



**Andrew S. Berens, MS, GISP - GIS Architect - Texas Health and Human Services Commission**

**Year of Initial GISP Certification:** 2020 (Cert. #: 160724)

**Education:**

- Bachelor of Science - Geography/GIS - Arizona State University - 2013
- Master of Science - Geosciences/GIS - Georgia State University - 2016

**Professional Experience:**

- GIS Architect - TX Health and Human Services Commission - Dec. 2025 to present
- Public Health Project Coordinator - Centers for Disease Control and Prevention - Sep. 2025 to Dec. 2025
- Informatics Health Scientist - Centers for Disease Control Prevention - Sep. 2023 to Aug. 2025
- Senior GIS Project Coordinator - Centers for Disease Control Prevention - Sep. 2021 to Sep. 2023
- Population Health and Geospatial Analyst - Louisiana Department of Health - Sep. 2019 to Sep. 2021
- Geospatial Analyst - Centers for Disease Control Prevention - Mar. 2016 to Sep 2019

**Professional Organizations/Activities:**

- GISP (Geographic Information Systems Professional) since 2020
- GPN (formerly URISA) Vanguard Cabinet Member - 2022 to 2023
- South Central Arc Users Group - Founder's Award Winner - 2022
- Louisiana State University - Adjunct Instructor, GIS in Public Health - 2021 to 2022
- CDC GIS in Public Health Emergencies Working Group - GPS Education Subcommittee Chair - 2018
- CDC Geography and Geospatial Science Working Group - Professional Liaison Subcommittee Chair - 2017

- Georgia State University - Adjunct Instructor, Spatial Analysis - 2017
- Gamma Theta Upsilon - Georgia State University Chapter President - 2015 to 2016

**Statement of Interest:**

I am honored and enthusiastic to potentially represent GISPs as an at-large member of GISCI's Board of Directors. My career in GIS began 10 years ago after my graduation with an MS in Geosciences from Georgia State University. For the past decade I have worked to improve the use and visibility of GIS in the public health arena, working at the state and federal level, including working as the GIS data lead for the Louisiana Department of Health during the COVID-19 pandemic response.

Throughout my career, I collaborated with my fellow public health and GIS professionals to make sure GIS is leveraged in the best possible way. During my time at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, I served as a subcommittee chair for both the Geography and Geospatial Science Working Group and the GIS in Public Health Emergencies Working Group. In collaboration with these groups and CDC I provided on the ground GIS support and training in Geneva at the World Health Organization, in Beijing at the Chinese Center for Disease Control, and in Tashkent at the Uzbekistani Ministries of Health and Agriculture. Domestically, I have provided GIS training at CDC headquarters in Atlanta and taught GIS courses at both Georgia State and Louisiana State Universities. In addition to my students, I have mentored colleagues and other GIS practitioners who are earlier in their careers.

In my own work, I have addressed all aspects of GIS. I have made dozens of interactive and static maps in support of public health entities. I have managed the CDC's largest ArcGIS Enterprise instance, deepening GIS's footprint at the agency. I have managed tens of GIS technicians, analysts, and developers in support of various GIS portals and applications. I have gathered field data and turned those data into scientific insights. Across all this work, I have sought to give back, sharing my findings as much as I can. To that end I have coauthored 8 academic papers utilizing, advancing, or evaluating GIS methodologies to answer public health questions.

Working in public health, where GIS is often treated as an afterthought, I have seen the power of applying our skills to fields that are often overlooked as GIS fields. I hope to support an increase in GISPs from outside fields we traditionally associate with GIS. GISCI can help promote the value of our expertise to all fields, led by our GISPs. I would be honored to represent my fellow GISPs in that expansion. Thank you for your consideration!