

The Georgia Institute of Technology supports the mental health needs of the campus by providing access to licensed psychologists at the Georgia Tech Counseling Center and board-certified psychiatrists at Stamps Medical Services.

The Counseling Center served 1,777 students (more than 1,400 of them new) during the 2016-2017 academic year, resulting in 13,195 counseling hours.

Georgia Tech currently has 13 licensed psychologists and therapists on staff at the Counseling Center, as well as three predoctoral interns, and two postdoctoral residents who all see clients, which provides a total of 18 professionals who all see clients. The Counseling Center is currently led by Mack Bowers, the interim director. Bowers has worked at the Center and Georgia Tech for 24 years. He has been a licensed psychologist in Georgia since 1995, and served as interim director of the Center from 2005-2006.

The Counseling Center expands its service offerings in cases of increased need, crises, or vacancies through a variety of means. The four current vacancies are filled with licensed psychologists and licensed professional counselors on a temporary basis until permanent hires can be made. Some have previous experience at Georgia Tech. The number of licensed therapists remains the same while we work to fill those vacancies with full-time staff.

Counselors staffed the Center from 2-5 a.m. over the weekend of September 16-17 to support students who had witnessed Saturday night's event. They also offered a special time for debriefing and support Sunday from 12 -2 p.m. at the Eighth Street Apartments for any student who wanted to stop by and speak with a counselor. The Center also modified its walk-in policy for students so that anyone (client or not) could drop in and would be seen right away without having to go through the usual check-in process.

Normal hours of operation were extended to 7 p.m., and psychologists staffed the September 18 memorial vigil. The Center has sent psychologists to support numerous requests from faculty and other campus departments. Counselors from other University System of Georgia institutions were also called in to enhance staffing levels.

Stamps Health Services is staffed by two full-time and four part-time psychiatrists, three case managers, and a practice coordinator.

Last year, the Georgia Tech Counseling Center and the Division of Student Life developed an initiative called [Tech Ends Suicide Together](#). Georgia Tech has held 23 training sessions since implementing the initiative.

This initiative is based on an international Zero Suicide campaign that has been enacted in community health care systems around the world and made prominent in the U.S. through the efforts of Henry Ford Health Care Systems. Zero Suicide aspires to create an extensive system of care to identify individuals at risk for suicide and to provide effective intervention and services to eliminate suicide.

Since November 2014, Georgia Tech has trained 1,251 people in QPR (Question, Persuade, and Refer), which teaches how to recognize a crisis and the warning signs that someone may be contemplating suicide. <http://endsuicide.gatech.edu>

PEER COUNSELING SERVICES SUMMARY					GEORGIA TECH (ATLANTA CAMPUS)
Counseling Services reports to:	SVP & Dean of Campus Life	VP for Student Affairs	VP for Student Affairs	VP for Student Affairs	VP for Student Life
Number of Counselors:	21	25	16	28	18
Full-time Counseling Staff	14	15	16	21	15
Student Clinicians	7			7	
By Credentials:					
Psychiatrists		2 (PT)		See note 2	6 (see note 2)
Psychologists (Ph.D. or Psyc D)	10	4 (FT) and 3 (PT)	9	11	10
Interns/Postdoctoral fellows		5 (FT)			5
LPC		7 (PT)	3	1	
LCSW	3	1 (FT with doctorate)	1	5	
LMSW/LMFT/Others	1	3 (PT)	3	4	3
Number of Students:					
Headcount	15,055	32,058	33,252	36,130	21,884
FTE	13,989	27,108	27,599	33,911	21,059
Ratio of students to counselors:	(Excludes Student Clinicians/Trainees)				
(numbers in red are over the suggested ratio of 1,000-1,500 students per 1 counselor:					
Headcount to FT Staff Headcount	1,075	2,137	2,078	1,720	1,459
FTE to FTE	999	1,807	1,725	1,615	1.404
Maximum number of sessions:					
Per Year	7	15	16		
Over student tenure at institution			No limit	12	16
Other Notes:	<p>(1) Staffing above does not include Psychiatry, which is located in Student Health Services, nor does it include seven contract therapists.</p> <p>(2) Emory has a group within Campus Life that is called "Student Health and Counseling Services," which includes Student Health Services, Counseling and Psychological Services, and Health Promotions.</p> <p>(3) Emory assesses a mental health and counseling fee of \$78 per semester.</p>	<p>(1) GSU uses a hybrid staffing model that consists of 5 FTE who are full-time and each have administrative roles in addition to clinical. The rest of the staff is contracted and provides only clinical hours to serve students. They implemented this model in 2012 in order to increase the number of counseling hours available to students without a budget increase. Since then, GSU has increased the number of students who are accessing services by almost 300 percent.</p>		<p>(1) CAPS provides short-term counseling, up to 12 sessions and for individuals who need more, they are referred to other providers on- and off-campus.</p> <p>(2) There are two psychiatrists and two psychiatric nurse practitioners also on staff but are not considered "counseling staff" so are not included in the staff listing above or ratio calculation.</p>	<p>(1) 8 senior staff, 2 postdoctoral fellows, 3 interns who are all full time. Four vacant positions for counseling staff. Two vacancies for director and associate director. Currently using 5 part-time staff who are licensed but temporarily filling in during the searches for the 4 vacant positions.</p> <p>(2) Psychiatric services are available through Stamps Health Services.</p>
<p>Consistent with the Association for University and College Counseling Center Directors' (AUCCCD) guidelines, the number of psychiatrists is not factored into the ratio calculation since they operate separately from the Counseling Center at Georgia Tech. Counting them would lower the ratio.</p>					