

FAST FACTS



The University of Arizona
Health Sciences



The University of Arizona Health Sciences is one of the top-ranked academic medical centers in the southwestern United States and a statewide leader in biomedical research and health professions training. Its network of health-related organizations reaches across the state of Arizona and beyond to provide critically needed, highly specialized health and medical training and outreach services to major cities, towns, Native American reservations and remote communities. With a multidisciplinary, collaborative plan for growth, U of A Health Sciences centers and programs focus on cancer, neurodegenerative diseases, pain and addiction, and respiratory diseases; biomedical informatics, health technology innovation and simulation training; and health disparities, precision health care and treatments, and pandemic preparedness.

PRECISION HEALTH

The notion that “one size fits all” is over in health care. Researchers and physician-scientists are increasingly using precision medicine to develop new cell- and gene-based therapeutical options for diseases, building on the idea that the most effective defense against health issues is the body’s natural immune system. The Center for Advanced Molecular and Immunological Therapies will be a national biomedical research hub in Phoenix focused on unraveling the complexities of the immunology of cancers, infectious diseases and autoimmune conditions to develop novel strategies for the diagnosis, prevention and treatment of diseases.

PAIN AND ADDICTION

The Comprehensive Center for Pain & Addiction addresses chronic pain and substance use disorders through clinical care, education, research and legislation. The center trains the next generation of subspecialty health care providers and researchers, and reaches out to the community with educational materials, workforce development programs and the latest outcomes of research.

CANCER

We are working to alleviate the burden of cancer through the University of Arizona Cancer Center, the only National Cancer Institute-designated Comprehensive Cancer Center headquartered in the state of Arizona. The Cancer Center is a leader in research on breast, prostate and gastrointestinal cancers. It is home to one of the largest cancer prevention and control programs among the nation’s comprehensive cancer centers, with leading prevention and survivorship research in breast, colon, lung, prostate and skin cancers.

NEUROSCIENCE

More than 1,000 brain disorders affect more than 1 billion people worldwide. Fortunately, U of A boasts some of the best neuroscientists in the nation, and they are tackling the biggest questions in brain science as they also train the next generation of researchers and clinicians. The Center for Innovation in Brain Science was created to address the challenge that, in the 21st century, there is not a single cure for a single neurodegenerative disease. Its collaborative research environment is an innovative academic/biotech hybrid, integrating expertise and team science to shift the research paradigm with patient-inspired and data-driven approaches to generate cures for Alzheimer’s disease, multiple sclerosis, Parkinson’s disease and amyotrophic lateral sclerosis, or ALS.

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Established: 1967

Colleges:

College of Health Sciences
College of Medicine – Phoenix
College of Medicine – Tucson
College of Nursing
R. Ken Coit College of Pharmacy
Mel and Enid Zuckerman College of Public Health

Locations: Tucson, Phoenix, Gilbert

Students: 7,700

Employees: 3,000

Research Awards: \$248 million (FY24)

Research Focus Areas:

Cancer
Immunology
Neurodegenerative Diseases
Pain and Addiction
Respiratory Diseases
Sleep



Jennifer Barton, PhD
Interim Vice Provost for Health Programs
Professor of Biomedical Engineering

1947

The College of Pharmacy opened on the University of Arizona campus. It became a full-fledged college in 1949, and the first class graduated with bachelor's degrees in 1950.

1957

The new School of Nursing began in the College of Liberal Arts with 42 students.

1967

The Basic Sciences Building of the fledgling College of Medicine, now the College of Medicine – Tucson, opened its doors to the first class of University of Arizona medical students.

1971

University Hospital was completed as the primary teaching hospital for the college. The College of Medicine and University Hospital were known as the Arizona Medical Center.

1994

The University of Arizona Health Sciences Phoenix campus was established to meet the needs of U of A medical students in Maricopa County and to provide education and community outreach to the surrounding region.

2000

The Mel and Enid Zuckerman College of Public Health became the fourth Health Sciences college.

2004

University Physicians Inc. (now Banner – University Medical Group) assumed management of Tucson's Kino Community Hospital, which was renamed University Physicians Hospital (UPH). Known today as Banner – University Medical Center South, the hospital is a secondary



teaching hospital for the College of Medicine – Tucson.

2007

The College of Medicine – Phoenix admitted its inaugural class of 24 first-year medical students.

2015

The University of Arizona and Banner Health finalized the terms of a 30-year academic affiliation agreement that provides significant capital and investment resources for improvements to clinical facilities, equipment, and clinical research and education programs.

2018

The Health Sciences and Banner Health received a \$9 million award from the National Institutes of Health for the All of Us Research Program. The program, which will receive \$60 million over five years, represented the largest NIH award in Arizona history and was tied to an effort to enroll 1 million or more participants across the country.

2022

The University of Arizona Health Sciences and the Oklahoma State University Center for Health Sciences

established an innovative partnership to discover and develop modern therapeutics for the treatment of chronic pain and address the opioid epidemic.

2022

U of A Health Sciences received a \$150 million investment from the state to fund the Center for Advanced Molecular and Immunological Therapies. CAMI's first philanthropic gift of \$2 million from the Steele Foundation was announced at the same time.

2023

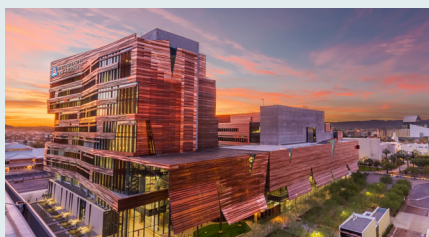
The Arizona Board of Regents approved three new health professions graduate programs designed to expand the health care workforce across Arizona. The new programs are: physician assistant, midwifery and physical therapy.

2025

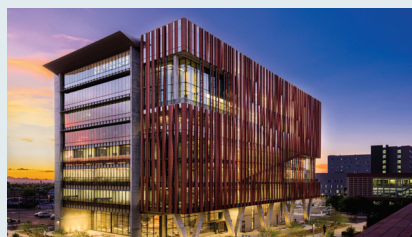
The School of Health Professions and Global Medicine was established in the Mel and Enid Zuckerman College of Public Health. The new school comprises five graduate and professional degree programs: midwifery, physician assistant, physical therapy, genetic counseling and clinical translational sciences.

Centers and Programs:

- *Aegis Consortium*
- *All of Us Research Program*
- *Arizona Area Health Education Centers*
- *Arizona Simulation Technology and Education Center*
- *Asthma and Airway Disease Research Center*
- *Center for Innovation in Brain Science*
- *Center for Advanced Molecular and Immunological Therapies*
- *Center for Accelerated Biomedical Innovation*
- *Center for Biomedical Informatics and Biostatistics*
- *Center for Disparities in Diabetes, Obesity and Metabolism*
- *Center for Sleep, Circadian and Neuroscience Research*
- *Clinical and Translational Sciences Research Center*
- *Comprehensive Center for Pain & Addiction*
- *University of Arizona Cancer Center*



Biomedical Sciences Partnership Building, Phoenix



Health Sciences Innovation Building, Tucson