

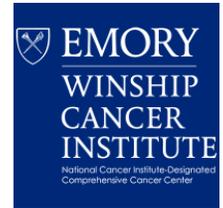
# Director of Quality Patient Safety and Accreditation, Winship Cancer Institute

CONFIDENTIAL

## POSITION DESCRIPTION & OPPORTUNITY OVERVIEW

**HIGHLY CONFIDENTIAL** - The information in this position description is highly confidential. Please consider that this email contains confidential and/or privileged information. Any unauthorized copying, disclosure or distribution of the material in this email is strictly prohibited. Candidate shall not disclose to any person any confidential information concerning this position. If you are not the intended recipient (or have received this document in error) please notify the sender immediately and destroy this document.

**CLIENT:** Emory Healthcare, Winship Cancer Institute  
**ROLE:** Director of Quality Patient Safety and Accreditation, Winship Cancer Institute  
**LOCATION:** Atlanta, GA  
**REPORTS TO:** Vice President, Cancer Services  
**WEBSITE:** <https://winshipcancer.emory.edu/about-us/index.html>  
<http://www.georgiaproton.com/>



18-4657

## SITUATION OVERVIEW

ZRG has been retained by Emory Healthcare's Winship Cancer Institute to recruit for a **Director of Quality Patient Safety and Accreditation, Winship Cancer Institute**. Emory Healthcare is an integrated academic healthcare system committed to providing the best care for their patients, educating health professionals and leaders for the future, pursuing discovery research in all of its forms, including basic, clinical, and population-based research, and serving their community. As the clinical enterprise of the Robert W. Woodruff Health Sciences Center (WHSC) of Emory University (EU), EHC is dedicated to the unifying core purpose, core values, and strategic direction of the WHSC.

## ABOUT THE WINSHIP CANCER INSTITUTE

### The Winship Cancer Institute

Using a multidisciplinary team approach, the leadership at Winship Cancer Institute is committed to providing comprehensive programs to treat the whole patient. Patients know Winship by the excellent care they receive. The fuel that drives this outstanding care is the exhaustive research by top clinicians and researchers from around the world who join forces within Winship. Their discoveries in cancer cell biology, genetics, drugs, radiation, surgery, and other therapies are producing the best treatments available today and laying the groundwork for treatments of the future. In its first year of operation, Winship treated 168 patients. Today, Winship sees more than 14,000 patients a year.

Winship Cancer Institute is part of Emory's Woodruff Health Sciences Center, Emory Healthcare and Emory University. National Cancer Institute – designated comprehensive cancer center serves as the coordinating center for cancer research and care throughout Emory University and Emory Healthcare. Part of an elite group of 49 centers nationwide, Winship at Emory provides a vast array of resources in medical oncology, surgical oncology, radiation oncology, diagnostic imaging and the subspecialties of cancer care throughout Emory University and Emory Healthcare.

### Mission

The mission of the Winship Cancer Institute is to reduce the burden of cancer by aligning research with outstanding patient care. Winship is a national leader in seeking out new ways to defeat cancer and in translating that knowledge into patient care.

### Core Values

*Courage:* Their patients' exceptional examples of courage inspire their research, their care and their growth as a world-class cancer center.

*Compassion:* Compassion compels them to do everything humanly possible to reduce the burden that cancer places on their patients.

*Collaboration:* Winship's culture of collaboration is built upon trust, communication, and belief in success achieved by working together. They collaborate across disciplines, departments and with external partners in order to achieve a common goal.



*Discovery:* Winship's enterprising approach to research leads to transformative discoveries. Their faculty, staff, patients, and friends form a strong and vital community committed to pushing the boundaries of imagination and science.

*Hope:* They work with their patients and their loved ones to establish trust and to communicate a realistic and individualized approach to treatment. In building trust, they gain hope.

*Innovation:* They value innovation through creativity, discipline, unwavering commitment, and responsibility to their patients. Innovation is realized through the intersection of technology and vision, communication, risk, and belief in the value of their work.

*Integrity:* They are steadfast in their commitment to Winship patients and their loved ones, to each other, and to their community. They will steward their resources wisely to fulfill their mission.

*Vision:* To be recognized as a leading academic health system, differentiated by discovery, innovation Cancer care at and compassionate, patient- and family-centered care.

## Recognition

- ▶ Emory University Hospital through Winship is ranked among the 50 best in cancer care the country and #1 in Georgia;
- ▶ Part of an elite group of 49 NCI designated comprehensive cancer centers nationwide, Winship at Emory provides a cast array of resources in medical oncology, surgical oncology, radiation oncology, diagnostic imaging and the subspecialties of cancer care throughout Emory University and Emory Healthcare;
- ▶ Winship physicians see over 17,000 patients annually across the Emory Hospitals, Emory Clinic and affiliated partners;
- ▶ Winship has over 350 members comprised of faculty from Emory School of Medicine, Rollins School of Public Health, Nell Hodgson School of Nursing and Emory College. In addition, collaborations exist with Georgia Institute of Technology, the American Cancer Society and the Centers for Disease Control;
- ▶ Nurses at Emory University Hospital and Emory Saint Joseph's Hospital were honored with the prestigious Magnet award for excellence in patient care (2015).



## Research Programs

Winship of Emory University offers four full research programs including Cancer Cell Biology, Cancer Prevention and Control, Cancer Genetics and Epigenetics, and Discovery and Developmental Therapeutics.

Cancer Cell Biology (CCB) program is to understand the cancer signalosome and how it directs the abnormal cell biology that leads to cancer formation.

Cancer Prevention and Control (CPC) program is to reduce cancer risk, incidence, morbidity, and mortality, and to improve the quality of life of cancer patients and survivors in Georgia and beyond. The four primary scientific themes to this program are:

- ▶ Cancer Epidemiology, Biomarkers, and Chemoprevention
- ▶ Health Behavior Research
- ▶ Symptom Management and Control
- ▶ Health Outcomes and Quality of Care
- ▶ Cancer Genetics and Epigenetics (CGE) long-term goal is to interface with other components of the Winship Cancer Institute and its membership to define the genetic and epigenetic determinants of therapeutic response and clinical outcome, and to identify novel targets for therapeutic intervention.

Discovery and Developmental Therapeutics (DDT) work collaboratively on the next generation of anti-cancer innovations and help move these advances from the lab to the clinic. The four central themes include:

- ▶ Drug Discovery
- ▶ Imaging
- ▶ Immunotherapy
- ▶ Developmental Therapeutics: focuses



## Clinical Trials at Winship

As Georgia's first and only National Cancer Institute - designated comprehensive cancer center, Winship's participation in national and international clinical trials ensures that their patients have access to the latest advances in cancer treatments. With over 250 active Phase I, Phase II, and Phase III clinical trials, Winship researchers are dedicated to taking new cancer treatments from bench to bedside. In the last seven years, Winship teams have led, or participated in clinical trials resulting in over 75% of new FDA-approved cancer treatments.

---

## ABOUT EMORY HEALTHCARE

Emory Healthcare is the largest, most comprehensive health care system in Georgia with seven hospitals and more than 1,800 hospital beds. Emory Healthcare is the only health system in Georgia with three Magnet-designated hospitals, Emory University Orthopedics & Spine Hospital, Emory Saint Joseph's Hospital and Emory University Hospital, for nursing excellence. It is the only health network in the state that brings together a full range of hospitals, clinics and local practices, Emory Healthcare is committed to providing patients and families with better, more collaborative care for all of their medical needs. Through their integrated, collaborative care network, they provide the standard of care that their patients expect and deserve.



The Emory Healthcare Network is their network of physicians, clinics and hospitals through which they provide access to coordinated patient- and family-centered care. By collaborating around a common set of quality measures and goals, their health care provider network creates a level of accountability that ensures their patients receive the standard of care they deserve.

The Emory Healthcare Network joins together employed and private practice physicians, in collaboration with Emory Healthcare, into a single comprehensive care management system, utilizing a common set of goals and measures, focusing on increasing value by improving health care quality including outcomes and better managing the total cost of care. Emory Healthcare is comprised of seven hospitals, 200 provider locations and 1,800 physicians in more than 70 specialties, including 220 primary care physicians.

The Emory Proton Therapy Center, currently under construction and set to open in late 2018, will be the first center of its kind in Georgia to offer patients access to new, state-of-the-art radiation therapy.

The 108,000 square foot facility is located in midtown Atlanta. Once opened, it will be staffed by physicians and other highly skilled proton therapy professionals from Winship Cancer Institute and Emory Healthcare.

The Emory Proton Therapy Center will be capable of providing proton beam treatments to patients in five treatment rooms and will be an international leader in proton therapy research as well. There will be a full portfolio of Winship Cancer Institute clinical trials available to patients at this new center.

## Core Purpose

To Serve Humanity by Improving Health through integration of education, discovery and health care.

**Core Values: Excellence, Caring, Integrity**

**Excellence:** They are committed to continuous improvement in all they do and strive to be a leader for other to emulate. They take pride in what they do as individuals and as part of a team.

**Caring**

They demonstrated concern and compassion for their patients and their families, treating each person with dignity as they attend to the needs of the mind, body and spirit.

**Integrity**

They practice the highest ethical standards and honor their commitments. They take personal responsibility and ownership for their actions and demonstrated respect for their patients and the families, staff, and providers. They will steward their resources wisely to fulfil their mission.

**Vision**

To be recognized as a leading academic health system, differentiated by discovery, innovation and compassionate, patient- and family-centered care.

**Emory Clinic**

The primary port of access to adult patient health care in Emory Healthcare and the largest, most comprehensive group practice in Georgia, the Emory Clinic is a physician practice of more than 1,280 specialists, sub-specialists and primary care physicians who care for patients at one of many clinics, hospitals and affiliates throughout the Atlanta area. The Emory Clinic recently celebrated 50 years of service to the community and, through those years, their physicians and surgeons have been responsible for some of the most significant innovations and treatments in health care.

Emory Clinics multi-specialty and primary care services are available at over 10 locations throughout the Atlanta region to include:

- ▶ The Emory Heart & Vascular Center is committed to providing superior cardiac and vascular patient care, promoting overall heart health, pioneering innovative clinical cardiovascular research, and training the best heart specialists and cardiologists in the world;
- ▶ Emory Transplant Center is ranked among the best facilities in the Southeast for organ transplant. With its academic and clinical research taking place, no Georgia transplant facility offers better access to cutting edge transplant technology and development of new transplant therapies to prevent organ failure;
- ▶ The Emory Heart Transplant Center is ranked among the nation's leader in top heart transplant hospitals;
- ▶ The Emory Islet Transplant Center is one of just a handful of institutions around the world performing islet transplants as a type 1 diabetes treatment;
- ▶ The Emory Kidney/Pancreas Transplant Center provides evaluation, treatment and follow-up care for patients at end stage of renal disease, offering preferable alternatives to dialysis. The kidney transplant center is ranked among the most prestigious transplant programs in the country;
- ▶ The Emory Liver Transplant Center provides sophisticated life-saving surgical procedures involved in liver transplantation;
- ▶ McKelvey Lung Transplant Center is dedicated to the researching and treatment for lung transplant patients. It is the only lung transplant program or lung transplant hospital in the state of Georgia and has one of the highest survival rates in the nation;
- ▶ Emory Neurology Center is ranked 9th in research in the country in funding from the National Institutes of Health, and 12th for Neurology Departments by the US News and World Report. Emory Neurology Center's mission is aimed to find more effective neurological treatment options;
- ▶ Emory Aesthetic Center offers a full range of surgical and non-surgical cosmetic treatment options for all areas of the face and body.

## Awards and Recognition

- ▶ Out of 101 academic medical centers ranked by the University Health System Consortium (UHC), joint facilities Emory University Hospital and Emory University Orthopedics & Spine Hospital was named 2nd and Emory University Hospital Midtown ranked 3rd (up from 6th in 2012). In 2015, The Emory Clinic was 5th in the inaugural UHS Ambulatory rankings;
- ▶ Three Emory Hospitals – Emory University Hospital, Emory University Hospital Midtown and Emory University Orthopedics & Spine Hospital - have been named by U.S. News & World Report among a select list of only 118 institutions nationwide for being leaders in the development and use of electronic medical records technology. Two of their hospitals are Magnet designated and their Ambulatory care areas are on the Magnet Journey as well;
- ▶ U.S. News & World Report has ranked Emory University Hospital (EUH) the number one hospital in both Georgia and metro Atlanta;
- ▶ Nearly half of the physicians recognized in this year's "Top Doctors" issue of Atlanta magazine are Emory Healthcare doctors;
- ▶ In the debut edition of Metro Atlanta's Top 100 Workplaces, the Atlanta Journal Constitution (AJC) named Emory Healthcare as one of the top 20 large companies to work for in Atlanta;
- ▶ Emory University Hospital ranked first and Emory University Hospital Midtown ranked fourth among all Atlanta metropolitan hospitals in U.S. News & World Report's first Best Hospitals metro area rankings;
- ▶ Emory Healthcare Honored for Patient Safety Initiatives (2011);
- ▶ Emory's plan to treat patients who have diseases like Ebola began 12 years ago;
- ▶ The Atlanta-based Centers for Disease Control and Prevention started working with the hospital to create a special isolation unit. Today, Emory Healthcare has launched an external website that will serve as a resource for health care organizations regarding best practices for safe and effective screening, diagnosis and treatment for patients with Ebola virus disease.

Emory University, recognized internationally for its outstanding liberal arts colleges, graduate and professional schools, and one of the Southeast's leading health care systems, is located on a beautiful, leafy campus in Atlanta, Georgia's historic Druid Hills suburb. Emory maintains an uncommon balance for an institution of its standing: their scholars and experts generate more than \$521 million in research funding annually, while also maintaining a traditional emphasis on teaching. The university is enriched by the legacy and energy of Atlanta, and by collaboration among its schools, centers and partners.



Named for the legendary leader of the Coca-Cola Company, the Robert W. Woodruff Health Sciences Center of Emory University was founded in 1966. Its mission is to serve humanity by improving integration of education, discovery, and health care. The center's components include Emory University School of Medicine, Nell Hodgson Woodruff School of Nursing, Rollins School of Public Health, Yerkes National Primate Research Center, Winship Cancer Institute, and Emory Healthcare, the largest, most comprehensive health system in Georgia.

The Woodruff Health Sciences Center has \$3.5 billion in operating expenditures, 23,121 employees (including 2,810 faculty), 1,371 affiliated faculty, 5,200 students and trainees, and a \$6.8 billion economic impact on metro Atlanta.

---

## POSITION

The **Director of Quality Patient Safety and Accreditation** will directly oversee the direction of the Winship Cancer Institute (Winship) quality, safety and accreditation programs. Demonstrates effective communication with internal and external customers to facilitate Winship performance improvement goals. Develops and manages the implementation, monitoring and evaluation of the comprehensive quality assessment and improvement programs in the inpatient and outpatient settings for Winship. This position reports directly to the Vice President of Cancer Services with a dual reporting line to the Winship Chief Quality Officer and functions as a senior leader within Winship in collaboration with the Vice President of Cancer Nursing, and program, hospital and clinic leadership. This position is responsible for the functions of the Cancer Registry, Commission on Cancer (CoC) Accreditation, Bone Marrow Transplant FACT Accreditation, NAPBC, and other regulatory requirements including but not limited to Joint Commission for Cancer services. Maintains responsive and effective relationships with Chief Quality Officer, Institute & program leadership. Communicates effectively with staff, supporting departments, and external agencies.

---

## POSITION DESCRIPTION

- ▶ Directly responsible for building and implementing a robust cancer quality, patient safety and accreditation;
- ▶ Responsible for cancer tumor registry (25.0 FTE's);
- ▶ Works with clinical teams and mines data repositories (SAFE, Cancer Tumor Registry, etc.) for themes to identify process improvement initiatives and manages process improvement cycles;
- ▶ Facilitates process improvement teams and initiatives; documenting progress and monitoring the status;
- ▶ Manages accreditation teams and process for cancer specific accreditations and processes including CoC, C4QI, etc.;
- ▶ Directly responsible for leading the cancer quality initiative; providing direction and soliciting feedback on quality initiatives;
- ▶ Continuously evaluates all tumor cite programs and develops quality initiatives based on need;
- ▶ Represents Winship in national quality forums such as C4QI, UHC, etc.;
- ▶ Maintains proficiency in navigating electronic medical records, databases and data-collection methodologies.

---

## QUALIFICATIONS

- ▶ Master's level degree in health-related field (e.g., Health Administration, Nursing, Public Health), MBA/MHA, or Bachelor's degree with 3-5+ years related quality assessment and performance experience;
- ▶ 5+ years' experience in hospital-based quality program with focus on quality assessment/performance improvement and regulatory requirements with a specific focus on cancer;
- ▶ Development and leadership of quality assessment and performance improvement programs in a large and complex acute healthcare environment, preferably with a comprehensive cancer center;
- ▶ Experience with both CMS and TJC in-patient and/or ambulatory practice standards and operations;
- ▶ Ability to work independently using excellent judgment and handle sensitive information in an appropriate manner. Excellent coaching and mentoring skills required;
- ▶ Must be able to work with diverse groups of people and with all levels of faculty and staff within the organization;
- ▶ 5+ years in cancer quality improvement;

## REPORTS TO



**Melissa S. Childress, MBA** is the Vice President of Cancer Services at Winship Cancer Institute of Emory University. Ms. Childress is responsible for helping to drive coordinated cancer services along with hospital and clinic leadership across multiple hospitals within Emory Healthcare with the goal to have a Winship clinical care model that is consistent and seamless, as well as patient and family-focused, and research driven for all types of cancer across all locations.

Ms. Childress has served as associate executive director for business development at the Ohio State University Comprehensive Cancer Center and James Cancer Hospital in Columbus, Ohio. During her tenure at Ohio State, she played a key role in launching the James Cancer Network and creating the global medicine office that facilitated patients from more than two-dozen foreign countries. She was also responsible for overseeing faculty recruitment activities for the cancer program.



**Charles A. Staley, MD**, is the Chief Quality Officer and Chief of the Surgical Oncology Division at Winship Cancer Institute of Emory University. He is the Holland M. Ware Professor in the Division of Surgical Oncology, Department of Surgery at the Emory University School of Medicine, and Program Director for the Hyperthermic Intraperitoneal Chemotherapy (HIPEC) Program for patients with peritoneal cancers from gastric, colorectal, mesothelioma, and pseudomyxoma peritonei cancers. Dr. Staley specializes in the surgical treatment of stomach, esophageal, appendiceal, colorectal, pancreas, liver cancer, and peritoneal surface malignancies. In his role as Chief Quality Officer Dr. Staley works collaboratively with

Winship leadership on tracking and improving patient services and satisfaction as well as focusing on cancer outcomes at Winship. His main research focus is in translational research and novel clinical trials in gastrointestinal cancers and other peritoneal malignancies.

Dr. Staley has extensive experience with surgical management of GI oncology patients and is an expert in the combination of surgery with intraperitoneal chemotherapy. He has twenty-five years of experience coordinating national efforts for clinical cancer research through his efforts in the Eastern Cooperative Oncology Group (ECOG) as one of its principle investigators for clinical trials and was Co-Chair of ECOG's Surgical Committee from 2002-2016. In 2017 with the support of the ECOG-ACRIN leadership, Dr Staley was appointed Chair of the Surgery Committee. Under his leadership, the committee has tripled in membership, begun a mentorship program for young investigators, and has again become productive in clinical trials development. Dr Staley also leads a national working group concentrating on clinical trials for carcinomatosis treated with Hyperthermic Intraperitoneal Chemotherapy. This working group just started 3 months ago and includes members from ECOG-ACRIN, SWOG, NRG, and Alliance.

## SENIOR MANAGEMENT



**Walter J. Curran, Jr, MD, FACP**, is Executive Director of the Winship Cancer Institute of Emory University and Professor and Chairman of Emory's Department of Radiation Oncology. He is a board-certified radiation oncologist and specializes in the care of patients with lung cancer or brain and spine tumors. Winship Cancer Institute of Emory University is Georgia's only National Cancer Institute (NCI)-designated comprehensive cancer center and has over 250 active clinical trials. Before joining Emory, he was professor and chairman of radiation oncology at Thomas Jefferson University (Jefferson) in Philadelphia and clinical director of Jefferson's Kimmel Cancer Center.

Dr. Curran graduated cum laude from Dartmouth College, and received his MD degree from the Medical College of Georgia. He completed his residency in the Department of Radiation Therapy at the University of Pennsylvania Medical Center and his internship in internal medicine at Presbyterian University of Pennsylvania Medical Center in Philadelphia.

Dr. Curran is considered an international expert in the management of patients with locally advanced lung cancer and malignant brain tumors. He has led several landmark clinical and translational trials in both areas and is responsible for defining a universally adopted staging system for patients with malignant glioma. He currently serves as a group chairman and a principal investigator of NRG Oncology, the largest of the 5 NCI-funded clinical trials network groups.

Dr. Curran is the first radiation oncologist to serve as director of an NCI-designated comprehensive cancer center. He is a member of the board of directors of the American Society of Clinical Oncology, is a fellow and gold medal recipient in the American College of Radiology and has been awarded honorary memberships in the European Society of Therapeutic Radiology and Oncology and the Canadian Association of Radiation Oncology. He has received numerous honors and is listed in Atlanta Magazine's "Top Doctors for Radiation Oncology."

---

## COMPENSATION

The role will provide a solid compensation offering that will match the success and the skills of the candidate. The basic framework will include a competitive base salary and annual bonus. The company pays for top performance and the right leader can truly achieve impressive financial results from this job. Our Client will provide a solid overall benefit offering.

---

## LOCATION

Atlanta is an outstanding place to live and work. Located in the geographic center of the Southeast, the area is the nation's 9th largest metropolitan area and home to the world's most traveled airport. The city of Atlanta is home to more than 425,000 people and over 5.2 million reside in the Atlanta metro area. Atlanta is a regional, national and global center for business operations of all kinds - from headquarters to life sciences, from distribution centers to traditional manufacturing.



Atlanta is a city that offers thousands of cultural, recreation and nightlife opportunities every weekend. The local art scene thrives on the diversity of the population, and you are bound to find gallery, theatre or festival openings occurring daily. Atlantians also take advantage of the weather by enjoying outdoor activities like biking, running, golfing and hiking in the Appalachians year-round. Atlanta's nightlife offers some of the top names in rock, soul, R&B and even country music started out playing in Atlanta's clubs.

There are many districts within Atlanta. Buckhead is an affluent uptown district of Atlanta, Fulton County, Georgia, comprising approximately the northern fifth of the city. Buckhead is a major commercial and financial center of the Southeast, and it is the third-largest business district in Atlanta, behind Downtown and Midtown. The district's highrise office buildings, hotels, and condominiums form a highly urbanized core along Peachtree Road. Surrounding this dense core are Buckhead's residential neighborhoods, which feature large single-family homes situated among dense forests and rolling hills.

Midtown is the second largest business district in the city of Atlanta, situated between the commercial and financial districts of Downtown to the south and Buckhead to the north. In 2011, Greater Midtown has a 2011 resident population of 41,681, a workplace population of 81,418, and a student population of 26,500. The district attracts about six million visitors annually. Midtown is marked by its cultural attractions, institutions of higher education, noteworthy architecture, and urban layout. The district is the center of the city's arts scene that includes the Ferst Center for the Arts, Fox Theatre, Woodruff Arts Center, the High Museum of Art, the Museum of Design Atlanta, the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra, the Center for Puppetry Arts, and the 14th Street Playhouse. Midtown is also home to three well known institutions of higher education: Georgia Institute of Technology, John Marshall Law School, and the Atlanta division of the Savannah College of Art and Design (SCAD). Midtown contains about one-third of the city's high-rises and some of Atlanta's most iconic buildings, such as the Bank of America Plaza, AT&T Midtown Center, One Coca-Cola Plaza, Atlantic Center, and 1180 Peachtree. Midtown has also been a primary area for high-density development in the city in the first decade of the 2000s due to the district's mass transit options and urban street grid.

Historic Brookhaven is the historic residential neighborhood from which the area derives its name. It has homes surrounding the Capital City Country Club, many designed by a number of well-known Atlanta architects of the pre-war period. The neighborhood boundaries are well defined, and it stretches from Peachtree Dunwoody Road on the west, Windsor Parkway to the north, Mabry Drive to the east, and Peachtree Road to the south. A majority of the neighborhood technically lies within the extreme northeastern section of the city of Atlanta.

Druid Hills is a community which includes both a census-designated place (CDP) in unincorporated DeKalb County, Georgia, United States, as well as a neighborhood of the city of Atlanta. The CDP's population was 14,568 at the 2010 census. The CDP contains the main campus of Emory University and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). The Atlanta-city section of Druid Hills is one of Atlanta's most affluent neighborhoods with a mean household income in excess of \$238,500 (making it the ninth most affluent, per that metric).

Decatur is a city in, and the county seat of, DeKalb County, Georgia, United States and is part of the Atlanta metropolitan area. With a population of 20,148 in the 2013 census the municipality is sometimes assumed to be larger since multiple zip codes in unincorporated DeKalb County bear the Decatur name. The city is served by three MARTA rail stations. The city is located approximately 5 miles northeast of downtown Atlanta and shares its western border with Atlanta.

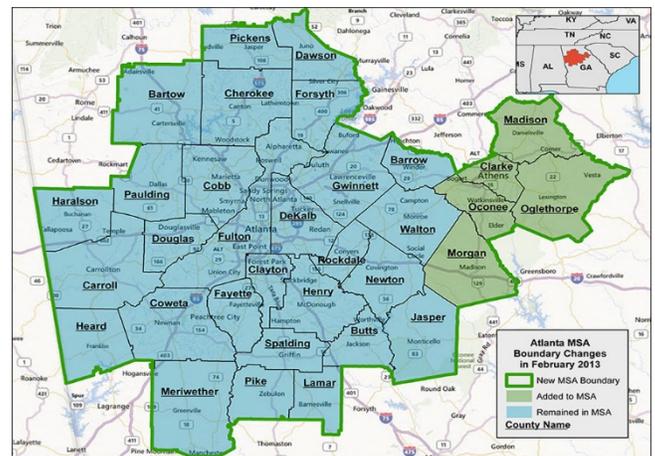
Formed in 1971 as strictly a bus system, MARTA operates a network of bus routes linked to a rapid transit system consisting of 48 miles of rail track with 38 train stations. It is the eighth-largest rapid transit system in the United States by ridership.

Atlanta attracts more newcomers to the area more than any other metro area in the nation. In fact, two-thirds of metro Atlanta's annual population increase is due to in-migration. The attraction to the area is both the promise of easy access to numerous renowned colleges and universities and the draw of stimulating employment opportunities. With a wide variety of affordable housing options and neighborhoods to choose from, matching your needs with your wants is possible. Other Atlanta advantages cited by newcomers and business leaders include the low cost of living, high quality of life, pro-business climate and easy access to direct route transportation anywhere on the globe through Hartsfield Atlanta International Airport. Atlanta serves as the regional, national, or global headquarters for many corporations. Atlanta contains the country's third largest concentration of Fortune 500 companies, and the city is the global headquarters of corporations such as The Coca-Cola Company, The Home Depot, Delta Air Lines, AT&T Mobility, UPS, and Newell-Rubbermaid. Over 75 percent of Fortune 1000 companies conduct business operations in the Atlanta metropolitan area, and the region hosts offices of about 1,250 multinational corporations. Many corporations are drawn to Atlanta on account of the city's educated workforce; as of 2010, nearly 43% of adults in the city of Atlanta have college degrees, compared to 27% in the nation as a whole.

Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport has served as a key engine of Atlanta's economic growth. Delta Air Lines, the city's largest employer and the metro area's third largest, operates the world's largest airline hub at Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport and has helped make Hartsfield-Jackson the world's busiest airport, both in terms of passenger traffic and aircraft operations. Partly due to the airport, Atlanta has become a hub for diplomatic missions; as of 2012, the city contains 25 general consulates, the seventh-highest concentration of diplomatic missions in the United States.

Information technology, an economic sector that includes publishing, software development, entertainment and data processing has garnered a larger percentage of Atlanta's economic output. Indeed, Atlanta has been nicknamed the Silicon peach due to its burgeoning technology sector. As of 2013, Atlanta contains the fourth-largest concentration of information technology jobs in the United States, numbering 85,000. Atlanta also ranks as the sixth-fastest growing city for information technology jobs, with an employment growth of 4.8% in 2012 and a three-year growth near 9%, or 16,000 jobs. Information technology companies are drawn to Atlanta's lower costs and educated workforce.

Atlanta, while located in the South, has a culture that is no longer strictly Southern. This is due to a large population of migrants from other parts of the U.S., in addition to many recent immigrants to the U.S. who have made the metropolitan area their home, establishing Atlanta as the cultural and economic hub of an increasingly multi-cultural metropolitan area. Thus, although traditional Southern culture is part of Atlanta's cultural fabric, it is mostly the backdrop to one of the nation's most cosmopolitan cities. This unique cultural combination reveals itself in the arts district of Midtown, the quirky neighborhoods on the city's eastside, and the multi-ethnic enclaves found along Buford Highway.



<http://www.atlanta.net/>  
<http://www.city-data.com/city/Atlanta-Georgia.html>

<http://www.city-data.com/city/Decatur-Georgia.html>  
<http://www.city-data.com/city/Druid-Hills-Georgia.html>  
<http://www.city-data.com/city/North-Druid-Hills-Georgia.html>

## Schools

Atlanta Public Schools  
[www.atlantapublicschools.us/](http://www.atlantapublicschools.us/)

---

## ABOUT ZRG PARTNERS

ZRG Partners, LLC is the leading global executive search firm that uses a proven, data-driven approach. For over 19 years, clients have trusted ZRG Partners to recruit top talent around the world. With offices throughout the US, Canada, Brazil, Europe, and Asia Pacific, our deep market knowledge coupled with our fact-based results driven approach is grounded in integrity. The ZRG team working on this project for our client will include:



**JULIA E. WILLIAMS**  
Managing Director  
[jwilliams@zrgpartners.com](mailto:jwilliams@zrgpartners.com)  
+1.678.999.7881

Julia has specific experience within oncology, research, academic medicine and ambulatory operations executive search & consulting. She currently is an active member of several professional healthcare associations and sits on the Advisory Council for The Susan G. Komen Foundation. Julia has worked with top ranked Academic Medical Centers and Community Healthcare Systems across the country; of which many are NCI Designated Cancer Centers. She has a passion for oncology and research medicine, believing that we must always keep the patient first. Julia has worked within healthcare services for over 20 years in a variety of roles, however her industry knowledge through executive search over the last 15 years has added value to both clients/candidate alike through her ability to understand their complex structures, cultures and needs.  
. [Click here to view more of Julia's bio.](#)

