

## South Gwinnett High School's Academies include:

### The Business Administration and Entrepreneurship Academy

includes pathways in marketing and management, small businesses, and financial management.

### The Health and Human Services Academy

includes pathways in therapeutic services, nutrition and food science, and pre-medicine.

### The Media, Arts, and Communications Academy

includes pathways in journalism, technology, film, and digital communications.

### The Public Service, Law and Leadership Academy

includes pathways in public safety and criminal justice, education, and law.

### The STEM Academy

includes pathways in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics.

## Sample 4-Year Plan for an Academy Student

### 9th Grade

- Core academics (Language Arts, Math, Social Studies, Science)
- Health and Physical Education
- Plus one elective

### 10th Grade

- Core academics
- Pathway elective
- Plus one elective

### 11th Grade

- Core academics
- Pathway elective
- Plus one elective

### 12th Grade

- Core academics
- Internship, Dual Enrollment, or Independent Research
- Plus one elective
- Summative pathway capstone project or portfolio



## The Academies at South Gwinnett... See the Future!

It's a future filled with a:

- relevant and rigorous curriculum;
- 21st century skills such as critical thinking, information, communication, and technology literacy, and life skills;
- the opportunity to form closer relationships with teachers and advisors;
- practical work experience through job shadowing and internships;
- the possibility for career certifications;
- the opportunity to learn in the context of a particular career or subject theme;
- more engaging curriculum and instruction; and most importantly, preparation for college AND career.



For more information about  
The Academies at South Gwinnett  
call (770) 972-4840 or  
visit our website at  
[www.southgwinnetths.com](http://www.southgwinnetths.com)

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## See the Future.



# Why Academies?

Just as the world is changing... so are high schools! Gwinnett County Public Schools is committed to providing students with more of the advanced skills they need to be successful, productive citizens in college, career, and life. An example of that commitment is the launch of Academies at five Gwinnett high schools—including the one here at **South Gwinnett High**. The Academy model, uses innovative practices to ensure students receive the highest level of education and exposure to postsecondary education, career opportunities, and real-life experiences.

## How will the Academies at South Gwinnett work?

In an Academy, students learn language arts, math, science, and social studies in the context of an Academy theme. Learning through the lens of a career or academic theme provides each student a highly personalized learning environment.

- First, students choose one of South's five Academies: **Business Administration and Entrepreneurship; Health and Human Services; Media, Arts, and Communications; Public Service, Law, and Leadership; and STEM.**
- Within the Academy, students select among a number of Academy pathways, such as Therapeutic Services, Journalism, Small Business Development, Computer Programming, or Public Safety and Criminal Justice
- Students still will learn the core curriculum (language arts, mathematics, science, and social studies); however, classes will include related information based on each Academy's theme. For example, students in an upper level math class could apply what they learn using engineering principles or language arts and writing skills will be used with a marketing/entrepreneurship focus.
- Students also will be exposed to a variety of careers and opportunities through classroom speakers, job shadowing, and internships.
- The Academies help students make connections between the academic subjects and their application in the real world or in a specific career pathway. It answers the age-old question...

***"When will I ever use this stuff I am learning?"***

## The Academies at South Gwinnett are about the four Rs... Readiness, Rigor, Relevance, and Relationships!

### Readiness

The goal of the Academies is for students to graduate with...

- A plan for postsecondary education and career
- Work-based experience (in some cases)
- College credit and/or a nationally recognized professional certification.

### Rigor

- Graduation requirements are aligned with college entrance requirements
- Students have opportunities to participate in Advanced Placement and dual enrollment
- Students may be able to earn industry certification in certain areas through the Academy programs.

### Relevance

- Students connect their learning to the real world
- Students develop a capstone project in their field of interest, which can include an internship, work-based learning, service learning, or a research project upon conclusion of a pathway

### Relationships

- Academies offer a smaller, personalized learning environment
- Academies offer cross-curricular learning opportunities based on a theme
- Academies partner with businesses to solve real-world problems for authentic learning
- Academies focus on the 21st Century Skills students need for success in college and life
- Academies provide a culture of teamwork, critical thinking, communication, collaboration, and creativity
- Academies provide rigorous interdisciplinary curriculum
- Academies prepare students for college and career

## The Academies at South Gwinnett will impact student achievement by:

- Transforming teaching and learning
- Focusing on project-based learning
- Providing student internships
- Allowing students to continue interests in the fine arts, modern language, and other areas
- Offering accelerated learning options
- Connecting learning with life after high school
- Preparing students for college **and** career.

