensuring accurate and timely reimbursement for patient care. They review inpatient hospital records, analyze coding accuracy, and monitor data quality to optimize financial performance related to Medicare and other reimbursements. A coordinator's responsibilities can include maintaining project documentation, such as reports and plans, controlling schedules, and assigning tasks to team members. They can also communicate the progress of the project to team members and other stakeholders within the organization and manage the budget. The four types of DRG are: Severity DRGs (S-DRG) All Patient, Severity-Adjusted DRGs (APS-DRG) All Patient Refined DRGs (APR-DRG) and International-Refined DRGs (IR-DRG).

### **SALARY RANGE**

**\$31,253 - \$85,709**

### **WORK ENVIRONMENT**

- ✓ Hospitals
- ✓ Home Health Agencies
- ✓ Insurance Agencies
- ✓ Consulting Firms
- ✓ Government Agencies
- ✓ Outpatient Clinics
- ✓ Health Care Computing Industries
- ✓ Long-Term Care Facilities
- ✓ Private Industries

### **LICENSURE, CERTIFICATION, REGISTRATION**

Upon graduation from an accredited program, individuals are then eligible to take the national registration examination offered by the American Health Information Management Association. Once the exam is successfully passed, an individual then becomes a registered health information administrator (RHIA).

## HIGH SCHOOL PREPARATION

Students should take courses in algebra, biology, chemistry, computer skills, data processing, psychology, English, government, history, literature, foreign language, anatomy, sociology, and health education.

## COLLEGE REQUIREMENTS

Individuals must complete a baccalaureate degree program from an institution accredited by the American Health Information Management Association, which generally lasts four years.

## PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

### American Health Information Management Association

233 N. Michigan Ave  
Chicago, IL 60601  
Phone: (312) 233-1100  
[www.ahima.org](http://www.ahima.org)

### Mississippi Health Information Management Association

Phone: (601) 336-0647  
[www.mshima.org](http://www.mshima.org)

## EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS

- ✓ University of Mississippi Oxford (BS-HIIM)
- ✓ University of Mississippi Medical Center (BS-HIIM, MS-HIIM)
- ✓ William Carey University (BS-HIIM, MS-HIIM)

## CAREER OUTLOOK

The job outlook for DRG coordinators in Mississippi is strong, with the profession experiencing rapid growth due to the increasing adoption of electronic health records and the need for data management in healthcare. While specific data for Mississippi is limited, national trends suggest a projected 9% growth in medical records and health information technicians 2023-2033, according to The US Bureau of Labor Statistics. This growth is expected to create a significant number of job openings. The widespread adoption of EHRs is a major factor in the growth.

# HEALTH INFORMATION TECHNICIAN: AVERAGE ANNUAL SALARY: \$35,768

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## JOB DESCRIPTION

Perform tasks related to the use, analysis, analysis, analysis, validation, presentation, data abstracting, analysis, coding, release of information, data privacy and security, retrieval, quality measurement, and control of health care data regardless of the physical medium in which information is maintained.

## SALARY RANGE

**\$26,991 - \$51,143**

## WORK ENVIRONMENT

- ✓ Hospitals
- ✓ Physician Offices
- ✓ Extended Health Care Facilities
- ✓ Health Maintenance Organizations
- ✓ Community Health Centers
- ✓ Insurance Companies



## LICENSURE, CERTIFICATION, REGISTRATION

Upon completing an accredited academic program, students may take a national examination approved by the American Health Information Management Association. Passing this exam allows health information technicians to become Registered Health Information Technicians (RHIT).

## HIGH SCHOOL PREPARATION

Individuals interested in a career as a health information technician should take high school courses in algebra, biology, computer skills, typing, literature, English, office procedures, social studies, sociology, chemistry, anatomy, government, history, psychology, and data processing.

## COLLEGE REQUIREMENTS

Students entering a health information technician program should have a high school diploma or equivalent. Health information technician programs are often 2 years in length and offer an associate's degree upon completion.

## PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

### American Health Information Management Association

233 N. Michigan Ave  
Chicago, IL 60601  
Phone: (312) 233-1100  
[www.ahima.org](http://www.ahima.org)

### Mississippi Health Information Association

Phone: (601) 336-0647  
[www.mshima.org](http://www.mshima.org)

## EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS

### ✓ Community Colleges:

- East Mississippi
- Hinds
- Holmes (AD)
- Meridian (AD)
- Mississippi Gulf Coast (AD)
- Northwest Mississippi (AD)
- Southwest

## CAREER OUTLOOK

The job outlook is strong, with a projected 16% growth in employment from 2023-2033, according to the US Bureau of Labor Statistics. Technologies like telehealth, wearable health devices, and AI are further increasing the demand for health information technicians.



# HEALTH SCIENCE LIBRARIAN: AVERAGE ANNUAL SALARY: \$73,311

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## JOB DESCRIPTION

Health science librarians, or medical librarians, help improve the quality of patient care by helping health care professionals stay abreast of new developments and treatments. Additionally, they find relevant health information for patients and consumers, serve as educators for students pursuing health care degrees, and provide training in the location and use of medical resources. Increasingly medical librarians use technology to design websites and distance- education-programs and to construct digital libraries. Others work for internet companies and electronic publishers that index and organize information for the web. Medical librarians also participate as members of research teams on university campuses and serve health care corporations, such as insurance and pharmaceutical companies, by providing information necessary for developing new products and services.

## SALARY RANGE

**\$44,986 - \$98,969**

## WORK ENVIRONMENT

- ✓ Medical and Nursing Schools
- ✓ Hospitals
- ✓ Government Agencies
- ✓ Pharmaceutical Companies
- ✓ Medical-Related Corporations

## LICENSURE, CERTIFICATION, REGISTRATION

Certification is not required but is offered through the Medical Library Association.

## HIGH SCHOOL PREPARATION

Students interested in pursuing a career as a health science librarian should take high school courses in biology, algebra, computer skills, chemistry, government, psychology, sociology, typing, data processing, English, office procedures, health education, foreign languages, anatomy, history, and literature.

## COLLEGE REQUIREMENTS

Individuals interested in becoming a medical librarian must complete a 4-year baccalaureate program in any discipline they choose. The most common majors for health science librarians include biology, library sciences, management, or health information. Students are also required to have a master's degree in library and information science (MLIS) from an American Library Association (ALA) accredited school.

## PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

<p><b>American Library Association</b> 50 East Huron St Chicago, IL 60611 Phone: (800) 545-2433 <a href="http://www.ala.org">www.ala.org</a></p>	<p><b>Medical Library Association</b> 65 East Wacker Place Chicago, IL 60601 Phone: (312) 419-9094 <a href="http://www.mlanet.org">www.mlanet.org</a></p>	<p><b>Special Libraries Association</b> 331 South Patrick St Alexandria, VA 22314 Phone: (703) 647-4900 <a href="http://www.sla.org">www.sla.org</a></p>
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## EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS

- ✓ University of Southern Mississippi (BA, MLIS)

## CAREER OUTLOOK

The outlook for growth in Mississippi is generally positive. The US Bureau of Labor Statistics projects a 3% growth from 2023-2033. Specific medical librarian roles are expected to see a higher growth rate, potentially 34% in the next decade.



# HEALTH UNIT COORDINATOR: AVERAGE ANNUAL SALARY: \$38,799

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## JOB DESCRIPTION

Health unit coordinators are members of the supporting cast that helps maintain a health care facility's service and performance. These trained individuals may also be known as unit clerks, ward clerks, or unit secretaries. Some of their daily operations include preparing birth/death certificates, maintaining patient charts and records, coordinating patient activities for the unit, ordering supplies, and communicating with the dietary department. They may perform other duties, such as, graphing the temperature, pulse, and blood pressure readings for patients, as well as transcribing medical orders and completing admission and discharge forms. Health unit coordinators usually work under the supervision of the registered nursing staff or the health information administrator. One of their main responsibilities is to act as a liaison between the patient and staff. They must have excellent communication skills to serve as a vital link between the physicians, nursing staff, various departments, patients, and visitors.

## SALARY RANGE

**\$24,150 - \$59,666**

## WORK ENVIRONMENT

- ✓ Hospitals
- ✓ Clinics
- ✓ Public Health Care Agencies
- ✓ Health Maintenance Organizations
- ✓ Nursing Homes
- ✓ Home Health Agencies
- ✓ Government Agencies

## LICENSURE, CERTIFICATION, REGISTRATION

The majority of employers require formal training or previous experience as a health unit coordinator. Certification can be obtained by passing an examination given by the National Association of Health Unit Coordinators.

## HIGH SCHOOL PREPARATION

Individuals interested in a career as a health unit coordinator should take high school courses in algebra, biology, chemistry, computer skills, data processing, psychology, English, composition, social studies, literature, foreign language, sociology, and health education.

## COLLEGE REQUIREMENTS

Individuals entering a health unit coordinator program should have a high school diploma or equivalent. Community colleges and vocational-technical schools may offer programs or training through continuing education departments. Some hospitals and other health care facilities may offer on-the-job training for this position.

## PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

### National Association of Health Unit Coordinators

1947 Madron Road  
Rockford, IL 61107  
Phone: (815) 633-4305  
[www.nahuc.org](http://www.nahuc.org)

### American Health Information Management Association

233 N. Michigan Ave  
Chicago, IL 60601  
Phone: (312) 233-1100  
[www.ahima.org](http://www.ahima.org)

## EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS

Several Mississippi community colleges offer short-term programs that can prepare you for roles like Health Unit Coordinator or Unit Secretary. While these positions aren't always labeled exactly as such, the following programs train students in administrative and clinical support roles within health care settings:

### ✓ **Community Colleges: (Health Care Assistant)**

- Hinds
- Holmes
- Jones Junior College
- Meridian
- Mississippi Delta
- Mississippi Gulf Coast
- Northeast Mississippi

## CAREER OUTLOOK

While the health care industry is generally expected to grow from 2023-2033, the specific demand for health unit coordinators in Mississippi appears to be limited at this time. Many HCUs also use their experience as a steppingstone to other health care careers.

# MEDICAL CODING SPECIALIST: AVERAGE ANNUAL SALARY: \$44,169

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## JOB DESCRIPTION

Read and review medical documentation provided by physicians and other health care providers to obtain detailed information regarding patients' diseases, injuries, surgical operations, and other procedures. This detailed information is translated into numeric codes. The coding specialist assigns and sequences diagnostic and procedural codes using a universally recognized coding system. Using this official classification system, coders must ensure correct code selection for compliance with federal regulation and insurance requirements. These medical codes are used extensively for reimbursement of hospital and physician claims for Medicare, Medicaid, and insurance payments. The information compiled by the medical coders is used to prepare statistical reports for use by clinic and hospital administrators for planning, marketing, and other management purposes.

## SALARY RANGE

**\$31,253 - \$67,716**

## WORK ENVIRONMENT

- ✓ Hospitals Clinics
- ✓ Surgery Centers
- ✓ Long-Term Care Facilities
- ✓ Insurance Companies
- ✓ Dental Offices
- ✓ Home Health Care Agencies
- ✓ Consulting Firms
- ✓ Coding and Billing Services
- ✓ Government Agencies



## LICENSURE, CERTIFICATION, REGISTRATION

Individuals may become a Certified Medical Coder by passing examinations offered by the American Health Information Management Association (AHIMA) and the American Academy of Professional Coders (AAPC).

## HIGH SCHOOL PREPARATION

Students interested in pursuing a career in medical coding should take high school courses in algebra, biology, computer skills, English, typing, data processing, and health education.

## COLLEGE REQUIREMENTS

Individuals interested in medical coding should have a high school diploma or equivalent. A 2-year associate's degree is recommended. Training may be available on the job as well as through continuing education classes offered by state associations and/or organizations.

## PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

<p><b>American Academy of Professional Coders</b> 2235 South Presidents Dr Salt Lake City, UT 84101 Phone: (800) 626-2633 <a href="http://www.aapc.com">www.aapc.com</a></p>	<p><b>American Health Information Management Association</b> 233 N. Michigan Ave Chicago, IL 60601 Phone: (312) 233-1100 <a href="http://www.ahima.org">www.ahima.org</a></p>	<p><b>Mississippi Health Information Association</b> Phone: (601) 336-0647 <a href="http://www.mshima.org">www.mshima.org</a></p>
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## EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS

- ✓ Delta State University
- ✓ Jackson State University
- ✓ Mississippi State University
- ✓ University of Mississippi
- ✓ **Community Colleges:**
  - East Mississippi
  - Hinds
  - Holmes
  - Meridian
  - Mississippi Gulf Coast
  - Pearl River

## CAREER OUTLOOK

The US Bureau of Labor Statistics projects a 9% increase in employment for medical records specialists (including coders) between 2023 and 2033. This growth indicates a strong and stable demand. The rise of AI and automation is not expected to make the profession obsolete but rather enhance it with human oversight still being necessary. Potential for advancement and increased pay is based on experience and skills.

# **MEDICAL TRANSCRIPTIONIST: AVERAGE ANNUAL SALARY: \$40,460**

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## **JOB DESCRIPTION**

Medical transcriptionists (MTs) are specialists in medical language and health care documentation. They interpret and transcribe dictation by physicians and other health care professionals regarding patient assessment, workup, therapeutic procedures, clinical course, diagnosis, prognosis, etc., editing dictated material for grammar and clarity as necessary and appropriate. Physicians and other health care providers employ state-of-the-art electronic technology to dictate and transmit highly technical and confidential information about their patients. These medical professionals rely on skilled medical transcriptionists to transform spoken words into comprehensive records that accurately communicate medical information.

## **SALARY RANGE**

**\$21,783 - \$56,350**

## **WORK ENVIRONMENT**

- ✓ Hospitals
- ✓ Self-Employed Clinics
- ✓ Physician Offices
- ✓ Health Maintenance Organizations
- ✓ Medical Transcription Companies
- ✓ Public Health Agencies
- ✓ Home Health Care Agencies
- ✓ Nursing Homes

## **LICENSURE, CERTIFICATION, REGISTRATION**

Upon completion of an educational program, students can become a Certified Medical Transcriptionist (CMT) by passing examinations given by the American Association of Medical Transcription.

## **HIGH SCHOOL PREPARATION**

Students interested in becoming a medical transcriptionist should take high school courses in algebra, business, geometry, computer applications, English, shorthand, composition, and health education.

## COLLEGE REQUIREMENTS

Individuals interested in medical transcription should have a high school diploma or equivalent. Since transcriptionists need to have a certain degree of medical knowledge, employers usually prefer an individual with an associate's degree in medical transcription. Some, however, are trained on the job while others obtain certificates.

## PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

### American Association for Medical Transcription

4120 Dale Road  
Modesto, CA 95356  
Phone: (209) 527-9620  
[www.ahdionline.org](http://www.ahdionline.org)

## EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS

- ✓ University of Mississippi
- ✓ **Community Colleges:**
  - Hinds
  - East Mississippi
  - Mississippi Gulf Coast
  - Southwest Mississippi



## CAREER OUTLOOK

The job outlook for the medical transcriptionist is projected to decline slightly, but with numerous openings available each year. Despite a projected 5% decline in employment from 2023 to 2033, about 9,600 openings are expected annually due to retirements and replacements, according to The US Bureau of Labor Statistics. This field offers flexibility, including many remote work opportunities, and a chance to learn about medicine. This remains a viable career path with flexibility and opportunities for those interested in healthcare.

# HEALTH CARE PUBLIC RELATIONS/ COMMUNICATIONS

**MEDICAL PR SPECIALIST: AVERAGE ANNUAL SALARY: \$79,199**

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## JOB DESCRIPTION

Individuals that specialize in health care public relations oversee internal and external communications for a health care facility. They interact with physicians, nurses, managers, administrators, and patients, and therefore must have excellent communication skills. Some of their responsibilities include writing for internal publications, such as newsletters, handling calls from the media, as well as writing and creating various materials that promote the services offered at that facility. Public relations specialists may be called upon to prepare marketing plans that highlight various aspects of an organization. The most important function of this position is handling all communications with the public. They may organize events between the organization and the public or publish press releases.

## SALARY RANGE

**\$32,674 - \$126,908**

## WORK ENVIRONMENT

- ✓ Hospitals Nursing Homes
- ✓ Rehabilitation Facilities
- ✓ Health Maintenance Organizations
- ✓ Psychiatric Facilities
- ✓ Community Health Centers

## LICENSURE, CERTIFICATION, REGISTRATION

Accreditation through the Public Relations Society of America or the International Association of Business Communications.

## HIGH SCHOOL PREPARATION

High school courses in algebra, biology, computer skills, data processing, psychology, English, health, government, history, literature, foreign language, anatomy, sociology, and health education.

## COLLEGE REQUIREMENTS

Requires a bachelor's degree combined with experience in public relations as an intern. Employers usually prefer a degree in communications, journalism, English, public relations, advertising, or a related field.

## PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

<p><b>Public Relations Society of America</b> 120 Wall St NY, NY 10005 Phone: (212) 460-1400 <a href="http://www.prsa.org">www.prsa.org</a></p>	<p><b>Society for Healthcare Strategy And Market Development</b> 155 North Wacker Chicago, IL 60606 Phone: (312) 422-3888 <a href="http://www.shsmd.org">www.shsmd.org</a></p>
<p><b>Public Relations Association of Mississippi - Central Chapter</b> <a href="mailto:wadepp@millsaps.edu">wadepp@millsaps.edu</a> <a href="http://www.pramcentral.org">www.pramcentral.org</a></p>	<p><b>International Association of Business Communicators</b> 155 Montgomery St San Francisco, CA 94102 Phone: (415) 544-4700 <a href="http://www.iabc.com">www.iabc.com</a></p>

## EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS

- ✓ Belhaven University
- ✓ Mississippi College
- ✓ Mississippi State University
- ✓ University of Mississippi
- ✓ University of Southern Mississippi

## CAREER OUTLOOK

The US Bureau of Labor Statistics projects a 6% growth in public relations specialists from 2023 to 2033. While the national outlook for public relations specialists is positive, a specific focus on medical public relations may lead to further specialization and potentially higher demand, especially in areas like health communication and public health. The growth in PR is attributed to factors like the increasing need for reputation management, the rise of social media, and the need to manage public perception in a dynamic global environment.

# **MEDICAL ILLUSTRATOR: AVERAGE ANNUAL SALARY: \$158,015**

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## **JOB DESCRIPTION**

Medical illustrators specialize in the visual transformation, display, and communication of scientific information. Their graduate level training in biomedical science, art, design, visual technology, education, and communication enables them to understand and visualize scientific data and concepts to teach the public and professionals in the fields of health care, research, pharmaceuticals, biotechnology, and demonstrative evidence. Medical illustrations are used in medical textbooks, medical advertisements, professional journals, instructional animations, computer assisted learning programs, scientific exhibits, lecture presentations, general magazines, and courtroom presentations.

## **SALARY RANGE**

**\$52,562 - \$255,709**

## **WORK ENVIRONMENT**

- ✓ Medical Schools
- ✓ Hospitals
- ✓ Research Organizations
- ✓ Publishing Companies
- ✓ Advertising Agencies
- ✓ Pharmaceutical Manufacturers
- ✓ Research Programs

## **LICENSURE, CERTIFICATION, REGISTRATION**

Licensure is not required. Certification is available through the Association of Medical Illustrators.

## **HIGH SCHOOL PREPARATION**

High school preparation for a career as a medical illustrator should include courses in art, biology, chemistry, algebra, drawing and design, English, history, graphic arts, printing, health education, photography, and computer illustration.

## COLLEGE REQUIREMENTS

To become a medical illustrator, a student must have specialized training in art and biological sciences. A bachelor's degree combining art and premedical courses is usually preferred, followed by a master's degree in medical illustration. An excellent academic record as well as an outstanding portfolio of your artwork is necessary for admission into these highly competitive graduate programs.

## PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

<p><b>Association of Medical Illustrators</b> 201 E. Main St Lexington, KY 40507 Phone: (866) 393-4264 <a href="http://www.ami.org">www.ami.org</a></p>	<p><b>Guild of Natural Science Illustrators</b> PO Box 652 Ben Franklin Station Washington, DC 20044 Phone: (301) 309-1514 <a href="http://www.gnsi.org">www.gnsi.org</a></p>	<p><b>Health and Science Communications Association</b> PO Box 31323 Omaha, NE 68132 Phone: (402) 915-5373 <a href="http://www.hesca.net">www.hesca.net</a></p>
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## EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS

This specialized field typically requires a combination of advanced education in both the arts and biological sciences. After completing an accredited program, aspiring medical illustrators can pursue certification through the Board of Certification of Medical Illustrators (BCMI), leading to the Certified Medical Illustrator (CMI) credential. This certification is optional but can enhance job prospects and professional recognition.

## CAREER OUTLOOK

The job outlook for medical illustrators is positive, with employment projected to grow by 5% from 2019 to 2029. This growth is driven by the increasing use of visual aids in medical education and research, as well as the expanding healthcare industry. New technologies like AR/VR and interactive media are creating new opportunities for medical illustrators to create engaging and informative visual content.

Medical illustrators can also find work as freelancers, offering their services to a variety of clients in the medical and healthcare industries.

# MEDICAL PHOTOGRAPHER: AVERAGE ANNUAL SALARY: \$53,167

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## JOB DESCRIPTION

Medical photographers (biomedical photographers) not only are creative, but they also have a detailed understanding of science and its processes. Their photos can be seen in textbooks, brochures, exhibits and even films that can be used for legal or teaching methods. The primary function of medical photographers is to assist with education and research on the human body or specific diseases. Medical photographers may take pictures of autopsies, surgeries and other medical procedures. They may create charts, graphs and convert photographs into digital images. They may manipulate photographs of microscopic images to see in more detail. They photograph different areas of the body so people can have a better understanding of the human body and particular diseases that may occur in certain areas. They photograph medical conditions or patients over periods of time to see the progression of the disease or a medical issue. They may use graphic design software such as Photoshop to enhance images and or add labels and other information to the photo.

## SALARY RANGE

**\$27,939 - \$70,083**

## WORK ENVIRONMENT

- ✓ Medical Schools
- ✓ Hospitals
- ✓ Research Organizations
- ✓ Publishing Companies
- ✓ Advertising Agencies
- ✓ Pharmaceutical Manufacturers
- ✓ Health Organizations



## LICENSURE, CERTIFICATION, REGISTRATION

Certification is offered by the Bio-Communications Association's Board of Registry to become a Registered Biological Photographer (RBP). After all educational requirements are met, individuals must pass written, practical, and oral examinations to become an RBP.

## HIGH SCHOOL PREPARATION

Students interested in a career as a medical photographer should take high school courses in art, biology, chemistry, algebra, photography, drawing and design, English, history, graphic arts, printing, health education, and computer illustration.

## COLLEGE REQUIREMENTS

Individuals interested in medical photography must have a high school diploma or equivalent. Graduation from an associate or bachelor's degree program, with a great deal of photography experience, is necessary to become a medical photographer.

## PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

### **Bio-Communications Association**

220 Southwind Lane  
Hillsborough, NC 27278  
Phone: (919) 245-0906  
[www.bca.org](http://www.bca.org)

### **Health and Science Communications Association**

PO Box 31323  
Omaha, NE 68132  
Phone: (402) 915-5373  
[www.hesca.net](http://www.hesca.net)

## EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS

- ✓ Mississippi State University
- ✓ University of Mississippi Medical Center

## CAREER OUTLOOK

Employment of photographers is expected to grow 4% from 2023 to 2033, according to the US Bureau of Labor Statistics. About 13,700 openings for photographers are projected each year, on average, over the decade. However, in 2025, the outlook in Mississippi is not very active.

# **MEDICAL WRITER: AVERAGE ANNUAL SALARY: \$91,141**

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## **JOB DESCRIPTION**

A medical writer is responsible for creating medical and scientific documents. It is most common for medical writers to work for the pharmaceutical industry. Some companies hire medical writers, while others outsource their work to medical writers on a contractual freelance basis. Medical writers must provide accurate details about medical information and products to provide education and awareness or get drugs approved by the US Food and Drug Administration (FDA).

## **SALARY RANGE**

**\$22,730 - \$155,319**

## **WORK ENVIRONMENT**

- ✓ Self-Employed Publishing Companies
- ✓ Pharmaceutical Companies
- ✓ Advertising Agencies
- ✓ Educational Institutions
- ✓ Hospitals
- ✓ Government Agencies
- ✓ Radio & Television
- ✓ Medical Equipment Companies

## **LICENSURE, CERTIFICATION, REGISTRATION**

The American Medical Writers Association offers certification for individuals who complete certain workshops and continuing education courses. Other professional experience may be required for certification.

## **HIGH SCHOOL PREPARATION**

Students interested in a career as a medical writer should take high school courses in biology, chemistry, physics, anatomy and physiology, English, literature, algebra, geometry, psychology, social sciences, computer skills, writing, and health education.

## **COLLEGE REQUIREMENTS**

Individuals interested in medical writing must have a high school diploma or the equivalent. Most medical writers need to know the same terminology as other health professionals and have at least a bachelor's degree. They usually earn degrees in some type of science, but they may also major in English or journalism and minor in a science.

## PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

### American Medical Writer's Association

30 West Gude Dr  
Rockville, MD 20850  
Phone: (240) 238-0940  
[www.amwa.org](http://www.amwa.org)

### National Association of Science Writers

PO Box 7905  
Berkeley, CA 94707  
Phone: (510) 647-9500  
[www.nasw.org](http://www.nasw.org)

### Health and Science Communications Association

PO Box 31323  
Omaha, NE 68132  
Phone: (402) 915-5373  
[www.hesca.net](http://www.hesca.net)

## EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS

All colleges and universities in the state offer programs in English and biology.

- ✓ University of Mississippi Medical Center (post Baccalaureate certificate Health Informatics)

## CAREER OUTLOOK

The US Bureau of Labor Statistics projects a 4% growth in the technical writing field, which includes medical writers, nationwide, but this may not translate directly to Mississippi. As of 2025, the medical writer job market in Mississippi is not very active, with few companies posting positions. The ability to work remotely may create opportunities in Mississippi for medical writers, as they could potentially work with companies located elsewhere.



# MEDICINE

## **ANESTHESIOLOGIST: AVERAGE ANNUAL SALARY: \$357,100**

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### **JOB DESCRIPTION**

Anesthesiologists are physicians who focus on surgical patients and pain relief. They administer anesthetics, (medicines to prevent patients from feeling pain and sensations); closely monitor patients' vital signs during surgery, monitor patients through the first recovery stage after operation; and administer medications during recovery.

Anesthesiologists may also help treat patients with conditions causing chronic pain. Many specialize in specific types of problems, such as respiratory or neurological illness. More than 90% of the anesthetics are administered by or under the direct supervision of an anesthesiologist.

### **SALARY RANGE**

**\$284,885 - \$408,491**

### **WORK ENVIRONMENT**

- ✓ Hospitals
- ✓ Outpatient Surgical Centers
- ✓ Private and Group Practices
- ✓ Urgent Care Centers
- ✓ Academic Medical Centers
- ✓ Military

### **HIGH SCHOOL PREPARATION**

Concentrate on high school courses in algebra, biology, chemistry, geometry, physics, trigonometry, anatomy and physiology, humanities, health education, psychology, and computer skills.

### **COLLEGE REQUIREMENTS**

Must complete a pre-medical program at an accredited college or university. Programs are four years in length and are very rigorous. Students must then pass the Medical College Admissions Test (MCAT) and get accepted into a school of medicine. Upon graduation from an accredited medical school, individuals must complete a four-year anesthesiology residency program.

### **LICENSURE, CERTIFICATION, REGISTRATION**

To practice medicine in Mississippi, physicians and resident physicians must have a license through the Mississippi State Board of Medical Licensure. During residency training, anesthesiologists generally work toward obtaining certification from the American Society of Anesthesiologists or the American Board of Anesthesiology.

## PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

<p><b>Association of American Medical Colleges</b> 655 K St NW Washington, DC 20001 Phone: (202) 828-0400 <a href="http://www.aamc.org">www.aamc.org</a></p>	<p><b>American Society of Anesthesiologists</b> 1061 American Lane Schaumburg, IL 60173 Phone: (847) 825-5586 <a href="http://www.asahq.org">www.asahq.org</a></p>
<p><b>The American Board of Anesthesiology</b> 4208 Six Forks Road Raleigh, NC 27609 Phone: (866) 999-7501 <a href="http://www.theaba.org">www.theaba.org</a></p>	<p><b>Mississippi State Medical Association</b> PO Box 2548 Ridgeland, MS 39158 Phone: (601) 853-6733 <a href="http://www.msmaonline.com">www.msmaonline.com</a></p>

## EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS

- ✓ University of Mississippi Medical Center
- ✓ William Carey University

- 1) Bachelor's Degree (4 yrs): Pre-med with coursework in biology, chemistry, physics.
- 2) Medical School (4 years): MD or DO degree.
- 3) Anesthesiology Residency (4 years): Specialized training after medical school.
- 4) Optional Fellowship (1-2 years): For sub-specialties like pain management, pediatric anesthesiology, etc.
- 5) Board Certification: Through the American Board of Anesthesiology (ABA).

## CAREER OUTLOOK

Mississippi's job market for anesthesiologists is projected to be stable, with no growth or decline anticipated. Nationally, however, there is a projected growth of 15.5% for anesthesiologists, but specific figures for Mississippi are not available. In 2026, the state is expected to have 90 total jobs for anesthesiologists and 0 annual job openings. The overall demand for anesthesiologists nationwide is driven by increasing surgical procedures and the growing complexity of medical treatments.

# CHIROPRACTOR: AVERAGE ANNUAL SALARY: \$81,113

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## JOB DESCRIPTION

Chiropractors are alternative health care practitioners who diagnose and treat health problems associated with the muscular, nervous, and skeletal systems. Chiropractors treat patients primarily by manipulating parts of the body, especially the spinal column. By means of this manipulation, chiropractors try to correct any disorders of the skeleton or spine that may interrupt the flow of nerve impulses to various parts of the body. They do not use drugs or surgery to treat patients.

## SALARY RANGE

**\$38,830 - \$104,177**

## WORK ENVIRONMENT

- ✓ Private and Group Practices
- ✓ Hospitals
- ✓ Health Maintenance Organizations
- ✓ Chiropractic Colleges
- ✓ Patient Homes

## LICENSURE, CERTIFICATION, REGISTRATION

Upon graduation from an accredited chiropractic program, individuals must obtain a license by passing a three-part examination given by the National Board of Chiropractic Examiners. To maintain licensure, individuals must complete a certain number of continuing education hours each year.

## HIGH SCHOOL PREPARATION

High school preparation for a career in chiropractic health care should include courses in algebra, biology, chemistry, physics, trigonometry, health occupations/medical professions education, physical education, psychology, and computer skills.

## COLLEGE REQUIREMENTS

Students interested in becoming a Doctor of Chiropractic must complete at least two years of undergraduate study, although some obtain a bachelor's degree. Students must then complete a 4-year chiropractic college program accredited by the Council of Chiropractic Education.

## PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

### American Chiropractic Association

1701 Clarendon Blvd  
Arlington, VA 22209  
Phone: (703) 276-8800  
[www.acatoday.org](http://www.acatoday.org)

### International Chiropractors Association

6400 Arlington Blvd  
Falls Church, VA 22042  
Phone: (703) 528-5000  
[www.chiropractic.org](http://www.chiropractic.org)

### Mississippi Chiropractic Association

PO Box 1266  
Summit, MS 39666  
Phone: (601) 276-3336  
[www.mschiro.org](http://www.mschiro.org)

### Council of Chiropractic Education

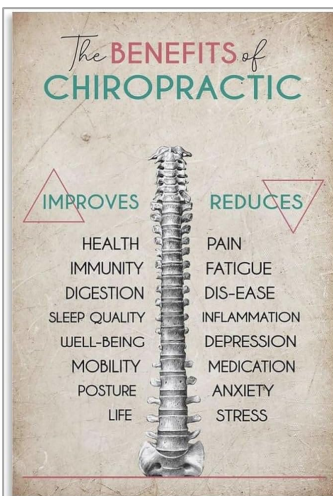
8049 North 85th Way  
Scottsdale, AZ 85258  
Phone: (480) 443-8877  
[www.cce-usa.org](http://www.cce-usa.org)

## EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS

- ✓ University of Mississippi – Pre-Chiropractic Medicine

## CAREER OUTLOOK

Employment of chiropractors is projected to grow 10% from 2023-2033. This growth is attributed to increasing public awareness of non-surgical, drug-free pain management and holistic health solutions. In the future, you can expect to see more of these technologies and tools, including AI powered diagnostics. Chiropractors are integrating AI-powered diagnostic tools, virtual reality, and advanced tools like digital X-rays to improve diagnostic accuracy, treatments, and patient outcomes.



# PHYSICIAN: AVERAGE ANNUAL SALARY: \$258,511

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## JOB DESCRIPTION

Physicians, aka doctors, serve a fundamental role in our society and influence all our lives. They diagnose illnesses, prescribe and administer treatment for people suffering from injury or disease. Physicians examine patients, obtain medical histories, and order, perform, and interpret diagnostic tests. They counsel patients on diet, hygiene, and preventive health care. About one third of the nation's physicians are generalists — “primary care” doctors who provide lifelong medical services. These include internists, family physicians, and pediatricians. Generalists provide a wide range of services children and adults need.

When specific health needs require further treatment, the generalist physician sends them to see a specialist physician. Specialist physicians, such as neurologists, cardiologists, and ophthalmologists, differ from generalists in that they focus on treating a particular system or part of the body. They collaborate with generalist physicians to ensure that patients receive treatment for specific medical problems as well as complete and comprehensive care throughout life.

## SALARY RANGE

**\$50,668 - \$350,415**

## WORK ENVIRONMENT

- ✓ Hospitals
- ✓ Military
- ✓ Nursing Homes
- ✓ Medical Schools
- ✓ Research Facilities
- ✓ Private and Group Clinics
- ✓ Community Health Centers
- ✓ Urgent Care Centers

## HIGH SCHOOL PREPARATION

Students interested in a career as a physician should concentrate on high school courses in algebra, biology, chemistry, English, literature, geometry, physics, trigonometry, humanities, health professions, psychology, and computer skills.

## LICENSURE, CERTIFICATION, REGISTRATION

To practice medicine in Mississippi, physicians and resident physicians must have a license through the Mississippi State Board of Medical Licensure. During residency training, physicians generally work toward obtaining certification from one of the many approved medical specialty boards.

## COLLEGE REQUIREMENTS

Individuals interested in becoming a physician must complete a premedical program at an accredited college or university. These rigorous programs are four years in length. Students must then pass the Medical College Admissions Test (MCAT) and get accepted into a school of medicine. This may require a personal interview, additional applications, or further testing. Once admitted into medical school, a student must graduate from this four-year program, which is very difficult and expensive. Upon graduation, a student then begins a period of post-graduate training called residency, which can last 3 to 8 years.

## PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

<b>American Medical Association</b> 330 N Wabash St Chicago, IL 60611 Phone: (800) 621-8335 <a href="http://www.ama-assn.org">www.ama-assn.org</a>	<b>American Board of Medical Specialties</b> 353 North Clark St Chicago, IL 60654 Phone: (312) 436-2600 <a href="http://www.abms.org">www.abms.org</a>
<b>Association of American Medical Colleges</b> 655 K St NW Washington, DC 20001-2399 Phone: (202) 828-0400 <a href="http://www.aamc.org">www.aamc.org</a>	<b>Mississippi State Medical Association</b> 408 West Pkwy Place Ridgeland, MS 39157 Phone: (601) 853-6733 <a href="http://www.msmaonline.com">www.msmaonline.com</a>

## EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS

- ✓ University of Mississippi Medical Center (MD)
- ✓ William Carey University (DO)

## CAREER OUTLOOK

The job outlook for physicians in Mississippi in 2025 is generally positive, with projected growth in several areas. While the state faces a shortage of physicians, particularly primary care doctors, the demand for physicians is expected to increase due to an aging population and growing rates of chronic illnesses. Specific areas like psychiatry are expected to see significant growth, while pediatricians may face some constraints due to a declining child population. Rising rates of conditions like diabetes, cancer, and heart disease will lead to continued reliance on physicians for medical care.

# PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT: AVERAGE ANNUAL SALARY: \$113,849

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## JOB DESCRIPTION

The physician assistant (PA) is academically and clinically prepared to practice medicine as part of a team led by a doctor of medicine or osteopathy. Within the physician-PA relationship, PAs make clinical decisions and provide a broad range of diagnostic, therapeutic, preventive and health maintenance services. The clinical role of PAs includes primary and specialty care in medical and surgical practice settings. PA practice is centered on patient care and may include educational, research, and administrative activities. The role of the physician assistant demands intelligence, sound judgment, intellectual honesty, appropriate interpersonal skills, and the capacity to react to emergencies in a calm and reasoned manner. An attitude of respect for self and others, adherence to the concepts of privilege and confidentiality in communicating with patients, and a commitment to the patient's welfare are essential attributes of the graduate PA.

## SALARY RANGE

**\$55,404 - \$168,104**

## WORK ENVIRONMENT

- ✓ Physician Offices
- ✓ Nursing Homes
- ✓ Clinics
- ✓ Community Health Centers
- ✓ Government Facilities
- ✓ Colleges and Universities



## LICENSURE, CERTIFICATION, REGISTRATION

Upon completion of an accredited PA program, students must pass an examination given by the National Commission for Certification of Physician Assistants.

After certification, they must apply for a license from the Mississippi State Board of Medical Licensure to practice in this state. Due to changing requirements, contact the Board about up-to-date licensing requirements.

## HIGH SCHOOL PREPARATION

Students interested in becoming a physician assistant should take high school courses in biology, chemistry, algebra, psychology, sociology, English, literature, health education, computer skills, medical technology, and geometry.

## COLLEGE REQUIREMENTS

The requirements for admission into a physician assistant program vary greatly. Most programs require at least four years of undergraduate study and some work experience in the health care field, but educational programs vary from state to state.

## PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

**American Academy of  
Physician Assistants**  
2318 Mill Road  
Alexandria, VA 22314  
Phone: (703) 836-2272  
[www.aapa.org](http://www.aapa.org)

**Physician Assistant  
Education Association**  
655 K. St NW  
Washington, DC 2001  
Phone: (703) 548-5538  
[www.paea.org](http://www.paea.org)

## EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS

- ✓ Mississippi College
- ✓ Mississippi State University Meridian

## CAREER OUTLOOK

The job outlook for Physician Assistants (PAs) in Mississippi is strong, with projections indicating significant growth in employment. The US Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) predicts a 28% increase in PA employment from 2023 to 2033. The BLS also forecasts a total of 12,900 openings each year on average over the next decade. PAs in fields like mental health, geriatrics, and telemedicine are experiencing even greater growth and potential for higher earnings.

# PODIATRIST: AVERAGE ANNUAL SALARY: \$139,439

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## JOB DESCRIPTION

Podiatrists, also known as doctors of podiatric medicine (DPMs), specialize in diagnosing and treating disorders, diseases, and injuries of the foot, ankle, and lower leg. Podiatrists treat ingrown toenails, bunions, heel spurs, corns, calluses, and arch problems, ankle and foot injuries, deformities, and infections, wound care, including ulcerations, and foot complaints associated with diseases such as diabetes. To treat these problems, podiatrists prescribe drugs, order physical therapy, set fractures, and perform surgery. They also fit and prescribe corrective inserts called custom foot orthoses, apply plaster casts and strappings to correct deformities, and prescribe diabetic and custom-made shoes.

## SALARY RANGE

**\$56,824 - \$227,769**

## WORK ENVIRONMENT

- ✓ Hospitals
- ✓ Schools
- ✓ Military
- ✓ Nursing Homes
- ✓ Private Practice
- ✓ US Public Health Service
- ✓ Long-Term Care Facilities
- ✓ Multi-Specialty Group Practices
- ✓ Health Maintenance Organizations

## LICENSURE, CERTIFICATION, REGISTRATION

Mississippi, along with every other state, requires podiatrists to pass written and oral examinations to obtain a license, which is required to practice as a Doctor of Podiatric Medicine (DPM).

## HIGH SCHOOL PREPARATION

High school preparation for a career in podiatry should include algebra, biology, chemistry, English, social studies, geometry, trigonometry, humanities, health, speech, psychology, history, and computer skills.

## COLLEGE REQUIREMENTS

Individuals interested in podiatry must first complete at least 90 semester hours of undergraduate study, including pre-med science courses. Colleges of podiatric medicine offer a 4-year program that is like other schools of medicine. Upon graduation, students may complete a specialty residency program that lasts from 1 to 3 years.

## PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

<p><b>American Association of Colleges of Podiatric Medicine</b> 15850 Crabbs Branch Way Rockville, MD 20855 Phone: (800) 948-9760 <a href="http://www.aacpm.org">www.aacpm.org</a></p>	<p><b>American Podiatric Medical Association</b> 9312 Old Georgetown Rd Bethesda, MD 20814 Phone: (301) 581-9200 <a href="http://www.apma.org">www.apma.org</a></p>	<p><b>Mississippi Podiatric Medical Association</b> 5760 Highway 32, E. Water Valley, MS 38965 Phone: (662) 473-3422 <a href="http://www.mspma.net">www.mspma.net</a></p>
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## EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS

No programs in Mississippi.

## CAREER OUTLOOK

The US Bureau of Labor Statistics projects that the employment of podiatrists is projected to grow 1% from 2023 to 2033. The job outlook for podiatrists in Mississippi is expected to be stable, with modest growth and a relatively small number of job openings each year. While the national job market for podiatrists is projected to grow slightly, the Mississippi-specific outlook may be influenced by regional factors. Podiatry is a rewarding healthcare career.

# NURSING

## **HOME HEALTH AIDE: AVERAGE ANNUAL SALARY: \$31,807**

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### **JOB DESCRIPTION**

Home health aides provide in-home care to elderly, disabled, and the ill. They provide many different services including bathing, dressing, and housekeeping. They may also administer simple prescribed medications. They normally work under the supervision of a nurse or other medical professional who assists when more advanced care is required. They are required to maintain accurate and up-to-date records of services provided and the progress of the patient. Specific assignments and duties are usually given by a home health agency.

### **SALARY RANGE**

**\$18,941 - \$44,039**

### **WORK ENVIRONMENT**

- ✓ Patient Homes
- ✓ Hospice Facilities
- ✓ Nursing Homes
- ✓ Home Health Agencies



### **LICENSURE, CERTIFICATION, REGISTRATION**

Many states require that an aide be licensed as a Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA). In Mississippi, home health aides are required to pass an annual physical examination and have a negative tuberculin (TB) test.

### **HIGH SCHOOL PREPARATION**

Students interested in home health should concentrate on courses in biology, algebra, family living, English, computer skills, childcare, health education, home economics, physical education, and nurse's aide training.

## COLLEGE REQUIREMENTS

Skills for this profession are often taught in high schools or vocational schools. Hospitals, nursing homes, and home health agencies usually offer training programs in this field.

## PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

### National Association for Home Care & Hospice

228 7th St SE  
Washington, DC 20003  
Phone: (202) 547-7424  
[www.nahc.org](http://www.nahc.org)

### Mississippi Association for Home Care

PO Box 115  
Clinton, MS 39060  
Phone: (601) 924-2275  
[www.mahc.org](http://www.mahc.org)

## EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS

See Educational Institutions under Nursing Assistant.

See NURSE AIDE TRAINING courses at the MS State Department of Health website:  
[www.msdh.ms/gov/page/resources/20816.pdf](http://www.msdh.ms/gov/page/resources/20816.pdf)

## CAREER OUTLOOK

Available positions are projected to grow 21% from 2023 to 2033. There are many opportunities for advancement and increased pay based on experience and skills. The job market for Home Health Aides in Mississippi is not very active currently, but the overall demand is expected to increase. Several factors contribute to expected growth, including an aging population, longer lifespans, and a growing number of individuals requiring home-based assistance.



# LICENSED PRACTICAL NURSE: AVERAGE ANNUAL SALARY: \$58,851

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## JOB DESCRIPTION

LPNs are certified healthcare professionals who are responsible for providing basic patient care. They carry out their job duties under the supervision of an RN or doctor. An LPN collects information from the patients to be admitted regarding medical records, medical insurance details, and helps in completing other pre-treatment formalities. An LPN records patient health details including blood pressure, body temperature, respiration and heartbeat rate among other vital signs. They help the patient prepare for medical examinations, take test samples from patients, and administer medicines / injections prescribed by the physician.

## SALARY RANGE

**\$31,253 - \$86,182**

## WORK ENVIRONMENT

- ✓ Hospitals
- ✓ Nursing Homes
- ✓ Dental Offices
- ✓ Mental Health Institutions
- ✓ Private Homes
- ✓ Community Health Clinics
- ✓ Public Health Departments

## LICENSURE, CERTIFICATION, REGISTRATION

To practice in the state of Mississippi, individuals must become licensed by passing the National Council Licensure Examination for LPNs.

## HIGH SCHOOL PREPARATION

High school courses in biology, chemistry, algebra, psychology, emergency medical technology, first aid, physical education, food and nutrition, child growth and development, health education, computer skills, English, geometry, and history.

## COLLEGE REQUIREMENTS

Students must have a high school diploma or the equivalent. Accredited practical nursing programs usually take between 12 and 18 months to complete. Programs include classroom as well as supervised clinical practice in patient care.

## PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

### National Federation of Licensed Practical Nurses

3801 Lake Boone Trail  
Raleigh, NC 27607  
Phone: (800) 948-2511  
[www.nalpn.org](http://www.nalpn.org)

### National Association for Practical Nurse Education and Service

2071 N Bechtle Ave  
PMB 307  
Springfield, OH 45504  
Phone: (703) 933-1003  
[www.napnes.org](http://www.napnes.org)

### Mississippi LPN Association

[linda.shows@mslpn.org](mailto:linda.shows@mslpn.org)  
[www.mslpn.org](http://www.mslpn.org)

## EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS

### ✓ Community Colleges:

- Coahoma (C)
- Copiah-Lincoln (C)
- East Central (C)
- East Mississippi (C)
- Hinds (C)
- Holmes (C)
- Itawamba (C)
- Jones County Junior College (C)
- Meridian (C)
- Mississippi Delta (C)
- MS Gulf Coast (C)
- Northeast MS (C)
- Northwest MS (C)
- Pearl River (C)
- Southwest MS (C)



## CAREER OUTLOOK

The US Bureau of Labor Statistics projects a 3% growth in LPN employment nationwide from 2023 to 2033. However, in Mississippi, the job outlook is generally positive, with a projected 9% growth rate over the next decade. The nursing shortage in our state creates a high demand for LPNs.

# NURSING ASSISTANT: AVERAGE ANNUAL SALARY: \$35,835

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## JOB DESCRIPTION

Nursing assistants, sometimes called nurse aides, orderlies, and geriatric aides, assist in patient care. They work under the direction and supervision of registered nurses (RNs), licensed practical nurses (LPNs), and other medical staff. Nursing assistants have contact with patients and provide personal care such as bathing, feeding, and dressing. They perform support functions, such as transporting patients, taking vital signs, making beds, helping patients become ambulatory, and answering patient calls. Might be called upon to set up equipment like X-ray machines and overhead irrigation bottles. Nursing assistants are often responsible for observing / reporting how patients respond to the care that is being given. Must be a team player who is able to take orders well. They must also be emotionally stable and have a great deal of patience.

## SALARY RANGE

**\$20,836 - \$51,143**

## WORK ENVIRONMENT

- ✓ Hospitals
- ✓ Physician Offices
- ✓ Home Health Agencies
- ✓ Nursing Homes
- ✓ Private Homes
- ✓ Mental Health Institutions



## LICENSURE, CERTIFICATION, REGISTRATION

Certification may be earned by taking an examination given by the Mississippi Department of Health to become a Certified Nurses' Assistant (CNA).

## HIGH SCHOOL PREPARATION

Algebra, computer skills, English, history, biology, nurse's aide training, and health education.

## COLLEGE REQUIREMENTS

Most employers require a high school diploma or the equivalent. Training is offered through high schools, vocational schools, community colleges, geriatric facilities, and employers. These courses usually last eight to ten weeks and result in a certificate of completion.

## PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

### American Nurses Association

8515 Georgia Ave  
Silver Spring, MD 20910  
Phone: (301) 628-5000  
[www.nursingworld.org](http://www.nursingworld.org)

### American Association of Medical Assistants

20 North Wacker Dr  
Chicago, IL 60606  
Phone: (312) 899-1500  
[www.aama-ntl.org](http://www.aama-ntl.org)

### Mississippi Nurses Association

31 Woodgreen Place  
Madison, MS 39110  
Phone: (601) 898-0670  
[www.msnurses.org](http://www.msnurses.org)

## EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS

All Mississippi community colleges offer Certified Nurse Aide training programs. In addition, many training programs are held in other municipalities at local vocational and training centers.

See NURSE AIDE TRAINING courses at the MS State Department of Health website:  
[www.msdh.ms.gov/page/resources/20816.pdf](http://www.msdh.ms.gov/page/resources/20816.pdf)

## CAREER OUTLOOK

According to The US Bureau of Labor Statistics, the job outlook in Mississippi for 2025 is positive, with overall employment expected to grow by 4-5% from 2022 to 2032. Becoming a CNA is a great option for those looking to start a healthcare career.



# REGISTERED NURSE

## REGISTERED NURSE - ASSOCIATE & BACCALAUREATE

**AVERAGE ANNUAL SALARY: \$83,217**

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### JOB DESCRIPTION

Provide a variety of care services that include treating patients, educating patients and the public about various medical conditions, and providing advice and emotional support to family members. RNs record medical histories and symptoms, help perform diagnostic tests and analyze results, operate medical machinery, administer treatment and medications, and help with patient follow-up / rehabilitation. RNs teach patients how to manage illness or injury, including post-treatment home care needs, diet and exercise programs, and self-administration of medication and physical therapy. Some are educated to provide grief counseling to family members of critically ill patients. RNs work to promote general health by educating the public on various warning signs of disease and where to go for help. They might also run health screening or immunization clinics, blood drives, and public seminars on various conditions.

### SALARY RANGE

**\$14,680 - \$142,060**

### WORK ENVIRONMENT

- ✓ Hospitals
- ✓ Clinics
- ✓ Schools
- ✓ Military
- ✓ Nursing Homes
- ✓ Public Health Departments
- ✓ Physician Offices
- ✓ Home Health Agencies
- ✓ Rehabilitation Centers
- ✓ Mental Health Facilities
- ✓ Industrial and Corporate Sites

### LICENSURE, CERTIFICATION, REGISTRATION

Upon completion of an accredited school of nursing, both associate degree and baccalaureate degree graduates must take and pass the National Council Licensure Examination for Registered Nurses (NCLEX-RN) and obtain licensure as a Registered Nurse (RN) from the Mississippi Board of Nursing.

### HIGH SCHOOL PREPARATION

Biology, chemistry, algebra, geometry, psychology, sociology, first aid, food and nutrition, health education, physical education, English, computer skills, and foreign languages.

## COLLEGE REQUIREMENTS

There are two types of educational programs that prepare a graduate to be eligible to take the licensure examination to become a registered nurse: associate degree nursing programs and baccalaureate degree nursing programs. In Mississippi the associate degree programs are in 13 community or junior colleges and two public universities. The seven baccalaureate degree programs are in 5 public universities and two private colleges. The title Registered Nurse (RN) means that a person has graduated from an approved School of Nursing, passed the national licensing examination for registered nurses, and paid a fee to practice nursing in the state. The practice of nursing is defined by law and regulated by the Mississippi Board of Nursing.

**Associate Degree Nursing Programs (ADN)** prepare nurses at the basic level of entry for professional nursing practice. The associate degree program is two years in length and prepares the graduate as a first level professional caregiver. The practice of AD nursing is directed toward the promotion and protection of health and the prevention of illness for clients with both physiological and psychosocial needs across the life span. These nurses perform a range of complex interventions safely and competently in an integrated health care system. AD nurses participate in the management of nursing care including client teaching and supervision of ancillary nursing personnel.

**Bachelor of Science in Nursing Programs (BSN)**, sometimes called “Baccalaureate Degree Nursing Programs,” are four-year programs offered in a college or university. These programs prepare the professional nurse who practices nursing with individuals, families, and communities in a variety of health care settings. These nurses assess patient needs in stable and changing situations and plan, implement and evaluate care in a variety of settings. BSN Nurses provide health teaching, supervise others in the provision of healthcare, and have beginning healthcare research skills.

## CAREER OUTLOOK

The US Bureau of Labor Statistics predicts a 14% growth in nursing jobs in Mississippi between 2020 and 2030. This growth is projected to continue, with the need for staff openings created by retirements and other workforce exits. Despite the current nursing shortage, the demand remains strong, creating ample opportunities for employment. The shortage may also lead to increased salaries and benefits for nurses.

## PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

<p><b>American Association of Colleges of Nursing</b> One Dupont Circle, NW Washington, DC 20036 Phone: (202) 463-6930 <a href="http://www.aacnnursing.org">www.aacnnursing.org</a></p>	<p><b>American Nurses Association</b> 8515 Georgia Ave Silver Spring, MD 20910 Phone: (301) 628-5000 <a href="http://www.nursingworld.org">www.nursingworld.org</a></p>	<p><b>Mississippi Nurses Association</b> 31 Woodgreen Place Madison, MS 39110 Phone: (601) 898-0670 <a href="http://www.mnusa.org">www.mnusa.org</a></p>
<p><b>Mississippi Organization for Associate Degree Nursing</b> 57 Terrapin Dr Brandon, MS 39042 Phone: (601) 824-3605 <a href="http://www.moadn.com">www.moadn.com</a></p>	<p><b>National Organization for Associate Degree Nursing</b> 7794 Grow Dr Pensacola, FL 32514 Phone: (850) 484-6948 <a href="http://www.oadn.org">www.oadn.org</a></p>	

## EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTION

### Associate Degree in Nursing (ADN)

- ✓ Alcorn State University
- ✓ Mississippi University for Women
- ✓ **Community Colleges:**
  - Coahoma
  - Copiah-Lincoln
  - East Central
  - East Mississippi
  - Hinds
  - Holmes
  - Itawamba
  - Jones County Junior College
  - Meridian
  - Mississippi Delta
  - Mississippi Gulf Coast
  - Northeast Mississippi
  - Northwest Mississippi
  - Pearl River
  - Southwest Mississippi

### Bachelor of Science in Nursing Degree (BSN)

- ✓ Alcorn State University
- ✓ Belhaven University
- ✓ Blue Mountain Christian University
- ✓ Delta State University
- ✓ Mississippi College
- ✓ Mississippi University for Women
- ✓ University of Mississippi Medical Center
- ✓ University of Southern Mississippi
- ✓ William Carey College

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# REGISTERED NURSE – MSN, PHD, DNP: AVERAGE ANNUAL SALARY: \$102,923

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## JOB DESCRIPTION

Nurses with a master's degree are prepared for leadership roles in health care delivery and for collaboration with others interested in health care. They are involved in advanced clinical practice, nursing research, nursing education, and development of advanced approaches to complex health problems facing patients and families. Master's prepared nurses are prepared to function as teachers, administrators, clinical nurse specialists, or nurse practitioners. The specific specialty of the expanded role nurse in Mississippi is determined by the type of educational program completed, State law, and rules/regulations of the Mississippi Board of Nursing. The Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) is an advanced postsecondary degree that prepares the nurse for leadership roles in complex health care delivery systems and educational institutions. Nurses prepared at the doctoral level are educated to contribute to nursing and health care research, public health care policy, and/or advanced clinical practice.

A Doctor of Nursing Practice is the highest level of professional / educational advancement. DNP programs focus on innovative and evidence-based practice based on research findings.

## SALARY RANGE

**\$52,562 - \$161,475**

## WORK ENVIRONMENT

- ✓ Hospitals
- ✓ Community Clinics/Agencies
- ✓ Integrated Health Systems
- ✓ Private Practices with Physicians
- ✓ Colleges and Universities
- ✓ Corporations
- ✓ Governmental Agencies
- ✓ Private Foundations
- ✓ Consultant Practices
- ✓ Entrepreneurial Endeavors

## LICENSURE, CERTIFICATION, REGISTRATION

After receiving a master's degree, nurse practitioners and nurse anesthetists must pass a national certification examination in their area of specialty to practice in their expanded role.

## HIGH SCHOOL PREPARATION

Students interested in a career in nursing should take courses in biology, chemistry, algebra, geometry, psychology, sociology, first aid, food and nutrition, health education, physical education, English, computer skills, and foreign languages.

## COLLEGE REQUIREMENTS

Students entering a master's degree program must have a BSN from an accredited college or university. Master's programs offer courses of study for clinical specialists, education, and administration/management. Master's education includes the study of concept, theory, and research. Additionally, it provides advanced preparation for nurse anesthetists and nurse practitioners. After receiving a master's degree, nurse practitioners and nurse anesthetists must pass a national certification examination in their area of specialty and be certified by the Mississippi Board of Nursing to practice in their expanded role. To be admitted to a PhD program, the student must have a master's degree and meet stringent admission criteria.

## PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

### American Association of Colleges of Nursing

One Dupont Circle, NW  
Washington, DC 20036  
Phone: (202) 463-6930  
[www.aacnnursing.org](http://www.aacnnursing.org)

### American Nurses Association

8515 Georgia Ave  
Silver Spring, MD 20910  
Phone: (301) 628-5000  
[www.nursingworld.org](http://www.nursingworld.org)

### Mississippi Nurses Association

31 Woodgreen Place  
Madison, MS 39110  
Phone: (601) 898-0670  
[www.msnurses.org](http://www.msnurses.org)

## EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS

- ✓ Alcorn State University (MSN, DNP)
- ✓ Delta State University (MSN, DNP)
- ✓ Mississippi College (MSN)
- ✓ Mississippi State University
- ✓ Mississippi University for Women (MSN, DNP)
- ✓ University of Mississippi Medical Center (MSN, PHD, DNP)
- ✓ University of Southern Mississippi (PHD, DNP)
- ✓ William Carey University (MSN, PHD)

## CAREER OUTLOOK

The job outlook for RNs with a master's degree (MSN) in Mississippi is very promising in 2025. Mississippi is facing a nursing shortage, with an estimated shortfall of over 5,000 RNs by 2025. This shortage creates strong demand for nurses, including those with advanced degrees like MSN. Additionally, The US Bureau of Labor Statistics projects a 14% growth in nursing jobs in Mississippi from 2020 to 2030. This growth is driven by an aging population and increased emphasis on health care services.

# CERTIFIED NURSE MIDWIFE: AVERAGE ANNUAL SALARY: \$107,399

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## JOB DESCRIPTION

A nurse midwife provides support and guidance throughout the birthing process. A nurse midwife works to monitor the physical, emotional, and mental state of the mom throughout the birthing process. They are also integral at ensuring the safety of the baby and working with the woman throughout the birthing process. They are often involved throughout the pregnancy as either an alternative to a doctor or as a part of the medical team that a woman may see. They may handle everything from exams to patient support, answering questions, and ensuring that the pregnancy remains healthy. A nurse midwife checks vital signs throughout pregnancy and measures the progress of the baby. The role of a nurse midwife may be very important during the labor and delivery process. They tend to be more hands-on than doctors and work with the woman to provide the physical, mental, and emotional support that she needs.

## SALARY RANGE

**\$76,239 - \$160,529**

## WORK ENVIRONMENT

- ✓ Hospitals
- ✓ Community Clinics/Agencies
- ✓ Integrated Health Systems
- ✓ Private Practices with Physicians
- ✓ Colleges and Universities
- ✓ Corporations
- ✓ Governmental Agencies
- ✓ Private Foundations
- ✓ Consultant Practices
- ✓ Entrepreneurial Endeavors



## LICENSURE, CERTIFICATION, REGISTRATION

Nurses who are in an expanded role must pass a national certification examination in their area of specialty to practice in their role. Must have a BSN and be a licensed registered nurse to apply for this advanced practice program.

## HIGH SCHOOL PREPARATION

Courses include: biology, chemistry, algebra, geometry, psychology, sociology, first aid, food and nutrition, health education, physical education, English, computer skills, and foreign languages. A nurse midwife will obtain an MSN-CNM or DNP-CNM. There are no midwifery programs in Mississippi.

## EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS

### ✓ Educational Institutions for **BSN**:

- Alcorn State University (BSN)
- Belhaven University (BSN)
- Blue Mountain Christian University (BSN)
- Delta State University
- Mississippi College
- Mississippi University for Women
- University of Mississippi Medical Center
- University of Southern Mississippi
- William Carey University



# NURSE ADMINISTRATOR/ NURSE EXECUTIVE

**AVERAGE ANNUAL SALARY: \$79,870**

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## JOB DESCRIPTION

A nurse administrator creates work schedules, gives performance reviews and develops work policies. Other job duties include keeping up established ethical and legal standards for job performance, attending administrative personnel meetings and developing new employee training. Most of the work of a nurse administrator is done in an office and not on the care floor, so an administrator has little or no direct contact with patients. A nurse administrator may work in a hospital, nursing home, private doctor's office, home health care organizations or urgent care facility.

## SALARY RANGE

**\$36,462 - \$109,859**

## WORK ENVIRONMENT

- ✓ Hospitals
- ✓ Community Clinics/Agencies
- ✓ Integrated Health Systems
- ✓ Private Practices with Physicians
- ✓ Colleges and Universities
- ✓ Corporations
- ✓ Governmental Agencies
- ✓ Private Foundations
- ✓ Consultant Practices
- ✓ Entrepreneurial Endeavors

## EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS

- ✓ Delta State University
- ✓ Mississippi College
- ✓ University of Mississippi Medical Center
- ✓ University of Southern Mississippi
- ✓ William Carey University

## LICENSURE, CERTIFICATION, REGISTRATION

Nurses who are in an expanded role must pass a national certification examination in their area of specialty to practice in their role.

## HIGH SCHOOL PREPARATION

Students interested in a career in nursing should take courses in biology, chemistry, algebra, geometry, psychology, sociology, first aid, food and nutrition, health education, physical education, English, computer skills, and foreign languages.

# NURSE ANESTHETIST: AVERAGE ANNUAL SALARY: \$245,961

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## JOB DESCRIPTION

Nurse Anesthetists work as registered nurses who can administer anesthetics. Nurse anesthetists work with patients to ensure that they receive appropriate levels of these important drugs before surgeries or other procedures. As anesthetics involves very specialized administration, the profession of nursing anesthetists requires not only working experience in patient care but also specialized training in how to handle anesthesia and anesthetics properly. Nurse anesthetists work under the direction of doctors and surgeons and in conjunction with the nursing and operating room staff. They are responsible for reviewing and understanding a patient's condition and treatment options, so that they can be certain how the anesthetics will respond within the patient. Nurse anesthetists are not only responsible for the administration of the anesthetics before the procedure, but they must monitor the patient throughout the patient's anesthesia to ensure that the patient is handling the drugs appropriately. Nurse anesthetists must alter the amount of the drug and the speed at which it is administered as necessary throughout the surgery so that the patient is kept in the best possible care.

## SALARY RANGE

**\$29,359 - \$377,881**

## WORK ENVIRONMENT

- ✓ Hospitals
- ✓ Community Clinics/Agencies
- ✓ Integrated Health Systems
- ✓ Private Practices with Physicians
- ✓ Colleges and Universities
- ✓ Corporations
- ✓ Governmental Agencies
- ✓ Private Foundations
- ✓ Consultant Practices
- ✓ Entrepreneurial Endeavors

## EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS

University of Southern Mississippi (DNP)

## LICENSURE, CERTIFICATION, REGISTRATION

Nurses who are in an expanded role must pass a national certification examination in their area of specialty to practice in their role.

## HIGH SCHOOL PREPARATION

Students interested in a career in nursing should take courses in biology, chemistry, algebra, geometry, psychology, sociology, first aid, food and nutrition, health education, physical education, English, computer skills, and foreign languages.

# **NURSE PRACTITIONER: AVERAGE ANNUAL SALARY: \$123,398**

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## **JOB DESCRIPTION**

Assists with all aspects of patient care, including diagnosis, treatments and consultations. May work in patient or outpatient situations. Can perform independently or a team. Responsible to educate patients about preventative care and prescribed treatments. May conduct physicals, order tests and serve as a patient's primary healthcare provider. Some prescribe medications.

## **SALARY RANGE**

**\$39,303 - \$189,413**

## **WORK ENVIRONMENT**

- ✓ Hospitals
- ✓ Community Clinics/Agencies
- ✓ Integrated Health Systems
- ✓ Private Practices with Physicians
- ✓ Colleges and Universities
- ✓ Corporations
- ✓ Governmental Agencies
- ✓ Private Foundations
- ✓ Consultant Practices
- ✓ Entrepreneurial Endeavors

## **EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS**

- ✓ Alcorn State University
- ✓ Delta State University
- ✓ Mississippi College
- ✓ Mississippi State University Meridian
- ✓ Mississippi University for Women
- ✓ University of Mississippi Medical Center
- ✓ University of Southern Mississippi
- ✓ William Carey University

## **TYPES OF NURSE PRACTITIONER CERTIFICATIONS:**

- ✓ Adult-Gerontology NP
- ✓ Emergency NP
- ✓ Family NP
- ✓ Neonatal NP
- ✓ Women's Health NP
- ✓ Oncology NP
- ✓ Orthopedic NP
- ✓ Pediatric NP
- ✓ Psychiatric – Mental Health NP

## **LICENSURE, CERTIFICATION, REGISTRATION**

Nurses who are in an expanded role must pass a national certification examination in their area of specialty to practice in their role.

## **HIGH SCHOOL PREPARATION**

Students interested in a career in nursing should take courses in biology, chemistry, algebra, geometry, psychology, sociology, first aid, food and nutrition, health education, physical education, English, computer skills, and foreign languages.

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# PHARMACY

## PHARMACIST: AVERAGE ANNUAL SALARY: \$119,994

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### JOB DESCRIPTION

Pharmacists provide information to patients about medications and their use and distribute drugs prescribed by physicians and other health practitioners. They advise physicians and other health practitioners on the selection, dosages, interactions, and side effects of medications.

Pharmacists also monitor the health and progress of patients in response to drug therapy to ensure the safe and effective use of medication. Pharmacists must understand the use, clinical effects, and composition of drugs, including their chemical, biological, and physical properties. Compounding—the actual mixing of ingredients to form powders, tablets, capsules, ointments, and solutions—is a small part of a pharmacist's practice, because most medicines are produced by pharmaceutical companies in a standard dosage and drug delivery form.

### SALARY RANGE

**\$54,930 - \$146,322**

### WORK ENVIRONMENT

- ✓ Independent and Retail Pharmacies
- ✓ Pharmaceutical Companies
- ✓ Public Health Departments
- ✓ Hospitals
- ✓ Nursing Homes
- ✓ Medical Research
- ✓ Military



### LICENSURE, CERTIFICATION, REGISTRATION

To become a licensed pharmacist, a student must graduate from an accredited school of pharmacy, pass a state board examination, and serve an internship under a licensed pharmacist in a community or hospital pharmacy. Most states, including Mississippi, require continuing education for license renewal.

## HIGH SCHOOL PREPARATION

Students interested in pharmacy should concentrate on high school courses in algebra, biology, chemistry, geometry, physics, trigonometry, computer science, humanities, English, health education, and economics.

## COLLEGE REQUIREMENTS

A pharmacy degree program requires at least 2 to 4 years of specific pre-professional (undergraduate) coursework followed by 4 years of professional study in an accredited school of pharmacy.

## PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

<b>American Pharmacists Association</b> 2215 Constitution Ave, NW Washington, DC 20037 Phone: (202) 628-4410 <a href="http://www.pharmacist.com">www.pharmacist.com</a>	<b>American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy</b> 1400 Crystal Dr Arlington, VA 22202 Phone: (703) 739-2330 <a href="http://www.aacp.org">www.aacp.org</a>	<b>American Society of Health-System Pharmacists</b> 4500 East-West Highway Bethesda, MD 20814 Phone: (866) 279-0681 <a href="http://www.ashp.org">www.ashp.org</a>
<b>Mississippi Pharmacists Association</b> 341 Edgewood Terrace Dr Jackson, MS 39206 Phone: (601) 981-0416 <a href="http://www.mspharm.org">www.mspharm.org</a>	<b>American Pharmacists Association</b> 13000 W 87th St Pkwy Lenexa, KS 66215 Phone: (913) 492-3311 <a href="http://www.accp.com">www.accp.com</a>	

## EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS

- ✓ University of Mississippi (BS, PharmD)
- ✓ William Carey University (PharmD)

## CAREER OUTLOOK

The job outlook for pharmacists in Mississippi in 2025 is generally stable with potential for growth, particularly in clinical settings. The US Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) projects 5% employment growth for pharmacists from 2023 to 2033. Pharmacy automation is expected to more than double by 2030. This use of automation will allow pharmacists to spend more time on virtual and physical patient care. This expanded role will include initiating therapies and having greater flexibility in deciding which drug to dispense.

# PHARMACY TECHNICIAN: AVERAGE ANNUAL SALARY: \$56,151

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## JOB DESCRIPTION

Pharmacy technicians assist licensed pharmacists by performing duties that do not require the professional skills and judgment of a licensed pharmacist and assist in those duties that require the expertise of a pharmacist. These duties may include collecting, organizing, and evaluating information to assist pharmacists in serving patients, preparing, dispensing, distributing, and administering medications, and providing drug information and education.

Pharmacy technicians are employed in every practice setting where pharmacy is practiced, including institutional, community, home care, long-term care, mail order, and managed care pharmacies. Technicians are also employed in education, research, and the pharmaceutical industry.

## SALARY RANGE

**\$34,094 - \$67,242**

## WORK ENVIRONMENT

- ✓ Military
- ✓ Retail Pharmacies
- ✓ Home Health Care
- ✓ Pharmacies
- ✓ Hospitals and Clinics
- ✓ Health Maintenance Organizations



## LICENSURE, CERTIFICATION, REGISTRATION

National certification is offered through the Pharmacy Technician Certification Board (PTCB), and upon successful completion of the national exam an individual earns the title of Certified Pharmacy Technician (CPhT). Mississippi does not require technicians to be nationally certified.

## HIGH SCHOOL PREPARATION

High school preparation for a career in pharmacy should include algebra, biology, chemistry, computer skills, health education, history, English, and geometry.

## COLLEGE REQUIREMENTS

While many pharmacy technicians receive on-the-job training, some community colleges offer formal training programs that are two years in length and offer an associate's degree upon completion. Many employers prefer to hire technicians with formal training, previous experience, and/or national certification.

## PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

<p><b>American Association of Pharmacy Technicians</b> PO Box 391043 Omaha, NE 68139 Phone: (336) 333-9356 <a href="http://www.pharmacytechnician.com">www.pharmacytechnician.com</a></p>	<p><b>American Pharmacists Association</b> 2215 Constitution Ave, NW Washington, DC 20037 Phone: (202) 628-4410 <a href="http://www.pharmacist.com">www.pharmacist.com</a></p>
<p><b>American Society of Health-System Pharmacists</b> 4500 East-West Highway Bethesda, MD 20814 Phone: (866) 279-0681 <a href="http://www.ashp.org">www.ashp.org</a></p>	<p><b>Mississippi State Medical Association</b> PO Box 2548 Ridgeland, MS 39158 Phone: (601) 853-6733 <a href="http://www.msmaonline.com">www.msmaonline.com</a></p>

## EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS

### ✓ Community Colleges:

- East Central
- East Mississippi
- Hinds (AAS)
- Jones County Junior College (AAS)
- Mississippi Gulf Coast
- Southwest Mississippi

## CAREER OUTLOOK

The job outlook for pharmacy technicians in Mississippi in 2025 is positive, with projected growth and demand for their skills. Employment is expected to increase by 7% between 2023 and 2033. Mississippi's high prevalence of chronic conditions like diabetes and hypertension leads to a consistent need for medication-related services, further supporting the demand for pharmacy technicians.

# RADIOLOGY

## NUCLEAR MEDICINE TECHNOLOGIST: AVERAGE ANNUAL SALARY: \$102,249

### JOB DESCRIPTION

Nuclear medicine technologists obtain adequate knowledge of a patient's medical history to understand the illness or condition and evaluate the appropriateness of the pending diagnostic or therapeutic procedure; instruct patients before and during procedures; evaluate whether patient preparation is satisfactory before beginning a procedure; and recognize emergency patient conditions and initiate lifesaving first aid when necessary. They apply knowledge of radiation physics and safety regulations to limit radiation exposure; prepare and administer radiopharmaceuticals; use radiation detection devices that measure the quantity and distribution of radio nuclides deposited in the patient; and apply quality control techniques as part of a quality assurance program covering all procedures and products in the laboratory.

### SALARY RANGE

**\$37,883 - \$152,005**

### WORK ENVIRONMENT

- ✓ Hospitals
- ✓ Clinics
- ✓ Diagnostic Centers
- ✓ Research Facilities
- ✓ Public Health Departments
- ✓ Educational Facilities
- ✓ Physician Offices

### LICENSURE, CERTIFICATION, REGISTRATION

The Nuclear Medicine Technology Certification Board and the American Registry of Radiologic Technologists offer examinations that allow individuals to become certified.



## HIGH SCHOOL PREPARATION

High school preparation for students interested in nuclear medicine technology should include algebra, chemistry, physics, biology, computer science, English, health education, statistics, geometry, and computer skills.

## COLLEGE REQUIREMENTS

Individuals interested in nuclear medicine technology must have a high school diploma or equivalent. Students may complete a one or two-year certificate program, a two-year associate degree program, or a four-year baccalaureate degree program.

## PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

<p><b>Nuclear Medicine Technology Certification Board</b></p> <p>3558 Habersham at Northlake, Bldg. I Tucker, GA 30084 Phone: (404) 315-1739 <a href="http://www.nmtcb.org">www.nmtcb.org</a></p>	<p><b>Society of Nuclear Medicine Technologist</b></p> <p>1850 Samuel Morse Dr Reston, VA 20190 Phone: (703) 708-9000 <a href="http://www.snmmti.org">www.snmmti.org</a></p>	<p><b>American Registry of Radiologic Technologists</b></p> <p>1255 Northland Dr St. Paul, MN 55120 Phone: (651) 687-0048 <a href="http://www.arrt.org">www.arrt.org</a></p>
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## EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS

- ✓ Mississippi Delta Community College (C)
- ✓ University of Mississippi Medical Center (C)

## CAREER OUTLOOK

Employment of nuclear medicine technologists is projected to decline 1% from 2023 to 2033. Despite declining employment, approximately 800 openings are projected each year, on average, over the decade. All openings are expected to result from the need to replace workers who transfer to other occupations or exit the labor force, such as to retire.

# **RADIATION THERAPIST: AVERAGE ANNUAL SALARY: \$99,295**

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## **JOB DESCRIPTION**

The radiation therapist accepts responsibility for administering a radiation oncologist (physician)-prescribed course of radiation therapy, providing patient care, and maintaining treatment records. Radiation therapists also assess treatment delivery and changes in daily patient physiological and psychological conditions. Additional responsibilities may include tumor localization, dosimetry, patient follow-up, and patient education. Radiation therapists must display competence and compassion in meeting the special needs of the oncology patient.

## **SALARY RANGE**

**\$46,880 - \$152,005**

## **WORK ENVIRONMENT**

- ✓ Hospitals
- ✓ Cancer Treatment Centers
- ✓ Physician Offices
- ✓ Educational Facilities
- ✓ Governmental Facilities
- ✓ Research Laboratories

## **LICENSURE, CERTIFICATION, REGISTRATION**

Certification may be obtained by passing an examination given by the American Registry of Radiologic Technologists.

## **HIGH SCHOOL PREPARATION**

High school preparation for a career in radiation therapy should include courses in biology, anatomy and physiology, physics, chemistry, algebra, geometry, health education, English, computer skills, and history.

## **COLLEGE REQUIREMENTS**

Individuals entering a radiation therapy program should have a high school diploma or the equivalent. Programs range in length from a 1-year certificate program, a 2-year associate's degree program, or a 4-year bachelor's degree program.

## PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

<p><b>American Registry of Radiologic Technologists</b> 1255 Northland Dr St. Paul, MN 55120 Phone: (651) 687-0048 <a href="http://www.arrt.org">www.arrt.org</a></p>	<p><b>American Society of Radiologic Technologists</b> 15000 Central Ave, SE Albuquerque, NM 87123 Phone: (505) 298-4500 <a href="http://www.asrt.org">www.asrt.org</a></p>
<p><b>American Society of Health-System Pharmacists</b> 4500 East-West Highway Bethesda, MD 20814 Phone: (866) 279-0681 <a href="http://www.ashp.org">www.ashp.org</a></p>	<p><b>Mississippi State Medical Association</b> PO Box 2548 Ridgeland, MS 39158 Phone: (601) 853-6733 <a href="http://www.msmaonline.com">www.msmaonline.com</a></p>

## EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS

- ✓ University of Mississippi Medical Center
- ✓ **Community Colleges:**
  - Copiah-Lincoln
  - Hinds
  - Itawamba
  - Jones
  - Meridian
  - Mississippi Gulf Coast
  - Northeast Mississippi

## CAREER OUTLOOK

The job outlook for radiation therapists in Mississippi is projected to be average, with employment growth expected at about 3% from 2023 to 2033. Job openings will mainly result from the need to replace workers who retire or leave the profession. The demand is also influenced by an aging population and advancements in medical technology. States along the east coast, Texas, and California have the highest concentration of employed radiation therapists.

# **RADIOLOGICAL TECHNICIAN: AVERAGE ANNUAL SALARY: \$90,823**

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## **JOB DESCRIPTION**

Radiological technicians use radiation-producing equipment to image tissues, organs, bones, and vessels of the body, as prescribed by physicians, to assist in the diagnosis of disease or injury. Radiological technicians provide patient care services and are responsible for limiting radiation exposure to patients, themselves, and others. Radiological technicians use critical-thinking skills to modify technical parameters to create diagnostic images based on variable patient conditions.

## **SALARY RANGE**

**\$31,253 - \$146,796**

## **WORK ENVIRONMENT**

- ✓ Hospitals
- ✓ Medical Clinics
- ✓ Laboratories
- ✓ Nursing Homes
- ✓ Colleges, Universities
- ✓ Governmental Facilities
- ✓ Mobile Radiological Facilities
- ✓ Physician Offices
- ✓ Urgent Care Centers
- ✓ Public Health Departments
- ✓ Specialized Imaging Centers



## **LICENSURE, CERTIFICATION, REGISTRATION**

Registration for radiological technicians is offered by the American Registry of Radiologic Technologists. To be eligible for registration, technicians generally must have graduated from an accredited program and pass an examination. Registration is voluntary in Mississippi.

## **HIGH SCHOOL PREPARATION**

Students interested in radiology should take high school courses in algebra, biology, chemistry, computer science, English, physics, history, health education, and geometry.

## COLLEGE REQUIREMENTS

Radiological technicians must complete formal training in an approved hospital training program or complete a 2-year associate's degree in radiological technology.

## PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

### American Registry of Radiologic Technologists

1225 Northland Dr  
St. Paul, MN 55120  
Phone: (651) 687-0048  
[www.arrt.org](http://www.arrt.org)

### American Society of Radiologic Technologists

15000 Central Ave, SE  
Albuquerque, NM 87123  
Phone: (505) 298-4500  
[www.asrt.org](http://www.asrt.org)

## EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS

- ✓ Alcorn State University (BS)
- ✓ University of Mississippi Medical Center (BS)
- ✓ **Community Colleges:**
  - Copiah-Lincoln (AAS)
  - Hinds (AAS)
  - Itawamba (AAS)
  - Jones County Junior College (AAS)
  - Meridian (AAS)
  - Mississippi Delta (AAS)
  - Mississippi Gulf Coast (AAS)
  - Northeast Mississippi (AAS)
  - Pearl River (AAS)

## CAREER OUTLOOK

The job outlook for radiological technologists in Mississippi is generally positive, with projected growth and competitive salaries. While specific job postings may fluctuate, the need for these professionals in healthcare settings is expected to continue. The US Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) projects a 6% growth in employment for radiologic and MRI technologists from 2023 to 2033. Radiological technicians can advance their careers through specialization, leadership roles, and further education.

# **SONOGRAPHER: AVERAGE ANNUAL SALARY: \$79,839**

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## **JOB DESCRIPTION**

Provides patients with diagnostic services in a variety of medical settings that assist the physician in the interpretation of ultrasound procedures. These duties include obtaining, reviewing, and integrating pertinent patient history and supporting clinical data to facilitate optimum diagnostic results, performing appropriate procedures and recording anatomical, pathological, and/or physiological data for interpretation by a physician, recording and processing sonographic data and other pertinent observations made during the procedure for presentation to the interpreting physician, exercising discretion and judgment in the performance of sonographic services, providing patient education related to medical ultrasound, promoting principles of good health.

## **SALARY RANGE**

**\$44,986 - \$108,439**

## **WORK ENVIRONMENT**

- ✓ Hospitals
- ✓ Physician Offices
- ✓ Clinics including OB/GYN
- ✓ Diagnostic Imaging Centers

## **LICENSURE, CERTIFICATION, REGISTRATION**

Most employers require sonographers to be certified. Individuals can go through the American Registry of Medical Sonographers to gain certification. Upon successful completion of the national exam, sonographers become Registered Diagnostic Medical Sonographers (RDMS).

## **HIGH SCHOOL PREPARATION**

Computer science, biology, chemistry, physics, algebra, health education, geometry, and English.

## **COLLEGE REQUIREMENTS**

Must have a college preparatory diploma to enter an approved training program. There are several educational/training available: 1-year certificate program, 2- year program that culminates in an associate's degree, and 4-year bachelor's degree program.

## PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

### American Society of Radiologic Technologists

15000 Central Ave SE  
Albuquerque, NM 87123  
Phone: (505) 298-4500  
[www.asrt.org](http://www.asrt.org)

### Society of Diagnostic Medical Sonography

2745 North Dallas Pkwy  
Plano, TX 75093-8730  
Phone: (214) 473-8057  
[www.sdms.org](http://www.sdms.org)

### The American Registry of Diagnostic Medical Sonographers

1401 Rockville Pike  
Rockville, MD 20852  
Phone: (301) 378-8401  
[www.ardms.org](http://www.ardms.org)

## EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS

- ✓ Blue Cliff College
- ✓ **Community Colleges:**
  - Hinds
  - Itawamba
  - Northeast Mississippi
  - Northwest Mississippi
  - Pearl River

## CAREER OUTLOOK

Sonography is an upwardly growing field. The demand is growing rapidly for qualified sonographers. According to the US Bureau of Labor Statistics, overall employment of diagnostic medical sonographers and technologists is projected to grow 10% from 2022 to 2032. Sonographer opportunities in Mississippi encompass travel positions.



# REHABILITATION/RECREATION

## PROSTHETIST/ORTHOTIST: AVERAGE ANNUAL SALARY: \$76,840

### JOB DESCRIPTION

Orthotics and prosthetics are applied physical disciplines that address neuromuscular and structural skeletal problems in the human body with a treatment process that includes evaluation and transfer of forces using orthoses and prostheses to achieve optimum function, prevent further disability, and provide cosmesis. The orthotist and prosthetist work directly with the physician and representatives of other allied health professions in the rehabilitation of the physically challenged. The orthotist designs and fits devices, known as orthoses, to provide care for patients who have disabling conditions of the limbs and spine. The prosthetist designs and fits devices, known as prostheses, for patients who have partial or total absence of a limb.

### SALARY RANGE

**\$35,042 - \$99,915**

### WORK ENVIRONMENT

- ✓ Private Offices
- ✓ Hospitals
- ✓ Rehabilitation Centers
- ✓ Research Laboratories
- ✓ Universities

### LICENSURE, CERTIFICATION, REGISTRATION

An individual must take and pass an examination given by the American Board for Certification in Orthotics and Prosthetics.

### HIGH SCHOOL PREPARATION

High school preparation for a career in prosthetics should include algebra, geometry, biology, chemistry, physics, metal shop, woodworking, welding, English, computer skills, health education, psychology, and social studies.

## COLLEGE REQUIREMENTS

Individuals interested in a career as a prosthetist or orthotist must have a high school diploma or the equivalent. They must also complete a bachelor's degree program in prosthetics or orthotics and then complete a residency program under a licensed professional.

## PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

<p><b>Organization of Orthotic and Prosthetic Association</b> 330 John Carlyle St Alexandria, VA 22314 Phone: (571) 431-0876 <a href="http://www.aopanet.org">www.aopanet.org</a></p>	<p><b>The American Academy of Orthotists &amp; Prosthetists</b> 526 King St Alexandria, VA 22314 Phone: (703) 836-0788 <a href="http://www.oandp.org">www.oandp.org</a></p>	<p><b>The American Board for Certification in Orthotics and Prosthetics</b> 330 John Carlyle St Alexandria, VA 22314 Phone: (703) 836-7114 <a href="http://www.abcop.org">www.abcop.org</a></p>
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## EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS

If you are interested in pursuing a career in prosthetics and orthotics in Mississippi, consider completing a master's program in the field at an accredited institution outside the state, followed by a residency at UMMC. This pathway will equip you with the necessary education and clinical experience to become a certified practitioner.

## CAREER OUTLOOK

Nationally, employment of orthotists and prosthetists is projected to grow 15% from 2023 to 2033. This suggests a strong demand for these professionals in the coming years. The global market for prosthetics and orthotics is estimated at \$6B, with an annual growth of nearly 5%. This is attributed largely to a growing population in need of such treatments.

## **ATHLETIC TRAINER: AVERAGE ANNUAL SALARY: \$51,580**

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### **JOB DESCRIPTION**

Athletic trainers prevent, examine, and treat athlete injuries. They work with team doctors to provide physical therapy for athletes who are recovering from injuries and to show athletes how to build their strength and avoid further injury. Other duties may include recommending special diets and exercises, ordering equipment and supplies, and keeping records of the athletes with whom they work.

### **SALARY RANGE**

**\$24,150 - \$75,765**

### **WORK ENVIRONMENT**

- ✓ Secondary Schools
- ✓ Colleges and Universities
- ✓ Professional Sports Teams
- ✓ Sports Medicine Clinics
- ✓ Health Clubs
- ✓ Hospitals
- ✓ Corporate Health Programs

### **LICENSURE, CERTIFICATION, REGISTRATION**

Individuals must pass a three-part national certification examination given by The National Athletic Trainers Association (NATA) to become certified. Mississippi also requires an individual to obtain a state license to practice as a certified athletic trainer.

### **HIGH SCHOOL PREPARATION**

Students interested in a future as an athletic trainer should take high school courses in algebra, geometry, biology, chemistry, physics, first aid, health education, English, computer skills, physical education, and history.

### **COLLEGE REQUIREMENTS**

Students entering an athletic training program should have a high school diploma or the equivalent. Students must earn a college degree from a university with an accredited athletic training program that includes clinical experience.

## PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

### National Athletic Trainers Association

2952 Stemmons Freeway  
Dallas, TX 75247  
Phone: (214) 637-6282  
[www.nata.org](http://www.nata.org)

### National Association for Sport and Physical Education

1900 Association Dr  
Reston, VA 20191  
Phone: (703) 476-3410  
[www.shapeamerica.org](http://www.shapeamerica.org)

### Mississippi Athletic Trainers Association [www.MSATA.net](http://www.MSATA.net)

## EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS

- ✓ Mississippi State University
- ✓ University of Mississippi
- ✓ University of Southern Mississippi
- ✓ **Community Colleges:**
  - East Mississippi
  - Hinds
  - Holmes
  - Northeast Mississippi
  - Southwest Mississippi

## CAREER OUTLOOK

The job outlook for athletic trainers in Mississippi is expected to be positive. The US Bureau of Labor Statistics projects a 13% growth in athletic trainer employment from 2023 to 2033. Several factors contribute to this positive outlook, including the increasing awareness of sports-related injuries, advancements in injury detection and prevention, and the rising demand for athletic trainers in various settings, including hospitals, schools, and professional sports teams.

# SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING

## BIOLOGICAL/RESEARCH SCIENTIST: AVERAGE ANNUAL SALARY: \$84,671

### JOB DESCRIPTION

Biological scientists are research scientists who examine how living organisms relate to the environment. They can specialize in any number of studies – either plant, animal, or environmental. Biological scientists often divide their time between studying an object in its environment and working in research laboratories. Biological scientists often divide their time between studying an object in its environment and working in research laboratories. Job duties may include analyzing plants, researching mammal habitats, studying relationship patterns and testing specimens. Much of the research relates to finding a way to promote, cure, treat or improve plant and animal habitats.

### SALARY RANGE

**\$35,042 - \$130,695**

### WORK ENVIRONMENT

- ✓ Colleges and Universities
- ✓ Hospitals
- ✓ Research Facilities
- ✓ Government Facilities
- ✓ Pharmaceutical Companies
- ✓ Biomedical Industries
- ✓ Chemical Plants



### LICENSURE, CERTIFICATION, REGISTRATION

Licensure/Certification is not required for biological and research scientists.

### HIGH SCHOOL PREPARATION

High school students interested in becoming a research scientist should concentrate on courses in biology, chemistry, physics, algebra, calculus, geometry, trigonometry, English, literature, physical education, computer skills, sociology, and health education.

## COLLEGE REQUIREMENTS

Individuals interested in biological and research science must have a minimum of a bachelor's degree in a specific specialty. Individuals with this level of education can only work in non-research positions. Anyone interested in conducting research must obtain a master's degree, and in most cases a doctoral degree is required to conduct advanced research. Only individuals with a PhD can teach at the university level or advance to administrative positions.

## PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

<p><b>American Institute of Biological Sciences</b> 1900 Campus Commons Dr Reston, VA 20191 Phone: (703) 674-2500 <a href="http://www.aibs.org">www.aibs.org</a></p>	<p><b>Federation of American Societies for Experimental Biology</b> 9650 Rockville Pike Bethesda, MD 20814 Phone: (301) 634-7000 <a href="http://www.faseb.org">www.faseb.org</a></p>
<p><b>American Physiology Society</b> 9650 Rockville Pike Bethesda, MD 20814 <a href="http://www.the-aps.org">www.the-aps.org</a></p>	<p><b>American College of Epidemiology</b> 1500 Sunday Dr Raleigh, NC 27607 Phone: (919) 861-5573 <a href="http://www.acepidemiology.org">www.acepidemiology.org</a></p>

## EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS

- ✓ Mississippi College (MS)
- ✓ Tougaloo College (BS)
- ✓ University of Mississippi Medical Center (MD-PHD, PHD)

## CAREER OUTLOOK

Overall, life science occupations, including biological and research scientists, are expected to grow. The expected rate of growth is 11% from 2023-2033. However, currently, the research scientist job market in Mississippi is not very active.

# BIOMEDICAL ENGINEER: AVERAGE ANNUAL SALARY: \$89,789

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## JOB DESCRIPTION

Biomedical engineers combine their knowledge of biology and medicine with engineering principles and practices to develop devices and procedures that solve medical and health-related problems. That is, biomedical engineers try to answer medical challenges by helping design and develop new equipment or methods. Biomedical engineers help develop a wide variety of medical instruments and devices. Biomedical engineers also work to improve equipment, such as artificial limbs, heart valves, and kidney machines. They contribute to the development of such devices as heart pacemakers, which can be implanted in a patient's body to improve the heart's functioning.

## SALARY RANGE

**\$38,830 - \$132,590**

## WORK ENVIRONMENT

- ✓ Hospitals
- ✓ Laboratories: Academic, Medical, Industrial, Governmental
- ✓ Military
- ✓ Undersea and Space Programs

## LICENSURE, CERTIFICATION, REGISTRATION

State engineering boards test, evaluate, and license individuals as professional engineers in their specific disciplines. Additional professional testing and certification in this specialty can be obtained through the Association for the Advancement of Medical Instrumentation and the American Board of Clinical Engineering.

## HIGH SCHOOL PREPARATION

Students interested in biomedical engineering should take courses in biology, chemistry, physics, algebra, calculus, geometry, trigonometry, English, literature, composition, mechanical drawing, physical education, computer science, sociology, and health education.

## COLLEGE REQUIREMENTS

Must first obtain a bachelor's degree in engineering. Most employers require that an individual have a biomedical engineering degree. Anyone interested in research or teaching must obtain a graduate degree.

## PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

### Biomedical Engineering Society

8201 Corporate Dr  
Landover, MD 20785  
Phone: (301) 459-1999  
[www.bmes.org](http://www.bmes.org)

### Association for Advancement of Medical Instrumentation

4301 N. Fairfax Drive  
Arlington, VA 22203  
Phone: (703) 525-4890  
[www.aami.org](http://www.aami.org)

### National Association for Biomedical Research

818 Connecticut Ave NW  
Washington, DC 20006  
Phone: (202) 857-0540  
[www.nabr.org](http://www.nabr.org)

## EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS

- ✓ Jackson State University (BS)
- ✓ Mississippi College (BS, MS)
- ✓ Mississippi State University (BS, MS, PhD)
- ✓ University of Mississippi
- ✓ University of Mississippi Medical Center (MS)
- ✓ University of Southern Mississippi (MS)
- ✓ William Carey University (MS)
- ✓ **Community Colleges:**
  - East Mississippi
  - Mississippi Gulf Coast

## CAREER OUTLOOK

The field is expected to see a 7% increase in employment from 2023 to 2033. This growth translates to approximately 1,400 new jobs annually. Advancements in medical technology and increasing demand for healthcare services drive the need for biomedical engineers. Several cities in Mississippi, including Pascagoula, Clarksdale, and Gulfport, are identified as having higher-than-average salaries for entry-level biomedical engineers.



# BIOMEDICAL EQUIPMENT TECHNICIAN:

**AVERAGE ANNUAL SALARY: \$61,462**

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## JOB DESCRIPTION

Biomedical equipment technicians specialize in the use, maintenance, and repair of medical equipment such as heart-lung machines, dialysis machines, medical imaging machines, and defibrillators. Unlike electrocardiograph and electroencephalograph technicians, who specialize in one type of equipment, biomedical equipment technicians are familiar with many types of machines. Technicians make minor repairs on equipment at the hospital. When equipment must be sent back to the manufacturer for major repairs, they write an analysis of the problem so the manufacturer can repair and return the equipment quickly. Technicians also maintain detailed records on the use and condition of all equipment.

## SALARY RANGE

**\$36,462 - \$98,496**

## WORK ENVIRONMENT

- ✓ Hospitals
- ✓ Medical Centers
- ✓ Large Clinics
- ✓ Medical Equipment Manufacturers
- ✓ Government Agencies

## LICENSURE, CERTIFICATION, REGISTRATION

While Mississippi does not require biomedical equipment technicians to be certified, the US Certification Commission (USCC) offers certification to individuals that wish to become Certified Biomedical Equipment Technicians (CBET).

## HIGH SCHOOL PREPARATION

High school preparation for a career in biomedical equipment technology should include biology, physics, algebra, geometry, trigonometry, English, literature, mechanical drawing, electricity and electronics, industrial arts, computer skills, and health education.

## COLLEGE REQUIREMENTS

Individuals interested in biomedical equipment technology should have a high school diploma or the equivalent. Most employers prefer to hire people that have obtained a two-year associate's degree in electronics, medical technology, or an engineering related field from an accredited technical college.

## PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

### American Society of Healthcare Engineering

155 N. Wacker Dr  
Chicago, IL 60606  
Phone: (312) 422-3800  
[www.ashe.org](http://www.ashe.org)

### Association for Advancement of Medical Instrumentation

4301 N. Fairfax Dr  
Arlington, VA 22203  
Phone: (703) 525-4890  
[www.aami.org](http://www.aami.org)

## EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS

- ✓ Mississippi College
- ✓ Mississippi State University
- ✓ University of Mississippi
- ✓ **Community Colleges:**
  - Hinds
  - Meridian
  - Mississippi Delta
  - Northeast Mississippi
  - Northwest Mississippi
  - Pearl River

## CAREER OUTLOOK

The job outlook for Biomedical Equipment Technicians (BMETs) in Mississippi is strong. BMETs are expected to experience a 7% job growth between 2020 and 2030.

# ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SPECIALIST

**AVERAGE ANNUAL SALARY: \$59,372**

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## JOB DESCRIPTION

Environmental health specialists monitor health and safety conditions in residential, industrial, commercial, and recreational settings. A person who works as an environmental health specialist may also be called an environmental health or safety inspector, or a health and safety specialist. The main responsibilities of the position are to determine the existence of possible health hazards and to take steps to correct them. As part of the inspection process, environmental health specialists may collect samples of soil, air, water, and possible pollutants from the places they inspect. They then test the samples to determine whether there are dangerous levels of any hazardous substances. If health problems are discovered, the specialists draw up a plan to monitor the facility to determine the source and nature of the hazard. This may involve setting up equipment at the inspection site to monitor air or water quality and checking the records periodically to ensure that health and quality standards are met. The environmental health specialist then evaluates the success of any steps taken to resolve the problem to find alternative solutions.

## SALARY RANGE

**\$33,621 - \$94,232**

## WORK ENVIRONMENT

- ✓ State and Local Health Departments
- ✓ Hospitals
- ✓ Private Businesses
- ✓ Wildlife Parks
- ✓ Environmental Agencies



## LICENSURE, CERTIFICATION, REGISTRATION

Optional certification may be obtained through the National Environmental Health Association.

## HIGH SCHOOL PREPARATION

Should include courses in algebra, geometry, trigonometry, calculus, biology, chemistry, physics, English, literature, computer skills, and health education.

## COLLEGE REQUIREMENTS

Most environmental health specialists earn a bachelor's degree in environmental health, but some have a degree in a related field such as biological/chemical sciences or environmental engineering. Career opportunities can be greatly advanced by earning a master's or doctoral degree in this specialty.

## PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

<p><b>National Environmental Health Association</b> 720 South Colorado Blvd Denver, CO 80246 Phone: (303) 756-9090 <a href="http://www.neha.org">www.neha.org</a></p>	<p><b>National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences</b> 111 T W Alexander Dr Research Triangle Pk, NC 27709 Phone: (919) 541-3345 <a href="http://www.niehs.nih.gov">www.niehs.nih.gov</a></p>	<p><b>Association of Environmental Health Academic Programs</b> 4500 9th Ave NE Seattle, WA 98105 Phone: (206) 522-5272 <a href="http://www.aehap.org">www.aehap.org</a></p>
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## EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS

- ✓ Mississippi State University (BS)
- ✓ Mississippi Valley State University (BS, MS)
- ✓ University of Southern Mississippi

## CAREER OUTLOOK

The US Bureau of Labor Statistics projects a 7% growth in employment for environmental scientists and specialists, including those in health, from 2023 to 2033. Approximately 8,500 openings for environmental scientists and specialists are projected each year, on average, over the decade.

# INDUSTRIAL HYGIENIST: AVERAGE ANNUAL SALARY: \$71,998

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## JOB DESCRIPTION

Industrial hygienists are occupational health and safety specialists concerned with the maintenance of good health among industrial workers. They attempt to prevent occupational diseases among employees and minimize environmental health hazards in the workplace. They are trained to anticipate, recognize, evaluate, and work to alleviate adverse working conditions that may cause illness or impair the health of workers. Such conditions may include excessive noise or the presence of dust, vapors, chemicals, and other potentially hazardous materials common to some industrial settings. Industrial hygienists frequently collect air or water samples and monitor noise levels to determine if any harmful conditions exist. They may also conduct radiological studies to measure radioactivity levels at job sites. The growth of high-technology and service industries has led to stress-related health problems, which industrial hygienists also examine.

## SALARY RANGE

**\$41,671 - \$109,385**

## WORK ENVIRONMENT

- ✓ Industry Military
- ✓ Consulting firms
- ✓ Labor unions
- ✓ Agencies: Government, Insurance, Environmental

## LICENSURE, CERTIFICATION, REGISTRATION

The American Board of Industrial Hygiene offers varying degrees of certification for individuals that have completed the required education.

## HIGH SCHOOL PREPARATION

High school preparation for students interested in industrial hygiene should include algebra, geometry, trigonometry, calculus, biology, chemistry, physics, English, health, computer skills, and health education.

## COLLEGE REQUIREMENTS

Bachelor of Science (BS) degree in occupational safety and health, environmental health engineering, physical science, or natural science. Most employers prefer candidates with a master's degree in occupational safety and health, environmental health engineering, or environmental health sciences.

## PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

### American Board of Industrial Hygiene

6015 West St. Joseph  
Lansing, MI 48917  
Phone: (517) 321-2638  
[www.abih.org](http://www.abih.org)

### American Industrial Hygiene Association

3141 Fairview Park Dr  
Falls Church, VA 22042  
Phone: (703) 849-8888  
[www.aiha.org](http://www.aiha.org)

### National Environmental Health Association

720 South Colorado Blvd  
Denver, CO 80246  
Phone: (303) 756-9090  
[www.neha.org](http://www.neha.org)

## EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS

- ✓ Mississippi State University
- ✓ University of Mississippi
- ✓ University of Mississippi Medical Center
- ✓ University of Southern Mississippi

## CAREER OUTLOOK

The US Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) projects a 4% growth in employment for occupational health and safety specialists (which includes industrial hygienists) from 2021 to 2031. While the overall outlook is positive, the industrial hygiene job market in Mississippi may be less active than in other states.



## **REGULATORY SCIENTIST: AVERAGE ANNUAL SALARY: \$94,484**

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### **JOB DESCRIPTION**

Regulatory scientists are professionals that specialize in scientific research, usually in the pharmaceutical industry, as well as in the international regulations that govern scientific discovery. This dual role requires extensive knowledge of a broad range of subjects and constant continuing education because of the ever-changing nature of this specialty. Regulatory scientists usually work as an intermediary between research and development teams and federal agencies, such as the Food and Drug Administration (FDA). This is done to expedite quality drug development and secure final product approval from the FDA. They also coordinate all quality review activities to ensure that any problems with a product are identified and corrected before it is put on the market. This profession requires excellent communication and interpersonal skills as well as the ability to pay close attention to detail.

### **SALARY RANGE**

**\$78,257 – 110,712**

### **WORK ENVIRONMENT**

- ✓ Pharmaceutical Companies
- ✓ Research Facilities
- ✓ Government Facilities
- ✓ College and Universities
- ✓ Academic Medical Centers
- ✓ Biomedical Industries
- ✓ Chemical Plants

### **LICENSURE, CERTIFICATION, REGISTRATION**

While there is no formal certification for this specialty, most regulatory scientists are licensed or certified by their respective professional associations, such as medicine and pharmacy.

### **HIGH SCHOOL PREPARATION**

High school students interested in becoming a regulatory scientist should concentrate on courses in biology, chemistry, physics, algebra, calculus, geometry, trigonometry, English, literature, physical education, computer science, sociology, and health education.

## COLLEGE REQUIREMENTS

Individuals must first obtain an undergraduate degree in a science-related field. Most employers require an advanced degree, such as a DMD, PharmD, RPh, MS, MD, or PhD, as well as extensive experience in a regulatory or scientific area.

## PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

### **Federation of American Societies for Experimental Biology**

9650 Rockville Pike  
Bethesda, MD 20814  
Phone: (301) 634-7000  
[www.faseb.org](http://www.faseb.org)

### **American Institute of Biological Sciences**

1900 Campus Commons Dr  
Reston, VA 20191  
Phone: (703) 674-2500  
[www.aibs.org](http://www.aibs.org)

## EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS

Regulatory Scientists should be well established in the biological and pharmaceutical sciences. See the educational institutions for biological scientists and pharmacists.

## CAREER OUTLOOK

The field of Regulatory Affairs is a growing and dynamic area, particularly within the healthcare industry. The US Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) predicts an 8% increase in employment for life, physical, and social science occupations from 2023 to 2033.

## RESEARCH SCIENTIST: AVERAGE ANNUAL SALARY: \$123,230

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### JOB DESCRIPTION

Research scientists study diseases, drugs, microorganisms, the environment, and other areas related to human health to prolong life by helping to prevent and cure illnesses. They conduct research to determine the action of foods, drugs, hormones, nutrients, and other substances on the tissues and processes of living things. They often develop new vaccines and treatments to combat disease, as well as develop new tests to detect diseases and other abnormalities that affect human health. Research scientists may specialize in a variety of different areas, such as anatomy, bacteriology, biochemistry, biophysics, biostatistics, epidemiology, genetics, immunology, marine biology, microbiology, molecular biology, pathology, pharmacology, physics, or virology. Research scientists may work alone or as part of a team that may include several laboratory assistants. They usually conclude their research by writing detailed reports and scientific papers that are submitted to professional journals for publication.

### SALARY RANGE

**\$47,827 - \$164,791**

### WORK ENVIRONMENT

- ✓ Hospitals
- ✓ Government Agencies
- ✓ Colleges and Universities
- ✓ Commercial Laboratories
- ✓ Military

### LICENSURE, CERTIFICATION, REGISTRATION

While there is no formal certification for this specialty, most regulatory scientists are licensed or certified by their respective professional associations, such as medicine and pharmacy.

### HIGH SCHOOL PREPARATION

Students interested in research science should concentrate on high school courses in algebra, geometry, trigonometry, calculus, biology, chemistry, physics, English, literature, computer skills, and health education.

## COLLEGE REQUIREMENTS

Individuals must first obtain an undergraduate degree in a science-related field. Most employers require an advanced degree, such as a DMD, PharmD, RPh, MS, MD, or PhD, as well as extensive experience in a regulatory or scientific area.

## PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

### **Federation of American Societies for Experimental Biology**

9650 Rockville Pike  
Bethesda, MD 20814  
Phone: (301) 634-7000  
[www.faseb.org](http://www.faseb.org)

### **American Institute of Biological Sciences**

1900 Campus Commons Dr  
Reston, VA 20191  
Phone: (703) 674-2500  
[www.aibs.org](http://www.aibs.org)

## EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS

Research Scientists should be well established in the biological and pharmaceutical sciences. See the educational institutions for biological scientists and pharmacists.

- ✓ Delta State University
- ✓ Jackson State University
- ✓ Millsaps College
- ✓ Mississippi College
- ✓ Mississippi State University
- ✓ Mississippi University for Women
- ✓ Tougaloo College
- ✓ University of Mississippi
- ✓ University of Mississippi Medical Center
- ✓ University of Southern Mississippi

## CAREER OUTLOOK

The US Bureau of Labor Statistics projects that employment in life, physical, and social science occupations will grow from 2023 to 2033. The job outlook for research scientists in Mississippi in 2025 is generally positive, with career growth and job opportunities expected to remain relatively stable. There is potential for advancement and increased pay based on skills, location, and experience.

# SPEECH AND HEARING

**AUDIOLOGIST: AVERAGE ANNUAL SALARY: \$82,629**

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## JOB DESCRIPTION

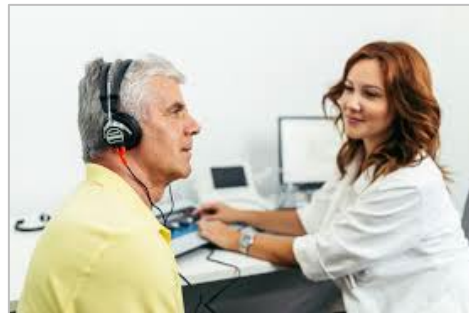
Professionals who work with people that exhibit hearing, balance, and related communication problems. Evaluate individuals and identify those with the symptoms of hearing loss and other auditory, balance, and related neural problems. Assess the nature and extent of the problems and helps the individuals manage them. Using clinical skills and technology, audiologists measure the loudness at which a person begins to hear sounds, the ability to distinguish between sounds, and the impact of hearing loss or balance problems on an individual's communication ability that impacts their daily life. Audiologists interpret these results and may coordinate them with medical, speech-language, educational, and psychological information to make a diagnosis and determine a course of treatment. Audiologists must effectively communicate diagnostic test results, interpretation, and proposed treatment in a manner easily understood by patients/clients, families/caregivers, and other professionals.

## SALARY RANGE

**\$43,092 - \$126,433**

## WORK ENVIRONMENT

- ✓ Hospitals
- ✓ Colleges and Universities
- ✓ Rehabilitation Centers
- ✓ Clinics
- ✓ Physician Offices
- ✓ Governmental Agencies
- ✓ Speech and Hearing Centers
- ✓ Nursing Homes
- ✓ Research Laboratories
- ✓ Private Practices



## LICENSURE, CERTIFICATION, REGISTRATION

Mississippi requires audiologists to be licensed by receiving the Certificate of Clinical Competence (CCC) from American Speech-Language-Hearing Association.

## HIGH SCHOOL PREPARATION

High school courses beneficial to audiologists are biology, physics, chemistry, geometry, algebra, English, health occupations, sociology, psychology, computer skills, social studies, and speech.

## COLLEGE REQUIREMENTS

Individuals interested in audiology must have a bachelor's degree in a major with a broad liberal arts background. All states require audiologists to hold a master's degree or the equivalent to obtain a license.

## PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

### American Speech- Language-Hearing Association

2200 Research Blvd  
Rockville, MD 20350  
Phone: (301) 296-5700  
[www.asha.org](http://www.asha.org)

### American Academy of Audiology

11480 Commerce Park Dr  
Reston, VA 20191  
Phone: (800) 222-2336  
[www.audiology.org](http://www.audiology.org)

### Mississippi Speech- Language - Hearing Association

PO Box 22664  
Jackson, MS 39225  
Phone: (800) 664-6742  
[www.mshausa.org](http://www.mshausa.org)

## EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS

- ✓ University of Mississippi (AuD)
- ✓ University of Mississippi Medical Center (AuD)
- ✓ University of Southern Mississippi (AuD)

## CAREER OUTLOOK

Employment of audiologists is projected to grow 11% from 2023 to 2033. Advances in hearing aid technology and design make them more appealing and accessible, potentially increasing the demand for audiologists who can provide fitting and follow-up care. As the population ages, the incidence of hearing loss increases, leading to a greater need for audiologists.

# **SPEECH-LANGUAGE PATHOLOGIST: AVERAGE ANNUAL SALARY: \$86,511**

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## **JOB DESCRIPTION**

Speech-language pathologists are professionals who are educated in the study of human communication, its development, and its disorders. Speech-language pathologists work with people with reduced speech intelligibility; with speech rhythm and fluency problems, such as stuttering; with voice quality problems, such as inappropriate pitch or harsh voice; with problems understanding and producing spoken and written language; with cognitive communication impairments, such as attention, memory, and problem-solving disorders; and with hearing loss for people who use hearing aids or cochlear implants, to develop auditory skills and improve communication. They also work with people who have swallowing difficulties and those who do not have communication disorders but who would like to improve their presentation skills or modify an accent.

## **SALARY RANGE**

**\$30,780 - \$137,325**

## **WORK ENVIRONMENT**

- ✓ Hospitals
- ✓ Colleges and Universities
- ✓ Rehabilitation Centers
- ✓ Clinics
- ✓ Physician Offices
- ✓ Industry
- ✓ Governmental Agencies
- ✓ Speech and Hearing Centers
- ✓ Nursing Homes
- ✓ Research Laboratories

## **LICENSURE, CERTIFICATION, REGISTRATION**

Speech-language pathologists must complete an internship and pass a national certification examination given by the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association to become licensed. Successful completion of these requirements results in the Certificate of Clinical Competence in Speech-Language Pathology (CCC-SLP).

## HIGH SCHOOL PREPARATION

Preparation for this career should include biology, physics, chemistry, geometry, algebra, English, health education, sociology, psychology, computer science, social studies, and speech.

## COLLEGE REQUIREMENTS

Speech-language pathologists are required to have a minimum of a master's level education. Individuals must obtain a bachelor's degree in an acceptable major with a broad liberal arts curriculum. They must then gain admission into a speech-language program, which is usually very competitive.

## PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

### American Speech-Language-Hearing Association

2200 Research Blvd  
Rockville, MD 20350  
Phone: (301) 296-5700  
[www.asha.org](http://www.asha.org)

### Mississippi Speech-Language-Hearing Association

PO Box 22664  
Jackson, MS 39225  
Phone: (800) 664-6742  
[www.mshausa.org](http://www.mshausa.org)

## EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS

- ✓ Jackson State University (MS)
- ✓ Mississippi University for Women (MS)
- ✓ University of Mississippi (MS)
- ✓ University of Southern Mississippi (MS, MA)

## CAREER OUTLOOK

The US Bureau of Labor Statistics estimates a 25% increase in employment opportunities for SLPs in Mississippi from 2021 to 2031. The Mississippi Department of Education reports that many schools struggle to fill SLP positions, highlighting the shortage in the state.

# THERAPY

## CREATIVE ARTS THERAPY: AVERAGE ANNUAL SALARY: \$62,810

### JOB DESCRIPTION

Creative art therapists use art, music and dance to assess and treat clients with emotional, cognitive, physical, and/or developmental needs and disorders. Creative arts therapy interventions can be designed to promote wellness, manage stress, improve physical functioning, alleviate pain, enhance memory and cognitive functioning, improve communication, and provide unique opportunities for interaction. Using their skills in evaluation and psychotherapy, they choose materials and interventions appropriate to their clients' needs and design sessions to achieve therapeutic goals and objectives. Creative art therapists also maintain appropriate charts, records, and periodic reports on client progress as required by agency guidelines and professional standards; participate in professional staff meetings and conferences; and provide information and consultation regarding the client's clinical progress. They also may function as supervisors, administrators, consultants, and expert witnesses.

### SALARY RANGE

**\$26,991 - \$95,654**

### WORK ENVIRONMENT

- ✓ Hospitals
- ✓ Nursing Homes
- ✓ Clinics
- ✓ Rehabilitation Facilities
- ✓ Colleges and Universities
- ✓ Correctional Institutions
- ✓ Halfway Houses
- ✓ Residential Treatment Centers
- ✓ Behavioral Health Centers
- ✓ Art Studios



## LICENSURE, CERTIFICATION, REGISTRATION

1,000 hours of supervised postgraduate service. Dance therapists can obtain two levels of certification, Registered Dance Therapist and Registered Academy of Dance Therapist. To become a Certified Music Therapist (CMT), individuals must serve a 1,040-hour clinical internship in a facility approved by the National Association for Music Therapy.

## HIGH SCHOOL PREPARATION

Biology, physics, algebra, English, literature, fine arts (dance, drama, art, music, etc.), physical education, computer skills, psychology, sociology, and health education.

## COLLEGE REQUIREMENTS

A master's level education to practice is required. Each specialty has its own set of professional standards and requisite qualifications.

## PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

<p><b>American Art Therapy Association</b> 4875 Eisenhower Ave Alexandria, VA 22304 Phone: (703) 548-5860 <a href="http://www.arttherapy.org">www.arttherapy.org</a></p>	<p><b>American Dance Therapy Association</b> 10632 Little Patuxent Pkwy Columbia, MD 21044 Phone: (410) 997-4040 <a href="http://www.adta.org">www.adta.org</a></p>
<p><b>American Music Therapy Assoc, Inc.</b> 8455 Colesville Road, Silver Springs, MD 20910 Phone: (301) 589-3300 <a href="http://www.musictherapy.org">www.musictherapy.org</a></p>	<p><b>National Association for Drama Therapy</b> 44365 Premier Plaza Ashburn, VA 20147 Phone: (888) 416-7167 <a href="http://www.nadta.org">www.nadta.org</a></p>

## EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS

- ✓ Mississippi College
- ✓ University of Mississippi

## CAREER OUTLOOK

There are currently an estimated 16,800 art therapists in the United States. The art therapist job market is expected to grow by 3.6% between 2022 and 2032. Demand for art therapists is expected to go up, with an expected 26,660 new jobs filled by 2029.

# OCCUPATIONAL THERAPIST: AVERAGE ANNUAL SALARY: \$89,379

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## JOB DESCRIPTION

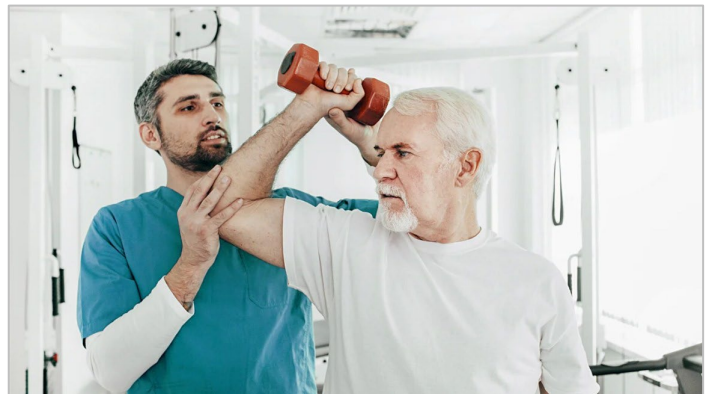
Occupational therapists use occupations for therapeutic means, including everyday life activities, with individuals, groups, populations, or organizations to support participation, performance, and function in roles and situations in home, school, workplace, community, and other settings. Occupational therapy services are for habilitation, rehabilitation, and promoting health and wellness to those who have or are at risk for developing an illness, injury, disease, disorder, condition, impairment, disability, activity limitation, or participation restriction. Occupational therapy addresses physical, cognitive, psychosocial, sensory- perceptual, and other aspects of performance in a variety of contexts and environments to support engagement in occupations that affect physical and mental health, well-being, and quality of life.

## SALARY RANGE

**\$45,933 - \$132,117**

## WORK ENVIRONMENT

- ✓ Hospitals
- ✓ Schools
- ✓ Outpatient Clinics
- ✓ Rehabilitation Centers
- ✓ Mental Health Centers
- ✓ Nursing Homes
- ✓ Home Health Agencies
- ✓ Hospice Centers



## LICENSURE, CERTIFICATION, REGISTRATION

Upon completion of all college requirements, eligible individuals must pass a national exam to become licensed, which will allow that individual to use the initials OTR (Occupational Therapist Registered).

## HIGH SCHOOL PREPARATION

High school preparation for this profession should include courses in biology, chemistry, physics, health, physical education, art, algebra, physical science, psychology, sociology, English, and computer skills.

## COLLEGE REQUIREMENTS

A master's degree in occupational therapy is the minimum requirement for entry into this field. The curriculum usually includes six months of supervised fieldwork.

## PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

<p><b>American Occupational Therapist Association</b> 4720 Montgomery Ln Bethesda, MD 20814 Phone: (301) 652-2682 <a href="http://www.aota.org">www.aota.org</a></p>	<p><b>Mississippi State Department of Health Division of Special Licensure</b> 570 E Woodrow Wilson Dr Jackson, MS 39216 Phone: (601) 576-7400 <a href="http://www.msdh.ms.gov">www.msdh.ms.gov</a></p>	<p><b>Mississippi Occupational Therapy Association</b> PO Box 13706 Jackson, MS 39236 Phone: (601) 956-4105 <a href="http://www.mississippiota.org">www.mississippiota.org</a></p>
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## EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS

- ✓ University of Mississippi Medical Center (OTD)
- ✓ William Carey University (MOT)

## CAREER OUTLOOK

The US Bureau of Labor Statistics projects that employment for occupational therapists will grow by 11% between 2023 and 2033, with an estimated 16,800 new jobs created. There is an increasing need for specialized OTs in areas like mental health, pediatrics, gerontology, and driving/community mobility.

# OCCUPATIONAL THERAPIST ASSISTANT

**AVERAGE ANNUAL SALARY: \$58,236**

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## JOB DESCRIPTION

Occupational therapy assistants provide services to clients focusing on participation in selected activities to restore, reinforce, and enhance performance; facilitate learning of those skills and functions essential for adaptation and participation; diminish or correct pathology; and promote and maintain health and wellness. A fundamental concern is the development and maintenance of the skill and capacity throughout the lifespan to perform with satisfaction to self and others meaningful activities and roles essential to social participation and to the mastery of self and the environment. Under the supervision of and in partnership with the occupational therapist, occupational therapy assistants participate in the development of adaptive skills and performance capacity and are concerned with factors that promote, influence, or enhance performance, as well as those that serve as barriers or impediments to the individual's occupational performance. The occupational therapy assistant provides service to those clients whose abilities to perform meaningful activities of living are threatened or impaired by developmental deficits, the aging process, poverty and cultural differences, physical injury or illness, psychological or social disability.

## SALARY RANGE

**\$34,094 - \$91,866**

## WORK ENVIRONMENT

- ✓ Hospitals
- ✓ Nursing Homes
- ✓ Rehabilitation Facilities
- ✓ Long-Term Care Facilities
- ✓ Private Homes
- ✓ Mental Health Agencies
- ✓ Schools and Universities
- ✓ Private Practice

## LICENSURE, CERTIFICATION, REGISTRATION

Following the completion of all educational requirements, individuals must take a national examination in order to become a certified occupational therapist assistant (COTA). This certification is required to practice in Mississippi.

## HIGH SCHOOL PREPARATION

High school students interested in becoming an occupational therapist assistant should concentrate on courses in biology, algebra, chemistry, English, physical education, computer skills, physical science, psychology, sociology, and health education.

## COLLEGE REQUIREMENTS

A high school diploma or the equivalent is required for admission to an accredited OTA program. Occupational therapist assistants must then obtain an associate's degree from a certified program.

## PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

### American Occupational Therapist Association

4720 Montgomery Ln  
Bethesda, MD 20814  
Phone: (301) 652-2682  
[www.aota.org](http://www.aota.org)

### American Occupational Therapy Foundation

4720 Montgomery Ln  
Bethesda, MD 20814  
Phone: (301) 652-2682  
[www.aotf.org](http://www.aotf.org)

### Mississippi Occupational Therapy Association

PO Box 13706  
Jackson, MS 39236  
Phone: (601) 956-4105  
[www.mississippiota.org](http://www.mississippiota.org)

## EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS

### ✓ Community Colleges:

- Holmes
- Itawamba
- Mississippi Gulf Coast
- Pearl River

## CAREER OUTLOOK

The US Bureau of Labor Statistics projects a 21% growth in employment for OTAs and aides from 2023 to 2033. This field has been noted as one of the 25 highest-paying associate degree jobs available today.

# PHYSICAL THERAPIST: AVERAGE ANNUAL SALARY: \$91,576

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## JOB DESCRIPTION

The physical therapist provides services to many kinds of patients/clients, from those recovering from accidents or illness and people with disabilities to world-class athletes. Physical therapists help improve strength and mobility, relieve pain, and prevent or limit permanent physical disabilities. Physical therapists take a personal and direct approach to meeting an individual's health goals, working closely with the patient and other health care practitioners. They provide the patient and the patient's family with instruction and home programs to ensure that healing continues after direct patient care has ended. Physical therapists also work to keep people well and safe from injury, emphasizing the importance of fitness and conditioning and showing people how to avoid injuries at work or play. Physical therapy promotes optimal physical performance and enables health-conscious people to increase their overall fitness level and muscular strength and endurance.

## SALARY RANGE

**\$52,089 - \$125,014**

## WORK ENVIRONMENT

- ✓ Hospitals
- ✓ Rehabilitation Centers
- ✓ Clinics
- ✓ Physician Offices
- ✓ Nursing Homes
- ✓ Home Health Agencies
- ✓ Adult Day Care Programs
- ✓ Schools
- ✓ Wellness and Community Centers
- ✓ Private Industry

## HIGH SCHOOL PREPARATION

High school preparation for a career in physical therapy should include biology, chemistry, medical assisting, algebra, trigonometry, health education, computer skills, humanities, and geometry.

## LICENSURE, CERTIFICATION, REGISTRATION

Physical therapists are required to become licensed to practice in Mississippi. This licensure can be gained through the Mississippi State Department of Health with approval of educational transcripts as well as passing the National Physical Therapy Exam (NPTE) given by the National Physical Therapy Association.

## COLLEGE REQUIREMENTS

Students interested in physical therapy must complete 3 calendar years and graduate from an accredited school of physical therapy. These programs are at a doctoral level and usually last 3 years or more including residencies.

## PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

### American Physical Therapy Association

1111 North Fairfax St  
Alexandria, VA 22314  
Phone: (703) 684-2782  
[www.apta.org](http://www.apta.org)

Mississippi Physical Therapy Association  
[www.mspta.org](http://www.mspta.org)

## EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS

### PHYSICAL THERAPY:

- ✓ University of Mississippi Oxford (DPT pre-requisites)
- ✓ University of Mississippi Medical Center (DPT)
- ✓ University of Southern Mississippi (DPT pre-requisites)
- ✓ William Carey University (DPT)

### PHYSICAL THERAPY ASSISTANT:

#### ✓ **Community Colleges:**

- Hinds (AA)
- Holmes (AA)
- Itawamba (AA)
- Meridian (AA)
- Mississippi Delta (AA)
- Northwest Mississippi (AA)
- Pearl River (AA)



## CAREER OUTLOOK

The US Bureau of Labor Statistics projects a 14% growth in physical therapist employment from 2023 to 2033. The growing and aging population is driving the demand for physical therapists. Additionally, the number of people needing physical therapy is expected to increase due to advancements in medical treatments that allow patients to live longer, healthier lives.

# RECREATIONAL THERAPIST: AVERAGE ANNUAL SALARY: \$69,837

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## JOB DESCRIPTION

Recreational therapists are professionally trained practitioners who individually assess the patient or consumer plan intervention programs, implement safe and effective evidence-based recreational therapy interventions, evaluate the effectiveness of intervention programs, and manage recreational therapy practice. Recreational therapists provide individualized and group recreational therapy interventions for individuals experiencing limitations in life activities and community participation because of a disabling condition, illness or disease, aging, and/or developmental factors, including those at risk. Recreational therapists use a variety of educational, behavioral, recreational, and activity-oriented strategies with clients to enhance functional performance and improve positive lifestyle behaviors designed to increase independence, effective community participation, and well-being. Recreational therapists are effective members of treatment teams in health care and community-based health care and human service agencies.

## SALARY RANGE

**\$28,412 - \$126,907**

## WORK ENVIRONMENT

- ✓ Hospitals
- ✓ Nursing Homes
- ✓ Rehabilitation Facilities
- ✓ Long-Term Care Facilities
- ✓ Correctional Institutions
- ✓ Substance Abuse Centers
- ✓ Behavioral Health Centers
- ✓ Private Practice



## LICENSURE, CERTIFICATION, REGISTRATION

The National Council for Therapeutic Recreation Certification offers certification for recreational therapists who pass a national examination.

## HIGH SCHOOL PREPARATION

High school students interested in becoming a recreational therapist should concentrate on courses in biology, algebra, English, literature, physical education, computer skills, physical science, psychology, sociology, and health education.

## COLLEGE REQUIREMENTS

Individuals interested in recreational therapy must have a high school diploma or equivalent. Employers usually require a bachelor's degree in recreational therapy from an accredited institution but may hire an individual with an associate degree or sufficient work experience.

## PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

### **American Therapeutic Recreation Association**

629 North Main St  
Hattiesburg, MS 39401  
Phone: (601) 450-2872  
[www.atra-online.com](http://www.atra-online.com)

### **The National Council for Therapeutic Recreation Certification**

7 Elmwood Dr  
New City, NY 10956  
Phone: (845) 639-1439  
[www.nctrc.org](http://www.nctrc.org)

## EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS

- ✓ Tougaloo College
- ✓ University of Mississippi
- ✓ University of Southern Mississippi
- ✓ Northwest Mississippi Community College

## CAREER OUTLOOK

Employment of recreational therapists is expected to grow by 4% from 2023 to 2033. While the job market for recreational therapists in Mississippi is not highly active, there are still some companies actively hiring. Approximately 1,400 recreational therapist positions are projected to open each year on average.

# RESPIRATORY THERAPIST: AVERAGE ANNUAL SALARY: \$85,156

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## JOB DESCRIPTION

Respiratory therapists are health care professionals, dedicated to providing life-enhancing, life-supporting quality care to the elderly, adults, children and newborns. They work under the direction of physicians to assess, manage, treat and perform diagnostic evaluation, educate and care for patients with abnormalities and deficiencies associated with the cardiopulmonary system. Respiratory therapists work throughout hospitals, usually in emergency room settings and intensive care units. Therapists are a unique blend of technically sharp, analytical thinkers and patient-centered caregivers. Some therapists focus on pediatric/neonatal care while others specialize in pulmonary rehabilitation and continuing care in patient homes or rehabilitative care facilities. Respiratory therapists may also work in areas such as medical equipment sales, cardiopulmonary diagnostics or education and management.

## SALARY RANGE

**\$35,042 - \$142,061**

## WORK ENVIRONMENT

- ✓ Hospitals
- ✓ Physician Offices
- ✓ Nursing Homes
- ✓ Respiratory Clinics
- ✓ Respiratory Equipment Suppliers
- ✓ Home Health Agencies

## LICENSURE, CERTIFICATION, REGISTRATION

Upon completion of all educational requirements, individuals must pass an examination given by the National Board of Respiratory Care. They will earn the title of Certified Respiratory Therapist (CRT) and will be eligible for a state license.

## HIGH SCHOOL PREPARATION

Preparation for a career in respiratory therapy should include biology, health education, algebra, chemistry, physics, English, computer skills, geometry, emergency medical technology, and computer science.

## COLLEGE REQUIREMENTS

Individuals interested in respiratory therapy must have a high school diploma or equivalent. They must also complete a respiratory care education program accredited by the Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs (CAAHEP).

## PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

### American Association of Respiratory Care

9425 N. MacArthur Blvd  
Irving, TX 75063  
Phone: (972) 243-2272  
[www.aarc.org](http://www.aarc.org)

### The National Board of Respiratory Care

18000 W. 105th St  
Olathe, KS 66061  
Phone: (913) 895-4900  
[www.nbrc.org](http://www.nbrc.org)

### Mississippi Society for Respiratory Care [www.msrc-web.com](http://www.msrc-web.com)

## EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS

### ✓ Community Colleges:

- Coahoma
- Copiah-Lincoln
- Hinds
- Itawamba
- Meridian
- Mississippi Gulf Coast
- Northeast Mississippi
- Northwest Mississippi
- Pearl River



## CAREER OUTLOOK

The respiratory therapy field in Mississippi has a positive career outlook, with a projected 13% growth in employment between 2023 and 2033, according to The US Bureau of Labor Statistics. Approximately 8,200 openings for respiratory therapists are projected each year, on average, over the decade. This growth is driven by factors like an aging population, increased prevalence of respiratory diseases, and the need for advanced respiratory treatments.

# THERAPEUTIC RECREATION SPECIALIST

**AVERAGE ANNUAL SALARY: \$69,837**

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## JOB DESCRIPTION

Therapeutic recreation uses treatment, education, and recreation services to help people with illnesses, disabilities, and other conditions develop and use their leisure in ways that enhance their health, functional abilities, independence, and quality of life. Recreational therapy services use various interventions to treat physical, cognitive, emotional, and social conditions associated with illness, injury, or chronic disabilities. Recreational therapy includes an education component, which enables individuals to become more informed and active partners in their health care by using activity to cope with the stress of illness and disability. Furthermore, these services assist individuals with managing their disabilities so they may achieve and maintain optimal levels of independence, productivity, and well-being and enter/re-enter the mainstream of community life. Therapeutic recreation services also include the provision of recreational opportunities (e.g., wheelchair sports, exercise and fitness programs, social activities) that can minimize health care costs by allowing individuals with disabilities the mechanisms to prevent declines in their physical, cognitive, social, and emotional health, thereby reducing the need for medical services.

## SALARY RANGE

**\$28,412 - \$126,907**

## WORK ENVIRONMENT

- ✓ Hospitals
- ✓ Nursing Homes
- ✓ Clinics
- ✓ Child & Adult Day Care Facilities
- ✓ Mental Health Agencies
- ✓ Rehabilitation Centers
- ✓ Federal and State Agencies

## LICENSURE, CERTIFICATION, REGISTRATION

The National Council for Therapeutic Recreation Certification offers a certification examination to anyone who has completed the required educational prerequisites.

## HIGH SCHOOL PREPARATION

High school preparation for students interested in a career as a therapeutic recreation specialist should include algebra, biology, psychology, sociology, health education, English, computer skills, physical education, and speech.

## COLLEGE REQUIREMENTS

Individuals entering a therapeutic recreation specialist program should have a high school diploma or the equivalent. A bachelor's degree in therapeutic recreation (or in recreation with an option in therapeutic recreation) is usually the requirement for hospital and clinical positions. An associate's degree may be sufficient for some nursing home positions.

## PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

### American Therapeutic Recreation Association

629 North Main St  
Hattiesburg, MS 39401  
Phone: (601) 450-2872  
[www.atra-online.com](http://www.atra-online.com)

### The National Council for Therapeutic Recreation Certification

7 Elmwood Dr  
New City, NY 10956  
Phone: (845) 639-1439  
[www.nctrc.org](http://www.nctrc.org)

## EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS

- ✓ Tougaloo College
- ✓ University of Mississippi
- ✓ University of Southern Mississippi
- ✓ Northwest Mississippi Community College

## CAREER OUTLOOK

The job outlook for therapeutic recreation specialists in Mississippi is generally positive. While the national job growth rate is about 4% per year, according to The US Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS), Mississippi may see slightly different growth due to its specific healthcare needs and regional demographics. While exact Mississippi data is limited, the state's growing population, aging population, and increasing need for mental health services suggest a positive outlook for recreational therapists.

# VETERINARY MEDICINE

**VETERINARIAN: AVERAGE ANNUAL SALARY: \$156,766**

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## JOB DESCRIPTION

Veterinarians diagnose animal health problems; vaccinate against diseases, such as distemper and rabies; medicate animals suffering from infections or illnesses; treat and dress wounds; set fractures; perform surgery; and advise owners about animal feeding, behavior, and breeding. Veterinarians who treat animals use medical equipment such as stethoscopes, surgical instruments, and diagnostic equipment, including radiographic and ultrasound equipment. Veterinarians working in research use a full range of sophisticated laboratory equipment.

## SALARY RANGE

**\$46,880 - \$278,438**

## WORK ENVIRONMENT

- ✓ Zoos
- ✓ Private and Group Practice
- ✓ Government Agencies
- ✓ Private Industries
- ✓ Medical Colleges and Universities
- ✓ Research Laboratories
- ✓ Public Health Agencies
- ✓ Pharmaceutical Companies



## LICENSURE, CERTIFICATION, REGISTRATION

To become a licensed veterinarian, an individual must graduate from an accredited college of veterinary medicine and pass national and state licensure examinations.

## HIGH SCHOOL PREPARATION

High school preparation should include biology, algebra, geometry, physical science, chemistry, biochemistry, genetics, nutrition, physics, English, physiology, statistics, trigonometry, and computer skills.

## COLLEGE REQUIREMENTS

Students interested in veterinary medicine should complete a 4-year undergraduate degree before applying to veterinary school. Admission into veterinary school is highly competitive; therefore, students must have a GPA within a high range, high scores on entrance examinations, and experience working with animals.

## PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

<p><b>American Veterinary Medical Association</b> 1931 N. Meacham Road Schaumburg, IL 60173 Phone: (800) 248-2862 <a href="http://www.avma.org">www.avma.org</a></p>	<p><b>Association of American Veterinary Medical Colleges</b> 1101 Vermont Ave NW Washington, DC 20005 Phone: (202) 371-9195 <a href="http://www.aavmc.org">www.aavmc.org</a></p>	<p><b>Mississippi Veterinary Medical Association</b> PO Box 395 Clinton, MS 39060 Phone: (601) 323-5057 <a href="http://www.msvet.org">www.msvet.org</a></p>
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## EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS

Mississippi State University (MS, DVM, PhD)

## CAREER OUTLOOK

The job outlook for veterinarians in Mississippi is positive, with employment projected to grow 19% from 2023 to 2033. The growing demand for specialized services and increased pet ownership are key factors driving job growth. While the job outlook is positive, competition for positions will likely remain strong.

## VETERINARIAN TECHNICIAN: AVERAGE ANNUAL SALARY: \$42,754

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### JOB DESCRIPTION

Veterinary technicians typically conduct clinical work in private practice under the supervision of a veterinarian— often performing various medical tests along with treating and diagnosing medical conditions and diseases in animals. Veterinary technicians perform laboratory tests such as urinalysis and blood counts, assist with dental prophylaxis, prepare tissue samples, take blood samples, or assist veterinarians in a variety of tests and analyses in which they often utilize various items of medical equipment, such as test tubes and diagnostic equipment. While most of these duties are performed in a laboratory setting, many are not. For example, some veterinary technicians obtain and record patients' case histories, expose and develop X-rays, and provide specialized nursing care. In addition, experienced veterinary technicians may discuss a pet's condition with its owners and train new clinic personnel. Veterinary technicians assisting small-animal practitioners usually care for companion animals, such as cats and dogs, but can perform a variety of duties with mice, rats, sheep, pigs, cattle, monkeys, birds, fish, and frogs.

### SALARY RANGE

**\$23,677 - \$62,506**

### WORK ENVIRONMENT

- ✓ Private Practice
- ✓ Veterinary Hospitals and Schools
- ✓ Kennels
- ✓ Research Institutes
- ✓ Zoos
- ✓ Research Laboratories



### LICENSURE, CERTIFICATION, REGISTRATION

Graduates from an accredited program may earn certification by passing a written examination offered by the Mississippi Veterinary Medical Board.

### HIGH SCHOOL PREPARATION

Students interested in veterinary technology should take high school courses in biology, chemistry, English, dental/ medical assisting, algebra, health education, social studies, computer skills, and geometry.

## COLLEGE REQUIREMENTS

Individuals interested in a career as a veterinary technician must have a high school diploma or equivalent, as well as complete an associate's or under-graduate degree program accredited by the American Veterinary Medical Association.

## PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

### North American Veterinary Technician Association

PO Box 1227  
Albert Lea, MN 56007  
Phone: (765) 742-2216  
[www.navta.net](http://www.navta.net)

### American Veterinary Medical Association

1931 N. Meacham Road  
Schaumburg, IL 60173  
Phone: (800) 248-2862  
[www.avma.org](http://www.avma.org)

### Mississippi Veterinary Medical Association

PO Box 395  
Clinton, MS 39060  
Phone: (601) 323-5057  
[www.msvet.org](http://www.msvet.org)

## EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS

- ✓ Mississippi State University (BS)
- ✓ Community Colleges:
  - Hinds Community College (AAS)
  - Northeast Community College (AAS)

## CAREER OUTLOOK

The US Bureau of Labor Statistics projects a 19% growth in employment for veterinary technologists and technicians from 2023 to 2033. About 15,400 openings for veterinary technologists and technicians are projected each year, on average, over the decade. As pet owners have more disposable income, they are more likely to seek advanced veterinary care, leading to increased demand for veterinary technicians.

# VISION CARE

## OPHTHALMIC TECHNOLOGIST: AVERAGE ANNUAL SALARY: \$44,436

### JOB DESCRIPTION

Skilled professionals who perform ophthalmic (eye care) procedures under the direction or supervision of an ophthalmologist (eye doctor). They are employed primarily by ophthalmologists, but may be employed by hospitals, clinics, or physician groups. An ophthalmic medical technician cannot diagnose patients or replace the ophthalmologist, but assists the physician by collecting data, administering treatment, assisting in ophthalmic surgical procedures, and supervising patients. These duties may include taking medical histories, instructing medications, tests, and procedures, performing vision and diagnostic tests, assisting the ophthalmologist with procedures, coordinating scheduling, supervising and training other ophthalmic medical technicians, and performing office management and clerical duties, maintaining ophthalmic instruments, maintaining and sterilizing ophthalmic surgical instruments.

### SALARY RANGE

**\$25,571 - \$67,243**

### WORK ENVIRONMENT

- ✓ Clinics
- ✓ Hospitals
- ✓ Private Practice
- ✓ Physician Offices

### LICENSURE, CERTIFICATION, REGISTRATION

Upon graduation from an accredited program, students may become certified by taking an examination given by the Joint Commission on Allied Health Personnel in Ophthalmology.

### HIGH SCHOOL PREPARATION

Biology, chemistry, physics, health education, computer skills, algebra, foreign language, English, literature, history, and social studies.

## COLLEGE REQUIREMENTS

Individuals interested in becoming an ophthalmic technologist must have a high school diploma or equivalent. Students should complete two years of college (60 credit hours) with an emphasis on science and then apply to a two-year technological training program.

Those who earn the distinction of ophthalmic assistant are required to work for at least one year before being considered for the role. The actual work experience serves as training. The work done by the technician builds the foundation that was first established as an assistant. Techs do more with optics and instruments. Assistants who embark on this type of on-the-job training take an alternative route to traditional education.

There is also the option of going to school to become an ophthalmic tech, which would eliminate the need to serve as an assistant.

## PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

**Association of Technical Personnel  
in Ophthalmology**  
2025 Woodlane Dr  
St. Paul, MN 55125  
Phone: (800) 482-4858  
[www.atpo.org](http://www.atpo.org)

**Joint Commission on  
Allied Health Personnel in Ophthalmology**  
2025 Woodlane Dr  
St. Paul, MN 55125  
Phone: (651) 731-2944  
[www.jcahpo.org](http://www.jcahpo.org)

## EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS

- ✓ East Mississippi Community College

## CAREER OUTLOOK

The job outlook for ophthalmic medical technicians is expected to be positive in Mississippi and nationally.

The US Bureau of Labor Statistics has stated that between 2023 and 2033 there is an expected 14% increase in job growth. This suggests many new job opportunities are likely in the future. Ophthalmology is one of the medical specialties with the lowest rate of projected workforce adequacy by 2035.

# OPTICAL LABORATORY TECHNICIAN

**AVERAGE ANNUAL SALARY: \$36,578**

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## JOB DESCRIPTION

Optical laboratory technicians prepare eyeglass lenses or contact lenses from an eye doctor's prescription. Some make precision lenses for cameras, microscopes, telescopes, and military equipment. Optical laboratory technicians are also called manufacturing opticians, optical mechanics, or optical goods workers. Optical laboratory technicians cut, grind, edge, and finish lenses. The technician must choose the correct blank lens with which to begin, mark the lenses for grinding, place them in the machine, and set the dials for proper grinding. The lenses are finished and polished in other machines. After the lenses are ground and polished, the optical laboratory technician checks the curvature of the lenses by using a lensometer. The lenses must fit the prescription or specifications exactly. The technician then fits the lenses to the glasses frame to produce a finished pair of glasses or fits the lenses into optical equipment such as microscopes.

## SALARY RANGE

**\$22,256 - \$50,194**

## WORK ENVIRONMENT

- ✓ Optical Laboratories
- ✓ Retail Stores
- ✓ Hospitals

## LICENSURE, CERTIFICATION, REGISTRATION

There are no certification requirements for optical laboratory personnel.

## HIGH SCHOOL PREPARATION

Students interested in becoming an optical laboratory technician should take high school courses in algebra, chemistry, geometry, biology, mechanical drawing, industrial arts, computer skills, English, and health education.

## COLLEGE REQUIREMENTS

Individuals interested in optical laboratory technology should have a high school diploma or equivalent. Most optical laboratory technicians learn their skills on the job by starting out as a trainee in a laboratory. There are, however, programs that are offered through technical schools and the Armed Forces.

## PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

### Opticians Association of America

4064 E Fir Hill Dr  
Lakeland, TN 38002  
Phone: (901) 388-2423  
[www.oaa.org](http://www.oaa.org)

### Association of Technical Personnel in Ophthalmology

2025 Woodlane Dr  
St. Paul, MN 55125  
Phone: (800) 482-4858  
[www.atpo.org](http://www.atpo.org)

### Commission on Opticianry Accreditation

PO Box 592  
Canton, NY 13617  
Phone: (703) 468-0566  
[www.coaccreditation.com](http://www.coaccreditation.com)

## EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS

- ✓ East Mississippi Community College

## CAREER OUTLOOK

The US Bureau of Labor Statistics projects that overall employment of dental and ophthalmic laboratory technicians and medical appliance technicians will decline by 1% from 2023 to 2033. The job market is currently not very active.



## **OPTICIAN: AVERAGE ANNUAL SALARY: \$38,046**

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### **JOB DESCRIPTION**

Opticians, sometimes called prescription opticians or ophthalmic dispensers, examine written prescriptions to determine the specifications of lenses. They recommend eyeglass frames, lenses, and lens coatings after considering the prescription and the customer's occupation, habits, and facial features. Opticians also make sure that the lenses and frames fit the patient properly. Most opticians work in stores that sell eyeglasses. They measure each patient's face to decide exactly where the lenses should be placed. Then they send information on the size, color, shape, and prescription of the lenses to the optical laboratory. When the eyeglasses have been made, the dispensing optician measures and adjusts the glasses for the patient until they fit properly. They instruct clients about adapting to, wearing, or caring for eyeglasses. Opticians with additional training fit patients for contact lenses by measuring the shape and size of the eye, selecting the type of contact lens material, and preparing work orders for the laboratory. Opticians also teach patients proper insertion, removal, and care of contact lenses.

### **SALARY RANGE**

**\$23,677 - \$52,563**

### **WORK ENVIRONMENT**

- ✓ Self-Employed
- ✓ Retail Optical Outlets
- ✓ Department Stores
- ✓ Manufacturers
- ✓ Optometrist Offices
- ✓ Wholesale Labs

### **LICENSURE, CERTIFICATION, REGISTRATION**

Certification is available through the American Board of Opticianry and the National Contact Lens Examiners.

### **HIGH SCHOOL PREPARATION**

High school students interested in becoming an optician should prepare by taking courses in biology, physics, health education, computer skills, algebra, mechanical drawing, trigonometry, English, literature, geometry, and social studies.

## COLLEGE REQUIREMENTS

Individuals interested in this optical specialty should have a high school diploma or equivalent. Programs in optical technology are usually offered at community colleges and technical schools. Some employers require completion of an optician program, while others may provide on-the-job training to individuals with no formal background in opticianry.

## PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

<p><b>American Board of Opticianry</b> 6506 Loisdale Rd Springfield, VA 22150 Phone: (703) 719-5800 <a href="http://www.abo.org">www.abo.org</a></p>	<p><b>Opticians Association of America</b> 4064 E Fir Hill Dr Lakeland, TN 38002 Phone: (901) 388-2423 <a href="http://www.oaa.org">www.oaa.org</a></p>
<p><b>Commission on Opticianry Accreditation</b> PO Box 592 Canton, NY 13617 Phone: (703) 468-0566 <a href="http://www.coaccreditation.com">www.coaccreditation.com</a></p>	<p><b>Mississippi Association of Dispensing Opticians</b> 16383 South Swan Road Gulfport, MS 39503 Phone: (228) 860-1825 <a href="http://www.mado.org">www.mado.org</a></p>

## EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS

Generally, opticians need to complete an apprenticeship program that generally lasts six months, or they could choose to complete a certificate program that lasts a year.  
[www.opticianedu.org](http://www.opticianedu.org).

## CAREER OUTLOOK

The US Bureau of Labor Statistics projects 3% growth in employment for opticians from 2023 to 2033. Opticians are essential for filling prescriptions for eyeglasses and contact lenses.

# **OPTOMETRIC TECHNICIAN: AVERAGE ANNUAL SALARY: \$36,578**

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## **JOB DESCRIPTION**

Optometric technicians help optometrists in eye examinations and corrective procedures. Their duties often include patient billing and record keeping, taking measurements, explaining eye exercises, teaching patients to insert and remove contact lenses, and clean instruments, and order supplies.

## **SALARY RANGE**

**\$22,256 - \$50,194**

## **WORK ENVIRONMENT**

- ✓ Hospitals
- ✓ Public Health Offices
- ✓ Optometric Offices

## **LICENSURE, CERTIFICATION, REGISTRATION**

Upon completion of a formal training program, individuals may become a Certified Optometric Technician through the National Council on Paraoptometric Certification, part of the American Optometric Association.

## **HIGH SCHOOL PREPARATION**

Students interested in becoming an optometric technician should take high school courses in biology, dental/medical assisting, health education, computer skills, general clerical work, algebra, office practices, English, literature, history, and social studies.

## **COLLEGE REQUIREMENTS**

Individuals interested in optometric technology should have a high school diploma or the equivalent. Optometric technicians may be trained on the job, but many complete a two-year associate's degree.

## PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

### Opticians Association of America

4064 E Fir Hill Dr  
Lakeland, TN 38002  
Phone: (901) 388-2423  
[www.oaa.org](http://www.oaa.org)

### American Optometric Association

243 N. Lindberg Blvd  
St. Louis, MO 63141  
Phone: (800) 365-2219  
[www.aoa.org](http://www.aoa.org)

### Mississippi Association of Dispensing Opticians

16383 South Swan Road  
Gulfport, MS 39503  
Phone: (228) 860-1825  
[www.mado.org](http://www.mado.org)

## EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS

There are currently no optometric technician programs in the state of Mississippi.

On-the-job training or training programs (1-2 years) in person.

## CAREER OUTLOOK

The US Bureau of Labor Statistics forecasts the employment of optometric technicians by 9% between 2023-2033. Optometric Technician jobs in Mississippi are expected to grow at a moderate rate, indicating a steady demand for these professionals.



# OPTOMETRIST: AVERAGE ANNUAL SALARY: \$117,639

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## JOB DESCRIPTION

Optometrists, or Doctor of Optometry, examine, diagnose, treat, and manage diseases, injuries, and disorders of the visual system, the eye, and associated structures as well as identify related systemic conditions affecting the eye. Optometrists prescribe medications, low vision rehabilitation, vision therapy, spectacle lenses, and contact lenses and perform certain surgical procedures. Optometrists counsel their patients regarding surgical and nonsurgical options that meet their visual needs related to their occupations, vocations, and lifestyles.

## SALARY RANGE

**\$61,559 - \$175,208**

## WORK ENVIRONMENT

- ✓ Private and Group Practice
- ✓ Hospitals
- ✓ Health Management Organizations
- ✓ Retail Stores
- ✓ Universities
- ✓ Research Laboratories



## LICENSURE, CERTIFICATION, REGISTRATION

Optometrists must be licensed to practice in Mississippi. To become licensed, individuals must have a Doctorate of Optometry (O.D.) degree from an accredited optometry school, as well as pass written and clinical state board examinations.

## HIGH SCHOOL PREPARATION

Students interested in a career in eye care should take high school courses in algebra, chemistry, calculus, geometry, biology, physics, literature, computer science, English, and health education.

## COLLEGE REQUIREMENTS

Students interested in optometry must first complete either 90 semester credits of college, or a bachelor's degree in a science-related field. They must then take the Optometry College Admission Test (OCAT) and apply to a school of optometry. Upon completion of a 4-year optometry program, individuals must become licensed.

## PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

### American Optometric Association

243 N. Lindberg Blvd  
St. Louis, MO 63141  
Phone: (800) 365-2219  
[www.aoa.org](http://www.aoa.org)

### Association of Schools and Colleges of Optometry

6110 Executive Blvd  
Rockville, MD 20852  
Phone: (301) 231-5944  
[www.opted.org](http://www.opted.org)

### Mississippi Optometric Association

141 Executive Dr  
Madison, MS 39110  
Phone: (601) 853-4407  
[www.mseyes.com](http://www.mseyes.com)

## EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS

There are no schools in Mississippi.

Southern College of Optometry, Memphis, TN

## CAREER OUTLOOK

The national job market for optometrists is projected to grow by 9% from 2023 to 2033. The optometry industry in Mississippi is experiencing growth, with an increase in establishments and employment. Technological advancements and specialized practice areas are creating new niches in the market.

# OTHER HEALTH CARE CAREERS

## CARDIOVASCULAR TECHNOLOGIST

**AVERAGE ANNUAL SALARY: \$118,917**

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### JOB DESCRIPTION

Qualified by specific didactic, laboratory, and clinical technological education to perform diagnostic or therapeutic procedures in various cardiovascular or peripheral vascular procedures. Invasive cardiovascular technologists are responsible for maintaining the cardiac catheterization laboratory and assisting cardiologists in the catheterization procedures used to diagnose / treat the various diseases of the cardiovascular system. Adult and pediatric echocardiographers are cardiac sonographers who perform echocardiography examinations to evaluate heart function and physiology under the supervision of cardiologists to include cardiac stress testing and assist in trans-esophageal echocardiography. Echocardiography procedures are performed on adults and pediatric patients (infants through adolescence). Non-invasive vascular ultrasound sonographers work under the direction of various clinical disciplines including vascular surgeons, interventional radiologists, or cardiologists to perform non-invasive vascular ultrasound and other non-ultrasonographic procedures to evaluate the extra- and intracranial, peripheral and visceral vascular systems. Responsible for maintaining the cardiac electrophysiology laboratory and assisting cardiologists in the various procedures used to diagnose and treat patients with cardiac arrhythmias.

### SALARY RANGE

**\$44,986 - \$161,948**

### WORK ENVIRONMENT

- ✓ Hospitals and Clinics
- ✓ Physician Offices
- ✓ Educational Facilities
- ✓ Medical Centers
- ✓ Non-Invasive Cardiovascular Labs
- ✓ Electrophysiology Labs
- ✓ Mobile Diagnostic Units

## LICENSURE, CERTIFICATION, REGISTRATION

Graduates from an accredited program are eligible to obtain professional certification in cardiac catheterization, echocardiography, vascular ultrasound, and cardiology techniques from Cardiovascular Credentialing International. Cardiac sonographers and vascular technologists also may obtain certification from the American Registry of Diagnostic Medical Sonographers.

## HIGH SCHOOL PREPARATION

High school students interested in a career as a cardiovascular technologist should take courses in biology, chemistry, physics, anatomy and physiology, life sciences, health education, computer science, English, algebra, and geometry.

## COLLEGE REQUIREMENTS

Individuals interested in cardiovascular technology must have a high school diploma or the equivalent. Programs vary in length from 1 to 4 years, depending on previous clinical experience and number of areas of diagnostic evaluation selected: invasive cardiology, noninvasive cardiology, or noninvasive peripheral vascular study.

## PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

**Commission on  
Accreditation of Allied  
Health Education Programs**  
1361 Park St  
Clearwater, FL 33756  
Phone: (727) 210-2350  
[www.caahep.org](http://www.caahep.org)

**Society of  
Vascular Ultrasound**  
4601 Presidents Dr  
Lanham MD 20706  
Phone: (301) 459-7550  
[www.svunet.org](http://www.svunet.org)

**Alliance of  
Cardiovascular  
Professionals**  
PO Box 2007  
Midlothian, VA 23113  
Phone: (804) 632-0078  
[www.acp-online.org](http://www.acp-online.org)

## EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS

- ✓ Northwest Mississippi Community College (C)

## CAREER OUTLOOK

The US Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) projects a 3.7% growth in the cardiovascular technologist job market between 2022 and 2032, which translates to approximately 5,000 new jobs. Overall, the career outlook for cardiovascular technologists in Mississippi in 2025 is relatively stable, with potential for growth and specialization, particularly in cardiac cath lab and invasive roles.

# GERONTOLOGIST: AVERAGE ANNUAL SALARY: \$47,369

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## JOB DESCRIPTION

Gerontologists are health care professionals who specialize in working with elderly patients. They provide their services to people in nursing homes, senior citizen centers, and other similar facilities. There are several different types of gerontologists. Research gerontologists conduct research on the aging process and the living environments of the elderly to understand and enrich the lives of the elderly. Applied gerontologists work directly with the elderly, communicating with and analyzing individuals, families, and groups. Administrative gerontologists use their training and management skills to develop programs and coordinate services that are necessary for elderly services to run smoothly. They often educate older people by giving informative presentations, publishing books and articles that pertain to the elderly population and producing relevant films and television programs.

## SALARY RANGE

**\$24,624 - \$75,765**

## WORK ENVIRONMENT

- ✓ Nursing Homes
- ✓ Senior Citizen Centers
- ✓ Hospitals
- ✓ Public Health Offices
- ✓ Schools and Colleges
- ✓ Therapy and Counseling Clinics



## LICENSURE, CERTIFICATION, REGISTRATION

There is currently no accreditation or licensure required after the completion of an accredited program.

## HIGH SCHOOL PREPARATION

High school students interested in gerontology should concentrate on biology, chemistry, geometry, algebra, English, sociology, literature, psychology, computer skills, and social studies.

## COLLEGE REQUIREMENTS

Individuals must have a high school diploma or the equivalent. Many colleges and universities offer various levels of training in gerontology, but since it is a multidisciplinary career, it draws from a variety of fields. Many of these institutions offer associate, bachelor, and master programs in gerontology, and some offer research programs at the doctoral and postdoctoral levels.

## PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

### **The Gerontological Society of America**

1220 L Str NW  
Washington, DC 20005  
Phone: (202) 842-1275  
[www.geron.org](http://www.geron.org)

### **Association for Gerontology in Higher Education**

1220 L Str NW  
Washington, DC 20005  
Phone: (202) 289-9806  
[www.aghe.org](http://www.aghe.org)

## EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS

- ✓ Mississippi State University (Minor)
- ✓ Tougaloo College
- ✓ University of Mississippi Oxford (Minor)

## CAREER OUTLOOK

The job outlook for gerontologists in Mississippi is projected to be positive, with opportunities growing due to the aging population and increasing demand for professionals in the field. The aging population is driving a need for gerontologists in various roles, including those focused on healthy aging, senior care programs, and policymaking.

## HEALTH EDUCATOR: AVERAGE ANNUAL SALARY: \$47,856

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### JOB DESCRIPTION

Health educators are an integral part of community health education programs. They provide information to individuals and communities to promote, maintain, and improve healthy lifestyles. Some of the issues that are of importance include substance abuse, safety, HIV/STDs, nutrition, high blood pressure, smoking, pregnancy, and diabetes. Health educators are also responsible for collecting and analyzing data for the purpose of researching, designing, and presenting preventive health care programs. These individuals must be able to inform and organize community coalitions to address concerns and issues that affect the health of communities. Health educators are often responsible for writing educational material, newsletters, public information reports, and grant proposals. They may specialize in various areas that include clinical health, public health, community health, industrial health, and school health.

### SALARY RANGE

**\$25,097 - \$71,029**

### WORK ENVIRONMENT

- ✓ Health Departments
- ✓ Community Organizations
- ✓ Corporations/Worksites
- ✓ Volunteer Organizations
- ✓ Schools and Colleges
- ✓ Governmental Organizations

### LICENSURE, CERTIFICATION, REGISTRATION

Students must first receive a bachelor's degree in health education/ promotion, public health, or community health. They must then pass a comprehensive written exam given by the National Commission for Health Education Credentialing, Inc. Once the student has passed the exam, they will be recognized as a Certified Health Education Specialist (CHES).

### HIGH SCHOOL PREPARATION

Biology, English, public speaking, algebra, geometry, behavioral sciences, social sciences, computer skills, writing, and health education.

## COLLEGE REQUIREMENTS

Individuals interested in health education must have a bachelor's or master's degree in health education or health promotion.

Some health education specialist positions require candidates to have a master's or doctoral degree. Graduate program degree fields may include community health education, school health education, public health education, or health promotion. Applicants to these master's degree programs generally do not need a specific undergraduate major.

## PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

<p><b>American Public Health Association</b> 800 Str NW Washington, DC 20001 Phone: (202) 777-2742 <a href="http://www.apha.org">www.apha.org</a></p>	<p><b>Society for Public Health Education</b> 10 G Str NE Washington, DC 20002 Phone: (202) 408-9804 <a href="http://www.sophe.org">www.sophe.org</a></p>	<p><b>Mississippi Public Health Association</b> PO Box 4834 Jackson, MS 39296 Phone: (601) 408-2482 <a href="http://www.mspha.org">www.mspha.org</a></p>
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## EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS

- ✓ Jackson State University (BS, MPH, DPH)
- ✓ Mississippi University of Women (BS, MS)
- ✓ University of Mississippi (BS, MS)
- ✓ University of Southern Mississippi (BS, MPH)

## CAREER OUTLOOK

The US Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) projects a 7% growth for health education specialists from 2023 to 2033. This growth is expected to be driven by increased focus on promoting healthy behaviors and improving healthcare outcomes.

## **MEDICAL ASSISTANT: AVERAGE ANNUAL SALARY: \$39,180**

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### **JOB DESCRIPTION**

Medical assistants perform both administrative and clinical duties to keep the offices of health practitioners running. Administrative duties include answering telephones, greeting patients, scheduling appointments, filling out insurance forms, handling correspondence, updating medical records, handling billing and bookkeeping, and arranging for hospital admission and laboratory services. Medical assistants are also called upon to perform clinical duties, such as recording vital signs, explaining treatment procedures to patients, taking medical histories, disposing of contaminated supplies, sterilizing medical instruments, collecting laboratory specimens, preparing patients for examination, and assisting the physician during the examination. To be a successful medical assistant, an individual must be a team player, emotionally stable, have a great deal of patience, and be able to take orders well.

### **SALARY RANGE**

**\$25,571 - \$53,983**

### **WORK ENVIRONMENT**

- ✓ Hospitals
- ✓ Medical and Physician Clinics
- ✓ Optometrist Offices
- ✓ Podiatrist Offices
- ✓ Chiropractor Offices

### **LICENSURE, CERTIFICATION, REGISTRATION**

Upon graduation from an accredited medical assisting program, students are eligible to take the national certification exam offered by the American Association of Medical Assistants. Certified medical assistants may use the initials CMA.

### **HIGH SCHOOL PREPARATION**

High school preparation for medical assisting should include courses in biology, algebra, chemistry, English, geometry, medical assisting, computer skills, health education, physical education, and typing.

## COLLEGE REQUIREMENTS

Individuals interested in medical assisting should have a high school diploma or equivalent. On-the-job training is sometimes available, but most employers prefer individuals that have completed a medical assistance program. Two-year programs result in an associate's degree while one-year programs offer certificates.

## PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

### American Association of Medical Assistants

20 North Wacker Dr  
Chicago, IL 60606  
Phone: (312) 899-1500  
[www.aama-nfl.org](http://www.aama-nfl.org)

### Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs

25400 US Highway 19 North  
Clearwater, FL 33763  
Phone: (727) 210-2350  
[www.caahep.org](http://www.caahep.org)

## EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS

### ✓ Community Colleges:

- Coahoma
- Copiah-Lincoln
- East Central
- East Mississippi
- Hinds
- Holmes
- Itawamba
- Jones County Junior College
- Meridian
- Mississippi Gulf Coast
- Northeast Mississippi
- Northwest Mississippi
- Pearl River
- Southwest Mississippi



## CAREER OUTLOOK

The US Bureau of Labor Statistics expects a rise of 15% between 2023-2033. The career outlook in Mississippi is exceptionally positive, with strong job growth, high demand, and potential for advancement. Approximately 119,800 openings for medical assistants are projected each year, on average, over the decade.

# PERFUSIONIST: AVERAGE ANNUAL SALARY: \$169,290

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## JOB DESCRIPTION

Perfusionists are members of the surgical team that perform open-heart and other cardiac surgeries. They set up and operate the heart-lung machine that keeps the patient alive by pumping oxygenated blood throughout the body while the heart is being operated on. The heart-lung machine is capable of regulating oxygen, carbon dioxide, and blood chemistry. While the operation is taking place, the perfusionist oversees monitoring the patient's blood circulation and keeping the rest of the surgical team informed of any changes. They may also use the machine in cases of respiratory failure, so they must be capable of thinking independently and responding quickly to emergencies. Perfusionists are often in charge of providing long-term support to the patient's circulation after the operation is concluded. Anyone interested in this profession should have the ability to concentrate for long periods of time and have excellent communication skills.

## SALARY RANGE

**\$65,348 - \$304,483**

## WORK ENVIRONMENT

- ✓ Hospitals
- ✓ Private Surgical Offices
- ✓ Equipment Manufacturers
- ✓ Research and Development



## LICENSURE, CERTIFICATION, REGISTRATION

To become licensed, individuals must pass oral and written examinations given by the American Board of Cardiovascular Perfusion (ABCP).

## HIGH SCHOOL PREPARATION

High school preparation for students interested in a future as a perfusionist should include courses in biology, chemistry, physics, anatomy, physiology, health education, computer skills, social studies, English, algebra, and geometry.

## COLLEGE REQUIREMENTS

Pre-requisites for admission into perfusionist programs vary greatly depending on the length and design of the program. Most programs require a bachelor's degree with emphasis on medical technology, respiratory therapy, biological sciences, or nursing. Perfusionist programs are generally one to four years in length and are highly competitive.

## PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

### American Board of Cardiovascular Perfusion

207 North 25th Ave  
Hattiesburg, MS 39401  
Phone: (601) 582-2227  
[www.abcp.org](http://www.abcp.org)

### American Society of Extra-Corporeal Technology

2209 Dicken Road  
Richmond, VA 23230  
Phone: (804) 565-6363  
[www.amsect.org](http://www.amsect.org)

## EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS

There are currently no perfusionist programs in Mississippi.

- ✓ Medical Center of South Carolina
- ✓ Texas Heart Institute
- ✓ University of Texas Health Science Center
- ✓ Vanderbilt University Medical Center



## CAREER OUTLOOK

Job openings for cardiovascular perfusionists are predicted to climb. One reason is the growing number of people aged 65 and older who are more likely to develop cardiovascular disease and require open-heart surgery. The demand for perfusionists can vary significantly depending on geographic location.

# **SURGICAL TECHNOLOGIST: AVERAGE ANNUAL SALARY: \$92,699**

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## **JOB DESCRIPTION**

Surgical technologists are a part of the surgical team that is composed of surgeons, anesthesiologists, registered nurses, and other surgical personnel. They help the surgeon put on gloves and gowns, place instruments, supplies, and equipment on sterile tables and stands, and pass instruments and supplies to the surgeon. Surgical technologists assume primary responsibilities for maintaining the sterile field. They may assist surgeons in the retraction of tissues, cutting sutures, and operating special surgical equipment. They transport patients to the operating room; help position them on the operating table and cover them with sterile surgical "drapes." To be successful, surgical technologists must work with speed, accuracy, skill, and concentration. They also must work well under pressure, be able to stand for long periods of time, and respond effectively and efficiently to emergency situations.

## **SALARY RANGE**

**\$35,515 - \$142,534**

## **WORK ENVIRONMENT**

- ✓ Hospitals
- ✓ Surgical Centers
- ✓ Physician Offices

## **LICENSURE, CERTIFICATION, REGISTRATION**

Certification is not always required but is accomplished by passing an examination given by the Liaison Council on Certification for the Surgical Technologist. This will result in the title of Certified Surgical Technologist (CST).

## **HIGH SCHOOL PREPARATION**

Algebra, geometry, biology, chemistry, physics, computer skills, psychology, English, health education, and physical education.

## **COLLEGE REQUIREMENTS**

Receive formal training in programs that last from 9 months to 2 years. Individuals in a 2-year program are eligible to receive a certificate or an associate's degree. Hospital based surgical technology programs last from 6 months to 1 year and are for licensed practical nurses or other health professionals with a medical background.

## PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

**Association of  
Surgical Technologists**  
6 West Dry Creek Circle  
Littleton, CO 80120  
Phone: (303) 694-9130  
[www.ast.org](http://www.ast.org)

**The National Board of  
Surgical Technology and  
Surgical Assisting**  
6 West Dry Creek Circle  
Littleton, CO 80120  
Phone: (800) 707-0057  
[www.nbstsa.org](http://www.nbstsa.org)

## EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS

### ✓ **Community Colleges:**

- East Central
- East Mississippi
- Hinds
- Holmes
- Itawamba
- Meridian
- Mississippi Gulf Coast
- Northwest
- Pearl River



## CAREER OUTLOOK

The job outlook for surgical technologists in Mississippi in 2025 is generally positive, with the US Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) projecting a 6% growth in employment between 2023 and 2033. While specific Mississippi data is not readily available, the national outlook suggests a stable and growing field for surgical technologists.

# INSURANCE CLERK: AVERAGE ANNUAL SALARY: \$39,993

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## JOB DESCRIPTION

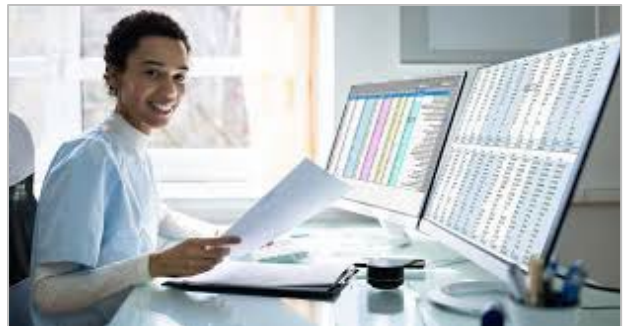
Medical insurance clerks, in conjunction with coding specialists and other billing professionals, work to ensure that all medical procedures are properly filed with the appropriate insurance agency. Insurance clerks obtain information from policyholders to verify the accuracy and completeness of information on claims forms as well as review related insurance documents provided by the patient. They are often called upon to read and review medical documentation provided by physicians and other health care providers to obtain detailed information regarding patient diseases, injuries, surgical operations, and other procedures. Medical insurance clerks work extensively with private insurers, as well as federal agencies, such as Medicare and Medicaid. Therefore, they must remain current with all the rules and regulations that govern third party payment for medical services. Insurance clerks usually work under the supervision of a billing supervisor or the health information administrator.

## SALARY RANGE

**\$26,518 - \$113,647**

## WORK ENVIRONMENT

- ✓ Hospitals and Clinics
- ✓ Surgery Centers
- ✓ Dental Offices
- ✓ Long-Term Care Facilities
- ✓ Insurance Companies
- ✓ Home Health Care Agencies
- ✓ Consulting Firms
- ✓ Coding and Billing Services
- ✓ Government Agencies



## LICENSURE, CERTIFICATION, REGISTRATION

There are currently no required certifications for medical insurance clerks, but individuals desiring to become certified must pass examinations offered by the American Health Information Management Association (AHIMA).

## HIGH SCHOOL PREPARATION

Students interested in pursuing a career as an insurance clerk should take high school courses in algebra, biology, English, office procedures, typing, data processing, computer skills, and health education.

## COLLEGE REQUIREMENTS

A medical insurance clerk should have a high school diploma (or equivalent) or have completed a business & office technology program. An associate's degree in health information is recommended and is often two years in length. Training may be available on the job as well as through continuing education classes offered by trade associations.

## EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS

- ✓ Jackson State University
- ✓ Mississippi State University
- ✓ **Community Colleges:**
  - Coahoma
  - East Central
  - East Mississippi
  - Hinds
  - Holmes
  - Itawamba
  - Jones
  - Meridian
  - Mississippi Delta
  - Mississippi Gulf Coast
  - Northeast Mississippi
  - Northwest Mississippi
  - Pearl River
  - Southwest Mississippi



## CAREER OUTLOOK

Demand for Insurance Claims and Policy Processing Clerks is on the rise, with an expected 46,590 new jobs created by 2029. This represents an annual increase of 2.15% for the next four years. The insurance industry is growing and evolving each year, and today's insurance landscape is more dynamic than ever. Driven by innovation and an ever-growing need for risk management solutions, the insurance industry can be a promising place to find a job.

# MEDICAL BILLING CLERK: AVERAGE ANNUAL SALARY: \$38,072

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## JOB DESCRIPTION

Medical billing clerks are responsible for compiling and maintaining records of charges for goods and services rendered at any health care facility. Once they calculate the total amount due from a patient, they must prepare invoices to be sent out and ensure prompt payment.

Another major responsibility for a medical billing clerk is to contact insurance companies to determine what goods and services will be reimbursed and for how much. Most medical billing clerks use sophisticated computer programs that allow them to calculate charges and print bills in one step. These programs also serve as a safety net because the biller must verify the information entered, correct any errors before the bill is printed, then send them to the patient. Other responsibilities may include handling follow-up questions from patients, resolving discrepancies or errors, and ensuring that all billing and accounting records are kept in a safe place.

## SALARY RANGE

**\$23,203 - \$54,456**

## WORK ENVIRONMENT

- ✓ Hospitals
- ✓ Out-Patient Clinics
- ✓ Home Health Agencies
- ✓ Government Agencies
- ✓ Insurance Agencies
- ✓ Consulting Firms
- ✓ Health Care Computing Industries
- ✓ Long-Term Care Facilities
- ✓ Private Industries



## LICENSURE, CERTIFICATION, REGISTRATION

Formal certification or registration is not required to become a medical biller. Billing clerks may be required to complete continuing education to stay current with the newest computer programs used in this profession.

## HIGH SCHOOL PREPARATION

Students interested in pursuing a career in medical billing should take high school courses in algebra, biology, computer skills, English, typing, data processing, and health education.

## COLLEGE REQUIREMENTS

Must have a high school diploma or equivalent. Many employers prefer individuals with some college course work in medical billing and coding. On-the-job training is also available for this profession.

## PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

### The Medical Association of Billers

2620 Regatta Dr  
Las Vegas, NV 89128  
Phone: (702) 240-8519  
[www.mabillers.com](http://www.mabillers.com)

## EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS

### ✓ Community Colleges:

- Coahoma
- Copiah-Lincoln
- East Central
- East Mississippi
- Hinds
- Holmes
- Itawamba
- Jones
- Meridian
- Mississippi Delta
- Mississippi Gulf Coast
- Northeast Mississippi
- Northwest Mississippi
- Pearl River
- Southwest Mississippi

## CAREER OUTLOOK

Career outlook in Mississippi for 2025 is positive, with job growth projected at 9% from 2023 to 2033, per the US Bureau of Labor Statistics. This indicates a stable demand for skilled professionals in the field. Several factors contribute to the positive outlook, including advances in medical technology, the increasing use of electronic health records (EHRs), and ongoing changes in healthcare regulations.

# MISSISSIPPI HOSPITALS

**Allegiance Specialty Hospital of Greenville**  
LTAC  
300 S Washington Ave Fl 3  
Greenville, MS 38701 (662) 332-7344  
[SEE WEBSITE HERE](#)

**Alliance Health Center**  
Acute  
5000 MS-39  
Meridian, MS 39301 (601) 483-6211  
[SEE WEBSITE HERE](#)

**AMG Specialty Hospital - North Mississippi**  
LTAC  
303 Medical Center Drive  
Batesville, MS 38606 (662) 703-4167  
[SEE WEBSITE HERE](#)

**Baptist Anderson Regional Medical Center**  
Acute  
2124 14th St  
Meridian, MS 39301 (601) 553-6000  
[SEE WEBSITE HERE](#)

**Baptist Anderson Regional Medical Center - South**  
Acute  
1102 Constitution Ave  
Meridian, MS 39301 (601) 703-5000  
[SEE WEBSITE HERE](#)

**Baptist Memorial Hospital - Attala**  
CAH  
220 Hwy 12 W  
Kosciusko, MS 39090 (662) 289-4311  
[SEE WEBSITE HERE](#)

**Baptist Memorial Hospital - Booneville**  
Acute  
100 Hospital St  
Booneville, MS 38829 (662) 720-5000  
[SEE WEBSITE HERE](#)

**Baptist Memorial Hospital - Calhoun**  
CAH  
140 Burke Calhoun City Rd  
Calhoun City, MS 38916 (662) 628-6611  
[SEE WEBSITE HERE](#)

**Baptist Memorial Hospital - DeSoto**  
Acute  
7601 Southcrest Pkwy  
Southaven, MS 38671 (662) 772-4000  
[SEE WEBSITE HERE](#)

**Baptist Memorial Hospital - Golden Triangle**  
Acute  
2520 5th St  
Columbus, MS 39705 (662) 244-1000  
[SEE WEBSITE HERE](#)

**Baptist Memorial Hospital - Leake**  
CAH  
1100 MS-16 E  
Carthage, MS 39051 (601) 267-1100  
[SEE WEBSITE HERE](#)

**Baptist Memorial Hospital - North Mississippi**  
Acute  
1100 Belk Blvd  
Oxford, MS 38655 (662) 636-1000  
[SEE WEBSITE HERE](#)

**Baptist Memorial Hospital - Union County**  
Acute  
200 Hwy 30 W  
New Albany, MS 38652 (662) 538-7631  
[SEE WEBSITE HERE](#)

**Baptist Memorial Hospital - Yazoo**  
CAH  
823 Grand Ave  
Yazoo City, MS 39194 (662) 746-2261  
[SEE WEBSITE HERE](#)

**Beacham Memorial Hospital**  
Acute  
205 N Cherry St  
Magnolia, MS 39652 (601) 783-2351  
[SEE WEBSITE HERE](#)

**Bolivar Medical Center**  
Acute  
810 E Sunflower Road  
Cleveland, MS 38732 ((662) 843-3606  
[SEE WEBSITE HERE](#)

**Brentwood Behavioral Healthcare of MS**  
PSY  
3531 Lakeland Dr  
Flowood, MS 39232 (601) 258-5924  
[SEE WEBSITE HERE](#)

**Canopy Children's Solutions**  
PSY  
1513 Lakeland Dr  
Jackson, MS 39216 (601) 939-7990  
[SEE WEBSITE HERE](#)

**Children's of Mississippi**  
ACUTE  
2500 N State St  
Jackson, MS 39216 (601) 984-1000  
[SEE WEBSITE HERE](#)

**Choctaw Health Center**  
CAH  
210 Hospital Cir  
Choctaw, MS 39350 (601) 389-4500  
[SEE WEBSITE HERE](#)

**Choctaw Regional Medical Center**  
CAH  
8613 Highway 12  
Ackerman, MS 39735 (662) 285-4400  
[SEE WEBSITE HERE](#)

**Claiborne County Medical Center**  
CAH  
123 McComb Ave  
Port Gibson, MS 39150 (601) 437-5141  
[SEE WEBSITE HERE](#)

**Copiah County Medical Center**  
CAH  
27190 Highway 28  
Hazlehurst, MS 39083 (601) 574-7000  
[SEE WEBSITE HERE](#)

**Covington County Hospital**  
CAH  
701 S Holly Ave  
Collins, MS 39428 (601) 765-6711  
[SEE WEBSITE HERE](#)

**Delta Health System - The Medical Center**  
ACUTE  
1400 E Union St  
Greenville, MS 38703 (662) 378-3783  
[SEE WEBSITE HERE](#)

**Diamond Grove Center for Children & Adolescents**  
PRTF  
12356 MS-15  
Louisville, MS 39339 (662) 779-0119  
[SEE WEBSITE HERE](#)

**East Mississippi State Hospital**  
PSY  
1818 College Drive  
Meridian, MS 39307 (601) 581-7600  
[SEE WEBSITE HERE](#)

**ACUTE:** Short Term Care Needs • **CAH:** Critical Access Hospital • **LTAC:** Long Term Care • **PRTF:** Psychiatric Residential Treatment Facility • **PSY:** Psychiatry • **REH:** Rural Emergency Hospital • **REHAB:** Rehabilitation Facility

**Encompass Health Rehabilitation Hospital**

RHAB  
4500 13th St South  
Gulfport, MS 39501 (228) 822-6965  
[SEE WEBSITE HERE](#)

**Field Health System**

CAH  
178 Highway 24  
Centreville, MS 39631 (601) 890-0500  
[SEE WEBSITE HERE](#)

**Forest General Hospital**

ACUTE  
6051 US 49  
Hattiesburg, MS 39401 (601) 288-7000  
[SEE WEBSITE HERE](#)

**Franklin County Memorial Hospital**

CAH  
40 Union Church Road  
Meadville, MS 39653 (601) 384-5801  
[SEE WEBSITE HERE](#)

**George Regional Hospital**

ACUTE  
859 Winter St  
Lucedale, MS 39452 (601) 947-3161  
[SEE WEBSITE HERE](#)

**Greene County Hospital**

REH  
1017 Jackson Ave  
Leakesville, MS 39451 (601) 394-4135  
[SEE WEBSITE HERE](#)

**Greenwood Leflore Hospital**

ACUTE  
1401 River Road  
Greenwood, MS 38930 (662) 459-7000  
[SEE WEBSITE HERE](#)

**Gulfport Behavioral Health System**

PSY  
11150 US 49  
Gulfport, MS 39503 (228) 831-1700  
[SEE WEBSITE HERE](#)

**GV Sonny Montgomery VA**

ACUTE  
1500 E Woodrow Wilson Ave  
Jackson MS 39216 (601) 362-4471  
[SEE WEBSITE HERE](#)

**Highland Community Hospital**

ACUTE  
130 Highland Pkwy  
Picayune, MS 39466 (601) 358-9400  
[SEE WEBSITE HERE](#)

**Highland Hills Medical Center**

ACUTE  
401 Getwell Dr  
Senatobia, MS 38668 (662) 612-0311  
[SEE WEBSITE HERE](#)

**Jasper General Hospital**

ACUTE  
15A South, 6th St  
Bay Springs, MS 39422 (601) 764-2101  
[SEE WEBSITE HERE](#)

**Jefferson County Hospital**

REH  
870 Main St  
Fayette, MS 39069 (601) 786-3401  
[SEE WEBSITE HERE](#)

**Jefferson Davis Community Hospital**

CAH  
1102 Rose St  
Prentiss, MS 39474 (601) 792-4276  
[SEE WEBSITE HERE](#)

**King's Daughters Medical Center**

ACUTE  
427 US-51  
Brookhaven, MS 39601 (601) 833-6011  
[SEE WEBSITE HERE](#)

**Lackey Memorial Hospital**

CAH  
330 N Broad St  
Forest, MS 39074 (601) 469-4151  
[SEE WEBSITE HERE](#)

**Lawrence County Hospital**

CAH  
1065 E Broad St  
Monticello, MS 39654 (601) 587-4051  
[SEE WEBSITE HERE](#)

**Magee General Hospital**

ACUTE  
300 3rd Ave SE  
Magee, MS 39111 (601) 849-5070  
[SEE WEBSITE HERE](#)

**Magnolia Regional Health Center**

ACUTE  
611 Alcorn Dr  
Corinth, MS 38834 (662) 293-1000  
[SEE WEBSITE HERE](#)

**Marion General Hospital**

ACUTE  
1560 Sumrall Rd  
Columbia, MS 39429 (601) 736-6303  
[SEE WEBSITE HERE](#)

**Memorial Hospital Biloxi**

ACUTE  
150 Reynoir St  
Biloxi, MS 39530 (228) 432-1571  
[SEE WEBSITE HERE](#)

**Memorial Hospital Gulfport**

ACUTE  
4500 13th St  
Gulfport, MS 39501 (228) 867-4000  
[SEE WEBSITE HERE](#)

**Memorial Hospital Stone County**

ACUTE  
1434 E Central Ave  
Wiggins, MS 39577 (601) 928-6600  
[SEE WEBSITE HERE](#)

**Merit Health Central**

ACUTE  
1850 Chadwick Dr  
Jackson, MS 39204 (601) 376-1000  
[SEE WEBSITE HERE](#)

**Merit Health Natchez**

ACUTE  
54 S Sergeant Prentiss Dr  
Natchez, MS 39120 (601) 443-2100  
[SEE WEBSITE HERE](#)

**Merit Health Rankin**

ACUTE  
350 Crossgates Blvd  
Brandon, MS 39042 (601) 825-2811  
[SEE WEBSITE HERE](#)

**Merit Health River Oaks**

ACUTE  
1030 River Oaks Dr  
Flowood, MS 39232 (601) 932-1030  
[SEE WEBSITE HERE](#)

**ACUTE:** Short Term Care Needs • **CAH:** Critical Access Hospital • **LTAC:** Long Term Care • **PRTF:** Psychiatric Residential Treatment Facility • **PSY:** Psychiatry • **REH:** Rural Emergency Hospital • **REHAB:** Rehabilitation Facility

**Merit Health River Region**

ACUTE  
2100 Hwy 61 N  
Vicksburg, MS 39183 (601) 883-5000  
[SEE WEBSITE HERE](#)

**Merit Health Wesley**

ACUTE  
5001 Hardy St  
Hattiesburg, MS 39402 (601) 268-8000  
[SEE WEBSITE HERE](#)

**Merit Health Woman's Hospital**

ACUTE  
1026 N Flowood Dr  
Flowood, MS 39232 (601) 932-1000  
[SEE WEBSITE HERE](#)

**Methodist Healthcare Olive Branch Hospital**

ACUTE  
4250 Bethel Rd  
Olive Branch, MS 38654 (662) 932-9000  
[SEE WEBSITE HERE](#)

**Mississippi Baptist Medical Center**

ACUTE  
1225 N State St  
Jackson, MS 39202 (601) 968-1000  
[SEE WEBSITE HERE](#)

**Mississippi Methodist Rehabilitation**

ACUTE  
1350 E Woodrow Wilson Ave  
Jackson, MS 39216 (800) 223-6672  
[SEE WEBSITE HERE](#)

**Mississippi State Hospital**

PSY  
PO Box 157A  
Whitfield, MS 39193 (601) 351-8000  
[SEE WEBSITE HERE](#)

**Monroe Regional Hospital**

CAH  
400 S Chestnut St  
Aberdeen, MS 39730 (662) 369-2455  
[SEE WEBSITE HERE](#)

**Neshoba General**

ACUTE  
1001 Holland Ave  
Philadelphia, MS 39350 (601) 663-1200  
[SEE WEBSITE HERE](#)

**North Mississippi Medical Center Gilmore-Amory**

ACUTE  
1105 Earl Frye Blvd  
Amory, MS 38821 (662) 256-7111  
[SEE WEBSITE HERE](#)

**North Mississippi Medical Center-Eupora**

ACUTE  
70 Medical Plaza  
Eupora, MS 39744 (662) 258-6221  
[SEE WEBSITE HERE](#)

**North Mississippi Medical Center-Iuka**

ACUTE  
1777 Curtis Dr  
Iuka, MS 38852 (662) 423-6051  
[SEE WEBSITE HERE](#)

**North Mississippi Medical Center-Pontotoc**

CAH  
176 S Main St  
Pontotoc, MS 38863 (662) 489-5510  
[SEE WEBSITE HERE](#)

**North Mississippi Medical Center-Tupelo**

ACUTE  
830 S Gloster St  
Tupelo, MS 38801 (662) 377-3000  
[SEE WEBSITE HERE](#)

**North Mississippi Medical Center-West Point**

ACUTE  
150 Medical Center Dr  
West Point, MS 39773 (662) 495-2300  
[SEE WEBSITE HERE](#)

**North Mississippi State Hospital**

PSY  
1937 Briar Ridge Rd  
Tupelo, MS 38804 (662) 690-4200  
[SEE WEBSITE HERE](#)

**North Sunflower Medical Center**

CAH  
840 N Oak Ave  
Ruleville, MS 38771 (662) 756-4000  
[SEE WEBSITE HERE](#)

**Northwest Mississippi Regional Medical Center**

ACUTE  
1970 Hospital Dr  
Clarksdale, MS 38614 (662) 627-3211  
[SEE WEBSITE HERE](#)

**Noxubee General Hospital**

CAH  
78 Hospital Dr  
Macon, MS 39341 (662) 726-4231  
[SEE WEBSITE HERE](#)

**Ocean Springs Hospital**

ACUTE  
3109 Bienville Blvd  
Ocean Springs, MS 39564 (228) 818-1111  
[SEE WEBSITE HERE](#)

**Oceans Behavioral Hospital of Biloxi**

PSY  
180 DeBuys Rd  
Biloxi, MS 39531 (228) 388-0600  
[SEE WEBSITE HERE](#)

**Oceans Behavioral Hospital of Jackson LLC**

PSY  
2969 Curran Dr N Bldg A  
Jackson, MS 39216 (601) 590-9920  
[SEE WEBSITE HERE](#)

**Oceans Behavioral Hospital of Tupelo**

PSY  
4579 S Eason Blvd  
Tupelo, MS 38801 (662) 268-4418  
[SEE WEBSITE HERE](#)

**OCH Regional Medical Center**

ACUTE  
400 Hospital Rd  
Starkville, MS 39759 (662) 323-4320  
[SEE WEBSITE HERE](#)

**Ochsner Laird Hospital**

CAH  
25117 Hwy 15  
Union, MS 39365 (601) 774-8214  
[SEE WEBSITE HERE](#)

**Ochsner Medical Center-Hancock**

ACUTE  
149 Drinkwater Blvd  
Bay St Louis, MS 39520 (228) 467-8600

**Ochsner Rush Health**

ACUTE  
1314 19th Ave  
Meridian, MS 39301 (601) 483-0011  
[SEE WEBSITE HERE](#)

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**Ochsner Scott Regional**

CAH  
317 MS-13  
Morton, MS 39117 (601) 732-6301  
[SEE WEBSITE HERE](#)

**Ochsner Specialty Hospital**

LTAC  
1314 19th Ave  
Meridian, MS 39301 (601) 703-4211  
[SEE WEBSITE HERE](#)

**Ochsner Stennis Hospital**

CAH  
14365 Hwy 16W  
De Kalb, MS 39328 (769) 486-1000  
[SEE WEBSITE HERE](#)

**Ochsner Watkins Hospital**

CAH  
605 S Archusa Ave  
Quitman, MS 39355 (601) 776-6925  
[SEE WEBSITE HERE](#)

**Parkwood Behavioral Health System**

PSY  
8135 Goodman Rd  
Olive Branch, MS 38654 (800) 477-3422  
[SEE WEBSITE HERE](#)

**Pearl River County Hospital & Nursing Hm**

CAH  
305 W Moody St  
Poplarville, MS 39470 (601) 795-4543  
[SEE WEBSITE HERE](#)

**Perry County General Hospital**

REH  
206 Bay Ave  
Richton, MS 39476 (601) 788-6316  
[SEE WEBSITE HERE](#)

**Progressive Health of Batesville**

REH  
303 Medical Center Drive  
Batesville, MS 38606 (662) 563-5611  
[SEE WEBSITE HERE](#)

**Progressive Health of Houston**

REH  
1002 E Madison St  
Houston, MS 38851 (662) 456-3700  
[SEE WEBSITE HERE](#)

**Progressive Health of Marks**

REH  
340 Getwell St  
Marks, MS 38646 (662) 388-0700  
[SEE WEBSITE HERE](#)

**Regency Hospital of Meridian**

LTAC  
1102 Constitution Ave  
Meridian, MS 39301 (601) 484-7900  
[SEE WEBSITE HERE](#)

**Select Specialty Hospital - Belhaven**

LTAC  
1225 N State St  
Jackson, MS 39202 (601) 968-1052  
[SEE WEBSITE HERE](#)

**Select Specialty Hospital - Gulf Coast, Inc.**

LTAC  
4500 13th St. 4th Floor  
Gulfport, MS 39501 (228) 575-7500  
[SEE WEBSITE HERE](#)

**Select Specialty Hospital - Jackson, Inc.**

LTAC  
5903 Ridgewood Road  
Jackson, MS 39211 (601) 899-3800  
[SEE WEBSITE HERE](#)

**Sharkey-Issaquena Community Hospital**

REH  
19719 US-61  
Rolling Fork, MS 39159 (662) 873-4395  
[SEE WEBSITE HERE](#)

**Simpson General Hospital**

CAH  
1842 Simpson Hwy 149  
Mendenhall, MS 39114 (601) 847-2221  
[SEE WEBSITE HERE](#)

**Singing River Gulfport**

ACUTE  
15200 Community Road  
Gulfport, MS 39503 (228) 575-7000  
[SEE WEBSITE HERE](#)

**Singing River Hospital**

ACUTE  
2809 Denny Ave  
Pascagoula, MS 39581 (228) 809-5000  
[SEE WEBSITE HERE](#)

**South Central Regional Medical Center**

ACUTE  
1220 Jefferson St  
Laurel, MS 39440 (601) 426-4000  
[SEE WEBSITE HERE](#)

**South Mississippi State Hospital**

PSY  
823 Hwy 589  
Purvis, MS 39475 (601) 794-0100  
[SEE WEBSITE HERE](#)

**South Sunflower County Hospital**

ACUTE  
121 E Baker St  
Indianola, MS 38751 (662) 887-5235  
[SEE WEBSITE HERE](#)

**Southwest Mississippi Regional Medical Center**

ACUTE  
215 Marion Ave  
McComb, MS 39648 (601) 249-5500  
[SEE WEBSITE HERE](#)

**Specialized Treatment Facility - Gulfport**

PSY  
14426 James Bond Rd  
Gulfport, MS 39503 (228) 328-6000  
[SEE WEBSITE HERE](#)

**St. Dominic Health**

ACUTE  
969 Lakeland Dr  
Jackson, MS 39216 (601) 200-2000  
[SEE WEBSITE HERE](#)

**Tallahatchie General Hospital**

CAH  
141 Dr T T Lewis Cir  
Charleston, MS 38921 (662) 647-5535  
[SEE WEBSITE HERE](#)

**Tippah County Hospital**

CAH  
1005 City Ave N  
Ripley, MS 38663 (662) 837-9221  
[SEE WEBSITE HERE](#)

**Tyler Holmes Memorial Hospital**

CAH  
409 Tyler Holmes Dr  
Winona, MS 38967 (662) 283-4114  
[SEE WEBSITE HERE](#)

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**UMMC Madison Hospital**

ACUTE  
161 River Oaks Dr  
Canton, MS 39046 (601) 855-4000  
[SEE WEBSITE HERE](#)

**University of Mississippi Medical Center**

ACUTE  
2500 N State St  
Jackson, MS 39216 (601) 984-1000  
[SEE WEBSITE HERE](#)

**University of Mississippi Medical Center -  
Holmes County**

ACUTE  
239 Bowling Green Rd  
Lexington, MS 39095 (662) 834-1321  
[SEE WEBSITE HERE](#)

**University of Mississippi Medical Center  
- Grenada**

ACUTE  
960 J K Avent Drive  
Grenada, MS 38901 (662) 227-7000  
[SEE WEBSITE HERE](#)

**Walthall General Hospital**

CAH  
100 Hospital Dr  
Tylertown, MS 39667 (601) 876-2122  
[SEE WEBSITE HERE](#)

**Wayne General Hospital**

ACUTE  
950 Matthew Dr  
Waynesboro, MS 39367 (601) 735-5151  
[SEE WEBSITE HERE](#)

**Winston Medical Center**

ACUTE  
17550 E Main St  
Louisville, MS 39339 (662) 773-6211  
[SEE WEBSITE HERE](#)

**Yalobusha General Hospital**

ACUTE  
630 S Main St  
Water Valley, MS 38965 (662) 473-1411  
[SEE WEBSITE HERE](#)

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# MISSISSIPPI COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES

## **Alcorn State University**

1000 ASU Drive  
Lorman MS 39096  
(601) 877-6100  
[WEBSITE](#)

## **Alcorn State University Natchez**

15 Campus Dr  
Natchez MS 39120  
(601) 877-6100  
[WEBSITE](#)

## **Alcorn State University Vicksburg**

1514 Cherry St  
Vicksburg MS 39180  
(601) 877-6198

## **Belhaven University**

1500 Peachtree St  
Jackson MS 39202  
(601) 968-5940  
[WEBSITE](#)

## **Blue Cliff College**

12251 Bernard Pkwy  
Gulfport MS 39103  
(228) 896-9727  
[WEBSITE](#)

## **Blue Mountain Christian University**

201 W Main St  
Blue Mountain MS 38610  
(662) 685-4771  
[WEBSITE](#)

## **Coahoma Community College**

3240 Friars Point Road  
Clarksdale MS 38614  
(662) 627-2571  
[WEBSITE](#)

## **Copiah–Lincoln Community College**

1028 JC Redd Drive  
Wesson MS 39191  
(601) 643-5101  
[WEBSITE](#)

## **Copiah-Lincoln Community College- Mendenhall**

151 Co-Lin Dr  
Mendenhall MS 39114  
(601) 849-5149  
[WEBSITE](#)

## **Copiah-Lincoln Community College- Natchez**

11 Co-Lin Cir  
Natchez MS 39120  
(601) 442-9111  
[WEBSITE](#)

## **Delta State University**

Highway 8 West  
Cleveland MS 38733  
(662) 846-3000  
[WEBSITE](#)

## **East Central Community College**

275 W Broad St  
Decatur MS 39327  
(601) 635-2111  
[WEBSITE](#)

## **East Central Community College Philadelphia**

900 Valley View Dr  
Philadelphia MS 39350  
(601) 656-8644

## **East Mississippi Community College**

1512 Kemper St  
Scooba MS 39358  
(662) 476-5000  
[WEBSITE](#)

## **East Mississippi Community College Mayhew**

Golden Triangle, 8731 S Frontage Rd  
Mayhew MS 39753  
(662) 243-1900

## **Hinds Community College**

501 E Main  
Raymond MS 39154  
(601) 857-5261  
[WEBSITE](#)

## **Hinds Community College Jackson**

1750 Chadwick Dr  
Jackson MS 39204  
(800) HINDSCC

## **Hinds Community College Jackson**

3925 Sunset Dr  
Jackson MS 39213-5899  
(800) HINDSCC

## **Hinds Community College Rankin County**

3805 Hwy 80E  
Pearl MS 39208  
(800) HINDSCC

## **Hinds Community College Utica**

34175 Miss 18 W  
Utica MS 39175  
(800) HINDSCC

## **Hinds Community College Vicksburg**

755 Highway 27  
Vicksburg MS 39180  
(800) HINDSCC

## **Holmes Community College Goodman**

1 Hill St  
Goodman MS 39079  
(662) 472-2312  
[WEBSITE](#)

## **Holmes Community College Grenada**

1060 J K Avent Dr  
Grenada MS 38901  
(662) 226-0830

## **Holmes Community College Ridgeland**

412 W Ridgeland Ave  
Ridgeland MS 39157  
(601) 856-5400

## **Itawamba Community College**

602 W Hill St  
Fulton MS 38843  
(662) 862-8000  
[WEBSITE](#)

## **Itawamba Community College Tupelo**

2176 S Eason Blvd  
Tupelo MS 38804  
(662) 862-8000

## **Jackson State University**

1400 John R Lynch St  
Jackson MS 39217  
(601) 979-2121  
[WEBSITE](#)

**Jones College**  
72 Technology Blvd  
Ellisville MS 39437  
(601) 477-4114  
[WEBSITE](#)

**Jones College Bay Springs**  
3209 Hwy 15  
Bay Springs MS 39422  
(601) 477-5473

**Jones College Leakesville**  
167 Vo-Tech Rd  
Leakesville MS 39451  
(601) 477-4238

**Jones College Stonewall**  
1200 Erwin Rd  
Stonewall MS 39363  
(601) 477-4835

**Jones College Waynesboro**  
103 Collins St  
Waynesboro MS 39367  
(601) 477-4031

**Meridian Community College**  
910 Highway 19 North  
Meridian MS 39307  
(601) 483-8241  
[WEBSITE](#)

**Millsaps College**  
1701 N State St  
Jackson MS 39210  
(601) 974-1000  
[WEBSITE](#)

**Mississippi College**  
200 S Capitol St  
Clinton MS 39056  
(601) 925-3000  
[WEBSITE](#)

**Mississippi College Flowood**  
115 Laurel Park Cove #101  
Flowood MS 39232  
(601) 925-7775

**Mississippi Delta Community College**  
Mississippi 3 and E Cherry St  
Moorhead MS 38761  
(662) 246-6322  
[WEBSITE](#)

**Mississippi Delta Community College  
Greenville**  
1134 Archer Range Rd  
Greenville MS 38701  
(662) 332-8011

**Mississippi Delta Community College  
Greenwood**  
204 E Church St  
Greenwood MS 38930  
(662) 453-7377

**Mississippi Delta Community College  
Indianola**  
920 Hwy 82 Capps Center  
Indianola MS 38751  
(662) 887-2876

**Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College**  
51 Main St  
Perkinston MS 39573  
(228) 896-2536  
[WEBSITE](#)

**Mississippi Gulf Coast Community  
College Gautier**  
2300 Hwy 90  
Gautier MS 39553  
(228) 896-2536

**Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College  
Gulfport**  
2226 Switzer Rd  
Gulfport MS 39507  
(228) 896-2536

**Mississippi State University**  
75 B S Hood Road  
Starkville MS 39762  
(662) 325-2323  
[WEBSITE](#)

**Mississippi State University Meridian**  
1000 Hwy 19 N  
Meridian MS 39307  
(601) 484-0100  
[WEBSITE](#)

**Mississippi University for Women**  
1100 College St  
Columbus MS 39701  
(877) 462-8439  
[WEBSITE](#)

**Mississippi University for Women Tupelo**  
N Front St and Barnes St  
Tupelo MS 38801  
(662) 844-0284

**Mississippi Valley State University**  
14000 US-82  
Itta Bena MS 38941  
(662) 254-9041  
[WEBSITE](#)

**Northeast Mississippi Community College**  
101 Cunningham Blvd  
Booneville MS 38829  
(662) 728-7751  
[WEBSITE](#)

**Northeast Mississippi Community College  
Corinth**  
2759 S Harper Rd  
Corinth MS 38834  
(662) 696-2352

**Northeast Mississippi Community  
College Iuka**  
751 CR 989  
Iuka MS 38852  
(662) 728-7751

**Northeast Mississippi Community College  
New Albany**  
301 N St  
New Albany MS 38652  
(662) 692-1501

**Northeast Mississippi Community College  
Ripley**  
1525 City Ave N  
Ripley MS 38663  
(662) 502-6200

**Northwest Mississippi Community College**  
4975 US-51  
Senatobia MS 38663  
(662) 562-3200  
[WEBSITE](#)

**Northwest Mississippi Community College  
Ashland**

25 Industrial Rd  
Ashland MS 38603  
(662) 224-3108

**Northwest Mississippi Community College  
Oxford**

1310 Belk Dr  
Oxford MS 38655  
(662) 236-2023

**Northwest Mississippi Community College  
Southaven**

Desoto Ctr 5197 WE Ross Pkwy W  
Southaven MS 38671  
(662) 342-1570

**Pearl River Community College**

101 US-11  
Poplarville MS 39470  
(601) 403-1000  
[WEBSITE](#)

**Pearl River Community College  
Hattiesburg**

5448 US 49  
Hattiesburg MS 39401  
(601) 554-5500

**Pearl River Community College  
Kiln**

14134 Fred & Al Key Rd  
Kiln MS 39556  
(601) 403-1000

**Pearl River Community College Waveland**

454 US90 Ste B  
Waveland MS 39576  
(228) 252-7001

**Rust College**

150 Rust Ave  
Holly Springs MS 38635  
(662) 252-8000  
[WEBSITE](#)

**Southeastern Baptist College**

4229 MS-15N  
Laurel MS 39440  
(601) 426-6346  
[WEBSITE](#)

**Southwest Mississippi Community College**

1156 College Drive  
Summit MS 39666  
(601) 276-2000  
[WEBSITE](#)

**Tougaloo College**

500 W County Line Road  
Tougaloo MS 39174  
(601) 977-7700  
[WEBSITE](#)

**University of Mississippi**

1111 West Jackson AVE  
Oxford MS 38655  
(662) 915-7211  
[WEBSITE](#)

**University of Mississippi Booneville**

105 Hargett Hall on the NEMCC campus  
Booneville MS  
(662) 720-7781

**University of Mississippi Grenada**

1060 Avent Dr  
Grenada MS 38901  
(662) 227-2348

**University of Mississippi Jackson**

2500 N State St  
Jackson MS 39216  
(601) 984-1000

**University of Mississippi Medical Center**

2500 North State St  
Jackson MS 39216  
(601) 984 6200  
[WEBSITE](#)

**University of Mississippi Rankin**

3805 US80E  
Pearl MS 39208  
(601) 936-1902

**University of Mississippi Southaven**

5197 WE Ross Pkwy  
Southaven MS 38671  
(662) 342-4765

**University of Mississippi Tupelo**

1918 Briar Ridge Rd  
Tupelo MS 38801  
(662) 844-5622

**University of Southern Mississippi**

118 College Drive  
Hattiesburg MS 39406-0001  
(601) 266-1000  
[WEBSITE](#)

**University of Southern Mississippi  
Long Beach**

730 E Beach Blvd  
Long Beach MS 39560  
(228) 865-4500

**Produced by**

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**Mississippi Center for Quality and Workforce**

116 Woodgreen Crossing

Madison, MS 39110

(601) 982-3251

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