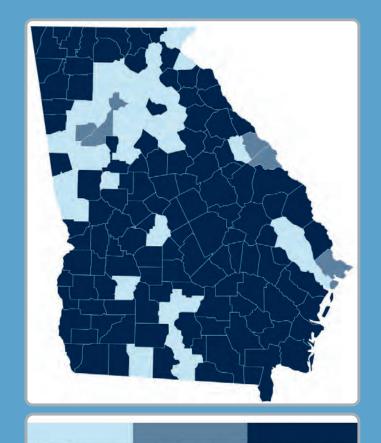


## Georgia has a severe dentist shortage

#### **GEORGIA IS A DENTAL DESERT**

- About 70 million Americans live in dental deserts – places that lack enough dentists to meet the needs of the population.
- Georgia is considered a dental desert: more than 11.3 million people live in the peach state, yet there are only about 5,212 practicing dentists.
- Georgia's dentist-to-population ratio is among the lowest in the nation, with an average of 48 dentists per 100,000 people.
- The dentist workforce tends to be more concentrated in the metro areas of Georgia, including Atlanta, Augusta, Savannah, Macon and Athens.
- Those who are low-income, a racial/ethnic minority, or who have limited access to care are more likely to experience poor oral health.
- With its high prevalence of rural and underserved communities, Georgia ranked among the five worst states in the nation for access to dental care.
- There are more than 190 Dental Health Provider Shortage Areas in Georgia.
- 64% (101 out of 159) of Georgia counties lack adequate dental care
- 23 Georgia counties have zero dentists.



None of county is shortage area

Part of county is shortage area Whole county is shortage area

The Health Resources & Services
Administration identified more than 190
Dental Health Provider Shortage Areas in
Georgia. The above map shows these
areas in dark and medium blue colors.

Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, Health Resources & Services Administration, Georgia Board of Health Care Workforce 2021 Dentist Workforce Report, American Dental Association, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and Byte.com.



### DCG Savannah can boost dental access

#### DCG SAVANNAH IS A SOLUTION

The Dental College of Georgia at Augusta University is addressing the dental shortage by building a second four-year DCG campus in Savannah. Adding more funding and classroom space for dental training in Savannah will increase the number of dentists graduating to serve the needs of Georgia.

In 2022, Gov. Brian Kemp pledged state support of DCG Savannah. The plan is for The Dental College of Georgia to expand into Savannah in collaboration with Georgia Southern University on the Armstrong Campus, where the Medical College of Georgia opened its new four-year MCG Savannah Campus in July 2024.

Since the medical and dental disciplines often intersect, particularly otolaryngology and oral health and surgery, the close proximity of DCG Savannah and MCG Savannah on the Armstrong Campus will foster the same synergies that exist between the state's medical and dental schools in Augusta.

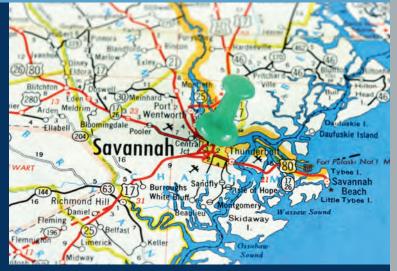
#### A VISION FOR SUCCESS

- DCG leaders expect to enroll 50 students per year beginning with the first class in fall 2028.
- With the addition of 50 DMD students enrolled at DCG Savannah, the state's public dental school will nearly double the number of DMDs graduating each year – from 97 to 146 by 2032.
- The DCG Savannah at Georgia Southern University Campus facility will support educational, clinical and research functions for students enrolled at The Dental College of Georgia.
- The building will contain approximately 185,000 square feet with areas designated for clinical services, instructional spaces, student support and research.
- Clinical spaces will include about 150 individual dental operatories and associated service areas such as diagnostic labs and patient reception areas.
- Construction is expected to begin by January 2026.

## DCG + Savannah = More Dentists for Georgia









## DCG is focused on the needs of Georgia

#### **GEORGIA-FOCUSED ADMISSIONS PROGRAM**

In an effort to build the state's oral health workforce, the DCG has a customized DCG admissions program, where 90% of dental students admitted each year must be residents of Georgia. This helps to educate, train and retain Georgia's best and brightest students for oral health practice to benefit Georgia's citizens.

#### MENTORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES ACROSS GEORGIA

Mentorship is provided to students under supervision of a licensed, practicing dentist who also serves as adjunct faculty to the DCG. We rely on our volunteer partnerships around the state to enhance students' educational platform and offer a more comprehensive learning experience rooted in communities where they may return to professional practice after graduation.

#### PLACEMENT IN DENTAL HPSAs

The Dental College of Georgia makes a concerted effort to place students in Dental Health Professional Shortage Areas where care is critically needed. As part of our commitment to hands-on learning for dental students and statewide oral health outreach, we partner with dental providers in more than 28 dental clinics across Georgia at community health departments, federally qualified health centers and a few private practices to provide patient support.

#### **CLINICAL ROTATIONS ACROSS GEORGIA**

Thanks to support from several statewide volunteer partnerships, the DCG has helped address a critical oral health workforce need since 2006 through grant funding from the Health Resources and Services Administration. All senior dental students complete three 2-week clinical rotations in communities across the state of Georgia. Senior dental students provide oral health education as well as dental services to Georgia's citizens.





## DCG is Georgia's dental college

#### THE DENTAL COLLEGE OF GEORGIA

- The state's dental college since 1969 (only one for last 34 years).
- ✓ Preparing dentists to serve Georgia and the world for 55 years.
- ✓ First class of DMDs graduated in 1973.
- √ Nearly 2,500 students have earned degrees.
- Educating and training more than 375 dental students and approximately 60 residents per year today.
- ✓ Delivering high-quality education in state-of-the-art facilities.
- ✓ Providing care to nearly 50,000 patients annually.
- ✓ Dedicated to growing our mission of teaching, patient care, research and service.
- Committed to educating dentists to improve health and reduce burden of illness in society.



As Georgia's only public dental school, it is our mission to meet the dental health needs of the state. By adding a DCG Savannah campus, we will be able to train more dentists to serve the areas of Georgia where they are needed most.

Nancy Young, DMD, MEd Dean, Dental College of Georgia

### **Dental College of Georgia Senior Leadership Team**



Kevin Frazier, DMD Vice Dean, Professor



Theresa Gonzales, BS, DMD, MS, MSS Associate Dean of Extramural Clinics



Babak Baban, PhD Associate Dean, Research



Gregory Griffin, DMD Associate Dean, Student Affairs



Kim Capehart, DDS, MBA, PhD Associate Dean, Academic Affairs & Advanced Education



Regina Messer, PhD, MSBE Associate Dean, Student Admissions



Alan R. Furness, DMD Associate Dean, Patient Services



Rafael Pacheco, DDS, MDS, PhD Associate Dean, Digital Technologies

## **Funding Opportunities for DCG Savannah**



#### How You Can Make an Impact

Make an impact on the future of dental care in Georgia by giving to DCG Savannah. You may designate your gift to support scholarships, professorships, chairs, research, clinical training, equipment or other needs. Please consider creating an endowed fund – an investment to perpetually support students, faculty, programs and the community through The Dental College of Georgia – for generations.

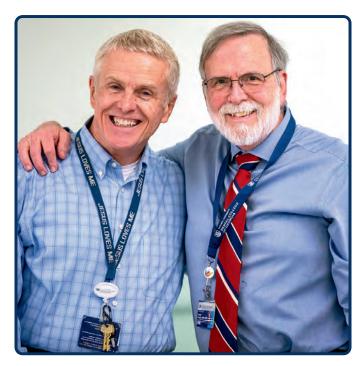
## Scholarships

An endowed scholarship can impact DCG students today, tomorrow and forever. The average cost per semester for a DMD degree at The Dental College of Georgia is as follows:

- In-state tuition = \$41,303 (About \$165,210 for four years)
- Out-of-state tuition = \$79,130 (\$316,518 for four years)
- Cost-of-living expenses per student are estimated at about \$33,516 annually (food, housing, transportation, misc.).



## **Funding Opportunities for DCG Savannah**







# Faculty Support

Endowed faculty support exists to recruit and retain the best and the brightest educators and leaders in their respective fields of dental medicine and oral surgery. Faculty endowments include professorships, distinguished professorships, chairs, distinguished chairs and distinguished university chairs, which progressively recognize accomplished faculty.

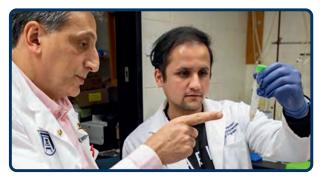
These faculty endowments may be named to pay tribute to both the holder, who has earned the distinction, and the donor who embraces the vision.

Professorships require an investment of \$200,000 to \$400,000. Endowed chairs require a \$500,000 minimum investment.

## Other Funding Opportunities

- Research: An endowment provides ongoing stable support of research outside of grants and grant cycles, allowing discoveries to advance more quickly. Research endowments require a \$25,000 minimum investment.
- Lectureships: Invited national and international experts in dentistry and oral health share their clinical findings and research discoveries with faculty, staff, fellows and students to advance the profession and patient care. Lectureship endowments require a \$50,000 minimum investment.
- Equipment Funding
- Clinical Training Support







Future dentists in the Class of 2027 celebrate receiving their white coats.

