

## CAREER OUTLOOK

Medical illustration is a very small and competitive field. Employment opportunities for illustrators are expected to grow about as fast as all other professions. There is a projected growth of between 10% and 25% in this job market through the year 2010. Medical illustrators will continue to be utilized in the educational field. As technology changes the way we educate our students, illustrators will be needed to produce state-of-the-art computer models of biological processes in order to help teachers stay on the cutting edge. Anyone who enjoys science and is an exceptional artist should consider a career as a medical illustrator.

## PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

Association of Medical Illustrators  
5475 Mark Dabling Blvd., Suite 108  
Colorado Springs, Colorado 80918  
Phone: (719) 598-8622  
Fax: (719) 599-3075  
Web: [www.medical-illustrators.org](http://www.medical-illustrators.org)

Guild of Natural Science Illustrators  
Post Office Box 652  
Ben Franklin Station  
Washington, DC 20044-0652  
Phone/Fax: (301) 309-1514  
Web: [www.gnsi.org](http://www.gnsi.org)

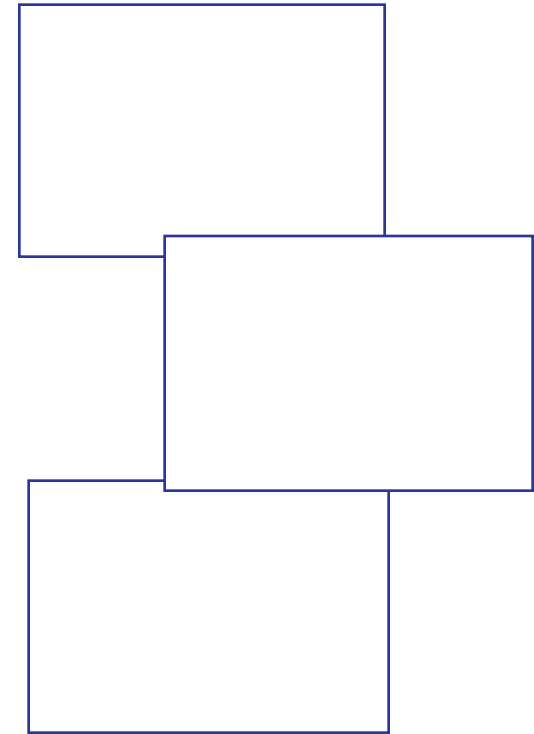


## MHA HEALTH CAREERS CENTER

6425 LAKEOVER ROAD (39213)  
P.O. Box 16444  
JACKSON, MS 39236-6444  
PHONE (601) 982-3251  
FAX (601) 368-3200

[WWW.MSHEALTHCAREERS.COM](http://WWW.MSHEALTHCAREERS.COM)

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*Promoting Health  
Careers in Mississippi*

*A division of Mississippi Hospital Association*

**MEDICAL ILLUSTRATOR**

## POSITION RESPONSIBILITIES

Medical illustrators are those rare individuals who have both a demonstrated artistic ability and a detailed knowledge of human and animal anatomy, as well as knowledge of surgical and medical procedures. They create graphic representations of medical or biological subjects for use in textbooks, pamphlets, exhibits, instructional films, civil/criminal legal procedures, and teaching models. Medical illustrators are increasingly turning toward technology to help them perform their duties. They use the most up-to-date computers and graphic design software to describe and illustrate a variety of complicated medical concepts and processes. Medical illustrators can even specialize in certain anatomical areas such as the brain or heart. A major function of the medical illustrator is assist in education and research. They are often called upon to draw illustrations or produce three-dimensional models in order to assist teachers and other medical professionals with difficult biological concepts. An individual interested in this line of work should be detail oriented and also be creative enough to communicate their ideas visually.

## WORK ENVIRONMENT

Medical illustrators may be employed in medical schools, hospitals, research organizations, publishing companies, advertising agencies, pharmaceutical manufacturers, or large medical centers with teaching and research programs. Many medical illustrators are free-lance artists that contract out for their services.

## HIGH SCHOOL PREPARATION

Students interested in a career as a medical illustrator should take high school courses in art, biology, chemistry, algebra, drawing and design, English, history, graphic arts, printing, health occupations/medical professions education, photography, and computer illustration.

## COLLEGE REQUIREMENTS

In order to become a medical illustrator, a student must have specialized training in art and the biological sciences. A bachelor's degree combining art and premedical coursed is usually preferred, followed by a master's degree in medical illustration. There are only five accredited master's degree programs in the entire country, and they only accept a limited number of students. Therefore, an excellent academic record as well as an outstanding portfolio of your artwork is necessary.

Students interested in medical illustration should contact schools for information on admission and course of study.

## EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS

There are currently no medical illustration programs available in Mississippi.

University of Illinois at Chicago  
1919 W. Taylor Street  
Chicago, Illinois 60612-7249  
Phone: (312) 996-8344

The Johns Hopkins School of Medicine  
1830 E. Monument Street, Suite 7000  
Baltimore, Maryland 21205  
Phone: (410) 955-3213

Graduate Program in Medical Illustration  
The Medical College of Georgia  
Augusta, Georgia 30912-0300  
Phone: (706) 721-3266

The University of Michigan  
2000 Bonisteel Blvd  
Ann Arbor, MI 48109-2069  
Phone: (734) 647-3504

The University of Texas Southwestern  
Medical Center at Dallas  
5323 Harry Hines Boulevard  
Dallas, Texas 75235-8881  
Phone: (214) 648-4699

## SALARY RANGE

Salaries vary greatly depending on education and type of employment.  
Average Annual Salary--\$34,100  
Salary Range--\$25,400-\$56,700