



Support Access to Quality Care

GHA supports policies that increase access to quality care by improving the availability of healthcare services for all Georgians and expanding affordable healthcare coverage options. GHA advocates for funding to help expand access to maternity care and improve the health of mothers and babies.

Improve Access to Behavioral Health Resources

GHA supports ensuring safe, high-quality behavioral healthcare by working to increase available funding and reimbursement levels, to expand timely access to crisis-stabilization services, and to make it easier for patients to use their health insurance by removing roadblocks to care and decreasing inappropriate claim denials.



Increase Long-Term Viability of Rural Hospitals

GHA supports financial policies that recognize the unique challenges rural hospitals face. GHA is focused on the successful implementation of the Rural Health Transformation Program to support rural hospitals, and advocates to preserve and maximize the Rural Hospital Tax Credit program and its intent to maintain access to hospital care for Georgians.

Support Healthcare Workforce Growth

GHA supports policies and initiatives that help increase the number of qualified healthcare workers. GHA advocates for sufficient funding for graduate medical education programs and clinician recruitment and retention incentives. GHA opposes mandated staffing policies that impact a hospital's ability to provide quality, life-saving care.



Additional Priorities:



Certificate of Need

Preserve Georgia's 2024 updates to the Certificate of Need (CON) program to ensure continued access to comprehensive and affordable care for all patients, while safeguarding essential and vulnerable services that are crucial to the health and well-being of our communities.



Emergency Transportation

Prioritize funding and support for all areas of medical and trauma response, including emergency medical services and hospital emergency preparedness. GHA supports expanding transport options for patients in need of behavioral health crisis services and transfer services to appropriate care settings.



Financial Stability

Support state and federal funding initiatives that promote hospital financial stability, including preserving State Directed Payment Programs (DPPs) and ensuring sufficient state matching funds for Medicaid Disproportionate Share Hospital (DSH) payments.



Healthcare Liability Reform

Preserve Georgia's 2025 updates to healthcare liability laws that are bringing meaningful balance to the state's civil justice system and ease pressures on healthcare providers and hospitals. The recent modernization of Georgia's tort laws safeguards our healthcare workforce and preserves access to care for Georgians.



Insurer Accountability

Support policies that decrease inappropriate claim denials and make it easier for patients to use their health insurance. GHA opposes reductions in hospital reimbursements, including those resulting from site-neutral payment policies or any proposals that implement government rate-setting in the private healthcare market.



Licensure

Advocate for a more efficient licensure process that allows qualified providers to enter the workforce quickly, while supporting efforts to improve international physician licensure and expand the educational pathways for clinicians.



Not-for-Profit Tax Exemptions/Credits

Support efforts to maintain the tax-exempt status of not-for-profit hospitals, enabling them to provide vital community benefit programs that improve the health and well-being of local families. GHA supports extending preceptor tax credits to additional provider types and other tax programs that help sustain hospitals.



Pharmacy Services

Support underserved communities by working to ensure that the 340B drug pricing program functions as designed, providing hospitals and contract pharmacies access to discounted prescription medication. This allows hospitals to invest those savings back into local healthcare needs and services.



Scope of Practice

Support policies that allow licensed healthcare professionals to practice to the full extent of their training and experience, to ensure accessible and appropriate access to care in all areas of the state, especially medically underserved areas.