



2026-2027

Student Catalog

Main Campus: 900 Flat Shoals Road, SE Conyers, GA 30094
770-922-7653

Branch Campus: 1691 Memorial Blvd, Suite B., Murfreesboro, TN 37129
615-896-0702

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www.gci.edu

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Table of Contents

Contents

GENERAL INFORMATION	6
EDUCATIONAL MISSION	6
<i>The Mission Statement</i>	6
NONDISCRIMINATION POLICY.....	6
HISTORY	6
FACILITIES AND EQUIPMENT.....	7
ACCREDITATION.....	7
LICENSING	7
MEMBERSHIPS	7
VETERAN ASSISTANCE APPROVAL	8
LEGAL CONTROL.....	8
ADMISSIONS	9
ENTRANCE REQUIREMENTS.....	9
NEW STUDENTS.....	9
FORMER STUDENTS	10
TRANSFER OF CREDITS.....	10
<i>from other schools</i>	10
<i>To Other Schools:</i>	11
TRANSFER WITHIN THE SCHOOL:	11
PROGRAMS OF STUDY	13
COSMETOLOGY PROGRAM.....	13
NAIL TECHNOLOGY PROGRAM	15
ESTHETICS PROGRAM - GEORGIA.....	17
ESTHETICS PROGRAM - TENNESSEE	20
INSTRUCTOR PROGRAMS.....	22
LICENSE REQUIREMENTS	25
GEORGIA COSMETOLOGIST LICENSE.....	25
GEORGIA NAIL TECHICIAN LICENSE.....	25
GEORGIA ESTHETICIAN LICENSE.....	25
GEORGIA MASSAGE THERAPY LICENSE.....	26
RULE 345-3-.02 APPLICATION FOR LICENSURE.....	26
TENNESSEE COSMETOLOGY, NAIL TECHNOLOGY, & ESTHETICS LICENSE REQUIREMENTS	26
62-4-110. APPLICATION AND QUALIFICATIONS FOR PRACTICING OR TEACHING — FEES.....	26
TENNESSEE MASSAGE THERAPY LICENSE.....	29
ACADEMIC POLICIES	27
ORIENTATION	27
GRADING SYSTEM	28
SATISFACTORY ACADEMIC PROGRESS POLICY	28
MINIMUM STANDARDS	28
GRADE AVERAGE	28
ATTENDANCE AVERAGE	29

<i>Monthly Academic PROGRESS EVALUATIONS</i>	29
<i>EVALUATION PERIODS</i>	29
<i>MAXIMUM TIME FRAME</i>	30
<i>Satisfactory Academic Progress “SAP” WARNING</i>	31
<i>FA PROBATION</i>	31
GETTING BACK TO MAKING SATISFACTORY FINANCIAL AID SAP PROGRESS.....	31
APPEAL PROCEDURE.....	32
NON-CREDIT REMEDIAL COURSES:.....	32
TRANSFER HOURS.....	32
INTERRUPTIONS, COURSE INCOMPLETES AND WITHDRAWALS.....	32
CLOCK HOUR.....	32
ACADEMIC YEAR.....	32
STUDENT TO TEACHER RATIO.....	32
ATTENDANCE POLICY.....	33
UNEXPECTED CLOSURES.....	34
TARDINESS.....	34
LEAVE OF ABSENCE POLICY.....	34
GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS.....	35
WITHDRAWALS.....	35
READMISSION POLICY.....	36
APPEAL PROCESS.....	36
ACADEMIC ADVISING & LEARNING RESOURCES.....	36
SCHOOL CLOSURE.....	37
GRIEVANCE POLICY AND DUE PROCESS.....	37
F. FOR ALL STUDENTS WHO REQUIRE FURTHER INVESTIGATION OR ASSISTANCE FOR AN ISSUE NOT RESOLVED BY THESE PROCEDURES, HE OR SHE MAY CONTACT COUNCIL OF OCCUPATIONAL EDUCATION, WWW.COUNCIL.ORG	38
I. 7840 ROSWELL RD, BLDG. 300, SUITE 325, ATLANTA, GA 30346 PH.: 770-396-3898	38
STUDENT RECORDS, PRIVACY & ACCESS POLICY.....	38
TRANSCRIPTS.....	39
ADVISEMENT.....	39
GRADUATE PLACEMENT ASSISTANCE.....	39
SUGGESTIONS.....	40
TUTORING.....	40
HOUSING.....	40
REFERRAL SERVICES.....	40
HOURS OF OPERATION.....	40
RULES & REGULATIONS	41
STUDENT CONDUCT.....	41
ATTENDANCE.....	41
UNEXPECTED CLOSURES.....	42
TARDINESS.....	42
DOCUMENTING CLOCK HOURS.....	42
ACADEMIC CREDITS.....	43
DRESS CODE POLICY.....	43
CLASSROOM AND CLINIC BEHAVIOR.....	44
ELECTRONIC DEVICES.....	45
INTERNET ACCEPTABLE USAGE POLICY.....	45
CAMPUS SECURITY AND SAFETY.....	46
ZERO-TOLERANCE POLICY.....	46
DRUG FREE AWARENESS PROGRAM.....	47
DISABILITY ACCOMMODATION AND GRIEVANCE POLICY.....	47

FINANCIAL INFORMATION	50
COSTS OF ATTENDING	50
ADDITIONAL CHARGES AND REQUIRED EXPENSES.....	50
METHODS OF PAYMENT AND COLLECTIONS.....	51
FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS	51
SCHOLARSHIPS	51
FINANCIAL AID POLICIES.....	52
SATISFACTORY PROGRESS	53
REFUND POLICY	54
ORDER OF RETURN OF SFA PROGRAM FUNDS.....	55
LOAN REPAYMENT	56
LOAN COUNSELING.....	56
LEGAL MATTERS.....	57
ARBITRATION	57
LEGAL AND COLLECTION FEES	57
LIQUIDATION DAMAGES.....	57
STAFF DIRECTORY.....	58
STAFF CONTACT INFORMATION	58
FACULTY CONYERS CAMPUS.....	59
CLASS START DATE POLICY.....	61
CLASS SCHEDULES	61
SCHOOL HOLIDAYS	62

WELCOME



Welcome

To

Georgia Career Institute

Welcome to Georgia Career Institute. On behalf of our faculty and staff, we would like to welcome you to our school.

Georgia Career Institute's mission is to provide its students the skills they will need to enter the wellness and beauty fields as Cosmetologists, Nail Technicians, Estheticians, and Massage Therapists. In order to prepare our students for the workplace, the concepts of traditional education have been blended with cutting edge educational methodology, giving our graduates an essential edge in competency, compassion, and excellence. The competent edge comes from successfully completing our rigorous program of study, while compassion is instilled in the student toward their profession, their colleagues and their clients.

Progressive teaching methods are utilized which encourage originality and self-expression by our students. Our efforts are directed to serving the student who is inquisitive, eager, and responsive in recognizing the value of a quality education.

You have more career choices and ways to prepare yourself for that career than any generation before you. We are grateful that you have chosen Georgia Career Institute as your vehicle to transport you to a brighter and professional success.



Joyce Meadows



Michael B. Martin

GENERAL INFORMATION

EDUCATIONAL MISSION

Georgia Career Institute was established in 1975 as Artistic Beauty College with an original mission to provide women and men the education in Cosmetology. Throughout its history, the Institute has provided outstanding vocational preparation for its graduates to enter the fields of cosmetology and nail technology. Since 2001, the educational mission has been expanded to include comprehensive programs in esthetics and massage therapy.

THE MISSION STATEMENT

Georgia Career Institute provides men and women the appropriate skills they need to enter and succeed in the industries of Beauty and Wellness. Our students graduate prepared to enter the workforce and meet the demands required of them ready to perform as complete professionals. In order to accomplish our Mission, our faculty, curricula, delivery methods, support resources and facilities are developed and maintained at a level of excellence that sets us apart from others in the marketplace.

Georgia Career Institute moves confidently into the future of career training by drawing from its rich tradition of nearly three decades of excellence graduating men and women with the best possible skills preparation for careers in the beauty and wellness industries.

NONDISCRIMINATION Policy

Georgia Career Institute is committed to the principle of equal employment and educational opportunities for all. The Institute does not permit discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, national or ethnic origin, sexual orientation, gender identity, age or disability in the administration of any educational program or activity, including participation in, or receiving the benefits of, admission to, or employment in, such programs or activities. Qualified persons with disabilities will not be excluded from employment or participation in educational programs. The commitment to equal opportunity applies to all aspects of recruitment, employment, and education. For students seeking special accommodations, the Institute shall provide a special accommodation request form for review by management. All accommodations shall be reviewed for ADA compliance.

HISTORY

Founded in 1975 under the name of Artistic Beauty College, the Institute was purchased in March of 1989 by HMS Educational Services, Inc. HMS Educational Services, Inc. is a private corporation which is chartered by the Secretary of State of Georgia. In 2001, the name was changed to Georgia Career Institute. In 2003, a branch campus was added in McMinnville, Tennessee. A new branch was established in Murfreesboro, Tennessee in late 2005.

FACILITIES AND EQUIPMENT

The main campus in Conyers, GA (900 Flat Shoals Road SE) consists of over 35,000 square feet of classroom and administration space, clinics, supply rooms, and library space. The space has ample equipment and visual aids required to teach cosmetologists, estheticians, advanced make up artistry, nail technicians and massage therapists. Equipment and materials are updated and added as needed. Access is available for the physically challenged. The McMinnville Branch Campus is located at 755 North Chancery Street, McMinnville, Tennessee, 37110. Its facility contains over 7500 square feet of classroom and administrative space, clinics, dispensaries and supply rooms, and a retail area. The Murfreesboro Campus consists of over 24,000 square feet of classroom and administrative space, clinics, dispensaries and supply rooms, and a retail area. The Murfreesboro Branch Campus is located at 1691 Memorial Blvd, Suite B, Murfreesboro, Tennessee 37129.

ACCREDITATION



Georgia Career Institute is accredited by the Commission of the Council on Occupational Education [COE] 7840 Roswell Rd, Bldg. 300, Suite 325, Atlanta, GA 30346 Ph.: 770-396-3898

LICENSING

Georgia Career Institute's Main Campus programs in Cosmetology, Esthetics, Nail Technology and Instructor programs are licensed by the Georgia State Board of Cosmetology and Barbering, 237 Coliseum Drive, Macon, GA 31217 (478) 207-2440. The Murfreesboro Campus teaches programs in Cosmetology, Esthetics, Nail Technology and Teacher Instruction and are licensed by the Tennessee Board of Cosmetology and Barbering, 500 James Robertson Parkway, Nashville, TN, 37243 (615) 741-2515.

Georgia Career Institute's Programs in Tennessee are authorized by the Tennessee Higher Education Commission, 404 James Robertson Pkwy, Parkway Towers, Suite 1900, Nashville, TN 37243. (615) 741-3605. www.TN.GOV/THEC These authorizations must be renewed each year and are based on an evaluation by minimum standards concerning the quality of education, ethical business practices, health and safety, and fiscal responsibility.

MEMBERSHIPS

The AACCS logo consists of the letters "AACCS" in a white, bold, sans-serif font, centered on a dark blue rectangular background.

American Association of Cosmetology Schools
20 F Street NW Suite 700 Washington, D.C. 20001
(202) 963-5370

VETERAN ASSISTANCE APPROVAL

Georgia Career Institute is approved by the Georgia State Approving Agency for training of veterans and their dependents. Georgia Career Institute is approved by the Tennessee State Approving Agency for training of veterans and their dependents.

LEGAL CONTROL

Georgia Career Institute is owned and operated by Georgia Career Institute, Inc. The Governing Board is made up of the two stockholders of the corporation: Ms. Joyce Meadows and Mr. Michael Martin. Ms. Joyce Meadows' office is located at main campus, 900 Flat Shoals Road SE, Conyers GA 30094 PH: 770-922-7653. Mr. Michael Martin's office is located at the Murfreesboro branch campus, 1691 Memorial BLVD Ste B Murfreesboro, TN 37129 PH: 615-896-0702. Georgia Career Institute is a private institution incorporated under the laws of the state of Georgia.

ADMISSIONS

ENTRANCE REQUIREMENTS

The school admits as students only persons having **one** of the following:

- A regular high school diploma accredited by an agency authorized by the US Department of Education
- A general equivalency diploma (GED) accredited by an agency authorized by the US Department of Education
- Applicants seeking admission into an instructor training program must possess one of the previous certifications AND hold a current pre-requisite license in the state (TN or GA). In Georgia, a candidate must have had the pre-requisite license for at least one year. In Tennessee, a candidate must have had the pre-requisite license for at least three years.

IMPORTANT NOTICE: Please be aware that all courses taught at The Institute are offered only in the English language. All textbooks, catalogs, agreements, policies, procedures, and documents (in print and electronic forms) used are available only in English. Students must be fluent in the written and spoken forms of the English language to study at Georgia Career Institute.

Georgia Career Institute does not recruit students who are actively enrolled in similar programs at other institutions.

NEW STUDENTS

After an interview with an admissions representative, the prospective student will tour the facility. The admissions process proceeds with the completion of any necessary pre-entrance forms including the pre-enrollment checklist and the enrollment agreement. A \$100 non-refundable application fee shall be charged by the Institute and fulfilled during the financial aid process. The Institute requires that all documents completed during the admissions process be signed in blue or black ink pen. Georgia Career Institute utilizes electronic documents for the enrollment process. New students should thoroughly review the electronic signature policy for acceptance. Enrollment into the Institute constitutes as an agreement to the electronic signature policy for all enrolled students.

Accepted students will be notified of orientation for new students (attendance at which is required for all students) held on or before the start of classes which provides the student with opportunities, regulations, and policies of the school.

FORMER STUDENTS

If a student wishes to be readmitted to the Institute after withdrawing or being dismissed, he or she must:

- Wait 90 days before being considered for readmission.
- Make a written request for readmission to the re-entry committee. Upon approval, a meeting will be scheduled.
- Attend the re-entry meeting to discuss the issues and conditions that affected his/her attendance, grades, or attitude to determine if the cause for withdrawal or dismissal has been alleviated.

After this meeting, a decision will be made regarding re-entry. If approved, the student will meet with a student financial services officer to repackage tuition and fees. A student will be permitted to re-start only after completion of these steps.

Such students will be enrolled on a probationary status. With respect to financial aid, a student must complete a period of one term with at least a 'C' average for all that period before financial aid awards will be made. Re-entry students who do not maintain a minimum of 90% attendance may be subject to dismissal at any time during the probationary period. Reentry will not be granted more than once. This policy does not apply to voluntary withdrawals if the student was making satisfactory progress prior to that withdrawal.

Reentering students will be charged at the current tuition rates for newly entering students. Amounts paid during their first period of enrollment will be credited to this account. For all re-entry students, a re-entry fee of \$100.00 is charged.

The Institute reserves its right to refuse readmission to any student who has withdrawn and requests readmission.

TRANSFER OF CREDITS

Georgia career institute operates completely within a clock hour basis. if a student has earned credit hours and wishes to transfer those to the institute, then an evaluation of the students' performance will be measured against our curriculum for the passing course, a "C" OR HIGHER. Credits hours do not automatically equate to clock HOURS BUT must be evaluated on a CASE-BY-CASE basis proving proficiency sufficient to bypass our clock hour requirement for that academic objective.

FROM OTHER SCHOOLS

A student who has earned clock hours at another state approved and/or accredited school recognized by the US Department of Education may have those hours considered for transfer if:

1. They are comparable to the scope and content of required courses in the curriculum in which the student is enrolled at Georgia Career Institute (a decision that is entirely judged by the Institute)
2. The student received a grade of “C” or better in each course submitted for consideration. All grades shall be evaluated based on the Institute’s grading system and not that of the previous institution.
3. An official transcript is received by Georgia Career Institute, within **60 days of entry**, directly from the registrar’s office of the school where the clock hours were earned.

Please note: *The Institute operates completely in a clock hour basis. The Institute will not accept transfer clock hours for more than 50% of the applicant’s program of study at the Institute (for example, no more than 750 hours will be accepted and no less than 250 hours for a program of 1500 hours). In ALL cases of requested transfer of clock hours, the sole decision of their acceptance rests with the Institute. An evaluation of competency will be given for the student to demonstrate proficiency to our standards prior to any official granting of hour transfer.*

The Following is policy from Tennessee Higher Education Commission regarding transfers for all TN students only. It is included in this catalog for your information and incorporated into the Institute’s Policy on Transferability of Credits. Prior to starting class, a student is required to sign a notification of this disclosure.

“Credits earned at Georgia Career Institute may not transfer to another educational institution. Credits earned at another educational institution may not be accepted by Georgia Career Institute. You should obtain confirmation that Georgia Career Institute will accept any credits you have earned at another educational institution before you execute an enrollment contract or agreement. You should also contact any educational institutions that you may want to transfer credits earned at Georgia Career Institute to determine if such institutions will accept credits earned at Georgia Career Institute prior to executing an enrollment contract or agreement. The ability to transfer credits from Georgia Career Institute to another educational institution may be very limited. Your credits may not transfer, and you may have to repeat courses previously taken at Georgia Career Institute if you enroll in another educational institution.

You should never assume that credits will transfer to or from any educational institution. It is highly recommended, and you are advised to make certain that you know the transfer of credit policy of Georgia Career Institute and of any other educational institutions you may in the future want to transfer the credits earned at Georgia Career Institute before you execute an enrollment contract or agreement.”

TO OTHER SCHOOLS:

Since every institution has its own policy regarding transfer of hour, it is not possible to guarantee transferability of any course offered at Georgia Career Institute. All transfer hours and/or credits shall be decided by the receiving institution.

TRANSFER WITHIN THE SCHOOL:

Students wishing to transfer from one program to another within the institution should request a meeting with the director for the purpose of determining the transferability of hours already

completed. Students of the Institute may be able to transfer a small portion of hours when transferring into a directly related program, as determined by the academic director on a case-by-case basis.

PROGRAMS OF STUDY

COSMETOLOGY PROGRAM

1500 Clock Hours of Study

The Cosmetology course is designed and administered to prepare students in the skills necessary for performing haircutting, hairstyling, permanent waving, coloring, manicures, pedicures and basic skin care. This course prepares the student to qualify to take the state board exam for a Cosmetology license. This course is 1,500 clock hours in length and offered in a day and evening schedule. Admissions requirements are published elsewhere in this catalog.

Please note: A high school diploma or a General Equivalency Diploma is required prior to taking the state board licensing examination in Tennessee. Although the State of Tennessee Board of Cosmetology permits a person to study Cosmetology, Nail Technology or Esthetics who have attained a minimum of 10 years of secondary education and are at least 16 years of age, Georgia Career Institute will not admit a student for study unless he or she possesses a high school diploma or a general equivalency diploma (GED).

The Cosmetology Program is divided into three levels of study: Pre-Clinic Freshmen (250 clock hours), Intermediate (500 clock hours) and Clinic Seniors (750 clock hours). The program consists of courses and classes that meet the requirements of 300 general topic hours, 600 physical topic hours and 600 chemical topic hours, in accordance with the requirements of the Tennessee Board of Cosmetology.

The Cosmetology kit consists of carrying case, electrical tools (curling iron, blow dryer, flat iron, clipper/trimmer set), combs, brushes, capes, color bowl/brush, clips, spray bottle, manicure kit, makeup kit, acrylic nail kit, shear set, makeup kit, mannequin stand, and five practice mannequins, along with consumable products to use during enrollment. Items within the kit may be substituted, depending on manufacturer availability.

Below is a sample list of occupations that may be achieved as a licensed cosmetologist:

Stylist	Salon/Spa Owner-operator	Booth renter	Salon/Spa manager
Colorist	Product consultant	Educator	
Chemical texture specialist			

The career is not without its physical demands and standards for employment. Individuals thinking about pursuing a career in beauty or wellness should possess or be able to:

Stand in one place for long periods of time	Ability to follow instructions
Ability to bend and stretch	Stamina for long work days and flexible schedules
Demonstrate manual dexterity	Maintain customer service/professional attitude
Repetitive motor skills (including small muscle control)	Ability to read and comprehend
Eye/hand coordination	
Normal or device- corrected vision /hearing	

Ability to distinguish color formulas and texts
 Not prone to psoriasis, dermatitis or other chronic skin diseases that may accompany open lesions
 Working with chemicals and skin care products
 Oral and written communication skills
 Effective interpersonal relationship skills
 Ability to instruct clients

COSMETOLOGY COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

Note: Many courses are segmented to be introduced to the student during the Freshman Phase, practiced during the Intermediate Phase, and finally honed during the Senior Phase

Course Name	Objectives	Clock Hours
Theory	Theoretical and practical instruction in all aspects of the student's program as guided by the textbook, workbooks and handouts.	140 hours
Permanent Waving	History of permanent waving, chemicals used, basic and advanced techniques in the permanent waving process.	172.5 hours
Chemical Relaxing	Products and procedures to chemically straighten curly hair.	161.5 hours
Hair Color	Hair color theory, color consultations, classifications of hair color, and types of permanent color, special effect coloring and color correction.	200 hours
Hair and Scalp	Trichology: the study of disease and disorders affecting the hair and scalp; growth cycles.	69 hours
Hair Cutting	Techniques of artistic and precision haircutting, including theory of angles, lines and form.	149.5 hours
Hair Styling	Artistry and science of hair design with shaping and hair direction exercises to promote dexterity and finger strength	290 hours
Lab	Sanitation, disinfection and general order essential to hygienic salon/spa.	55 hours
Nails	Manicure, pedicure and artificial nail application, structure; nail diseases and disorders.	100 hours
Skin	Facials and skin care; anatomy and histology of skin; skin diseases and disorders.	67.5 hours
Shampooing	Hygienic care of hair and scalp, scalp manipulations, product knowledge of shampoos and conditioners and protection for the client by proper draping.	15 hours
Social Skills	Professionalism and customer service, salon/spa office and telephone skills. Good salon habits, professional and ethical behavior in professional settings.	50 hours
Hair Removal	Various methods of hair removal and procedures for removing unwanted hair.	30 hours
	Total	1500 hours

NAIL TECHNOLOGY PROGRAM

620 Clock Hours of Study

Through the Nail Technology Program, students develop manicuring and pedicuring skills, nail art, wraps, nail tips, and sculptured nails. After graduating from the program, students are prepared to take the state board licensing examination which consists of a written exam and a practical exam. This program is offered in both day and evening schedules. Admissions requirements are published elsewhere in this catalog.

The State of Tennessee requires 600 hours of training to sit for the state license as a manicurist. The Institute's Program contains an additional 20 hours as this curriculum includes subjects that are not required for licensure, but that, in the opinion of the Institute are important for preparation for the professional nail salon. These subjects include The Electric Drill, and Advanced Nail Art Technique.

Please note: A high school diploma or a General Equivalency Diploma is required prior to taking the state board licensing examination in Tennessee. Although the State of Tennessee Board of Cosmetology permits a person to study Cosmetology, Nail Technology or Esthetics who have attained a minimum of 10 years of secondary education and are at least 16 years of age, Georgia Career Institute will not admit a student for study unless he or she possesses a high school diploma or a general equivalency diploma (GED).

The Nail Technology Program is divided into three phases: Pre-Clinic Freshmen (140 Clock Hours), Intermediate (110 Clock Hours), and Clinic Seniors (370 Clock Hours). The Program curriculum is designed to accommodate the Tennessee State Board of Cosmetology requirements of General (150 hours), Chemical (100 hours) and Physical (350 Hours) educational components.

The Nail Technology kit consists of carrying case, files, buffers, wipes, nail tips, resin, 1 mannequin hand, acrylic supplies, acrylic brush, dappen dish, nail clipper, assorted polishes, foot file, sanitize tray, manicure bowl/brush. Items within the kit may be substituted, depending on manufacturer availability.

Below is a sample list of occupations that may be achieved as a licensed Nail Technologist:

Manicurist	Salon/Spa Owner-operator	Booth renter	Salon/Spa manager
Pedicurist	Product consultant	Educator	Nail Art specialist

The career is not without its physical demands and standards for employment. Individuals thinking about pursuing a career in beauty or wellness should possess or be able to:

- Sit for long periods of time
- Ability to bend and stretch
- Demonstrate manual dexterity
- Repetitive motor skills (including small muscle control)
- Eye/hand coordination
- Normal or device- corrected vision /hearing
- Ability to distinguish color
- Not prone to psoriasis, dermatitis or other chronic skin diseases that may accompany open lesions

- Working with chemicals and skin care products
- Oral and written communication skills
- Effective interpersonal relationship skills
- Ability to instruct clients
- Ability to follow instructions
- Stamina for long work days and flexible schedules

NAIL TECHNOLOGY COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

Note: Many courses are segmented to be introduced to the student during the Freshman Phase, practiced during the Intermediate Phase, and finally honed during the Senior Phase

Course Name	Objectives	Clock Hours
Advanced Techniques	This segment includes the introduction to aromatherapy and reflexology. Color acrylics are also introduced at this time.	20 hours
Airbrushing	Demonstrated for the purpose of showing nail art as an application of spray paint through the use of a paint gun and compressor.	5 hours
Fill-ins	Teaches the student to apply acrylic to the new growth of the previously enhanced nail.	30 hours
Manicures	Teaches basic skills for cleansing and caring of the hands including basic manicures, hot oil manicures, spa manicures and massage techniques.	80 hours
Nail Art	The student will learn the various methods of decorating nails using paints, polishes, applique, stones, foils and their imagination. Nail art is usually the focal point of their individual portfolio.	10 hours
Nail Drill	Introduction to the use of a drill for filing, buffing and shaping artificial nail enhancements. It also includes the sanitation required, safety and storage of the drill and tips for use on clients.	5 hours
Nail Lab	Teaches the sanitation and cleanliness associated with keeping a spa or salon in order.	25 hours
Nail Wraps	Teaches the student to apply nail wraps and/or fix broken nails.	20 hours
Paraffin	Benefits and use of paraffin treatments and heat.	5 hours
Pedicures	Teaches basic skills for cleansing and caring for the feet including basic pedicure, spa pedicure and massage techniques.	60 hours
Removal and Repair	Teaches the correct techniques for removing artificial applications.	10 hours
Sculptured Nails	Acrylic applications on forms or natural nails. This segment teaches the technique of handling product with consistency molding and forming the acrylic base on the nail, shaping, filing and buffing.	90 hours
Tips with Overlay	Teaches the student to apply nail wraps to strengthen natural nails and/or temporarily repair nails that have breaks, chips or cracks in the nail base or free edge.	60 hours

Theory	Detailed theoretical and practical instruction in all aspects of the student's program as guided by the textbook and workbook. Written testing and evaluation in the State Board Review Book.	200 hours
	Total	620 Hours

ESTHETICS PROGRAM - GEORGIA

1000 Clock Hours of Study
Offered at the Main Campus only

One of the fastest growing professional segments of the beauty industry is Esthetics. The Esthetician is responsible for the care, repair and enhancement of the skin, our largest organ. This program will prepare the student for a career in esthetics and for the licensing examination of the Georgia State Board of Cosmetology. A high school diploma or a General Equivalency Diploma is required prior to taking the state board licensing examination. The student is advised that Georgia Career Institute's Esthetics program is a rigorous one that demands more than the basics required for a Georgia Esthetics license and will require significant practice and preparation outside of the classroom. This program is offered in both the day and evening schedules. Admissions requirements are published elsewhere in this catalog.

The Esthetics Program is divided into two areas: Pre-Clinic Freshmen (250 Clock Hours), and Clinic Seniors (750 Clock Hours) in Georgia.

The Institute provides study and exposure to the best product lines available for skin care. Some of these products include Image skin care, Crown makeup, Farmhouse Fresh, and Alexandria Professional Sugaring.

The Esthetics kit consists of a product kit, high frequency portable machine, skin scrubber portable machine, rolling case, massage training head, extraction tool kit, mixing bowls, body/face brushes, mixing palette, tweezers, waxing kit, sugaring kit, and makeup kit. Items within the kit may be substituted, depending on manufacturer availability.

Below is a sample list of occupations that may be achieved as a licensed Esthetician:

Makeup Artist Salon/Spa Owner-operator Booth renter Salon/Spa manager
Facialist Product consultant Educator Esthetician for medical skincare facility

The career is not without its physical demands and standards for employment. Individuals thinking about pursuing a career in beauty or wellness should possess or be able to:

- Stand for long periods
- Ability to bend and stretch
- Demonstrate manual dexterity
- Repetitive motor skills (including small muscle control)
- Eye/hand coordination
- Normal or device- corrected vision /hearing
- Ability to distinguish color
- Not prone to psoriasis, dermatitis or other chronic skin diseases that may accompany open lesions
- Working with chemicals and skin care products

- Oral and written communication skills
- Effective interpersonal relationship skills
- Ability to instruct clients
- Ability to follow instructions
- Stamina for long work days and flexible schedules
- Maintain customer-service/professional attitude

ESTHETICS COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

Note: Many courses are segmented to be introduced to the student during the Freshman Phase, practiced during the Intermediate Phase, and finally honed during the Senior Phase

Course Name	Objectives	Clock Hours
Theory	Detailed theoretical and practical instruction in all aspects of the student's program as guided by the textbook and workbook. Written testing and evaluation covered in the State Board Review book.	250 Clock Hours
Sciences	Advanced treatments and techniques including machines, electrical apparatus', microdermabrasion, chemical exfoliation, nutrition, aromatherapy, and reflexology.	320 Clock Hours
Facial Treatments	Basic facial treatments performed from skin analysis including cleansing, toning, massaging, towel steaming, applying masques, and moisturizing are taught. Advanced facial treatments incorporate the use machinery and chemical exfoliation in the service.	115 Clock Hours
Body Treatments	Massage techniques and esthetic applications merge in spa therapies for the body. Body wraps for de-stressing, detoxification and cellulite reduction. Body treatments include special procedures for the hands, feet and back.	70 Clock Hours
Make-Up	This segment teaches the theory of color in relation to skin tones and undertones. It teaches preparation, consultation, selection, and contouring application of facial makeup. Special occasion, day and nighttime makeup application specific.	90 Clock Hours
Lash/Brow Dye	The safe and specific instruction for permanently coloring eyelashes and eyebrows for enhancement.	5 Clock Hours
Hair Removal	This segment focuses on professional hair removal through waxing, tweezing, and sugaring. Areas of required removal are the eyebrow, lip, face, leg, bikini lines, and varied areas of the body.	70 Clock Hours
Spa/Salon Management	This segment includes teaching the requirements necessary to manage a clean and sanitary spa/salon. Subjects include customer service, front desk and reception, managerial responsibilities, product control and disbursement. A salon	80 Clock Hours

	project designed to provide the student with a business plan after graduation is also required.	
	Total	1000 hours

ESTHETICS PROGRAM - TENNESSEE

750 Clock Hours of Study

One of the fastest growing professional segments of the beauty industry is Esthetics. The Esthetician is responsible for the care, repair and enhancement of the skin, our largest organ. This program will prepare the student for a career in esthetics and for the licensing examination of the Tennessee State Board of Cosmetology. The student is advised that Georgia Career Institute's Esthetics program is a rigorous one that demands more than the basics required for a Tennessee Esthetics license and will require significant practice and preparation outside of the classroom. This program is offered in both the day and evening schedules. Admissions requirements are published elsewhere in this catalog.

Please note: A high school diploma or a General Equivalency Diploma is required prior to taking the state board licensing examination in Tennessee. Although the State of Tennessee Board of Cosmetology permits a person to study Cosmetology, Nail Technology or Esthetics who have attained a minimum of 10 years of secondary education and are at least 16 years of age, Georgia Career Institute will not admit a student for study unless he or she possesses a high school diploma or a general equivalency diploma (GED).

The Esthetics Program is divided into two phases: Pre-Clinic Freshmen (150 Clock Hours), and Clinic Seniors (600 Clock Hours). In accordance with the Tennessee State Board requirements, the courses in this program are designed to provide: 150 clock hours in general studies, 450 clock hours in physical studies and 150 in chemical studies relating to esthetics.

The Institute provides study and exposure to the best product lines available for skin care. Some of these products include Image skin care, Crown makeup, Farmhouse Fresh, and Alexandria Professional Sugaring.

The Esthetics kit consists of a product kit, rolling case, massage training head, extraction tool kit, mixing bowls, body/face brushes, mixing palette, tweezers, waxing kit, sugaring kit, and makeup kit. Items within the kit may be substituted, depending on manufacturer availability.

Below is a sample list of occupations that may be achieved as a licensed Esthetician:

Makeup Artist	Salon/Spa Owner-operator	Booth renter	Salon/Spa manager
Facialist	Product consultant	Educator	Esthetician for medical skincare facility

The career is not without its physical demands and standards for employment. Individuals thinking about pursuing a career in beauty or wellness should possess or be able to:

- Stand for long periods
- Ability to bend and stretch
- Demonstrate manual dexterity
- Repetitive motor skills (including small muscle control)
- Eye/hand coordination
- Normal or device- corrected vision /hearing
- Ability to distinguish color
- Not prone to psoriasis, dermatitis or other chronic skin diseases that may accompany open lesions
- Working with chemicals and skin care products
- Oral and written communication skills
- Effective interpersonal relationship skills
- Ability to instruct clients

- Ability to follow instructions
- Stamina for long work days and flexible schedules
- Maintain customer-service/professional attitude

ESTHETICS COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

Note: Many courses are segmented to be introduced to the student during the Freshman Phase, practiced during the Intermediate Phase, and finally honed during the Senior Phase

Course Name	Objectives	Clock Hours
Theory	Detailed theoretical and practical instruction in all aspects of the students program as guided by the textbook and workbook. Written testing and evaluation covered in the State Board Review Book.	188 hours
Sciences	Advanced treatments and techniques including machines, electrical apparatus', microdermabrasion, chemical exfoliation, nutrition, aromatherapy and reflexology.	240 hours
Facial Treatments	Basic facial treatments performed from skin analysis including cleansing, toning, massaging, towel steaming, applying masques and moisturizing are taught. Advanced facial treatments incorporate the use of machinery and chemical exfoliation.	86 hours
Body Treatments	Massage techniques and esthetic applications merge in spa therapies for the body. Body wraps for de-stressing, detoxification and cellulite reduction. Body treatments include special procedures for the hands, feet and back.	58 hours
Lash Brow Dye	The safe and specific instruction for permanently coloring eyelashes and eyebrows for enhancement.	5 hours
Make-up	This segment teaches the theory of color in relation to skin tones and undertones. It teaches preparation and application of facial makeup. Special occasions, day and nighttime makeup application specific.	68 hours
Hair Removal	This segment focuses on professional hair removal through waxing, tweezing, and sugaring. Areas of required removal are the eyebrow, lip, face, leg and bikini lines.	65 hours
Spa/Salon Management	This segment includes teaching the requirements necessary to manage a clean and sanitary spa/salon. Subjects include customer service, front desk and reception, managerial responsibilities, product control and disbursement. A salon project designed to provide the student with a business plan after graduation is also required.	40 hours
	Total	750 hours

INSTRUCTOR PROGRAMS

The most valuable asset of any school is its faculty. An excellent Cosmetology practitioner isn't necessarily a good instructor without formal training. This program is the essence of what differentiates a formal school preparation in cosmetology from a salon internship. It is an immersion into the science and art of pedagogy. Cosmetology, Nail Technology and Esthetics practitioners are trained to teach all aspects of their craft to students – effectively and professionally.

The institute believes that good instruction requires significantly more training than is locally required and advised applicants that a significant amount of independent study outside of school will be expected. This curriculum is a very rigorous one and the applicant is advised that if he or she is not prepared to commit to the requirements of this curriculum, he or she should consider other alternatives.

The primary purpose of the Instructor Programs is to prepare the student educator with teaching methodology, learning philosophy and professional ethics. Upon completion of this course of study, the student educator will have gained the necessary knowledge in the technical skill needs of the industry as well as the education methods that will assist in training competent, qualified professionals for successful employment in the beauty education industry. After graduating from the Instructor Program, students are prepared to that the State Board licensing examination for the state in which they studied (Georgia or Tennessee).

The table below provides an outline of the topics covered with descriptions. Preparations for all instructor programs follows the same course of study; varied only by the actual contact hours required in each area of study, and particular discipline emphasis (cosmetology, nail technology or esthetics).

Course Name/Number	Objectives
Classroom Management	Teaches the student how to use his or her skills as a leader, teacher, supervisor, manager, advisor, disciplinarian and student advocate, to foster a positive classroom environment.
Curriculum Development	Organization and careful planning are essential for an instructor to provide maximum educational benefit. This course teaches the student instructor how to work with curricula to form a well-balanced program.
Demonstrations	Gives student instructors an opportunity to demonstrate their knowledge and abilities.
Lesson Plans/ Presentation	Aids the student instructor in development of a specific plan for each day, goals, content to be covered, techniques, activities and materials to be used. This segment teaches the student instructor how to deliver a lesson to the class which is well organized and effective.
Practice Teaching	Under the supervision of a senior instructor, the student instructor has an opportunity to put into practice the techniques and theory during this program
Principles of Teaching Esthetics	Instructs the student instructor in the key elements of the esthetics curriculum to help in the development of lesson plans and practical demonstrations.

Principles of Teaching Cosmetology	Instructs the student instructor in the key elements of the esthetics curriculum to help in the development of lesson plans and practical demonstrations.
Principles of Teaching Nails	Instructs the student instructor in the key elements of the esthetics curriculum to help in the development of lesson plans and practical demonstrations.
Principles of Teaching Law	Instructs the student instructor in the key elements of the cosmetology law curriculum to help in the development of lesson plans and practical demonstrations.
Testing/ Evaluations	Shows the student instructor how to effectively use written as well as practical evaluations to monitor the student's progress.

Cosmetology Instructor Program

750 Clock Hours of Study (Georgia)

Offered at the Main Campus only

The State of Georgia requires the applicant must have 750 hours of Instructor Training in Cosmetology at a board approved school; and have one year of work experience at the master level and a current Georgia Cosmetology license. This program is offered in both day and night schedules.

Refer to Georgia Law, Title 43, Chapter 10, 2(A) (iii) (B) pgs. 14-15 for further information.

300 Clock Hours of Study (Tennessee)

Offered at the Tennessee campuses only

The State of Tennessee requires 300 clock hours of training to teach Cosmetology, Nails or Esthetics.

Requirements: Graduation from an accredited Cosmetology program and a current Tennessee license and have worked in the field for three years. This program is offered in both day and night schedules.

Nail Technology Instructor Program

250 Clock Hours of Study (Georgia)

Offered at the Main Campus only

After graduating from a GA Nail Technology program, students are prepared to take the Georgia State Board of Cosmetology licensing examination. Candidates for this program must hold a valid Georgia Nail Technician's or Cosmetologist's license.

300 Clock Hours of Study (Tennessee)

Offered at the Tennessee campuses only

The State of Tennessee requires 300 clock hours of training to teach Cosmetology, Nails or Esthetics.

Requirements: Graduation from an accredited Cosmetology program and a current Tennessee license and have worked in the field for three years. This program is offered in both day and night schedules

Esthetics Instructor Program

500 Clock Hours of Study (Georgia)

After graduating from the GA Esthetics Instructor Program, students are prepared to take the GA State Board of Cosmetology licensing examination. Candidates for this program must hold a valid Georgia Esthetician's or a Master Cosmetology license from an accredited Esthetics or Cosmetology program.

This program is offered in both day and night schedules.

300 Clock Hours of Study (Tennessee)

Offered at the Tennessee campuses only

The State of Tennessee requires 300 clock hours of training to teach Cosmetology, Nails or Esthetics. Requirements: Graduation from an accredited Cosmetology program and a current Tennessee license and have worked in the field for three years. This program is offered in both day and night schedules.

LICENSE REQUIREMENTS

GEORGIA COSMETOLOGIST LICENSE

To become a licensed master cosmetologist in the State of Georgia, a student must fulfill the following requirements:

- a) Application showing completion of at least 1500 hours
- b) The required examination fee
- c) Copy of high school diploma or G.E.D.

The student taking the examination must pass the written and practical portions of the test with at least 70%. Failure to pass either section will require the applicant to retake that portion of the test.

GEORGIA NAIL TECHICIAN LICENSE

To become a licensed nail technician in the State of Georgia, a student must fulfill the following requirements:

- a) Application showing the completion of at least 620 hours
- b) The required examination fee
- c) Copy of high school diploma or G.E.D.

The student taking the examination must pass the written and practical portions of the test with at least 70%. Failure to pass either section will require the applicant to retake that portion of the test.

GEORGIA ESTHETICIAN LICENSE

To become a licensed esthetician in the State of Georgia, a student must fulfill the following requirements:

- a) Application showing the completion of at least 1000 hours
- b) The required examination fee
- c) Copy of high school diploma or G.E.D.

The student taking the examination must pass the written and practical portions of the test with at least 70%. Failure to pass either section will require the applicant to retake that portion of the test.

**TENNESSEE COSMETOLOGY, NAIL TECHNOLOGY, & ESTHETICS LICENSE
REQUIREMENTS**

[Tenn. Code Ann. § 62-4-110](#)

62-4-110. Application and qualifications for practicing or teaching — Fees.

(a) Any person who desires a cosmetologist's license shall submit an application for examination to the board on the prescribed form. The application shall be accompanied by:

- (1)** A nonrefundable, nontransferable application/examination fee as set by the board;
- (2)** Satisfactory proof that the applicant has attained the age of at least sixteen (16) years;
- (3)** Satisfactory proof that the applicant either:
 - (A)** Has completed and passed a course of instruction of no less than one thousand five hundred (1,500) hours in practice and theory at a school of cosmetology; or
 - (B)** Holds a valid Tennessee master barber registration and has completed three hundred (300) hours in a licensed school of cosmetology learning the fundamentals of cosmetology technique and pedicuring; and
- (4)** Satisfactory proof that the applicant successfully completed, as part of the hours of instruction described in subdivision (a)(3), up to one (1) hour of online or in-person training, at no cost to the applicant, by a nonprofit anti-domestic violence organization recognized by the Tennessee Coalition to End Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault on domestic violence that focuses on how to recognize the signs of domestic violence, how to respond to these signs, and how to refer a client to resources for victims of domestic violence.

(b) Any person who desires a license to practice manicuring only shall submit an application for examination to the board on the prescribed form. The application shall be accompanied by:

- (1)** A nonrefundable, nontransferable application/examination fee as set by the board;
- (2)** Satisfactory proof that the applicant has attained the age of at least sixteen (16) years and has completed and passed a course of instruction of no less than six hundred (600) hours in the practice and theory of manicuring at a school of cosmetology; and
- (3)** Satisfactory proof that the applicant successfully completed, as part of the hours of instruction described in subdivision (b)(2), up to one (1) hour of online or in-person training, at no cost to the applicant, by a nonprofit anti-domestic violence organization recognized by the Tennessee Coalition to End Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault on domestic violence that focuses on how to recognize the signs of domestic violence, how to respond to these signs, and how to refer a client to resources for victims of domestic violence.

(c) Any person who desires a license to instruct in a school shall submit an application for examination to the board on the prescribed form. The application shall be accompanied by:

- (1)** A nonrefundable, nontransferable application/examination fee as set by the board;
- (2)** Satisfactory proof that the applicant:
 - (A)**
 - (i)** Is a high school graduate, evidenced by a certificate or diploma, or possesses a general equivalency diploma (GED®);
 - (ii)** Holds a valid cosmetologist's, manicurist's, aesthetician's, or natural hair stylist's license issued by the board;
 - (iii)** Has completed and passed a board-approved course in instructor training of at least three hundred (300) hours within a period of six (6) months as an instructor trainee or has served as a junior instructor for a minimum of one (1) year;
 - (iv)** Has been licensed as a cosmetologist, aesthetician, manicurist, or natural hair stylist pursuant to this chapter for at least three (3) continuous years; and
 - (v)** Seeks to instruct only in the area in which the applicant is currently licensed; or
 - (B)**
 - (i)** Holds a valid certificate of registration as a barber instructor pursuant to § 62-3-124; and
 - (ii)** Completes three hundred (300) hours in a licensed school of cosmetology learning the fundamentals of cosmetology technique and pedicuring; and

- (3) Satisfactory proof that the applicant successfully completed, as part of the hours of instruction described in subdivision (c)(2)(C), up to one (1) hour of online or in-person training, at no cost to the applicant, by a nonprofit anti-domestic violence organization recognized by the Tennessee Coalition to End Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault on domestic violence that focuses on how to recognize the signs of domestic violence, how to respond to these signs, and how to refer a client to resources for victims of domestic violence.
- (d) Any person who desires a license to practice aesthetics only shall submit an application for examination to the board on the prescribed form. The application shall be accompanied by:
- (1) A nonrefundable, nontransferable application/examination fee as set by the board;
- (2) Satisfactory proof that the applicant has attained the age of at least sixteen (16) years and has completed and passed a course of instruction of no less than seven hundred fifty (750) hours in the practice and theory of aesthetics at a school of cosmetology; and
- (3) Satisfactory proof that the applicant successfully completed, as part of the hours of instruction described in subdivision (d)(2), up to one (1) hour of online or in-person training, at no cost to the applicant, by a nonprofit anti-domestic violence organization recognized by the Tennessee Coalition to End Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault on domestic violence that focuses on how to recognize the signs of domestic violence, how to respond to these signs, and how to refer a client to resources for victims of domestic violence.
- (e) Any person who desires a natural hair styling license shall submit an application for examination to the board on the prescribed form. The application shall be accompanied by:
- (1) A nonrefundable, nontransferable application/examination fee as set by the board;
- (2) Satisfactory proof that the applicant has attained the age of at least sixteen (16) years and has completed and passed a course of instruction of no less than three hundred (300) hours in the practice and theory of natural hair styling at a school of cosmetology; and
- (3) Satisfactory proof that the applicant successfully completed, as part of the hours of instruction described in subdivision (e)(2), up to one (1) hour of online or in-person training, at no cost to the applicant, by a nonprofit anti-domestic violence organization recognized by the Tennessee Coalition to End Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault on domestic violence that focuses on how to recognize the signs of domestic violence, how to respond to these signs, and how to refer a client to resources for victims of domestic violence.

ACADEMIC POLICIES

ORIENTATION

For all new students to become acquainted with the policies and procedures of the Institute, orientation is held prior to or on the first day of class. This day is invaluable in making a smooth transition to a new environment and in giving staff and students a chance to become better acquainted.

GRADING SYSTEM

Grades are issued to students at the end of each month and at the end of the program. The grading scale is as follows:

Letter Grade	Numerical Grade
A (Excellent)	94-100
B (Good)	87-93
C (Average)	80-86
F (Failure)	Below 80

If a grade of “F” is received in a course or subject required for graduation, that course or subject must be repeated until a passing grade is received.

Students who achieve a 94 or better grade average *and* who maintain at least a 94% attendance rate for a given month, are considered “Honor Roll Students” for that month.

SATISFACTORY ACADEMIC PROGRESS POLICY

All Georgia Career Institute students must maintain what is always termed “satisfactory academic progress” (SAP). The Satisfactory Academic Progress Policy is consistently applied to all students enrolled at the Georgia Career Institute. It is printed in this catalog to ensure that all students receive a copy before enrollment. The policy complies with the guidelines established by the Council on Occupational Education Commission (COE) and the federal regulations established by the United States Department of Education.

MINIMUM STANDARDS

The Institute’s Academic SAP policy requires that every student maintains a grade average of at least 80% (“C”) *and* attends at least 90% of scheduled classes. The grade average standard ensures that every student is grasping the material intellectually to prepare them for success upon graduation. The attendance average standard assures the student is present to get the knowledge he or she needs to succeed. It also makes certain that a student completes the program in the allotted time. A student is expected to complete all hours of a program within 1.5 times the scheduled, contracted time frame. A student may not receive Title IV funds for more than 1.5 times (150% of) the standard program length.

GRADE AVERAGE

The qualitative academic average is considered against norms of grading as utilized nationally in higher education. Tools used to establish the academic average of a student include tests, essays, projects, study guides workbooks and other standard assessment tools. Students are assigned academic learning and a minimum required number of practical applications. Academic learning is evaluated after each chapter or unit of study. Practical assignments are evaluated as completed and counted toward course completion only when rated as satisfactory or better. If the performance does not meet satisfactory

requirements, it is not counted, and the performance must be repeated. Students shall be allowed to repeat a grading requirement a maximum of two times. If a student is unable to pass after the third attempt, the course must be retaken. Students must maintain a written grade average of 80% and pass a final written and practical exam before graduation. Students must make up any failed or missed tests and incomplete assignments. Numerical grades are considered according to the following scale:

Letter Grade	Numerical Grade
A (Excellent)	94-100
B (Good)	87-93
C (Average)	80-86
F (Failure)	Below 80

ATTENDANCE AVERAGE

The attendance percentage is determined by dividing the total hours accrued in the period (monthly or benchmark) by the total number of hours scheduled during that period. At the end of each evaluation period, the Institute will determine if the student has maintained at least 90% cumulative attendance since the beginning of the course which will be an indicator by attendance that the student will be able to graduate within the maximum time frame allowed.

MONTHLY ACADEMIC PROGRESS EVALUATIONS

Monthly academic evaluations shall be completed by the academic department in which the student is enrolled every month. These evaluations will help determine if the student has met the minimum requirements for satisfactory academic progress and work to ensure that early intervention is in place for students who are displaying unsatisfactory progress in their academic studies. The frequency of evaluations ensures that students are progressing and moving toward the achievement of their goals. A student determined to be in good monthly academic progress will remain in good standing until the next scheduled evaluation.

EVALUATION PERIODS

The Academic Department Evaluation is **performed monthly**, and a progress report will be issued to each student by the 5th of each month, reporting on the previous month's academic and attendance records. Students who meet the minimum monthly and cumulative requirements for attendance and academic performance are considered making acceptable monthly academic progress "MAP" until the next scheduled evaluation.

Academic Monitoring If a student fails to meet the minimum MAP requirements during a monthly academic evaluation, the student shall be given written notice of placement on a 30-day monitoring status. The student will have 30 days, respectively to meet the Institutes' minimum requirements. If at the next scheduled monthly academic evaluation, the student has not met the minimum requirement, the student may be subjected to dismissal from the Institute.

Satisfactory Academic Progress (Financial Aid) evaluation will also look at a student’s achievement both qualitatively (a minimum of 80% grade average) and quantitatively (a minimum of 90% attendance of scheduled classes). These Benchmark periods are determined by a formula mandated by the Department of Education for all students, regardless of whether he or she is a recipient of federal student aid. The chart below illustrates when those benchmark evaluations will occur:

	REVIEW PERIOD	SCHEDULED CLOCK HOURS	MINIMUM ATTENDED HOURS REQUIRED	MINIMUM CUMUL. GRADE AVERAGE REQUIRED	PROGRAM
1500 CL HR PROGRAMS	1	450	405	80	COSMETOLOGY
	2	900	810	80	
	3	1200	1080	80	
	4	1500	1350	80	
1000 CL HR PROGRAMS	1	450	405	80	ESTHETICS
	2	900	810	80	
	3	1000	900	80	
750 CL HR PROGRAMS	1	375	337	80	ESTHETICS/ MASSAGE
	2	750	675	80	
620 CL HR PROGRAMS	1	310	279	80	NAIL TECHNOLOGY
	2	620	558	80	

**For Transfer Students: The financial aid evaluation will occur at the midpoint of the contracted hours or the benchmark periods above, whichever comes first.*

A student who is on an approved Leave of Absence will have his/her expected graduation date recalculated to allow for the number of days of the leave, so as not to penalize him or her for going beyond the original scheduled graduation date.

MAXIMUM TIME FRAME

The maximum time (which does not exceed 150% of the course length) allowed for students to complete each course at satisfactory academic progress is stated below:

Total Clock Hours In Program	Total Clock Hours Per Week	Approximate Total Weeks of Instruction (approx.)	Approximate Total Months to complete Program (approx.)	Maximum allowable weeks to complete (150% of contract time)
1500	32.5	46	12	70
1500	20	75	18	113
1500	12	125	30	188
1000	26	38	10	57
1000	20	50	12	75
1000	12	83	20	125

750	24	32	8	48
750	20	38	9	57
620	24	24	6	36
620	20	31	7	47
620	12	52	12	78
300	20	15	4	23
300	12	25	6	38

The maximum time allowed for transfer students who need less than the full course requirements will be determined based on 90% of the scheduled hours.

SATISFACTORY ACADEMIC PROGRESS “SAP” WARNING

A student determined to be not meeting the minimum Financial Aid SAP requirements at the financial aid benchmark points will be placed on warning. A student placed on warning who is a recipient of Title IV Financial Aid may continue to receive the funding.

A written plan for improvement will be established by the financial aid office if one has not already been established by the student’s instructor. If the student follows the plan and corrects this situation in the following period by achieving the minimum grade and attendance averages, then the student will be determined to have re-established minimum standards of progress.

FA PROBATION

If at the end of the warning period, the student has still not met both the attendance and academic requirements, he/she may be placed on probation and, if applicable, students may be deemed ineligible to receive Title IV funds. If a student prevails in that appeal, then the student may be placed on probation until the next benchmark. Students on probation who appeal the decision, and who prevail upon appeal will be considered to be making satisfactory academic progress. NOTE: Only students who have the ability to meet the SAP policy standards by the next benchmark may be placed on probation. Students who have been placed on a plan to improve must be able to meet requirements set forth in the plan by the end of the next benchmark evaluation period. Students who are progressing according to their specific plan will be considered to be making SAP.

If at the end of the probationary period, the student has still not met both the attendance and academic requirements required for satisfactory academic progress or by the academic plan, he/she will be determined as NOT making satisfactory academic progress and, if applicable, students will not be deemed eligible to receive Title IV funds and will be suspended from school.

Grade averages of less than 80% are considered as failing grades and must be retaken until a passing grade is achieved. During the progress evaluation, a failing grade counts toward the completion date of the program although that failing grade must be remedied by retaking the course or assessment until a passing grade is achieved.

Transfer clock hours accepted by the Institute are counted toward completion of the program for purposes of determining compliance with maximum allowable time for completion.

GETTING BACK TO MAKING SATISFACTORY FINANCIAL AID SAP PROGRESS: A student who has been placed on probation may reestablish SAP (and their Title IV financial aid, as applicable), by meeting minimum attendance and academic requirements by the end of the probationary period.

APPEAL PROCEDURE: If a student is determined to not be making satisfactory academic progress, the student may appeal the determination within ten calendar days after such determination. This appeal must be in writing to the Campus Director, with documentation, explaining any extenuating circumstances that may have influenced his or her academic progress for that period (such as transferring from one program to another, death of a family member, and illness or injury of the student etc.). If the student prevails upon appeal, the satisfactory academic progress determination will be reversed and federal financial aid will be reinstated, if applicable. This appeal will be fully documented in the student's file, along with the student's statement of how the situation has been remedied that caused the failing evaluation.

The resulting acceptance of this appeal will include a plan to monitor academic work and attendance to assure the student stays with the SAP minimums. The re-entering student will enter with the same progress status as when they left.

NON-CREDIT REMEDIAL COURSES: The institution does not offer non-credit remedial programs. Course incompletes and repetitions are not considered by the Institute because the policy requires courses must be re-taken until a passing grade is achieved.

TRANSFER HOURS: With regard to SAP, a student's transfer hours will be counted as both attempted and earned hours for the purpose of determining when the allowable maximum time frame has been exhausted.

INTERRUPTIONS, COURSE INCOMPLETES AND WITHDRAWALS: If enrollment is temporarily interrupted for a Leave of Absence, the student will return to school in the same progress status as prior to the leave of absence. Hours elapsed during a leave of absence will extend the student's contract period and maximum time frame by the same number of days taken in the leave of absence and will not be included in the student's cumulative attendance percentage calculation. Students who withdraw prior to completion of the course and wish to re-enroll will return in the same satisfactory academic progress status as at the time of withdrawal.

CLOCK HOUR

One clock hour is defined as a unit of instruction which spans 60 minutes of real (clock) time and consists of a minimum of 50 minutes of classroom, lab and/or clinical instruction.

ACADEMIC YEAR

The academic year for a full-time student is 900 clock hours and 28 weeks (rounded). This is the basis upon which federal student aid is awarded. Adjustments are made to federal student aid for those programs less than 900 clock hours.

STUDENT TO TEACHER RATIO

Georgia Career Institute has at the core of its mission, a pledge to provide the best possible education to our students. Direct supervision of qualified instructors is of paramount importance to this endeavor. As a result, it is our policy to have available a minimum of one (1) instructor for every twenty (20) students in attendance in our beauty programs' classes. In applications where more than 20 students are in attendance, instructional assistance and/or multiple teachers are provided. For Massage Therapy, the

Institute will provide a minimum of one instructor for every ten 10 students in a hands-on, practical applications class.

ATTENDANCE POLICY

Regular class attendance is considered essential to the educational process and serves as an important trait that employers consider in the placement process. Georgia Career Institute expects all students to attend all classes. Valuable information will be missed and a make-up session, if available, may not give the student the full benefit of the regularly scheduled instruction that was missed.

Students' attendance records will be maintained, and hours of daily attendance and credits will be reported to the state boards of cosmetology and other appropriate regulatory and licensing organizations on a regular basis.

There are excused and unexcused absences. All absences must be made up to receive a diploma. The difference between excused and unexcused absences is the consequence to such absences. An excused absence may be made up during the contract enrollment period without financial penalty. Likewise, an unexcused absence may be made up during the contract enrollment period, but you will be subject to a charge of \$15.00 per hour for each hour required for make-up. All absences (excused/unexcused) should be made up during the week missed or the following week.

Students with excused absences can make up missed hours during normal operating business hours, which may be outside of their contracted schedule. Students wishing to make up missed hours, shall:

1. Obtain permission from their regularly scheduled instructor and receive assignments for the missed time
2. Obtain permission from the supervising instructor for the make-up hours and/or credits
3. Check-in/out with the supervising instructor and must always remain under their supervision.
4. Obtain a signature verification of all completed hours and/or credits from the supervising instructor

Failure to obtain approval and verification from the supervising instructor could result in the loss of any extra hours completed. All make-up requests are subject to space availability. Students with unexcused absences can make up any missed hours in the same manner as excused absences, however, priority for make-up hours and/or credit shall be granted to all excused absences first.

An excused absence is one where the student has an unavoidable conflict or health emergency that keeps him or her from attending. For an absence to be considered as excused, the student is responsible for:

- Notifying his/her instructor to inform them of the absence
- Providing a written explanation for the absence (including, but not limited to, a doctor's note for health issues)

An unexcused absence is one where the student misses' school for a non-essential reason and does not report his or her absence. A student is always responsible for notifying the school if he/she cannot attend, prior to the absence. Any absence without pre-approval or proof of an emergency (doctor's excuse, death in immediate family: parent, spouse, child, sibling) will be considered unexcused.

An instructor and/or academic coordinator will meet with any student placed on academic monitoring due to failure to meet SAP requirements and will discuss the school's attendance policy and provide written notice of probation to any applicable parties.

Students will be charged \$15.00 per hour for every hour of instruction exceeding their contract graduation date.

UNEXPECTED CLOSURES

The Institute will notify students of unexpected closures via social media and/or email via our SMART Student Learning Portal and Google Classroom. If closures are due to inclement weather, all full-day closures are to be made up at the discretion of the Institute. Active students are required to make up any missed time due to weather-related closures later without financial penalty.

TARDINESS

Excessive tardiness is not professional behavior and does not indicate that the student will be able to achieve success after graduation. The Institute wishes to help the students create a pattern of success in the workplace after graduation by enforcing a tardiness policy during attendance. Any student arriving after the scheduled class start time is tardy. Students with excused tardies shall be allowed entry into class with instructor approval. An unexcused tardy shall result in the student being denied entry into class for the remainder of the day. Repeat infractions may result in disciplinary actions, up to withdrawal from the Institute, subject to the disciplinary policy within this catalog.

An excused tardy is defined as the student providing prior notice before the commencement of class to their instructor with accompanying approval for entry or documentation indicating an extenuating circumstance occurred, causing late entry into the class.

An unexcused tardy is defined as a notification not provided to the instructor before the commencement of class, or documentation of an extenuating circumstance is not offered to excuse the tardy.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE POLICY

Leaves of absence may be granted to a student for emergency/medical situations dependent on documentation and cannot exceed a total of 180 days during the calendar year.

For approval, the following procedure will be utilized:

1. The student must notify the Director of their Leave of Absence request in writing, including pertinent documentation of leave requirements.

- a. Requests must be written, signed, and dated, including the reasoning for the request PRIOR to the leave of absence
 - b. If unforeseen circumstances prevent the student from providing a prior written request, the institute may grant the Leave of Absence request if the decision is documented, and the written request is collected at a later date.
2. The staff member will issue the student a “Change of Status” form, which will serve as written application for the Leave.
 3. The petitioning student will then meet with the staff member responsible for student services and the Student Financial Services officer for approvals.

The student will be made aware of their returning schedule and any other requirements for re-entry by the department manager or representative issuing the Status Change. No additional fees will be assessed students for this Leave. Upon approval of the academic department, student services and Student Financial Services, and once the student has written the reason for the leave and signed the Change of Status Form, the student may begin his or her Leave.

One week prior to the scheduled re-entry date of the student, he or she must contact staff members who represent the student’s academic department, student services, and Student Financial Services. The purpose of this contact is to determine whether the condition that caused the Leave has been corrected, fulfilled or otherwise rectified. During this contact, a new expected graduation date is entered into the student record.

The original expected date of graduation will be extended by the same number of days taken in the LOA. Once the Institute is satisfied that the student has every opportunity to succeed toward graduation upon re-entry, the student will be permitted to return to his or her program of study. Changes to the contract period of the enrollment agreement must be initialed by all parties or an addendum must be signed and dated by all parties

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

In order to graduate, students must successfully complete the designated work assignments for the course in which he/she is enrolled and pass final examinations with at least an 90% grade average. Upon completion of the required hours, and after satisfying all financial obligations to the school, the student will be considered a graduate and receive a diploma from the Institute.

WITHDRAWALS

If a student withdraws from a course, either by his/her own choice or by the instructor’s action, the nature of the withdrawal will be indicated on his/her permanent transcript as follows:

WP - Withdrew Passing. This means that the withdrawal either occurred within the first three weeks of the program or occurred while the student carried a passing average. WP is without penalty in that the hours attempted will not affect the student's grade average.

WF- Withdrew Failing. This indicates that at the time of withdrawal the student was failing the course. WF grades have the same effect as an F in calculating grade point averages.

READMISSION POLICY

If a student wishes to be readmitted to the Institute after being dismissed, he or she must reapply after waiting a period of three months. Such students will be enrolled on a probationary status. With respect to financial aid, a student must complete a period of one month with at least a 'C' average for that period before financial aid awards will be made. This procedure applies only to dismissals caused by a lack of satisfactory progress and will never be granted more than once. It does not apply to voluntary withdrawals.

Reentering students will be charged at the current tuition rates for newly entering students. Amounts paid during their first period of enrollment will be credited to this account. If the student reenters within twelve months of the withdrawal, the application fee will be waived; however, a re-entry fee of \$100.00 is charged. The Institute reserves the right to refuse readmission to any student who has withdrawn and requested readmission more than two (2) times.

APPEAL PROCESS

A student may appeal to the school director for a negative academic progress determination. This appeal must be in writing, with documentation, explaining any extenuating circumstances that may have influenced his or her academic progress for that period. An extension of the warning or probationary period due to circumstances determined to be such that warrant leniency (such as transferring from one program to another, death of a family member, and illness or injury of the student etc.). Any extension granted must be fully documented in the student's file, along with the student's statement of how the situation has been remedied that caused the failing evaluation. The resulting acceptance of this appeal must include a plan to re-establish financial aid eligibility (if applicable), and a signed statement of academic work and attendance to assure the student moves quickly back into achieving minimum standards of progress.

ACADEMIC ADVISING & LEARNING RESOURCES

Academic advising is a continuing process between student and teacher. Progress reports are issued monthly, and academic advising is mandatory for any student falling below minimum standards. Students are encouraged to set appointments with instructors or with members of the administrative staff at any time they feel that they need additional help or advisement with problems affecting their coursework.

The school has learning resources available to help students succeed in their respective programs. These resources range from periodicals and video support in the student library to online test preparation and curriculum support. For a full list of available learning resources, please see your classroom instructor.

SCHOOL CLOSURE

If the school should close permanently and ceases to offer instruction after students have enrolled and instruction has begun, the Institute will provide students with a pro-rata refund of tuition.

GRIEVANCE POLICY AND DUE PROCESS

Each student enrolled is considered a responsible adult, and it is assumed that men and women of school age will maintain standards of conduct appropriate to membership in the school environment. Emphasis should be placed on standards of student conduct rather than on limits or restrictions of students.

Guidelines and regulations governing student conduct have been developed by representatives of the student body, faculty, and administration. The Institute refrains from imposing rigid codes of discipline but reserves the right to take disciplinary action compatible with its own best interests when necessary.

Each student has the privilege of exercising his/her rights of citizenship without fear of prejudice at the Institute. In the event a student feels his/her rights have been violated, the Institute will make every attempt to resolve any student complaint that is not frivolous or without merit.

The following procedure and rights of appeal have been developed and published for students and are incorporated into the student handbook.

1. The student must register the complaint in writing on a “Student Grievance Form,” provided by the campus director or the student’s department manager within 60 days of the incident that caused the grievance.
2. The grievance will be given to the campus director.
 - a. If the grievance is a result of the student’s being accused of infractions to rules or policies, the campus director shall conduct a careful and thorough investigation of the alleged infraction.
 - i. In the event the investigation shows that there is no substantial evidence to support the allegations of wrongdoing on the part of the student, the Institute shall drop the charges and note the student’s file accordingly.
 - ii. If the finding indicates sufficient evidence to support the allegation of wrongdoing by the student or a staff member, the campus director shall set a date to meet with the student to discuss the charges. Within five (5) calendar days of this meeting, the campus director shall render a decision to dismiss the charges, to impose an administrative reprimand or to place the student on probation for up to one academic year.
 - b. If the grievance of a student stems from his/her perception of unjustified treatment by a school official, the campus director will investigate the occurrence and interview the accused staff member.
 - i. If evidence shows that there is no merit in the accusation by the student, the Institute will drop the investigation and note the student’s file accordingly.

- ii. If the investigation shows that the grievance was with merit, the campus director will take appropriate administrative action against the staff member.
3. The decision of the campus director will be presented in writing to the student. The student may, within five (5) calendar days of the receipt of this notice from the campus director, appeal this decision, in which case an appeals committee shall be established as provided:
 - a. The Campus Director shall, within five (5) calendar days after deciding to suspend the student or after receipt of the written appeal, select a committee of five (5) disinterested persons from among the student body and the staff.
 - b. The Campus Director shall designate a chairman of the committee who shall set a time and place for the hearing not more than ten (10) calendar days after the committee has been designated.
 - c. The committee shall make its decision by simple majority vote and communicate its findings in writing to the campus director within 10 (10) calendar days after the hearing is completed. The committee may recommend to the campus director that: the charges be dropped, a reprimand be issued, disciplinary probation be imposed for a period not to exceed one session, disciplinary suspension be imposed for a specified time, or a student or staff member may be dismissed.
4. Within ten (10) calendar days of receipt of the committee report, the campus director will communicate a final decision to the student. The campus director shall impose a sanction equal to or less than that recommended by the committee, but he/ she may not increase the severity of the sanction. The campus director shall provide a copy of the written decision including the committee report to the student. If the decision includes probation, suspension or dismissal, a copy of the decision will be provided to the registrar.
5. The internal complaint process ends with the decision of the campus director. Once the internal procedure is exhausted, and if there is no resolution to satisfy the student, the student has the following external channels to use, by writing to, in this order:
 - a. Chief Operating Officer, Lauren Davis – ldavis@gei.edu or (678) 750-1675
 - b. The owners of the Institute, Joyce Meadows or Michael Martin (see contact info on page 67)
 - c. For Cosmetology, Esthetics or Nail Technology students, student may contact the TN or GA State Board of Cosmetology (contact information on page 7 of this catalog)
 - d. TN students for all programs can contact the TN Higher Education Commission (contact information on page 7 of this catalog)
 - e. For all students who require further investigation or assistance for an issue not resolved by these procedures, he or she may contact Council of Occupational Education, www.council.org
 - i. 7840 Roswell Rd, Bldg. 300, Suite 325, Atlanta, GA 30346 Ph.: 770-396-3898

STUDENT RECORDS, PRIVACY & ACCESS POLICY

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) of 1974 requires that students be advised of their rights concerning educational records, such as letters of recommendation.

FERPA gives important rights, including:

1. The right of students to inspect their student records,
2. The right to challenge incorrect information in those records, and
3. The right to keep student records private.

Because FERPA gives students these rights, Georgia Career Institute cannot require you to waive these rights. Academic and financial records will be kept on the Institute property at all times. Students and their parents or guardians (if the student is a dependent minor) will be provided access to their records upon request. Requests for review of a student's records will be honored within three business days of the request. During a review a member of the staff will be present at all times. No information about the student will be given out over the phone. No information will be given to any third party, individual or agency unless the student has authorized the release of information to that individual/agency by filling out a release of information form. Please note: COE reserves the right to inspect student records for any accreditation purposes.

TRANSCRIPTS

Once all graduation requirements are fulfilled (See Graduation Requirements) the student will receive one transcript without charge; additional transcripts will be provided for a fee of \$5.00 each.

If a student wishes a copy of his/her transcript prior to graduation in the event of withdrawal or termination, all financial obligations to the school must be paid before information will be released.

ADVISEMENT

Students are urged to seek assistance from those who are here to help. One should feel free to go to his/her instructors or the director with any problems. Academic advisement is sometimes required when students are having difficulties with their studies. If a student is placed on academic probation, advisement is required. Disciplinary advisement is handled through the Institutes Directors' office when behavioral problems arise in the classroom or on the campus.

GRADUATE PLACEMENT ASSISTANCE

The primary goal of the Institute is to see that all students are successfully employed in the field for which they have trained. To achieve this, the Institute provides placement assistance upon graduation without additional charge. This assistance is not given as an inducement to enroll, and no guarantee or representation of placement is made or implied.

After graduation, the services of the job placement office are at the student's disposal. Only when the student is gainfully employed in a chosen field is the Institute's job complete. Although the securing of a position cannot be guaranteed, the student may be assured that every effort will be made by the placement office to assist in finding suitable employment. A special feature of the job placement service

is its availability to all graduates of Georgia Career Institute at any time of their career without fee to the student or employer.

SUGGESTIONS

If any student has suggestions as to how Georgia Career Institute can be improved, he/she is urged to submit suggestions to the administration with the assurance that each one will be carefully considered. Please send suggestions to Lauren Davis at Ldavis@gci.edu.

TUTORING

If any student has a need for academic tutoring, he or she should speak with his or her instructor or department manager for assistance. Georgia Career Institute will attempt to provide tutoring as needed without additional expense to the student.

HOUSING

No campus approved student housing is maintained by Georgia Career Institute.

REFERRAL SERVICES

The Institute does not have the capacity to offer professional counseling for students with particular personal challenges. The Campus Director or Student Services coordinator maintains a listing of local referral services to attempt to help students with needs in childcare, psychological counseling, substance abuse, abuse and crisis shelters and others.

Please note: For all the of the above referral services, the Institute is not affiliated with nor will it be held responsible for the actions of these businesses. This information is provided solely to assist the student in locating a referral for a demonstrated need and should not be construed as an endorsement by the Institute.

HOURS OF OPERATION

The Institute is open for classes Monday through Friday, from 9:00 am to 10:30 pm. In addition, some classes may meet on the weekends from 9:00 am until 4:00 pm. Your enrollment agreement will have your particular class schedule listed. Please refer to that document for your official schedule.

RULES & REGULATIONS

Note: Rules and regulations are subject to change from time to time. The student will be notified of any changes and will be asked to sign a statement to acknowledge any such change.

STUDENT CONDUCT

The student is expected to read, understand and follow the Institute's rules and regulations in this catalog. Because the Institute believes that adult students should be offered certain freedom, rules have been kept to a minimum. With that freedom, however, comes the responsibility to behave in a manner consistent with the best interest of the Institute, its faculty, and the student body. **The Institute, therefore, reserves the right to suspend or to dismiss any student at any time when such action is deemed by the administration to be in the best interest of the individual student, the student body and/or the Institute.**

ATTENDANCE

There are excused and unexcused absences. An excused absence is one where the student has an unavoidable conflict or health emergency that keeps him or her from attending.

For an absence to be considered as excused, the student is responsible for:

- a. Calling his/her instructor to inform them of the absence.
- b. Providing a written explanation as to the reason for the absence (including, but limited to a doctor's note for health issues)

Any absence without pre-approval or proof of an emergency (doctor's excuse, death in immediate family: parent, spouse, child, sibling) will be considered unexcused.

Students with excused absences can make up missed hours during normal operating business hours, which may be outside of their contracted schedule. Students shall be required to check in/out with an assigned instructor for accurate documentation of makeup hours and must remain under their supervision always. Failure to obtain approval and verification from supervising instructor could result in loss of any extra hours completed. Students with unexcused absences can make up any missed hours in the same manner as excused absences, pending clearance from Financial Aid that applicable overage charges have been applied.

An unexcused absence is one where the student misses school for a non-essential reason, and does not call to report his or her absence. A student is always responsible for calling the school if he/she cannot attend.

All absences must be made up to receive a diploma from Georgia Career Institute. The difference between excused and unexcused absences is the consequence to such absences. An excused absence may be made up during the contract enrollment period, without financial penalty. An unexcused absence will result in a charge of \$15.00 per hour for each hour missed.

EXTRA INSTRUCTIONAL CHARGES: In the event a student fails to make up any missed hours prior to their contracted completion date, the Institute will impose a charge of \$15.00 per hour for every hour the student exceeds the contractual period.

A student is required to be in attendance a MINIMUM OF 90% of available clock hours to be in satisfactory progress. Failure to meet this requirement will result in probation and/or academic monitoring with possibly suspension and/or termination. Students exhibiting habitual unexcused absences on Fridays will be subject to a charge of \$15.00 per hour missed to be immediately due upon return to school. (See Satisfactory Progress Policy in this Catalog).

UNEXPECTED CLOSURES

Students will be notified of unexpected closures via the SMART Student Portal, Google Classroom and on social media platforms, such as Facebook. All students are expected to maintain accurate contact information within the student management system to ensure timely receipt of communications. If closures are due to inclement weather, all full day closures are to be made up at the discretion of the Institute.

TARDINESS

Excessive tardiness is not professional behavior and does not indicate that the student will be able to achieve success after graduation. The Institute wishes to help the students create a pattern of success in the workplace after graduation by enforcing a tardiness policy during attendance. Any student arriving after the scheduled class start time is tardy. Students with excused tardies shall be allowed entry into class with instructor approval. An unexcused tardy shall result in the student being denied entry into class for the remainder of the day. Repeat infractions may result in disciplinary actions, up to withdrawal from the Institute, subject to the disciplinary policy within this catalog.

An excused tardy is defined as the student providing prior notice before the commencement of class to their instructor with accompanying approval for entry or documentation indicating an extenuating circumstance occurred, causing late entry into the class.

An unexcused tardy is defined as a notification not provided to the instructor before the commencement of class, or documentation of an extenuating circumstance is not offered to excuse the tardy.

DOCUMENTING CLOCK HOURS

It is the responsibility of each student to document his or her attendance. Students are advised to keep a daily journal of activities and hours of attendance for their benefit. Faculty will record daily attendance, noting the entrance and exit times of each student. When an electronic clock is provided, the student must clock in and out daily. **Failure to do so can cause an inaccurate recording of clock hours.** A monthly accounting of attendance appears on the progress report. When there is a discrepancy between the progress report and a student's recollection of attendance, journal proof will be required to make any changes in the student attendance record.

ACADEMIC CREDITS

Forms to document student's practical skills are kept under the care of the instructor. Each student is responsible making certain this document is completed regularly. This form is called the Credit Hour Sheet and must be completed in black ink on a daily basis.

All students must submit this form with totals in each column, by the last day of the month in order to receive credits. **Failure to do so can result in loss of credits.**

DRESS CODE POLICY

Georgia Career Institute maintains a standard of dress which is designed to teach future professionals successful dress practices they will need in their prospective careers.

All Students of Georgia Career Institute must follow these requirements:

1. Cosmetology, Esthetics, and Nail Technology students will wear their own solid black dress pants and a solid black dress shirt.
2. Cosmetology, Esthetics, and Nail Technology students will be issued an apron or other covering displaying the Institution's logo. This covering must always be worn within the building. The covering is color-coordinated to indicate the student's academic department (Pink-Esthetics, Black-Cosmetology, and Blue-Nail Technology). The covering must be maintained clean, stain- and wrinkle-free, and not torn or unaltered from the original condition it was received. Students who do not maintain their salon/spa covering to this standard will be issued another at the student's expense.
3. Shoes are to be professional in appearance. Clean, comfortable closed-toe sneakers, loafers, and similar shoes are appropriate. Shoes deemed unprofessional include open-toe shoes, sandals, dirty tennis shoes, Crocs or lookalikes with holes, boots that contain any type of fur, Ugg's or Ugg lookalikes, or shoes resembling house wear/slippers.
4. Apparel considered unprofessional and not approved includes denim jeans, or denim material, sweatpants, exercise pants, hats, revealing or other unprofessional clothing as determined by the staff of the Institute. Leggings can only be worn if an appropriate top covers the entire glute area. Hemlines on skirts should be at or below the knee.
5. Accessories may be worn to accentuate hairstyles, dependent that hair is professionally displayed and not to cover entirety of the head. Students are expected to maintain a professional appearance that is reflective of Industry standards specific to hair, skin, nails, and makeup.

Georgia Career Institute reserves the right to enforce a standard of professional dress, including personal grooming (hair, skin, and nail care) and hygiene for all staff and students. Students that do not follow this required standard of dress, within reasonable expectations, will be dismissed from the building until the appropriate standards can be met.

All students are expected to be dressed as if they were going to their beauty or wellness career position every day. You must always be aware of your professional appearance, including your hair, nails and makeup. Excellent personal hygiene is required.

No student can wear jeans or denim clothing. There may be days that you will be involved in class projects or field trips that will require your wearing professional attire. A pair of black dress pants or a skirt and a white tailored blouse will be appropriate in these cases. Professional dress does not include any form of jeans or denim clothing.

Coats, Sweaters, Jackets, etc. will not be worn in the classroom or on the clinic floor. You may purchase a white professional lab jacket that may be worn over your uniform.

No hats or head coverings may be worn. Matching accessories such as headbands and jewelry are acceptable if they do not interfere with the work assigned.

Religious Accommodation. Georgia Career Institute requires its administrators and faculty to reasonably accommodate the religious needs, observances, and practices of their employees and students upon verbal or written request. This request may be supported by – but need not be proven by – external documentation, unless doing so would cause a substantial burden on the exercise of the student’s religion. An individual’s request for reasonable religious accommodations is justified unless GCI’s operations would suffer unduly by granting the individual’s request. Requests for reasonable accommodation include, but are not limited to, requests to wear a religious head-covering. The prohibition against hats and head-coverings does not extend to religious head-coverings, including the hijab. Individuals may not be discriminated against because of their religious beliefs or practices, or because they lack religious beliefs or practices.

CLASSROOM AND CLINIC BEHAVIOR

Each student is required to bring whatever tools and supplies from their kits are needed to class each day. Failure to do so will result in student being sent home. A second offense will result in suspension.

Students are responsible for their own kit, lab coat, books, and supplies once they have been issued by the school. Replacement costs will be charged at regular retail price. A student is required to replace any items lost or stolen at their own cost. Students are expected to always act in a professional manner.

- No visitors are allowed in the classroom
- **Profanity, gossip, or verbal abuse is not tolerated, and will result in immediate removal from the campus and subject to disciplinary action, up to dismissal from the program.**
- Each student will be expected to participate in cleanup duties, similar to workplace expectations, daily while in school; duties which could include cleaning of inside/outside common areas, restrooms, sweeping/mopping of floors, etc.
- No firearms, alcohol, knives, or controlled substances are allowed. Failure to comply will result in immediate termination and prosecution
- All students are expected to follow instructions given by instructors, instructors in training, or any other faculty member or staff. Students may not refuse an assigned client from any supervising instructor; Such refusal will result in suspension for the remaining day.
- Students’ work areas must be kept clean and organized

- Dirty linen is to be placed in closed hampers
- Cosmetology students are to remove cut hair immediately after finishing
- Each student will be assigned dispensary duties, clean up, laundry, front desk, and other spa/salon business credit assignments.
- No food or beverage (other than water in a closed container) is permitted in any classroom or clinic area. Students must use the break room or leave the building to eat
- Students are awarded a discount of 75% off the published price for clinic services if the student is in Satisfactory Academic Standing. This is a privilege offered to students who are making satisfactory progress for attendance and grades. **Students are required to have their instructor's approval to give or receive any service on themselves or another student.** No services are to be performed or received on Fridays.
- Services for the student's immediate family (living within the same household) may receive services at a discount of 50% from the published service price, when the student performs the service; otherwise, the service is full price.
- Georgia Career Institute's main campus and branch locations are smoke-free areas.

This is not an exclusive list of rules, regulations, and/or policies governing conduct at Georgia Career Institute. The Institute reserves the right to suspend or dismiss any student at any time when such action is deemed by the administration to be in the best interest of the individual student, the student body and/or the Institute.

ELECTRONIC DEVICES

Electronic devices may be regulated by the Institute's instructors. Misuse of any devices may be subjected to disciplinary actions. All cell phones, cell phone devices, pagers and all media devices are prohibited from being used on the clinic floor or classrooms at any time during school hours. This includes all Bluetooth and/or hands-free devices. All such devices must be placed in "Silent" mode. Use is allowed only in break rooms and outside the building during assigned break times. Failure to adhere to this policy may lead to suspension for one day.

INTERNET ACCEPTABLE USAGE POLICY

The student accepts and agrees to abide by the policy and responsibilities as specified below. Further, with this educational opportunity also comes responsibility, and the student concurs that:

- GCI's Internet connection is to be used only for curriculum-related research and educational activities that are consistent with the mission of the Institute.
- The use of GCI's Internet connection is a privilege, not a right, and inappropriate use will result in the cancellation of this privilege. I understand that suspected misuses will be confidentially reported to the appropriate Campus Director. I understand that violations of this privilege could result in disciplinary action up to dismissal from the Institute.
- It is my responsibility to be aware of and to ensure that all copyright laws, including licensing restrictions, are honored. I understand that ownership of text, music, software, and other media is proprietary and therefore protected by law.

- It is my responsibility to ensure that I do not send, print, request, or store fraudulent, harassing, threatening, racist, sexist, offensive, or obscene messages and/or materials.
- I understand that transmission of any materials in violation of federal or state laws or regulations is prohibited.
- I concur that it is my responsibility to avoid the knowing or inadvertent spread of computer viruses.
- GCI has the right to review any materials stored on any system provided by the college and to edit and remove any materials. I hereby waive any right which I may otherwise have in and to such materials.

CAMPUS SECURITY AND SAFETY

Georgia Career Institute maintains a campus security and safety policy which is published in a separate handbook and distributed at student orientation. Please review this information located at <https://gci.edu/disclosures>.

ZERO-TOLERANCE POLICY

You have a right to pursue your studies in a safe, appropriate environment. The Institute maintains a high level of expectation of the behavior of its students and its employees. There is no negotiation on any point that could put a student or a staff member in harm's way while carrying out their responsibilities at The Institute.

Georgia Career Institute has a **ZERO TOLERANCE** policy for:

- making, using, selling, or trading any illegal drugs or alcohol while on premises; Students who are suspected to be under the influence of drugs or alcohol will be immediately removed from the premises.
- carrying or concealing any weapons
- sexual or other physical harassment and/or abuse, bullying, inappropriate and/or aggressive touching of another student or staff member. This policy extends to posts on any social media platform. The Institute does not condone sexual harassment of students or employees, which violates the Institute's policy as well as state and federal law.
- theft or vandalism of any other student's or staff member's property

Zero Tolerance means that a student found to be guilty of committing one of the above offenses shall be immediately withdrawn from the Institute. Re-Entry into the Institution shall be subject to the re-entry policy as stated in this catalog. Violations that are determined to be egregious by the Institute or causing harm to any patrons of the Institute shall result in a permanency of withdrawal and re-entry into the Institute will not be permitted. Any student or staff member found to have broken this policy will be terminated immediately. This policy is strictly enforced for both staff and students. This published statement will serve as the only warning for infraction thereof.

Student complaints should be brought to the attention of the Director.

All students are expected to conduct themselves in a manner that will reduce the potential for harm, damage, or injury of another and/or to property. Gross negligence, abuse, or endangering the health and welfare of another is prohibited. This would include but is not limited to the use of verbal or written (including electronic/Internet) threats, intimidation, coercion, verbal or nonverbal abuse or harassment, discriminatory behavior, inappropriate physical conduct, contact or behavior and/or other behavior deemed inappropriate by Campus Director's. Students participating or displaying these behaviors or actions are subject to disciplinary action up to and including termination and subsequent legal action.

DRUG FREE AWARENESS PROGRAM

Georgia Career Institute is dedicated to providing quality educational environment for its students and employees and will strive to maintain a school and workplace free from drug and alcohol abuse. The manufacture, possession, distribution, or use of illegal drugs or alcohol is prohibited in the workplace, including school grounds. Any violation of this policy will warrant disciplinary action, up to and including termination of any employee and/or expulsion of any student, and may also result in local, state and/or federal criminal charges.

Employees must notify school management of any criminal drug statute conviction for a violation occurring in the workplace no later than five days after such conviction. The Institute will notify the United States Department of Education, Office of Student Financial Assistance, 400 Maryland Avenue, SW, (ROB-3), and Washington, DC, 20202 of such conviction within ten days after receiving such notice.

The institute will assist employees and students in the selection of appropriate counseling, substance abuse assistance or rehabilitation programs. In addition, this school will not discriminate in employment or admissions solely on the grounds of prior drug or alcohol abuse or against individuals who have satisfactorily completed a substance assistance or rehabilitation program.

DISABILITY ACCOMMODATION AND GRIEVANCE POLICY

Statement of Non-Discrimination and Accommodation

Georgia Career Institute ("the School") does not discriminate on the basis of disability. Individuals with disabilities (including pregnant students as applicable) are entitled to a reasonable accommodation to ensure that they have full and equal access to the School's educational resources, consistent with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (29 U.S.C. § 794) ("Section 504") and the Americans with Disabilities Act (42 U.S.C. § 12182) ("ADA"), their related statutes and regulations, and corresponding state and local laws.

Section 504 prohibits discrimination on the basis of disability in any program or activity receiving federal financial assistance. The ADA prohibits a place of public accommodation from discriminating on the basis of disability. The applicable law and regulations may be examined in the office of the ADA/Section 504 Compliance Coordinator, or his/her trained designee who has been designated to coordinate the efforts of the school to comply with Section 504 and ADA.

ADA/Section 504 Compliance Coordinator:

Lauren Davis, 900 Flat Shoals RD SE Conyers, GA 30094, (678) 750-1675, ldavis@gci.edu

Requests for Accommodation

Individuals with disabilities wishing to request an accommodation must contact the ADA/Section 504 Compliance Coordinator. A disclosure of a disability or a request for accommodation made to any staff, faculty, or personnel other than the ADA/Section 504 Compliance Coordinator will not be treated as a request for an accommodation. However, if a student discloses a disability to such an individual, the individual is required to direct the student to the ADA/Section 504 Compliance Coordinator. Upon request, the ADA/Section 504 Compliance Coordinator (or his/her trained designee) will provide a student or applicant with a **Request for Accommodations form**, which is also available on the School's website under the consumer info tab <https://gci.edu/consumer-info/> . To help ensure timely consideration and implementation, individuals making a request for an accommodation are asked to contact the ADA/Section 504 Compliance Coordinator and/or submit a Request for Accommodations form at least two weeks prior to when the accommodation is needed.

Individuals requesting reasonable accommodation may be asked to provide medical documentation substantiating his/her physical and/or mental impairment(s) and/or the need for the requested accommodation(s), including but not limited to when the limitation or impairment is not readily apparent and/or a requested accommodation does not clearly relate to the impairment(s). Such documentation should specify that a student has a physical or mental impairment and how that impairment substantially limits one or more major life activities. In general, the supporting documentation must be dated less than three years from the date a student requests a reasonable accommodation, and must be completed by a qualified professional in the area of the student's disability, as enumerated below:

Disability	Qualified Professional
Physical disability	MD, DO, Nurse Practitioner
Visual impairment	MD, ophthalmologist, optometrist
Mobility, orthopedic impairment	MD, DO, Nurse Practitioner
Hearing impairment	MD, DO, Audiologist (Au.D) *audiology exam should not be more than a year old
Speech and language impairment	Licensed speech professional
Learning disability	MD, DO, Nurse Practitioner, PhD Psychologist, college learning disability specialist, other appropriate professional
Acquired brain impairment	MD/DO neurologist, neuropsychologist
Psychological disability	Psychiatrist, PhD Psychologist, LMFT or LCSW
ADD/ADHD	Psychiatrist; PhD Psychologist, LMFT or LCSW
Other disabilities	MD/DO, Nurse Practitioner who practices or specializes within the field of the disability.

Documentation used to evaluate the need and reasonableness of potential accommodations may include a licensed professional's current medical diagnosis and date of diagnosis, evaluation of how the student's disability affects one or more of the major life activities and recommendations, psychological and/or emotion diagnostic tests, functional effects or limitations of the disability, and/or medications and recommendations to ameliorate the effects or limitations. The School may request additional documentation or testing as needed.

After the ADA/Section 504 Compliance Coordinator receives the Request Form and the required documentation, the ADA/Section 504 Compliance Coordinator (or trained designee) will engage the student or applicant in an interactive process to determine what accommodations may be appropriate. The process the School uses to determine when a requested accommodation constitutes a fundamental alteration of a program or activity is conducted on a case-by-case basis. Generally, if an accommodation reduces the academic standards of the School the School will deny the accommodation and deem it unreasonable. Students/applicants are provided reasoning for denial of a requested accommodation in writing.

If the student or applicant is denied any requested accommodation, the student may file a grievance using the Grievance Process below or the student may file a complaint with the U.S. Department of Education's Office for Civil Rights or a similar state entity. The School will make appropriate arrangements to ensure that a person with a disability is provided other accommodations, if needed, to participate in this grievance process. The ADA/Section 504 Compliance Coordinator will be responsible for such arrangements.

Grievance Policy Relating to Complaints of Disability Discrimination

The School has adopted an internal grievance procedure providing for prompt and equitable resolution of complaints alleging any action prohibited by Section 504 and/or the ADA. Any person who believes they has been subjected to discrimination on the basis of disability (including pregnancy as applicable) and/or disagreements regarding requested accommodations, may file a grievance with Joyce Meadows, Owner, 900 Flat Shoals RD SE Conyers, GA 30094, (770) 922-7653, jmeadows@gci.edu. Grievances must be in writing, contain the name and address of the person filing it, state the problem or action alleged to be discriminatory, and the remedy or relief sought.

The School will investigate each complaint filed, and will not retaliate against anyone who files a grievance or cooperates in the investigation of a grievance. All reasonable efforts will be made to provide a written determination to the student or applicant within 30 days after its filing. If a written determination cannot be made within 30 days of the complaint's filing, the student will be advised and provided an update as to the status of the investigation. The student may also inquire as to the status of the investigation at reasonable intervals. Based on the results of the investigation, the School will take all appropriate actions to prevent any recurrence of discrimination and/or to correct any discriminatory effects.

The availability and use of this grievance procedure does not prevent a person from filing a complaint of discrimination on the basis of disability with the U. S. Department of Education's Office for Civil Rights and/or a similar state agency.

FINANCIAL INFORMATION

COSTS OF ATTENDING

Tuition and fees are assessed on a program basis. Tuition is due and payable at the beginning of the program. Tuition and fees are subject to change.

Effective 11/1/2023												
Conyers Georgia							Murfreesboro Tennessee					
Program/Hours	Tuition	Books/Supplies	Fees	Included license/fees	Other	Total	Tuition	Books/Supplies	Fees	Included license/fees	Other	Total
Cosmetology 1500	\$18,700	\$2,100	\$100	\$109	\$0	\$21,009	\$18,700	\$2,100	\$100	\$140	\$0	\$21,040
Esthetics 750							\$11,700	\$1,282	\$100	\$140	\$0	\$13,222
Esthetics 1000	\$15,400	\$1,282	\$100	\$109	\$0	\$16,891						
Nail Technology 620	\$9,500	\$1,450	\$100	\$109	\$0	\$11,159	\$9,500	\$1,450	\$100	\$140	\$0	\$11,190
Massage Therapy 750	\$11,725	\$1,000	\$100	\$265	\$0	\$13,090	\$11,725	\$1,000	\$100	\$265	\$0	\$13,090
GA Cosmetology Instructor 750	\$3,791	\$0	\$100	\$109	\$0	\$4,000						
TN Cosmetology Instructor 300							\$2,760	\$0	\$100	\$140	\$0	\$3,000
GA Esthetics Instructor 750	\$3,800	\$100	\$100	\$0	\$0	\$4,000						
TN Esthetics Instructor 300							\$2,760	\$0	\$100	\$140	\$0	\$3,000
GA Nail Instructor 500	\$3,800	\$100	\$100	\$0	\$0	\$4,000						
TN Nail Instructor 300							\$2,760	\$0	\$100	\$140	\$0	\$3,000

Tuition includes all fees, textbooks, required supplies and equipment necessary for the successful attendance and participation in all programs.

In addition, The Institute encourages every student to prepare and pass their licensing examination immediately upon graduation or eligibility. All of the Institute's programs require a state or national examination in order to practice the student's field of endeavor. As listed above, the costs of study at The Institute also include the amount of money the graduate will be required to pay for their licensing examination. The Institute will help schedule the licensing examination for the student and requires that the student schedules that examination with the appropriate board or agency within 30 days of graduation.

ADDITIONAL CHARGES AND REQUIRED EXPENSES

If the student must attend longer than the contracted time frame allotted for the course of study that the student is enrolled to complete, he/she will be required to pay \$15.00 per clock hour needed to complete the course.

METHODS OF PAYMENT AND COLLECTIONS

Students may pay the full amount of tuition by cash (check or credit card), applying for financial aid or by special financial arrangements made with the Student Financial Services office.

The Student Financial Services Office is responsible for the assessment and collection of student tuition, student fees and other revenue. While we expect tuition payments to be on time each month, our goal is to provide friendly and professional service to students, faculty, staff and guests of the Institute. If a student is habitually delinquent in repayment of tuition, the Institute may seek the assistance of an outside professional collection agency, who will act according to law and maintain a standard of professional behavior mandated by the Institute. During a collection process any third party utilized by The Institute will follow approved cancellation and refund policies and procedures published in this catalog.

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS

The following student financial aid programs are designed to help qualified students obtain a career education at Georgia Career Institute: Apply through the Department of Education's website: www.studentaid.gov School Code: 030054

- Pell Grant Program: Through this program, eligible students receive non-repayable grants to be applied toward their educational expenses
- Stafford Loan Program: Through this program, eligible students may borrow funds at low interest rates from participating financial institutions. Stafford loans must be repaid
- Unsubsidized Stafford Loans: Unsubsidized Stafford Loans are primarily for middle income borrowers who do not qualify for Federal loans under the Stafford Loan program
- Parent Loans to Undergraduate Students Program: Eligible parents of dependent students may borrow funds at below market interest rates. PLUS loans must be repaid.

SCHOLARSHIPS

A limited number of scholarships are available through the American Association of Cosmetology Schools' ACE Grant program. The Ace Grant is sponsored by three major beauty industry associations: the American Association of Cosmetology Schools (AACS), the Cosmetology Advancement Foundation (CAF), and the Beauty and Barber Supply Institute (BBSI). The Institute contributes to and participates in this scholarship program, which is administered by AACS. For information and an application, please go to <https://www.beautyschools.org/students/grants-scholarships/ace-program/> or request additional information from the Admissions or Student Financial Services offices. The ACE Grant is to be submitted prior to enrollment at Georgia Career Institute. Students may also visit www.beautychangeslives.org for additional scholarship information.

The Institute will offer to new students:

All applicants applying for study at GCI who want to be considered for a scholarship must:

1. Be in good standing to graduate from high or successfully complete their general equivalency diploma prior to July 1 of the calendar year.

2. Write and submit a one-page essay, describing
 - a. Why the applicant wants to be a _____ (appropriate program field)
 - b. Why the applicant is deserving of this scholarship
3. Provide two letters of recommendation: One from a former high school educator or counselor plus another from a religious or community leader who knows the candidate describing why the applicant should be awarded this scholarship

The Institute will select winners for this scholarship on a first-come, first-served basis to applicants to meet the above criteria and who submit the required documents prior to enrollment. This in-house scholarship can be as much as \$1000 for programs of 1000 or more hours in length, and up to \$500 for programs that contain 750 hours or less.

Applicants that have been approved; the scholarship shall be applied to the total tuition cost at the time of final financial aid packaging. To receive the scholarship, the applicant must be a current year graduate and begin their enrollment prior to September 30 of the calendar year.

FINANCIAL AID POLICIES

Students requesting consideration for financial aid must complete all the necessary application forms and submit them according to instruction with accurate information.

Students must be enrolled on at least a half-time basis to be eligible to receive financial aid.

An essential condition of an applicant's eligibility for financial aid is that he/she is in need of the requested aid in order to pursue his/her course of study during the period for which the application is made. Need is defined as the difference between the student's educational costs - direct educational expenses and living expenses - and the amount the student and his family can be expected to pay towards meeting these educational expenses. The amount of a student's need is determined by the application for federal student aid. The analysis takes into consideration such items as family income, assets, family size, and number of family members in school, not solely by a particular income level.

The total amount of financial assistance offered to a student by the school will not exceed the amount by which his total budget for the award period exceeds all resources available to him/her.

In order to receive and be eligible for financial aid, the student must:

- Be a citizen or an eligible non-citizen, and must be enrolled in an eligible program of study
- Apply for a Pell grant before being considered for any of the other Title IV aid programs
- Be making satisfactory progress toward the completion of his/her course of study
- Certify that he/she does not owe a repayment on a Pell Grant, Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant, or State Student Incentive Grant that was received to attend any school
- Certify he/she is not in default on any loan received under the Perkins Loan Program (formerly National Direct Student Loan Program), the Stafford Loan Program (formerly Guaranteed Student Loan Program), or the Plus/SLS program
- Provide any documentation, verification, corrections and or new information requested by the Student Financial Services officer or the agency to which the application was submitted

Any financial aid commitment involving the use of federal funds is tentative and conditional upon subsequent congressional appropriation, actual receipt of the funds by the school, and completion of the necessary forms by the students.

The Student Financial Services office reserves the right to review and cancel or revise an award at any time because of changes in the student's financial or academic status. The aid from federal programs is not automatically continued from one year to the next. Students must reapply each year.

Aid received from financial aid programs must be used for educational purposes only. Before receiving any funds, each student must sign a statement to certify that the money will be used for educational purposes only and agree to repay any aid received not used for educational purposes.

If a student transfers from another school, his/her financial aid does not automatically transfer and he/she must check with the Student Financial Services officer to see what aid is available. Transfer students must submit a financial aid transcript from their prior school to verify the types and amounts of aid previously received.

Checks for student disbursements are made after enrollment and attendance has been verified.

Any school refund of tuition and fees due, according to the school refund policy as stated herein, to a student whose account was paid by financial aid sources, will be refunded first to the source of any student loan. Any remaining funds will be refunded to the other sources of aid.

Pursuant to Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, and other applicable statutes and regulations, the school may not, and does not, discriminate on the basis of sex, color, national or ethnic origin, age, religion, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity or handicap against participants in its educational programs or activities, or in the awarding of financial aid.

Covered Individuals who are entitled to educational assistance under chapter 31, Vocational Rehabilitation and Employment, or chapter 33, Post 9/11 GI Bill benefits are permitted to attend or participate in the course of education during the period beginning on the date on which the individual provides a certificate of eligibility for entitlement to educational assistance under chapter 31 or chapter 33 (a certificate of eligibility can also include a "Statement of Benefits" obtained from the Department of Veterans Affairs' website-ebenefits, or a VAF 28-1905 form for chapter 31 authorization purposes) and ending on the earlier of the following dates:

1. The date on which payment from VA is made to the Institution
2. 90 days after the date the Institution certified tuition and fees following the receipt of the certificate of eligibility.

The Institution will not impose any penalty, including the assessment of late fees, the denial of access to classes, libraries, or other institutional facilities, or the requirement that a covered individual borrow additional funds, on any covered individual because of the individual's inability to meet his or her financial obligations to the Institute due to the delayed disbursement funding from VA under chapter 31 or 33.

Individuals who willfully submit fraudulent information and/or documentation to obtain financial aid funds will be fully investigated to the furthest extent possible. All cases of fraud and abuse will be reported to the proper authorities.

SATISFACTORY PROGRESS

The regular maintenance of Satisfactory Progress is required by all Institute students, regardless of whether or not their education is partially or wholly supported by Federal Title IV funds. A student may

not receive Title IV funds for more than 1.5 times the standard program length. All students are expected to successfully complete all hours attempted with a grade average of at least 80% and 90% attendance. Attempted hours are those for which the student is enrolled from the first date of attendance. Please refer to the Satisfactory Progress section of this catalog for complete description and explanation of this policy and procedures.

REFUND POLICY

The Institute's refund policy applies to all students who terminate for any reason whether that termination is by the school or by the student. This policy is in compliance with the Institute's state and federal regulatory agencies.

If a student (or legal guardian for dependent minors) cancels his/her enrollment and requests his/her money back within three (3) business days of signing this agreement, all monies collected by the school shall be refunded, with the exception of a non-refundable application fee. The postmark will determine the cancellation date on written notification, or the date cancellation notice is delivered to the school manager in person. The policy applies regardless of the whether or not the student has actually started the training.

If for any reason a student is not accepted for enrollment, the Institute shall refund all monies paid by the student.

Cancellation prior to commencement of classes by the student: If a student cancels after three business days of signing the enrollment agreement but prior to entering classes, any monies collected (less the \$100 Application Fee), will be refunded. Refunds are made within 45 days after receipt of written notice that the student will not enter.

Withdrawal after commencement of classes by the student: In computing refunds, the student will be considered to have been in attendance from the actual date of entrance until the date of his/her last attendance. The following calculations will apply:

The Refund Policy for students attending non-public institution who incur a financial obligation for a period of twelve months or less shall be as follows:

- (i) After the first day of class and during the first 10% of the period of enrollment, the institution shall refund at least 90% of the tuition.
- (ii) After the first 10% of the period of enrollment and until the end of the first 25% of the period of enrollment, the institution shall refund at least 50% of the tuition.
- (iii) After the first 25% of the period of enrollment and until the end of the first 50% of the period of enrollment the institution shall refund at least 25% of the tuition.
- (iv) After the first 50% of the period of enrollment, the institution shall retain all of the tuition.

Enrollment time is defined as the time between the actual starting date and the scheduled enrollment period or date of formal written termination. Any monies due the applicant or student shall be refunded

within forty-five (45) days of formal cancellation by the student, or formal termination by the school, which shall occur no more than fifteen (15) days from the last day of physical attendance.

Kits, books and equipment issued to the student become the student's property and are not refundable.

The period of enrollment is determined by dividing the number of clock hours for which the student has been charged in a period into the number of clock hours completed by the student in that period as the last recorded day of attendance.

The institute also computes a calculation in accordance with the U.S. Department of Education's Return to Title IV refund policy.

When a student receives federal financial assistance from the U. S. Department of Education, a separate calculation to determine the amount of funds to be returned to the appropriate program is calculated using the U. S. Department of Education's policy and percentage completed within the student's payment period. These calculations are based on the number of hours the student was scheduled to complete within the payment period for the period of time when the student withdrew from school.

In the event that a student does not return from an approved Leave of Absence, The date of determination will be the earlier of the following: 1) the schedule date of return from the LOA or 2) the date the student notifies the school the Institute that he or she will not be returning.

Students who fail to attend school and fall out of minimum requirements for academic progress will be considered withdrawn from school after 14 days of non-communication and deemed an 'unofficial withdrawal.' This determination will be completed by a monitoring of the student's academic progress data and the student clock reports on a monthly basis.

If mitigating circumstances made it impossible for a student to follow withdrawal procedures, it is possible for that student to receive a refund greater than the percentage calculated at the sole discretion of the Institute.

If a course is canceled subsequent to a student's enrollment, the school shall, at its option, provide a full refund of all monies paid, or provide completion of the course. In addition, the Institute's accrediting body, COE will be notified of all students affected.

If the school should close permanently and ceases to offer instruction after students have enrolled and instruction has begun, the Institute will provide students with a pro-rata refund of tuition.

ORDER OF RETURN OF SFA PROGRAM FUNDS

Title IV funds credited to outstanding loan balances for the period of enrollment for which a return of funds is required must be returned in the following order: 1) Unsubsidized Stafford Loan, 2) Subsidized Stafford Loan, 3) Unsubsidized Direct Stafford loans (other than PLUS loans), 4) Subsidized Direct Stafford loans, 5) Federal Perkins Loan Program, 6) Federal PLUS loans, 7) Federal Direct PLUS loans.

If funds remain after repaying all loan amounts, those funds must be credited in the following order: Pell Grants for the period for which a return of funds is required, Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant (SEOG) for which a return of funds is required, and other assistance under this Title as required. Students will be notified of any refunds due to a lender on their behalf through the mailed exit interview material. Refunds to any of the Title IV or State programs will be paid within 45 days from the date of determination.

LOAN REPAYMENT

Students who receive assistance under the Stafford Loan Program (or other federally guaranteed student loans) are advised that the loan must be repaid even if the student fails to complete the program or becomes dissatisfied with the school.

LOAN COUNSELING

The Department of Education requires that any student receiving a Federal Family Educational Loan be notified concerning their loans. The school counsels each student regarding loan indebtedness and gives each student an entrance/exit test and mails an exit interview (when required) regarding the loan to make sure the student understands the amount borrowed and the student's rights and responsibilities regarding repayment.

The student must report to the Student Financial Services Office prior to withdrawal or graduation for loan counseling. The purpose of this session is to inform the student of their loans received while in at the institute, refunds that may be made, and to provide an estimated payment schedule. If the student is unable to meet with Student Financial Services Office, an exit interview will be mailed.

LEGAL MATTERS

ARBITRATION

At the written request of the Institute, and pursuant to a signed and initialed Pre-Dispute Arbitration Agreement and Waiver of Jury Trial, after the student has been served notice of that request, any controversy between the parties to this Agreement or its breach, with the exception of claims or lawsuits related to or concerning a borrower defense claim or based on an act or omission of the Institute that relates to the making of a Direct Loan for enrollment at the Institute, shall be submitted to arbitration under the terms of the Federal Arbitration Association. The costs of the arbitration filing fee, Arbitrator's compensation, and facilities fees that exceed the applicable court filing fee will be paid by GCI. The Judgment rendered in arbitration shall be final and binding on both parties and may be entered in any court having jurisdiction. The Institute follows the American Arbitration Association® guidelines and processes for Consumer Arbitration Rules as established here: https://www.adr.org/sites/default/files/Consumer_Rules_Web.pdf

Tennessee students shall not be required to submit to arbitration but may elect to use such procedure with respect to any such dispute or controversy, upon written notice to Georgia Career Institute advising of such election.

LEGAL AND COLLECTION FEES

In any legal action or arbitration between the parties arising out of this agreement, the Institute, if it prevails, shall be entitled to recover its reasonable attorney's fees in addition to any legal or equitable relief to which it may be entitled. Further, the Institute shall also be entitled to recover any attorney or collection agency fees and interest associated with the collection of delinquent account of the student.

LIQUIDATION DAMAGES

The parties agree that if the Institute is found to have breached, to the student's substantial detriment, a material provision of the Enrollment Agreement, then the Institute must pay a sum up to an amount equal to any non-refunded tuition payment to the student, or student's lender in the case of a loan, or appropriate government agency in the case of a grant, as liquidated damages.

Enrollment time is defined as the time elapsed between the actual starting date and the date of the student's last day of physical attendance in school. Any monies due the applicant or student will be refunded within forty-five (45) days of formal cancellation by the student or formal termination by the school which shall occur no more than forty-five (45) days from the last day of physical attendance, or in the case of a leave of absence, the scheduled date of return.

If a course is canceled subsequent to a student's enrollment, the school shall, at its option, provide a full refund of all monies paid, or provide completion of the course. In addition, the Institute's accrediting body, COE will be notified of all students affected.

STAFF DIRECTORY

STAFF CONTACT INFORMATION

Corporate Officers, Georgia Career Institute, Inc.

Joyce Meadows	President	BS Education
Michael B. Martin	Vice President	BA Business

Corporate Administration

Department	Staff Member	Email address	Education
Joyce Meadows	Operations	jmeadows@gci.edu	BS, Education
Michael B Martin	Marketing and Admissions	mmartin@gci.ed	BS, Business
Tammy Hupp	Chief Financial Officer	thupp@gci.edu	
Lauren Davis	Chief Operating Officer	ldavis@gci.edu	BS, Business MS, Higher Ed
Christian Avila	Director of Technology	cavila@gci.edu	BS, Technology
Lisa Wanner-Dempsey	Director of Financial Aid	lwanner@gci.edu	
Mallori Sigman	Registrar	msigman@gci.edu	

Administrative Staff and Departments

Department	Staff Member	Email address
Campus Director- Conyers	Lauren Davis	ldavis@gci.edu
Campus Director- Murfreesboro	Ellen Murray	emurray@gci.edu
Academic Director - Conyers	Renee Smalls	rsmalls@gci.edu
Esthetics Lead Instructor	Nikki Divito	ndivito@gci.edu
Student Financial Aid-Conyers	Mary Garcia	mgarcia@gci.edu
Graduate/Student Services-Conyers	Beth Dodds	Bdodds@gci.edu
Admissions Lead Representative – GA	Ronda Sackellares	rsackellares@gci.edu
Admissions Lead Representative – TN	Abigail Thacker	athacker@gci.edu

Murfreesboro Branch Campus

Name	Email	Department	Education
Lynda Pack	lpack@gci.edu	Cosmetology/Nails	Georgia Career Institute
Sheri Stephens	sstephens@gci.edu	Esthetics	Tennessee Career Institute
Stephanie Racine	sracine@gci.edu	Nail Technology	Georgia Career Institute
Dealyn Dowers	ddowers@gci.edu	Esthetics	Georgia Career Institute
Kayleigh Mack	kmack@gci.edu	Esthetics	Georgia Career Institute
Melissa Johnson	meljohnson@gci.edu	Cosmetology	Georgia Career Institute
Stacy Crabtree	scrabtree@gci.edu	Cosmetology	Georgia Career Institute

CLASS START DATE POLICY

Georgia Career Institute has an ongoing admissions program rather than a traditional semester or quarter start schedule. Some programs begin monthly, others quarterly and still others weekly, January through December. Next scheduled start dates are always available in the Admissions, Student Financial Services and Administrative offices.

CLASS SCHEDULES

Programs are available in day & evening schedules. Meeting day/ times are on the student's Enrollment Agreement. To inquire about a particular program, contact the Admissions Office at any campus.

SCHOOL HOLIDAYS

The Institute is closed for classes and clinics in observance of the following holidays:

**Indicates Holiday/Vacation for Faculty & Students only. Staff will report.*

Holiday Observance	Beginning on	Return to School Date
Martin Luther King Day	January 19, 2026	January 20, 2026
President's Day*	February 16, 2026	February 17, 2026
Easter Monday*	April 06, 2026	April 07, 2026
Memorial Day	May 25 th , 2026	May 26 th , 2026
Juneteenth	June 19 th , 2026	June 22 nd 2025
Summer Break*	June 29 th , 2026	July 6 th 2026
Independence Day	July 3, 2026	July 6, 2026
Labor Day	September 7 th , 2026	September 8 th , 2026
Thanksgiving Break	November 26, 2026	November 30 th , 2026
Winter Break	December 23 rd , 2026	January 4 th , 2027
Martin Luther King Day	January 18, 2027	January 19, 2027
President's Day*	February 15, 2027	February 16, 2027
Easter Monday*	March 29, 2027	March 30, 2027
Memorial Day	May 31, 2027	June 1, 2027
Juneteenth	(Saturday, June 19, 2027- no school closure)	June 21, 2027
Summer Break*	July 5, 2027	July 12, 2027
Independence Day	July 5, 2027	July 6, 2027
Labor Day	September 6, 2027	September 7, 2027
Thanksgiving Break	November 25, 2027	November 29, 2027
Winter Break*	December 22, 2027	January 3, 2028