



UNIVERSITY OF
GEORGIA
School of Medicine

Georgia Grown Physicians Program

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

The Georgia Grown Physicians (GGP) program is a two-year early assurance pathway designed for Georgia residents from Archway Communities who are committed to serving the healthcare needs of rural and underserved Georgia. Through a combination of structured mentorship, community-based clinical exposure, and individualized academic support, GGP students explore the rewards and challenges of medical practice within their home communities while preparing for success at the University of Georgia School of Medicine.

The program provides early assured admission to the UGA School of Medicine upon fulfillment of matriculation requirements, offering exceptional opportunities for students with deep roots in Georgia to become physicians who understand, train with, and serve the communities that shaped them.

WHY GEORGIA GROWN PHYSICIANS?

Students from rural Archway Communities understand the people, cultures, challenges, and healthcare landscape of Georgia's underserved regions. Yet students from rural backgrounds remain significantly underrepresented in medical schools despite evidence showing they are substantially more likely to return home to practice and address critical physician shortages.

The Georgia Grown Physicians program is designed to leverage your roots and strengthen your preparation by providing:

- **Early Assurance** for qualified candidates
- **Place-Based Mentoring** from physicians who share your background and understand your community
- **Local Clinical Experiences** close to home during the critical pre-medical years
- **Comprehensive Support** to help you succeed academically and professionally

The ultimate goal is to help you become a homegrown physician who trains with, returns to, and serves your community.



PROGRAM DETAILS

Program Duration & Cohort Size

- **Length:** Two-year pathway program
- **Entry Point:** After sophomore year (or two years before medical school application)
- **Cohort Size:** Up to 5 student selected per academic year

Application Timeline

Milestone	Date
Application Available	May
Application Deadline	June
Interviews	July
Orientation & Program Start	September

Georgia Grown Physicians Program

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

To be considered for admission to the Georgia Grown Physicians program, applicants must meet all of the following criteria at the time of application:

- **Residency & Geography:** Georgia resident with graduation from a Georgia high school in an Archway Community
- **Standardized Test Scores:** ACT/SAT composite score of 24 or higher, OR high school GPA of 3.5 or higher on a 4.0 scale
- **Academic Progress:** Attained sophomore standing with a minimum of two years of undergraduate education remaining
- **Prerequisite Coursework:** Completed one full academic year of college biology and chemistry (including lectures and associated laboratories) as required of biology and chemistry majors
- **Current GPA:** College GPA of 3.5 or higher
- **Science GPA:** Premedical BCPM (biology, chemistry, physics, mathematics) GPA of 3.3 or higher
- **Program Intent:** Demonstrated intention to practice medicine in Georgia
- **Values Alignment:** Demonstrated evidence of UGA School of Medicine values, including commitment to service, healthcare, and community engagement

SELECTION PROCESS

All applicants to the Georgia Grown Physicians program follow a rigorous, mission-aligned evaluation process:

1. **Application Review:** All application materials are reviewed by the UGA School of Medicine Admissions Committee to identify competitive candidates
2. **Interview Invitation:** Competitive applicants are invited to participate in a Multiple Mini Interview (MMI) conducted in July
3. **Final Decisions:** Following the interview, the Admissions Committee meets to discuss and make final admission decisions
4. **Transparency:** Not being selected for the GGP pathway program will have no negative impact on consideration for regular UGA School of Medicine admission in future application cycles

CRITERIA FOR MATRICULATION (Assured Admission)

To maintain early assurance status and progress to matriculation at the University of Georgia School of Medicine, students must satisfy all the following requirements by the end of their senior year:

- **Degree:** Earn a baccalaureate degree
- **Prerequisites:** Fulfill all UGA School of Medicine prerequisites
- **Overall GPA:** Maintain a college GPA of 3.5 or higher
- **Science GPA:** Maintain a premedical science GPA of 3.5 or higher
- **MCAT Score:** Achieve a score of 506 or higher on the Medical College Admission Test (MCAT)
- **Program Requirements:** Satisfactorily complete all program requirements, including shadowing and clinical exposure hours, written assignments, attendance at mandatory meetings, and capstone project completion
- **Ethical Standards:** Uphold the high ethical and behavioral standards required of medical students and physicians
- **Early Assurance Application:** Submit the Early Assurance AMCAS application to the University of Georgia School of Medicine
 - Early assurance applicants are not permitted to apply to other medical schools
 - Students who do not apply for early assurance are not guaranteed admission to the University of Georgia School of Medicine

CONTINUATION & MID-PROGRAM REVIEW

One-Year Progress Check

After one year in the program, each student will meet with the Office of Admissions to review progress toward academic and program requirements.

Continuation Decision

If a student has not met academic criteria or fulfilled core program expectations by the one-year review, they will no longer participate in the Georgia Grown Physicians pathway. However, students in this situation will receive advising and support regarding alternative pathways to medical school, including potential reapplication as a regular applicant.

PROGRAM COMPONENTS

Academic Support & Advising

- Assigned academic advisors and faculty mentors who monitor and support progress in prerequisite and major coursework
- Individualized academic plans developed collaboratively with UGA School of Medicine faculty and Archway partners
- Regular advising meetings and access to tutoring resources

Mentorship & Networking

- Pairing with physician mentors from similar hometown backgrounds and Archway communities for career guidance and professional relationship building
- Networking opportunities with Georgia healthcare leaders, community leaders, and UGA School of Medicine faculty and staff
- Professional panels and networking events featuring success stories of physicians who trained and practice in Georgia

Clinical Exposure & Shadowing

- Partnerships with UGA School of Medicine, local hospitals, community clinics, and Archway community healthcare providers
- Structured shadowing experiences integrated within the student's home county or region, supporting community engagement and local learning
- Total of approximately 100 shadowing hours, accumulated across four semesters and one summer session
- Exposure to diverse medical settings, including hospitals, primary care environments, and specialty practices available across Georgia

Professional Development

- Workshops on medical school preparation, MCAT study strategies, and financial aid tailored to student needs
- Career panels showcasing pathways in Georgia healthcare, public health, and allied health professions
- Applied research and health-related capstone projects focused on rural Georgia or Archway community health issues

Community Engagement

- Encouragement to be active, meaningful members of their home communities beyond formal shadowing hours
- Quarterly Pre-Medicine Meetings to discuss progress, clinical experiences, and medical pathway development
- Initial orientation session and annual spring semester meetings to maintain connection and support

Program Partnerships & Resources

- Collaboration with Archway Partnership, UGA School of Medicine, All Georgia, and local rural health providers to connect students with mentors, shadowing sites, and professional opportunities
- Archway staff and community leaders provide local expertise and assist in recruiting healthcare professionals for program activities





Interested in learning more about the University of Georgia School of Medicine?

The Office of Admissions is hosting multiple events in the coming months including open houses and virtual office hours, as well as visiting college health fairs across Georgia. To learn more about these events, please scan the code to view our website ►



For questions about the Georgia Grown Physicians program, contact the UGA School of Medicine Office of Admissions:

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