Our vision propels us to places others might not dare go. Each day we seek to reach higher and farther than before. We ask “what if” and invite others to join us in the quest for answers. We relentlessly pursue solving the mysteries of incurable and untreatable diseases, knowing that one discovery leads to the next. We teach students new ways of learning because diverse perspectives shed wisdom on problems where ignorance has prevailed. And we lead the way in translating scientific discoveries into patient care advances that help people get back to living their best possible life, with a gentle touch, a warm smile and an encouraging word along the way. Our determination drives us. After all, we’re problem-solvers working together to move medicine forward.

University of Florida Health is a top-ranked health care destination that attracts the brightest students, scholars, scientists and health care providers, all ready to tackle our patients’ greatest challenges. They are counting on us. And we intend to deliver, so that each generation is healthier than the last.
WHO WE ARE

UF Health is the Southeast’s most comprehensive academic health center and part of one of the nation’s Top 10 public research universities, unique for our diverse constellation of health colleges, centers and institutes, and our hospitals, faculty practices and patient care programs. Academic health centers make discoveries that lead to breakthroughs in patient care. And our patients are at the heart of everything we do. We offer compassionate care with a focus on world-class outcomes for all, no matter how simple or complex their illness, and we offer hope — and results — for those who have been told elsewhere they have run out of options.

UF Health encompasses the Gainesville-based colleges of Dentistry, Medicine, Nursing, Pharmacy, Public Health and Health Professions, and Veterinary Medicine; the UF Health Shands family of hospitals; UF Health Jacksonville medical center; UF Health North; and an academic campus in Jacksonville that is home to the UF College of Medicine – Jacksonville and includes degree programs offered by the colleges of Nursing and Pharmacy. It also includes primary care and specialty practices throughout North Central and Northeast Florida, as well as Southeast Georgia. The UF Health network of hospitals and physician practices manages more than 3 million inpatient and outpatient visits each year, and serves patients from all 67 Florida counties, from around the nation and from more than 30 countries.

UF Health is an integral part of the University of Florida, ranked No. 8 among the nation’s public universities. As we continue to rise among the nation’s top-tier academic health centers, we contribute to UF’s goal of becoming a Top 5 public university.

As a premier destination, our thriving patient care, education, research and outreach programs support community growth through positive economic impact and significantly improve the quality of life for Florida residents. Our two hubs — in Gainesville and in Jacksonville — are home to more than 26,500 faculty, staff and residents.

UF and UF Health attract skilled health professionals and staff from across the country. The dynamic university environment encourages business and community growth and development, and offers innumerable career opportunities. UF Health’s robust strategic alliances with hospitals and health care providers throughout the state not only bring our medical experts, graduate programs and patient care services to other areas where they are needed, but they also create strong referral patterns for residents from other areas to visit or even relocate for our hospitals and outpatient programs, where we provide care for patients with the most complex conditions. In these ways, UF Health is poised to expand as a preferred destination for health care, education and training, and scientific research in the health sciences.

Our determination drives us. We’re problem-solvers, working together to move medicine forward.
ROADMAP TO SUCCESS

At UF Health, we are driven to advance science, train the next generation of health care professionals and improve patient care and quality of life. We invest in our colleges, research institutes and hospitals while enhancing UF’s reputation as a preeminent research university.

Patient Care — Our patients are at the heart of all we do as we strive for the best possible clinical outcomes, quality and safety among academic health centers nationally.

Research — We aim to maximize the impact of state and federal funding for UF programs that advance biomedical, clinical and population science; collaborate on interdisciplinary opportunities with partners across UF; and bring scientific discovery and technology into commercial use to improve health for patients.

Education — We train graduates who excel and lead in clinical care, science, teaching and community health. We aim to be a national model for interprofessional education and to enhance the preeminence of graduate education.

Community Engagement — We work to improve overall health and quality of life by engaging our communities throughout the region.

Growth & Expansion — We continue to generate resources that support expansion and new growth to help us meet our missions.
A DYNAMIC CAMPUS

One campus, 16 colleges and more than 150 centers and institutes make the University of Florida one of the most comprehensive universities in the nation and the perfect engine for interdisciplinary collaboration and technology transfer. UF is a campus with a diverse curriculum and a community with a dynamic culture.

UF’s depth and breadth across its academic and research missions has earned it the designation as the No. 8 public university in the country. UF is where Gator faculty, staff and students sink their teeth into ideas that change lives and shape generations.

- No. 8 ranked public university in America — U.S. News & World Report 2019
- $837.6 million — UF’s research funding in 2018
- 45 — Number of faculty elected to the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering and Medicine, and the American Academy of the Arts and Sciences
- 6 — Number of universities nationwide, including UF, that have colleges of Medicine, Veterinary Medicine, Engineering, Business, Law and Agriculture on one campus
- 1 — The only university in the nation to share a central campus with colleges of Medicine, Dentistry, Nursing, Pharmacy, Public Health and Health Professions, and Veterinary Medicine, all adjacent to a Veterans Affairs Medical Center
- 180 — Sites statewide with UF programs, including agricultural extension offices in all 67 counties in Florida
- 16 — Total colleges
- 6,100+ — Total faculty
- 55,000+ — Total students

UF Health contributes to UF’s ongoing recognition as a leading research institution. With more than $410 million in NIH and other grant funding to support ongoing research, UF Health physicians and faculty are training the next generation of scientists and advancing new discoveries to impact health care locally, nationally and around the world.
UF Health contributes more than $4.6 billion to Florida’s overall economy, through direct and indirect expenditures, according to the most recent economic impact study conducted by the University of Florida. The clinical enterprise’s direct employment and indirect spending account for 33,000 jobs.

UF Health has affiliations with several other health systems in the North and Central Florida regions that enhance and support our patient care mission.

UF Health has experienced tremendous growth. Total revenue for the system grew from $2.6 billion to $3.8 billion over the past eight years, an increase of 44 percent. Clinical revenue accounted for more than 80 percent of the total. National Institutes of Health funding increased from $54 million to $155 million, a 287 percent increase at a time when the NIH budget was fairly flat. And, for the first time in its 61-year history, the College of Medicine’s annual research awards from the NIH eclipsed $100 million in 2017.

Research growth has contributed to a rise in stature for our health colleges and for our teaching hospitals. UF Health attributes the growth to our balanced research portfolio and the university’s efforts to recruit and retain the best and the brightest in their fields.

Similarly, physician office visits by Gainesville-based faculty have almost doubled from fiscal year 2007 to fiscal year 2018, totaling 889,000 visits, an annual growth rate of almost 8 percent. Hospital admissions have also increased by 26 percent since 2011. Gainesville E.R. visits have more than doubled since 2007.

Physician office visits for Jacksonville-based faculty have increased nearly 23 percent from fiscal year 2007 to fiscal year 2018, totaling 649,892 visits, an annual growth rate of almost 2 percent. Hospital admissions have increased by 7 percent since 2011. Hospital outpatient and E.R. visits have increased nearly 51 percent since 2011. The faculty practice plan realized steady growth of 3 percent annually in the face of an incredibly competitive market.

The most visible sign of growth is through our facilities. Over the previous nine years, UF Health has added approximately 1.5 billion square feet of new space, including five hospitals, numerous outpatient facilities, research space and education space throughout our health campuses.

At UF Health Jacksonville, exponential growth has occurred across North Florida. The number of UF Health Jacksonville primary care practices in Florida and Southeast Georgia increased by 83 percent in less than a decade. The Center for Health Equity and Quality Research was established in 2008 as a collaboration with the Duval County Health Department to support research and education on health disparities, health equity and quality of health care. Facility growth continues in Jacksonville: The UF Health North medical office building opened in 2015, followed by UF Health North Hospital in 2017. The same year, the health system expanded rehabilitation services on Jacksonville’s Southside to a new, highly advanced 10,000-square-foot facility. And in 2018, the Jacksonville Aging Studies Center, or JAX-ASCENT, opened as a dedicated space for conducting NIH-sponsored clinical and behavioral translational research on aging. The UF Health Wildlight medical office building will open in late 2019 as part of the new Wildlight master-planned community.

Affiliated with UF Health, the Malcom Randall Veterans Affairs Medical Center, or VAMC, serves as a training ground for students at the colleges of Medicine, Nursing, Pharmacy, Dentistry and Public Health and Health Professions. As well, faculty from the colleges of Medicine and Nursing who practice there are growing the body of knowledge that leads to improvements in health care and wellness for military service members, veterans and their families.

UF Health and the VAMC are committed to creating a new generation of doctors, medical schools and research facilities that collectively ensure our heroes receive the care worthy of their service, while meeting their unique health care needs, including treatment of post-traumatic stress disorder and traumatic brain injury.
UF HEALTH SHANDS

UF Health Shands, UF Health’s private, not-for-profit hospital system based in Gainesville, includes seven hospitals:

- UF Health Shands Hospital
- UF Health Shands Cancer Hospital
- UF Health Shands Children’s Hospital
- UF Health Heart & Vascular Hospital
- UF Health Neuromedicine Hospital
- UF Health Shands Rehab Hospital
- UF Health Shands Psychiatric Hospital

UF Health Shands Hospital is also home to a state-designated Level I trauma center, a Level IV neonatal intensive care unit, a regional burn center and an emergency air and ground transport program. The system also comprises a network of outpatient rehabilitation centers and a home health agency.

A medical staff of more than 1,200 UF College of Medicine faculty and community physicians provides care in over 100 specialty and subspecialty medical areas, from primary care to highly specialized and complex care.

UF Health Shands has affiliations with community hospitals located in Lake City, Live Oak and Starke. Affiliate relationships throughout the state expand clinical programs, research and education efforts.

Our commitment to deliver the highest-quality, safest patient care possible is reflected in our clinical outcomes and the national recognition we consistently earn among the nation’s Top 50 best adult and children’s hospitals, according to U.S. News & World Report. UF Health Shands Hospital has the most ranked programs of any hospital in Florida. Hospitality and service are hallmarks of our patients’ experience. Our engaged employees operate with the belief that we can make a positive impact with every interaction to create an environment where people feel acknowledged, understood, safe and valued.

UF Health Shands at a glance (Fiscal Year 2018)

- 1,162 Licensed patient beds
- 55,373 Admissions (excluding newborns)
- 128,799 E.R. and trauma visits
- 8,090 ShandsCair emergency air and ground transports
- 10,324 Employees
- 1,200+ Medical staff physicians
UF HEALTH PHYSICIANS

University of Florida Health Physicians, the large multispecialty faculty practice of the UF College of Medicine, offers access to more than 1,000 providers in over 100 specialties.

UF Health offers primary care locations throughout Gainesville, Ocala and Old Town, Florida. In addition, specialty outpatient care is available throughout the state, bringing multidisciplinary specialty care to residents of most regions in the Panhandle, North Central Florida and Central Florida.

CLINICAL PROGRAMS OF DISTINCTION

At UF Health, we believe in emphasizing the interdisciplinary teams that touch patients’ lives, whether it be through research, cross-college curricular development or promotion of faculty-hospital collaborations to align with clinical programs.

Neuromedicine

UF Health Neuromedicine includes one of the largest complements of neurologists and neurosurgeons in the country who have pioneered leading-edge treatments in neuromedicine. At the UF Health Neuromedicine Hospital, patients enjoy streamlined access to highly specialized, comprehensive outpatient treatment options and inpatient services in one location for neurological conditions. They also benefit from outstanding UF physicians and clinical experts collaborating in an excellent facility, which boasts seven neuromedicine operating room suites complete with intraoperative MRI capabilities, a 48-bed neuromedicine medical/surgical unit and a dedicated 48-bed neurointensive care unit. Our team is committed to providing technically superb, compassionate and timely medical care for our patients.

Centers of excellence include the Preston A. Wells Jr. Center for Brain Tumor Therapy; the UF Health Comprehensive Stroke Center; the Spine Distinction Center; the Alzheimer’s Disease Research Center; the Level 4 Epilepsy Program, designated by the National Association of Epilepsy Centers; and the Movement Disorders Program at the Norman Fixel Institute for Neurological Diseases at UF Health.

MARK MASON
PARKINSON’S PATIENT, BACK TO EXPLORING
Visit Destination.UFHealth.org/clinical-and-academic-programs to watch Mark’s story
Heart & Vascular

The UF Health Heart and Vascular Care program boasts a team of board-certified and fellowship-trained cardiologists, cardiovascular surgeons and vascular surgeons who work side by side to care for patients with cardiac, thoracic and vascular conditions. We have become the Southeast’s destination for treating the most complicated heart valve conditions, offering minimally invasive surgical options that lead to better results and faster recovery. From performing Florida’s first cardiac catheterization and open-heart surgeries in the 1950s to delivering the world’s first combined heart and bone marrow stem cell therapy in 2016, our program continues to set clinical, educational and research milestones in the state, nation and beyond.

The new UF Health Heart & Vascular Hospital fuses the latest medical technology with design and amenities that promote healing and recovery to optimize the patient experience. This facility includes:

- Three hybrid heart and vascular operating rooms, featuring flexible diagnostic and surgical set-ups, which enable surgical teams to accommodate several different procedures simultaneously.
- 72 private intensive care units, equipped with patient lifts, bedside dialysis and surgical procedure lights to lessen the need to move patients, as well as accommodations for family.
- 48 medical/surgical private inpatient rooms with accommodations for family.
- Combined outpatient practice space with 20 exam rooms where cardiologists, thoracic surgeons, cardiac surgeons and vascular surgeons provide patients with evaluations, diagnoses and follow-up appointments.
- Two cardiac catheterization labs.
- A heart station featuring four vascular rooms; six echocardiogram, or EKG, rooms; two transesophageal echocardiogram, or TEE, rooms; and one EKG/Holter room.
- A thoracic and vascular intensive care unit for patients recovering from lung transplants and those needing artificial lung support. This specialized ICU provides advantages, including the opportunity to walk about while receiving support from an artificial-lung machine or getting out of bed the day after a lung transplant.
- UF Health ranks first in Florida and 13th nationally in lung transplant volume. First-year patient survival has jumped to 92.4 percent from 74.3 percent in 2014. Among 12 lung programs in 10 southeastern states, surgeons at UF Health performed the second-most transplants and had the second-lowest mortality rate among adults awaiting a transplant between July 2015 and June 2017.

GAIL MORRELL
HEART FAILURE PATIENT, TRUSTED HER LIFE TO US
Visit Destination.UFHealth.org/clinical-and-academic-programs to watch Gail’s story
Cancer
The UF Health Cancer Center offers a comprehensive care model, with 12 multidisciplinary cancer programs featuring advanced treatment options, such as chemotherapy, minimally invasive surgery, robotic surgery, radiotherapy and participation in clinical trials. Our UF Health cancer experts work to ensure coordinated care is available to each patient through diagnosis, treatment and recovery across our outpatient practices and inpatient settings. The UF Health Shands Cancer Hospital is a dedicated 500,000-square-foot facility offering advanced resources for a wide range of oncology, surgery, critical care, emergency and trauma patients. The cancer hospital serves adult inpatients for a wide variety of cancer diagnoses from all over the state, and includes a robust bone marrow transplantation unit.

As an academic health center, our clinician scientists participate in research that has a direct impact on improved patient outcomes and access to the very latest cancer-killing technologies and drugs.

- The UF Health Cancer Center is the only state-designated Cancer Center of Excellence in North Central Florida.
- The patient outcomes of the UF Health Blood and Marrow Transplantation Program are ranked among the top 2.5 percent nationwide.
- The UF Health Breast Center is accredited by the National Accreditation Program for Breast Centers and is the first in the state to offer intraoperative radiation therapy using Intrabeam.
- In 2017, the UF Health Cancer Center joined the National Cancer Institute’s Experimental Therapeutics Clinical Trial Network — an exclusive national network that will give UF Health cancer patients access to leading-edge clinical trials.
- The UF Health Cancer Center is one of 12 initial clinical trial sites participating in Precision Promise, the first large-scale precision medicine trial designed to transform outcomes for patients with pancreatic cancer.

DEBBIE PAINE
BREAST CANCER PATIENT, BACK TO TEACHING
Visit Destination.UFHealth.org/clinical-and-academic-programs to watch Debbie’s story
Pediatrics

UF Health Shands Children’s Hospital is recognized as one of the nation’s best hospitals for children, according to the 2018-19 U.S. News & World Report rankings. As a hospital-within-a-hospital on the UF Health Shands Hospital campus in Gainesville, we offer care in more than 20 pediatric specialties and house the area’s first pediatric emergency room. The hospital serves children in our community and throughout Florida and is a destination center for pediatric patients from all over the country and overseas who require specialized attention for complex medical problems. It represents the only quaternary-care academic pediatric center in North Central Florida. Our faculty has served on several first-in-human clinical trials, including those that use novel approaches to stimulate immune responses against malignant brain tumor cells in combination with current standard treatments. In addition to the treatment provided at the children’s hospital and our pediatric specialty outpatient practices throughout North Central Florida, we also have four pediatric primary care locations in Gainesville. In the recent year, we expanded our telehealth capabilities, and we will continue to grow our regional outreach in order to make access to quality care more convenient for our patients.

The University of Florida Health Congenital Heart Center is ranked No. 1 in Florida and No. 19 in the nation for pediatric cardiology and heart surgery by U.S. News & World Report. UF Health is among only 12 database participants in North America to earn a prestigious 3 out of 3-star rating from The Society of Thoracic Surgeons, or STS, during the reporting period of January 1, 2014 through December 31, 2017. And, as part of the largest heart transplant programs in Florida and one of the largest in the southeastern United States, the UF Health Congenital Heart Center continues to have outstanding outcomes and exceeds national survival rates.
Transplant

The UF Health Shands Transplant Center has over 50 years of experience providing lifesaving treatments to patients around the world. As an industry leader in transplant medicine, our teams use a coordinated approach to care, with over 100 staff members dedicated to assisting our patients and their families through every phase of the transplant journey — from pre-transplant to lifelong post-transplant care.

These team members include physicians, surgeons, nurses, financial coordinators, donor coordinators, administrative support staff, social workers, physical and respiratory therapists and psychologists, all working together to provide patients with the best transplant experience possible.

2016 marked 50 years of excellence in transplantation at UF Health. Since June 25, 1966, when we performed the state of Florida’s first kidney transplant, the UF Health Shands Transplant Center has been an industry leader in transplant medicine, and its staff has provided unparalleled expertise in highly complex, lifesaving treatments for patients around the world.

One of only 16 organizations nationwide participating in a clinical trial for the XVIVO Lung Perfusion System, a technique that helps improve the viability of donated lungs, shortening the time for a transplant and avoiding deaths on the waitlist.

IZABELLA NEIRA

TRANSPLANT PATIENT, A LIVING MIRACLE

Visit Destination.UFHealth.org/clinical-and-academic-programs to watch Izabella’s story

UF HEALTH SURGEONS LEAD THE WAY

- Florida’s first adult and pediatric kidney transplants
- Florida’s first pediatric bone marrow transplant
- Florida’s first pediatric heart transplant
- Florida’s first artificial heart transplant
- Florida’s first pediatric kidney-liver transplant
- Florida’s first adult lung transplant
- Florida’s first pediatric lung transplant
- Florida’s first pediatric double-lung transplant
- Florida’s first pediatric bone marrow transplantation for lymphoma
- North Florida’s first live-donor liver transplant
Trauma and Emergency Transports
At our Level I UF Health Shands Trauma Center, we see an average of 3,100 trauma patients each year. UF Health ShandsCair is the critical care transport system of UF Health in Gainesville and has transported patients from all 67 Florida counties and from across the Southeast. ShandsCair supports patient care during transport, using specialized teams, vehicles and equipment in a safe, cost-effective manner with the goal of improving patient outcomes. ShandsCair transports patients around the clock from prehospital scenes by way of a fixed-wing aircraft, five helicopters, nine ground ambulances and two medical discharge vans. The ShandsCair helicopters transport patients from prehospital scenes within a 75-mile radius, and community hospital emergency rooms and intensive care units within a 240-mile radius, including domestic and international access.

UF Health Shands Psychiatric Hospital
UF Health Shands Psychiatric Hospital is an 81-bed facility located on a private and serene 18-acre campus in Northwest Gainesville. UF Health physicians and clinicians offer comprehensive inpatient and outpatient behavioral health and addiction medicine services. Following an initial patient assessment, a multidisciplinary treatment team determines the best level of care and formulates a personalized care plan for each individual.

- Services include treatment for addiction, anxiety and panic disorders, depression, mood disorders, psychoses and other psychiatric illnesses. It is also a Baker Act receiving facility to care for people in crisis.
- The hospital includes a child/adolescent unit, an adult inpatient addiction unit, two adult inpatient psychiatric units and a geriatric psychiatry unit.

UF Health Shands Rehab Hospital
UF Health Shands Rehab Hospital is a 40-bed acute rehab hospital for patients who have suffered strokes, traumatic brain and spinal cord injuries, amputations, burns, major joint replacements or other medical conditions that require intensive rehabilitation. A multidisciplinary team of UF and community physicians, therapists, nurses and other health care professionals helps people improve the quality of their lives while dealing with major traumas, injuries or diseases.

- Through an intensive treatment program including at least three hours a day of therapy, the team seeks to bring patients to their maximum level of independence and a return to community living.
- Comprehensive inpatient services include physical therapy, occupational therapy, speech-language pathology, psychological therapy and recreational therapy.
- The hospital is accredited by The Joint Commission and the Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities for comprehensive inpatient rehabilitation, stroke, brain injury and spinal cord injury care. It is also designated by the Florida Department of Health as a Brain and Spinal Cord Injury Program.

NIKIA INGRAM
TRAUMA PATIENT, GIVEN A SECOND CHANCE
Visit Destination.UFHealth.org/clinical-and-academic-programs to watch Nika’s story
FORWARD PROGRESS – GAINESVILLE

U.S. News & World Report
For 2018-19, U.S. News & World Report has recognized UF Health Shands Hospital as among the nation’s best hospitals in Florida, and among the best in six adult medical specialties: diabetes and endocrinology, gastroenterology and GI surgery, geriatrics, nephrology, neurology and neurosurgery, and pulmonology. U.S. News & World Report recognized UF Health Shands Children’s Hospital in six medical specialties; it is the highest-ranked children’s hospital in Florida in pediatric cardiology and heart surgery, diabetes and endocrinology, and pulmonology. In 2018, UF Health Shands ranked in more adult and pediatric specialties than any other hospital in Florida for the fourth year in a row — a total of 12.

Magnet Designation
In summer 2018, UF Health Shands hospitals and programs achieved a fourth-consecutive Magnet designation by the American Nurses Credentialing Center — the profession’s top recognition for quality patient outcomes and nursing excellence. Only 8 percent of hospitals and health systems nationwide have received Magnet designation, and only 41 out of 500 hospitals have four consecutive awards. Each designation lasts four years. Since 2003, several UF Health hospitals and programs have earned Magnet designation from the American Nurses Credentialing Center.

Best Employer Honors
In 2015 and 2016, UF and UF Health were both included in Forbes’ listing of “America’s Best Employers.” UF Health placed 21st in Indeed.com’s 2017 “Best Places to Work” ranking of U.S. hospitals or health systems. In 2018, UF Health was named among the 100 “Top Places to Work in Healthcare” by Becker’s Healthcare. UF Health, including UF Health Shands Hospital, was one of only four in Florida to be ranked in the top 25.
Cancer Center of Excellence
In 2015, Florida’s governor and the Florida Department of Health recognized the UF Health Cancer Center, with locations in Gainesville and Orlando, as a state-designated Cancer Center of Excellence.

Baby-Friendly
In 2015, Baby-Friendly USA awarded UF Health Shands Hospital the Baby-Friendly designation, a global initiative of the World Health Organization and UNICEF that recognizes birthing facilities that implement specific breastfeeding procedures.

Beacon Awards for Excellence
UF Health currently has several nursing care units with active Beacon Awards for Excellence issued by the American Association of Critical Care Nurses. A Beacon Award — recognized at a gold, silver or bronze level — is a three-year designation that recognizes nursing teams that meet national criteria consistent with Magnet recognition by the American Nurses Credentialing Center, the Malcolm Baldrige National Quality Award and the National Quality Healthcare Award.

The Joint Commission Disease-Specific Care Certification
UF Health has two designations through The Joint Commission Disease-Specific Care Certification program: we have had Comprehensive Stroke Center designation since 2014 and Ventricular Assist Device, or VAD, certification since 2008.

Nursing Practice
UF Health Archer Family Health Care is a nurse-managed practice and offers high-quality adult, pediatric, psychiatric and women’s health services in the rural community of Archer. Care is provided by expert UF College of Nursing nurse practitioners.

Dental Practices
UF Health’s dental centers provide general and specialty dental care for adults and children, in Gainesville and in communities across the state of Florida via the UF Statewide Network for Community Oral Health.

Veterinary Hospitals
The UF College of Veterinary Medicine Small Animal Hospital offers medical and surgical care for dogs, cats, birds and exotic pets. Services range from primary and specialty care to dental care, all staffed by board-certified specialists, residents and veterinary technicians. The Large Animal Hospital offers a wide range of veterinary care and advanced diagnostics for horses, cattle, goats, alpacas, llamas, pigs and other large farm animals, serving as a clinical teaching environment for the college. UF Pet Emergency Treatment Services, located in Ocala, is a collaboration between the college and area community-based veterinarians to offer emergency services for pets during evenings, nights and weekends. The newly opened UF Equine Acupuncture Center, located in Reddick, provides world-class equine acupuncture for horses.
UF Health Jacksonville medical center’s origins date to 1870 as Florida’s first non-military hospital, known then as Duval Hospital. Combining its strengths with the UF College of Medicine – Jacksonville, it offers residents in Northeast Florida and Southeast Georgia all the benefits of an academic health center.

- UF primary care physicians and pediatricians located in more than 30 practices in Northeast Florida and Southeast Georgia
- Level III neonatal intensive care unit
- One of three Poison Information Centers in Florida
- UF Health TraumaOne, the state’s first and region’s only Level I trauma center
- UF Health Proton Therapy Institute located on campus

UF Health Jacksonville’s newest campus, UF Health North, includes a state-of-the-art medical complex, which opened in 2015, featuring an emergency room, outpatient surgery suites, imaging services, a birth center and physician offices. The 92-bed hospital opened in May 2017, and is the only full-service hospital in North Jacksonville.

University of Florida Jacksonville Physicians Inc.
University of Florida Jacksonville Physicians is a network of more than 60 primary and specialty care centers that offer first-rate care from the more than 400 UF faculty physicians based in Northeast Florida and Southeast Georgia.

The network includes more than two dozen primary care practice centers throughout Duval County, with additional locations in Baker, Clay, Nassau and St. Johns counties in Florida, as well as Camden and Charlton counties in Georgia.

UF Health Jacksonville at a glance (Fiscal Year 2018)

- 695 Licensed patient beds
- 36,673 Admissions (excluding newborns)
- 127,480 E.R. and trauma visits
- 1,304 TraumaOne air transports
- 4,715 Employees
- 645 Medical staff physicians
Clinical Programs of Distinction

U\F Health Jacksonville's clinical programs of distinction offer integrated multidisciplinary care, medical and community education, and clinical research.

Neurology and Neurosurgery
The UF Health Neuroscience Institute in Jacksonville brings together a team of highly skilled neurologists and neurosurgeons who provide comprehensive care for patients suffering from diseases of the brain, spinal cord and nervous system, including brain tumors, aneurysms, epilepsy, movement disorders, multiple sclerosis, neuromuscular disease, sleep disorders, stroke and spinal disease and injury. The largest integrated neuromedicine practice in Northeast Florida, it is also one of the most advanced, with most faculty having completed fellowship training in subspecialty fields.

Cardiology
UF Health Jacksonville is renowned for treating patients with complex diseases and being on the forefront of advancing the science of interventional cardiology. The UF Health Cardiovascular Center in Jacksonville offers fully integrated, comprehensive heart programs, including a coronary interventional program, nuclear program, electrophysiology program, noninvasive program and peripheral interventional program.

Cancer
At the UF Health Cancer Center, multidisciplinary teams of surgeons, medical oncologists, radiation oncologists and other cancer specialists work together using the latest diagnostic and therapeutic innovations to optimize cancer treatment outcomes. In addition to offering standard cancer treatment options, the UF Health Proton Therapy Institute, located on the UF Health Jacksonville campus, offers patients with certain cancers leading-edge treatment with minimal side effects.

Trauma
When UF Health TraumaOne began in 1983, it was the first trauma program in Florida. Today, it is still the only adult and pediatric Level I trauma program in Northeast Florida and Southeast Georgia, with more than 4,000 patients treated annually. In 2018, TraumaOne received official verification from the American College of Surgeons, a distinction given only to trauma centers that meet the most stringent criteria. TraumaOne integrates a Level I trauma center, a three-helicopter aeromedical transport service, and professional and community trauma prevention and education.

UF Health Proton Therapy Institute
Located on the UF Health Jacksonville downtown campus, the UF Health Proton Therapy Institute, which opened in 2006, is one of few facilities in the U.S. equipped to treat cancer with protons. Proton therapy greatly reduces damage to surrounding tissue, which is a significant improvement over traditional radiation therapy. Since opening, the institute has treated more than 7,200 patients from Florida, the U.S. and 32 countries. Of the 27 proton therapy centers in the U.S., the UF Health Proton Therapy Institute is one of 11 — and the only one in Jacksonville — to earn the American College of Radiology seal of accreditation, representing the highest level of quality and patient safety.

UF Health Wildlight
The UF Health Wildlight medical office building will open in Nassau County in late 2019 as part of the new Wildlight master-planned community. As part of an agreement with Raydient Places + Properties, UF and UF Health will construct health and fitness facilities in Wildlight and spearhead programs and services aimed at promoting healthier living throughout the new community.

BRIAN LYNN
TRAUMAONE PATIENT, GRATEFUL TO BE ALIVE
Visit Destination.UFHealth.org/uf-health-jacksonville to watch Brian's story
FORWARD PROGRESS – JACKSONVILLE

U.S. News & World Report
In 2018-19, U.S. News & World Report recognized UF Health Jacksonville for high performance in three specialties — diabetes and endocrinology, nephrology and orthopaedics — and for the care of patients in two key areas — chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, or COPD, and heart failure — in the latest comparison of hospitals across the nation. UF Health Jacksonville was also recognized as a “Best Hospital” in North Florida.

American College of Surgeons Verification
UF Health TraumaOne, the only adult and pediatric Level I trauma center in Northeast Florida and Southeast Georgia, received official verification from the American College of Surgeons in 2018, a distinction given only to trauma centers that meet the most stringent criteria.

Magnet Designation
The American Nurses Credentialing Center continues to recognize UF Health Jacksonville as a Magnet program. The hospital earned Magnet status in 2011 and was honored again in 2016.

Center for Comprehensive Multiple Sclerosis Care
The UF Health Jacksonville Comprehensive Multiple Sclerosis Program is certified by the National Multiple Sclerosis Society as a Center for Comprehensive MS Care. The program was certified in 2009 and recertified in 2015 and 2018.

Designated Chest Pain Center
UF Health Jacksonville earned top recognition in 2016 for heart disease care, becoming the only hospital in Florida to receive accreditation from the Society of Cardiovascular Patient Care as a designated Chest Pain Center with Primary PCI and Resuscitation.

Five Stars – Professional Research Consultants Inc.
Professional Research Consultants Inc. recognized UF Health Jacksonville and UF Health North with seven awards for excellence in 2018. UF Health Jacksonville was a top performer for inpatient behavioral health and earned five stars for the Cardiovascular Intensive Care Unit. UF Health North earned five stars for ambulatory and outpatient surgery; emergency room; Medical/Surgical Unit; and Outpatient Surgery Center. UF Health North also received four stars for inpatient units.

Beacon Award for Excellence
The UF Health Jacksonville Medical Intensive Care Unit was recognized in 2017 with a Beacon Award for Excellence by the American Association of Critical Care Nurses. The Beacon Award is a three-year designation given to hospital units that set the standard in evidence-based practices to improve patient and family outcomes, as well as staff and patient satisfaction.
We teach students new ways of learning because diverse perspectives shed wisdom on problems where ignorance has prevailed.
The UF College of Dentistry is the only publicly funded dental school in Florida and a national leader in dental education, research and clinical care.

With 12 degree and certificate programs and a competitive admissions process, approximately 2,700 exceptional applicants apply annually for 140 positions. About 90 new dentists and 56 dental specialists graduate each year, with many choosing to practice in Florida. The college is one of only three in the nation with residency training in every dental specialty recognized by the American Dental Association. The college offers specialized programs in dental public health, endodontics, oral and maxillofacial pathology, oral and maxillofacial radiology, oral and maxillofacial surgery, orthodontics, pediatric dentistry, periodontics and prosthodontics.

The college is a nationally recognized oral health research enterprise, with an emphasis on infectious diseases in dentistry, bone biology, pain and neurosciences, and translational research to improve oral health care and patient outcomes. The Comprehensive Training Program in Oral Biology builds on 28 years of successful training of basic/clinical scientists and was selected for a national excellence award by the American Dental Education Association.

Our dental centers provide a complete range of general and specialty services for adults and children. The UF Statewide Network for Community Oral Health, with college-owned locations in Gainesville, Hialeah, Naples and St. Petersburg and affiliated centers throughout Florida, focuses on improving access to affordable, high-quality dental care for underserved populations and provides community-based learning opportunities for dental students and residents.

- Home to 365 D.M.D. students and 148 advanced education residents, fellows and interns.
- Ranked in the Top 10 for NIH research funding for the past 10 years for all dental schools in the U.S.
- The Department of Oral Biology includes national leaders in oral infectious diseases and immunology research and is one of the top-ranked in the U.S. based on NIH funding among similar departments.
- Dental care is provided to patients from all 67 counties in Florida, with almost 142,000 patient visits occurring annually.
The UF College of Medicine, the largest college within our academic health center, opened in 1956, driven by a three-part mission to increase Florida's supply of highly qualified physicians, provide advanced health care services to the residents of Florida and foster discovery in health research that would impact our nation and world. Each year, the College of Medicine welcomes more than 300 new physicians from across the country who come to complete their training at UF Health hospitals in Gainesville and Jacksonville.

Gainesville

The UF College of Medicine in Gainesville, which comprises 28 research-oriented and clinical science departments and the School of Physician Assistant Studies, is staffed by more than 1,400 faculty members. The UF College of Medicine has graduated more than 5,700 physicians and offers graduate degrees in a number of other programs, including biomedical engineering, biomedical sciences and physician assistant studies.

Over the last 60 years, the college has trained nearly 8,700 physicians through its residency programs, and currently there are 893 residents and fellows training within the UF College of Medicine. Patient care services are provided through the UF Health Physicians faculty practice, UF Health Shands and the Malcom Randall Veterans Affairs Medical Center, as well as at several community health care sites and other affiliated hospitals in Florida. College faculty are national leaders in fundamental, translational and clinical research and are involved in collaborative work in several research institutions and centers within the university.

In 2012, the UF College of Medicine revamped its curriculum to better prepare graduates for the changing world of health care by providing more exposure to clinical training early in their medical education and to place more emphasis on small group and collaborative learning. The George T. Harrell, M.D., Medical Education Building, which opened in 2015, was designed to align with the key elements of the new curriculum and to promote experiential learning through a team-based approach.

Jacksonville

The UF College of Medicine – Jacksonville has 455 faculty members, 448 of whom are physicians, among 17 clinical departments.

The college offers 37 ACGME- or CODA-accredited residency and fellowship programs, as well as 11 clinical fellowships. More than 380 resident physicians and fellows train on the UF Health Jacksonville campus and in affiliated outpatient practices, making it the fifth-largest GME program in Florida. For 2018, 40 percent of graduating residents remained in Jacksonville, and 58 percent remained in Florida. Doximity ranks the college’s residency programs in emergency medicine and integrated interventional radiology as among the most reputable programs in the South.

In addition, the college offers clerkships for third- and fourth-year medical students, as well as physician assistant students, primarily from the university’s main campus. UF medical students spend, on average, about 25 percent of their third year in required clerkships in Jacksonville, enhancing the learning experience offered by the university. More than one-third of residents who train on our campus completed at least one rotation here while in medical school.

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Simulation at UF Health

As the birthplace of the Human Patient Simulator, considered the gold standard in patient simulation technology, the UF College of Medicine takes full advantage of the latest technologies and approaches in experiential learning. Under the direction of the UF Center for Experiential Learning and Simulation in Gainesville and the UF Center for Simulation Education and Safety Research in Jacksonville, UF Health is committed to delivering simulation training that develops and enhances the clinical expertise, competence and teamwork skills of health care students and professionals to facilitate high-quality patient care and safety to advance the field.

The key objectives in UF Health’s simulation training programs include:

- Experiential learning for the deliberate practice of technical skills
- Practice of non-technical team and communications behaviors
- Practice critical time-pressured situations
- Assessment of systems to identify safety threats

Center for Experiential Learning and Simulation

The UF Center for Experiential Learning and Simulation has the potential to develop into a nationally and internationally recognized center of excellence known for the quality and innovation of its educational offerings. The unique environment of UF offers opportunities to develop, apply and evaluate innovative educational techniques in collaboration with domain experts who are not typically part of health care education, including those in fields such as industrial engineering, sociology, communication and linguistics, and organizational psychology.

There is already a strong foundation in place with respect to the Center for Safety, Simulation and Advanced Learning Technologies, or CSSALT, which has a long history of leveraging technology and engineering to continually improve experiential learning. The proximity of these experts to the College of Medicine enhances the opportunities for innovation, successful grant funding, and the development of generalizable knowledge and scholarship.

UF Health Shands Hospital extends the potential scope and penetration of the experiential learning program to the actual clinical learning environment. It is an ideal environment to align experiential learning, interdisciplinary clinical skills and team training as well as patient safety and systems learning. There is robust enthusiasm for interprofessional and interdisciplinary simulation at UF Health, from undergraduate medical, PA, nursing and other health professions students to practicing health care professionals.

Center for Simulation Education and Safety Research

Simulation education saves lives and provides residents with a bridge between the classroom and the emergency room. Physicians incorporated simulation training into the UF College of Medicine – Jacksonville emergency medicine residency curriculum in 2000 to provide a structured setting for the deliberate practice of clinical skills, and began using high-fidelity simulations in 2002. A 24,000-square-foot facility opened on the UF Health Jacksonville campus two years later that is supported by the hospital and the University of Florida.

The UF Center for Simulation Education and Safety Research offers unique opportunities to explore a wide variety of training scenarios, including mass casualty events, multiple patient encounters and a continuum of care from remote interventions through emergency room admissions and full surgical interventions. The training also provides self-reflection for students, and the opportunity for appropriate and timely supervisor feedback.

The center is separated into three areas:

- Main Simulation and Conference/Instruction Area — This 7,000-square-foot area occupies a former hospital emergency department. The area is supported by an additional 800-square-foot conference and instructional area.
- Operating Room Simulation and Instruction Area — This 14,000-square-foot area contains 12 operating rooms. It is supported by an additional 1,900-square-foot instruction area.
- Disaster Simulation Area — This area includes a previous parking lot and ambulance entrance to the former emergency department. It is prepared to be equipped with tents, emergency mobile facilities and other disaster preparation equipment, as training scenarios and events may require.
The UF College of Nursing is driven to transform health through exceptional academic programs, preeminent research and innovative practice. As the premier educational institution for nursing in Florida and one of the top leaders nationally, the college continually attracts and retains the highest caliber of nursing students and faculty with a passion for science and caring.

Undergraduate program offerings include a traditional Bachelor of Science in Nursing, an accelerated B.S.N. — with a program also offered in Jacksonville — for students who have degrees in other fields, and the R.N. to B.S.N. program, which is fully online. The Doctor of Nursing Practice, or D.N.P., program prepares advanced practice nurses in five clinical specialties. The Ph.D. program prepares nursing scholars and future faculty members.

UF nursing researchers are building robust teams to address some of the most pressing challenges facing health care. The college has renowned researchers focused on three areas of excellence — personalized strategies for management of symptoms; improving the delivery of quality care to reduce health disparities; and translational research to promote health of individuals, families and communities. Additionally, the college has established the Florida Blue Center for Health Care Quality and a Center for Palliative Care Research and Education.

The College of Nursing participates in nursing and patient care for individuals of all ages and operates one of the oldest nurse-managed primary care practices in the state of Florida.

- Offered Florida’s first nurse practitioner program and the first B.S.N. to Ph.D. track, as well as a new Doctor of Nursing Practice program.
- 80 percent of all undergraduate students go on to graduate school within three years of receiving their B.S.N.
- The Doctor of Nursing Practice program is ranked in the Top 20 among the nation’s public universities and No. 1 in the state.
- The college established its first cohort of the EMBRACE (Engaging Multiple communities of BSN students in Research and Academic Curricular Experiences) program to provide unique research and leadership opportunities for nursing students from multiple backgrounds.
- UF Health Archer Family Health Care is a federally designated rural health center and offers primary and psychiatric care to a medically underserved population in a rural community; more than 6,000 patient visits occur annually, providing valuable learning experiences for nursing, pharmacy and medical students.
- Undergraduate nursing students and community health nursing faculty in the college have a direct impact on health promotion in our local communities and globally through international service learning experiences — providing more than 10,000 hours of service annually.
Ranked by U.S. News & World Report as the No. 1 pharmacy college in Florida and in the Top 10 nationally, the UF College of Pharmacy develops future leaders in pharmacy practice and science. With campuses in Gainesville, Jacksonville and Orlando, award-winning faculty aim to improve the health of Floridians and people across the world through a high-quality pharmacy education, impactful research and clinical innovation.

The college’s Doctor of Pharmacy program prepares graduates to practice in an evolving environment where the pharmacist is an interprofessional team member who collaborates to improve patient care. Doctoral students are taking a lead role in advancing science through a comprehensive research training program that pushes boundaries in areas such as drug discovery and development, drug safety and developing new ways to care for patients. The college also offers unique degree programs using distance learning technologies, targeting working professionals.

Research activities, led by renowned faculty in the UF College of Pharmacy, span the entire lifecycle of a drug and are resulting in major medical breakthroughs in areas such as drug discovery and development, pharmacometrics and systems pharmacology, and pharmacogenomics, among others. These discoveries are significantly impacting the lives of patients around the world.

The college is a national leader in the development and evaluation of innovative clinical pharmacy practice models. The UF College of Pharmacy is exploring new models of chronic disease management in which pharmacists and doctors team up to ensure patients have access to care. As a result, pharmacists will play an expanded, more vital role in the health care system — a role that can increase quality, reduce costs and, most importantly, improve lives.

- Ranks No. 1 nationally in placing graduates into pharmacy residency programs.
- The college’s online programs are among the largest and most successful in the world, having received three national awards for excellence in distance education.
- The college is using products of nature to develop revolutionary drugs to treat cancer, infectious diseases, diabetes and Alzheimer’s.
- Using genetic information, the college has access to data that tells us the effectiveness of one medication versus another; through precision medicine, we can eliminate trial and error and get the best drug to the patient the very first time.
- Faculty are working to translate data from millions of people into effective knowledge that can catch harmful side effects of drugs before they impact patients.

Visit Destination.UFHealth.org/college-of-pharmacy to learn more

INTERNATIONALLY RENOWNED FACULTY
AT THE CENTER FOR NATURAL PRODUCTS, DRUG DISCOVERY AND DEVELOPMENT
IN NIH FUNDING AMONG THE 48 ACCREDITED SCHOOLS OF PUBLIC HEALTH AT PUBLIC UNIVERSITIES
($14.4 Million)

RANKED
TOP 20
BY U.S. NEWS & WORLD REPORT
IN 8 PROGRAMS
AMONG AAU PUBLIC UNIVERSITIES

#3 PHYSICAL THERAPY
#6 OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY
#10 BIOSTATISTICS
#11 HEALTH CARE MANAGEMENT
#13 PUBLIC HEALTH
#15 AUDIOLOGY
#17 SPEECH-LANGUAGE PATHOLOGY
#19 CLINICAL PSYCHOLOGY

College of Public Health and Health Professions

The UF College of Public Health and Health Professions is focused on preserving, promoting and improving the health and well-being of populations. It is one of 62 colleges and schools in the U.S. that has achieved accreditation as a school of public health from the Council on Education for Public Health.

The college is home to eight departments — biostatistics; clinical and health psychology; environmental and global health; epidemiology; health services research, management and policy; occupational therapy; physical therapy; and speech, language, and hearing sciences. With 2,505 students, 20 degree programs are offered — two bachelor’s, seven master’s, eight Ph.D. and three professional degree programs.

Research funding in the college has more than doubled over the past decade. Faculty members are working on projects in the state and abroad on diverse topics such as dementia, sports concussions, suicidal ideation, violence and addiction, obesity, muscular dystrophy, driving safety and various infectious diseases.

The college provides clinical, professional and community service at the local, national and international levels. Combining the population perspective of public health with the patient focus of our health professions disciplines, the continuum of care is covered, from prevention and treatment to rehabilitation that supports the health and well-being of communities and individuals.

UF HealthStreet’s community-based efforts focus on reducing disparities in health care and research by linking people to opportunities to participate in research and medical and social services. Service projects are integrated into the college’s academic programs at the community level and internationally, including a unique model that incorporates education and research efforts to improve the lives of people in other countries, such as Burkina Faso, China, Ethiopia, Haiti, India, Mexico, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Rwanda and Uganda.

- The college received more than $36 million in research funding in the past fiscal year.
- Eight programs are ranked in the Top 20 among AAU public universities, according to U.S. News & World Report.
- The college has six NIH-funded training grants, which provide important research training opportunities for doctoral students and postdoctoral fellows.
- Students in physical therapy, occupational therapy, and clinical and health psychology offer pro bono services through equal access clinics, providing care for local residents who are uninsured or underinsured.
College of Veterinary Medicine

As the state’s only veterinary medical college, the UF College of Veterinary Medicine is focused on advancing the health and welfare of animals, humans and the veterinary medical profession by offering a world-class education, innovative research and state-of-the-art clinical services.

With a commitment to preeminence in teaching, the college’s D.V.M. graduates have consistently ranked above the national average on the North American Veterinary Licensing Examination for the past several years. The College of Veterinary Medicine offers six degree programs and special interest certificate programs in Aquatic Animal Health, Veterinary Business Management, Food Animal Veterinary Medicine and Shelter Medicine. Last year, the college received 1,274 D.V.M. program applications for 120 openings. A state-of-the-art clinical skills lab provides a training environment for veterinary medical students to enhance their clinical and technical skills.

As a major leader in the research arena, the college is internationally recognized for its world-class basic science research in areas such as mucosal immunology, traumatic neural injury and vaccine development. Other key research initiatives focus on shelter medicine, aquatic animal health, infectious disease and “One Health,” aimed at enhancing animal, human and environmental health.

The UF Veterinary Hospitals serve as a major referral center, offering a broad range of medical and surgical services and advanced diagnostics, annually treating more than 38,000 small and large animals. A new UF Equine Acupuncture Center recently opened in Marion County to better serve equine clientele in the area. The UF Pet Emergency Treatment Services clinic in Ocala celebrated its five-year anniversary in 2018. Outreach to animal owners regarding the care of agricultural interests is provided through Veterinary Extension, which is associated with UF’s Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences.

- The college is an international leader in the area of disaster response, leading and training in different aspects of animal rescue.
- The college became the first veterinary medical college in the world to use true-to-life synthetic canine cadavers in student surgery labs and was involved in developing the technology with the manufacturer, Syndaver Canine.
- The UF Small Animal Hospital has one of the only dedicated interventional radiology and cardiology facilities in the nation.
- The college is leading a $10 million collaborative research grant from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention in the area of vector-borne diseases, addressing issues such as how to stop the spread of Zika in the U.S.
We lead the way in translating scientific discoveries into patient care advances that help people get back to living their lives to the fullest.
UF is home to nine research centers and institutes as well as the Research and Academic Center at Lake Nona, where world-class scientists collaborate on studies ranging from genetic dysfunction at the molecular level to national health information programs aimed at advancing precision health for the world’s population.

Each institute serves as an umbrella under which hundreds of researchers and faculty members from across UF and other institutions share their knowledge and expertise. This system allows fresh ideas to flourish and creates a combined energy that advances science in new ways.

Fueled by a combined total of more than $410 million in research funding, experienced scientists at UF Health’s research centers and institutes guide newly minted Ph.D.s to ensure that tomorrow’s health leaders learn from and build on today’s successes.
The brain is an incredibly complex organ best studied from multiple angles. The Evelyn F. and William L. McKnight Brain Institute of the University of Florida is one of the nation’s most comprehensive and diverse neuroscience research programs.

More than 200 faculty members across 16 UF colleges and 50 academic departments collaborate to advance the McKnight Brain Institute’s diverse research programs. Investigators in these programs study brain aging, neurodegenerative diseases, brain tumors, neurovascular disorders, neuroplasticity and neural repair, neuromuscular disease, neurorehabilitation, pain, addiction and psychiatric disorders. Each year more than 50 graduate and several hundred undergraduate students, dozens of medical residents, numerous postdoctoral fellows and hundreds of staff scientists participate in these research efforts.

NIH funding for neuroscience and neuromedicine research at UF is increasing, with current funding approaching $50 million per year. In 2017, UF ranked No. 3 in neurology/neuroscience and No. 8 in neurosurgery for National Institutes of Health funding among public universities, according to the Blue Ridge Institute for Medical Research.

- 200+ faculty from all 16 colleges and over 50 departments.
- Approximately $50 million per year in active neuroscience- and neuromedicine-based NIH funding.
- 100 researchers received NIH funding in 2017.
- The UF-led Florida Alzheimer’s Disease Research Center is the only NIH-funded ADRC awarded to a Florida university.
- Researchers have developed novel treatments for amyotrophic lateral sclerosis, or ALS, also known as Lou Gehrig’s disease.
- Pioneering work in brain cancer immunotherapy provides hope that better outcomes, and eventually a cure, may be in sight.
Norman Fixel Institute for Neurological Diseases at UF Health

UF Health’s newest institute is positioned to amass some of the world’s most talented researchers to tackle Parkinson’s disease and other neurodegenerative disorders and to advance scientific discoveries that lead to breakthroughs in treatment options for patients.

The Norman Fixel Institute for Neurological Diseases is home to scientists and clinicians at UF Health who are working on neurological disorders that afflict millions of people across the globe. These conditions include movement disorders such as Parkinson’s, dystonia and ALS (also known as Lou Gehrig’s disease); dementias such as Alzheimer’s disease and Lewy body disease; and concussions and traumatic brain injuries.

The institute is a cornerstone of the university’s aspiration to help create history’s healthiest generation through precision health, the elimination of health disparities and the advancement of therapies related to the brain and neuromuscular and mental health.

UF Health physicians are conducting leading-edge treatments, such as deep brain stimulation and gene therapy, that are transforming patient care. Under the umbrella of the Fixel Institute, they will seek to revolutionize discoveries in Parkinson’s and other neurological diseases that will lead to new therapies that improve quality of life for patients and forever change how these conditions are treated.
The UF Clinical and Translational Science Institute exists to speed discoveries toward better health. By connecting resources, people and ideas, the institute expands collaboration and advances translational research across UF and its 16 colleges, Florida State University, the University of Miami, the state of Florida, and the national Clinical and Translational Science Awards Consortium, which is funded by the National Center for Advancing Translational Sciences of the National Institutes of Health.

The CTSA Program supports a network of more than 50 medical research institutions that play a pivotal role in the NCATS mission to get more treatments to more patients more quickly. Since 2009, the Clinical and Translational Science Institute has received two NIH CTSAs totaling more than $46 million. Clinical and Translational Science Institute research services and resources assist more than 1,000 faculty each year, and the institute incubates transformative programs that create new capabilities for research and translation to practice. Its programs have risen to national prominence and spurred UF preeminence initiatives in genomic medicine, metabolomics, biomedical informatics, translational communication and social network analysis.

The Clinical and Translational Science Institute also serves as a central hub for translational science education and training at UF, fostering a vibrant and multidisciplinary community of scholars, trainees, mentors and research professionals across 11 colleges and four campuses. The institute is headquartered in the Clinical and Translational Research Building, a 120,000-square-foot LEED Platinum facility that opened in 2013. The building houses patient-oriented research venues and teams for the CTSI and the Institute on Aging, as well as the departments of biostatistics, epidemiology, and health outcomes and biomedical informatics.

- During more than 50 years of NIH funding, the CTSI's Clinical Research Center has been at the forefront of gene therapy, pharmacogenomics and research on rare diseases.
- In 2017-18, teams in the CTRB contributed to research projects supported by 318 awards totaling more than $243 million.
- The CTSI serves as the coordinating center for the OneFlorida Clinical Research Consortium, which bridges the nation's third-largest state to two national research networks. UF led the creation of OneFlorida in 2013 in collaboration with Florida State University and the University of Miami.
- UF and OneFlorida received a five-year, $12 million award in 2018 to serve as a recruitment center for the NIH All of Us precision medicine initiative. As part of the Southeast Enrollment Center, led by the University of Miami in collaboration with UF, Emory University and Morehouse School of Medicine, OneFlorida will enroll more than 4,000 participants per year in this national research program to advance precision medicine by gathering health data from more than 1 million people in the U.S. UF will also serve as the data coordinating center for the SEEC.
Research at Jacksonville

Research is vital to the shared mission of UF Health Jacksonville and the UF College of Medicine – Jacksonville. Unique aspects of the campus and surrounding community combine with faculty expertise to position the campus at the forefront of research around key issues in health care. Jacksonville continues to invest in the talent, technology and partnerships necessary to move from innovation to transformation.

There are more than 550 active research investigations being conducted by UF faculty in Jacksonville. These range from laboratory investigations of molecular pathways involved in chronic kidney disease and observational studies to enhance management of sepsis to randomized clinical trials of leading-edge antithrombotic medications and community-engaged research evaluating new ways to manage obesity. While the research portfolio is robust and diverse, the unifying philosophy centers on an ultimate goal of transforming health and wellness for patients and the community. Exciting areas of programmatic focus going forward include precision medicine, mental health, acute critical care and aging. In addition to the Center for Health Equity and Quality Research and the UF Jacksonville Aging Studies Center, the campus houses dedicated research programs for cardiology, emergency medicine and HIV/AIDS to provide higher-quality patient care and continue moving medicine forward.
The UF Diabetes Institute’s mission is to see a world free of diabetes. A key step to achieving this goal is to better understand the disease’s two major forms, Type 1 and Type 2. This includes determining what causes diabetes, identifying a means to predict who will eventually develop it, finding ways to prevent and/or cure the disorder’s progression, and identifying methods capable of disease reversal.

These objectives are addressed in many ways. For example, the institute’s investigators in Gainesville and Jacksonville lead basic science, translational and clinical research studies on living subjects as well as tissue samples from organ donors to better characterize diabetes development, identify novel biomarkers and develop new potential therapies directed at key points in the roadmap that culminates in diabetes. Other institute members address diabetes from a variety of social and/or behavioral perspectives, including issues of family, self-identity, the benefits of diabetes education, and access to disease management technologies. Investigators are also exploring factors such as food choices, economics, diabetes’ impact in veterinary medicine (dogs and cats), health care access and more. Diabetes Institute investigators have a reputation for conducting “bench-to-bedside” efforts, seeking to improve the lives of those with the disease.

Indeed, the Diabetes Institute’s efforts set an emphasis on community outreach, patient education and stakeholder engagement to positively affect diabetes management and care at each phase of life — childhood, adolescence, adulthood and elder care.

From either a research or clinical care perspective, the institute’s investigators are recognized nationally or internationally for excellence in their performance.

Lastly, the Diabetes Institute has an established history of determining the roles of the immune system and genetics in Type 1 diabetes development with efforts to use blood tests for staging pre-Type 1 diabetes pioneered by Mark Atkinson, Ph.D., and Desmond Schatz, M.D. UF investigators have since established a peripheral blood sample biorepository of well over 100,000 donor samples to facilitate further research on new disease-associated biomarkers.

University of Florida Diabetes Institute

- Lead the Network for Pancreatic Organ donors with Diabetes program (nPOD), which collects and uses tissue samples from organ donors for research. This is but one of five programs collecting organ donor tissues, with a combined annual budget of over $6 million.
- One of five institutions nationwide selected by the NIH to help create a groundbreaking 3D cellular map of the human body that may one day transform understanding of diseases; the $5.1 million, nearly four-year HuBMAP grant will allow UF Health researchers to map key parts of the lymphatic system, which helps fight infections and disease.
- Leadership in international Type 1 diabetes research consortia focusing on Type 1 diabetes risk screening and innovative clinical studies (TrialNet); environmental determinants of Type 1 diabetes in children (The TEDDY study); and clinical trials studying oral insulin, pancreas volume and other therapies.
- Creation of programs designed to identify barriers to leading-edge technologies that would lead to improved diabetes management, including those of migrant populations to the U.S.
- Led by Dr. Kenneth Cusi, UF is a global leader in the studies of non-alcoholic fatty liver disease and non-alcoholic steatohepatitis, conditions often associated with Type 2 diabetes.

$49,000,000+
Current diabetes-related research awards
University of Florida Emerging Pathogens Institute

The UF Emerging Pathogens Institute provides a world-class research environment to facilitate interdisciplinary studies of emergence and control of human, animal and plant pathogens of concern to Florida, the nation and the world.

Florida’s residents and its two major industries — agriculture and tourism — are constantly threatened by new diseases such as the Zika virus, dengue fever and citrus greening that are unwittingly carried into the state via storms, imports and global visitors.

Florida’s unique geography and climate require unique disease prevention and control strategies. Development of such strategies, however, requires a strong research base with a global outlook. Pathogens do not respect national borders, and their control requires an awareness of what is happening around the world.

The Emerging Pathogens Institute fuses key disciplines to develop research, education and outreach capabilities designed to preserve Florida’s health and economy, and to prevent or contain new and reemerging diseases.

Emerging Pathogens Institute researchers seek to understand the genetic changes that lead to the emergence of new pathogens; to appreciate the complex interaction of environmental and host factors that permit these pathogens to spread within plant, animal and human populations; to use these data to develop and implement interventions to minimize risk of disease transmission; to train the next generation of investigators in emerging diseases; and to disseminate information about emerging pathogens and their control to the people of Florida.

- More than 200 faculty from 11 UF colleges are affiliated with the EPI
- Faculty have received more than $177 million in research grants since 2006

University of Florida Genetics Institute

The UF Genetics Institute is a biomedical research center that promotes collaborative and multidisciplinary research using the tools of genetics and genomics. Some 220 faculty members representing nine colleges and 51 academic departments are members of the institute. They conduct research in human genetics, bioinformatics, agricultural and plant biology, and evolutionary biology. Their research addresses pressing issues such as climate change, health-related genetic mutations and food security.

Specific aims of the institute include developing platforms and techniques for functional genomics and proteomics research; establishing shared bioinformatics resources for the analysis of genetic information and experimental data from genetic research; and fostering translational research aimed at putting genetic discoveries into practical use in microbial, plant, animal and human applications.

- Five members of the UFGI are members of the National Academy of Sciences
- UFGI has about 220 faculty from 51 departments in nine colleges
- UFGI faculty managed $63 million in research grants in fiscal year 2017
- UFGI faculty authored 721 publications in fiscal year 2017
- UFGI faculty were awarded 48 patents in fiscal year 2017

The University of Florida has played a pivotal role in gene therapy and the use of the adeno-associated virus as a gene vector. UF research resulted in the discovery of the unique life cycle of AAV by Kenneth Berns, M.D., Ph.D., in the 1980s, as well as faculty credited with the first use of AAV to deliver genes to cells in culture; the first use of AAV in animals and humans; the first use of AAV in models of muscle and heart disease; and the first use of AAV to reverse blindness in dogs with a genetic disease.
The UF Health Cancer Center is dedicated to serving the residents of Florida through state-of-the-art cancer treatment, prevention and education. The Cancer Center stands alone in the state of Florida in its unique ability to blend comprehensive patient care and innovative research in a collaborative, multidisciplinary environment. It boasts a membership of more than 230 researchers and clinicians from across UF and UF Health. The UF Health Cancer Center is a state-designated Cancer Center of Excellence, along with the UF Health Proton Therapy Institute in Jacksonville and the affiliated Orlando Health UF Health Cancer Center.

Our multidisciplinary membership allows for exciting collaborations and encourages the translation of basic laboratory findings to novel curative and preventive therapies. At this unique intersection of research, education and treatment, the UF Health Cancer Center strives to find tomorrow’s answers for today’s patients.

Visit Destination.UFHealth.org/uf-health-cancer-center to learn more

Navigating Through Treatment

When a patient begins their journey with us, a nurse navigator coordinates all aspects of the patient’s care, including ensuring the patient and family understand the care plan. From the initial visit and evaluation to treatment and recovery, we want our patients to be educated about their treatment plan and feel comfortable with their path.
Advances in child health research over the past 10 years hold great promise for understanding the health of and pathways of disease in children. Emerging research in epigenetics, the microbiome and maternal health during pregnancy have already given us surprising new insights into the building blocks of good health in childhood. Genomics research has also led to treatment advances in childhood cancer, sickle cell disease and other rare conditions.

Yet with all the promise this research holds, social disadvantage and other inequities in children’s health, which often persist into adulthood, remain among the nation’s greatest health challenges. More than 1 in 5 children in the United States live below the federal poverty level. About 1 in 7 children has a diagnosed mental, behavioral or developmental disorder, and about 1 in 5 has a chronic physical health condition. Lack of access to high-quality health care, together with risky health behaviors — including tobacco and substance use among parents and children, poor nutrition, inactivity and exposure to environmental toxins — all seriously undermine the health of our children.

The 33 faculty and affiliate members of UF’s Institute for Child Health Policy work in transdisciplinary teams using integrated clinical, environmental and social determinants of health data to identify the biological, behavioral and social underpinnings of children’s health and disease. Faculty also use these data to better target customized interventions to improve individual and population health for children and their families.

ICHP and its academic home, the UF College of Medicine Department of Health Outcomes and Biomedical Informatics, have a $23 million research portfolio (2017-18), which includes funding from the National Institutes of Health, the Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Institute, the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, the U.S. Department of Justice and others.

ICHP aims to:

- Improve children’s health by reducing health disparities through novel data science methods and tools.
- Conduct surveillance, early detection and monitoring of conditions that affect children’s development by leveraging our access to big data.
- Improve children’s health by understanding the mechanisms contributing to obesity and developing health-promoting tailored interventions.
The UF Institute on Aging seeks to understand all aspects of aging through research, health care and education so that we can all live healthier, more independent lives.

Spanning the entire spectrum of biomedical investigation, including molecular biology, animal studies, clinical research, behavioral sciences, epidemiology and engineering, the institute’s research efforts address its overarching goal: to increase scientific knowledge that leads to better ways to maintain or restore independence of older people.

The institute hosts the division of biology of aging, several multicenter clinical trials and the NIH-funded Claude D. Pepper Older Americans Independence Center, which studies physical disability and effective prevention therapies.

The institute’s work proceeds to the patient bedside as faculty practice translational research, which takes basic findings and applies them to the health of older adults. The institute and department of aging and geriatric research offer geriatric primary care through UF Health Senior Care. UF board-certified geriatricians staff the practice.

Additionally, the institute has a geriatrician embedded in the emergency room of UF Health Shands Hospital, while a second geriatrician is available for inpatient medical services via the Acute Care for the Elderly unit. The institute also offers care through Oak Hammock at UF, a retirement community with long-term and rehabilitative care as well as an assisted living facility.

- Approximately $79 million in funding from the NIH in the last three years.
- Produces $8.69 in extramural funding for every $1 invested in research.
- Spearheaded the opening of the NIH-funded Jacksonville Aging Studies Center to serve as a hub for behavioral, nutritional and pharmacologic clinical trials targeting older adults of racial minority and low socioeconomic status.
- Completed planning for its portion of a $170 million Molecular Transducers of Physical Activity in Humans study to discover underlying mechanisms of exercise that produce physical benefits.
- Nearing completion of a $5.3 million study to determine if reducing inflammation could help avert loss of mobility in older adults.
- Participation in training programs to develop promising investigators, including those of underrepresented backgrounds, involving the institute’s Claude D. Pepper Older Americans Independence Center and the Resource Center for Minority Aging Research.
University of Florida Research and Academic Center at Lake Nona

The UF Research and Academic Center at Lake Nona supports a thriving research and medical community in Central Florida and bridges programs at UF’s other campuses. Home to programs and key research efforts of the UF colleges of Pharmacy and Medicine, the campus supports professional training for 325 students pursuing a Doctor of Pharmacy degree. In state-of-the-art research labs and centers at Lake Nona, UF scientists carry out basic, clinical and translational research in drug discovery and development. The Center for Pharmacometrics and Systems Pharmacology provides quantitative modeling and simulation approaches as well as systems pharmacology strategies to improve drug safety and efficacy. At the Institute for Therapeutic Innovation within the College of Medicine’s department of medicine, researchers focus on developing anti-infective therapies for pathogens of public health importance, including diseases such as Zika, MRSA and HIV. Clinical pharmacists, pharmacy residents and pharmacy technicians staff the Center for Quality Medication Management, the nation’s largest academically based medication therapy management center, which provides outreach to more than 25,000 patients and providers each month to discuss ways to optimize medication therapy. With locations in Orlando and Gainesville, the center provides telephone outreach to Medicare and Medicaid beneficiaries to help patients overcome barriers in taking their medications.

Florida and the world are counting on us. We intend to lead the way.
COMMUNITY HEALTH
OUTREACH & EDUCATION

UF Health proactively reaches out beyond the walls of our hospitals and clinical practices to share valuable health information with area residents. We offer health education programs and events and also partner in community efforts. We support civic, social and cultural programs to raise awareness of health issues and promote wellness. We bring UF Health physicians, dentists, nurses and other providers and experts into the community to speak about specific health and wellness topics at seminars, and to offer disease-prevention information and screenings at community health fairs and other outreach events.

Our commitment as a responsible, accountable steward of our resources is the cornerstone of UF Health’s not-for-profit mission. In fiscal year 2018, UF Health spent $174 million on unsponsored charity care (at cost) and social responsibility efforts across its Gainesville and Jacksonville campuses.

The All of Us Research Program
UF Health is part of an ambitious nationwide effort to accelerate health research and medical breakthroughs. This program will gather health information from at least 1 million people over the next decade to shape the future of health care and support precision medicine. We’re among more than 25 U.S. institutions involved and part of the Southeast Enrollment Center network. It will work with the OneFlorida Clinical Research Consortium, whose coordinating center is the UF Clinical and Translational Science Institute. UF Health plans to enroll 20,000 participants over five years. The program’s goal aligns with UF Health’s commitment to move medicine forward.

CREATING THE HEALTHIEST GENERATION

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COMMUNITY BENEFIT – NORTH CENTRAL FLORIDA

UF HealthStreet
UF HealthStreet is a statewide community engagement program that aims to improve community health by bridging gaps in health care and health research. Community health workers assess health concerns, conditions and research perceptions of local residents. They provide referrals for medical and social services and opportunities to participate in health research relevant to people's health concerns and conditions.

PulsePoint Smartphone App
UF Health officials partnered with Alachua County and city of Gainesville emergency first responders to make the PulsePoint smartphone app available across Alachua County. PulsePoint, funded by the UF College of Medicine's department of anesthesiology, alerts participating citizens on their smartphones when a person experiences a cardiac arrest nearby, allowing them to help by delivering hands-only chest compressions until emergency personnel arrive. Use of the app is expected to help double the county's survival rate for out-of-hospital cardiac arrests thanks to lifesaving bystander CPR.

Trauma Education
UF Health ShandsCair offers multiple training and education opportunities to emergency medical personnel throughout the year. Two popular conferences include Advances in Critical Care and Caring for Critical Kids. Topics range from the role of EMS in mass disasters and end-of-life care to pediatric trauma and pediatric respiratory emergencies. In addition, ShandsCair also provides one-day training activities, such as NICU aircraft training, landing zone safety classes and trauma life support classes. ShandsCair also participates in many community events to educate citizens about the role of emergency transport.

We ask “what if” and invite others to join us in the quest for answers.
Stroke Education
UF Health Shands is accredited by The Joint Commission as a Comprehensive Stroke Center. Comprehensive Stroke Centers are hospitals that have specific abilities to receive and treat the most complex stroke cases. This level of certification recognizes the significant differences in resources, staff and training that are necessary for the treatment of complex stroke cases and are the centers best equipped to provide specialized care that can lead to better patient outcomes. As part of their accreditation, the faculty and staff of the UF Health Shands Comprehensive Stroke Center take every opportunity to educate the community on the signs and symptoms of a stroke. This outreach includes community events, health fairs and seminars.

Equal Access Clinic Network
The Equal Access Clinic Network, established by the UF College of Medicine and staffed by faculty and student volunteers from several of our health-related colleges, offers free care and other services for the medically underserved in Gainesville, including primary care, physical therapy, occupational therapy and dental care.

UF College of Medicine Mobile Outreach Clinic
The UF College of Medicine Mobile Outreach Clinic delivers care to the medically underserved in low-income neighborhoods and rural areas in and around Alachua County. A large bus containing two exam rooms, a laboratory and a waiting area is staffed by a registered nurse and volunteer physicians, physician assistants, residents and medical students who screen, refer and provide case management five days a week throughout the community.

Maddie’s Shelter Medicine Program
This program provides education and training to veterinary professionals, students and animal shelters to enhance the medical and behavioral health of shelter animals, to increase shelter lifesaving and to promote public health.
COMMUNITY BENEFIT – NORTHEAST FLORIDA

UF Health Jacksonville is one of the state’s seven safety net teaching hospitals, helping serve residents in their primary service area who have little or no health insurance. It is one of Florida’s largest Medicaid and charity care providers. Of UF Health Jacksonville’s patient population, 23.5 percent are Medicaid patients and 14.5 percent are uninsured. The institution contracts with the city of Jacksonville to provide care for its uninsured population, providing about $65 million in care for a reimbursement of $26 million from the city.

UF Health Jacksonville offers a variety of health education and outreach initiatives aimed at improving the quality of life for everyone in the community. Registered nurses, physicians, physician assistants, pharmacists and volunteers provide routine health screenings, education, disease counseling and case management.

Care Van
Care Van is a mini health unit on wheels that travels throughout Jacksonville providing health and wellness information. Screenings are available and interactive displays focus on different health issues. Topics include heart disease, cancer, diabetes, asthma, cholesterol, healthy eating, transportation safety and more. The Care Van participates in nearly 100 events each year.

Heal Thy People
Heal Thy People is a program that brings UF Health providers into more than 50 community churches to improve health awareness, offering screenings for hypertension, diabetes, cholesterol, cardiovascular disease, cancer, HIV and other health conditions. The program seeks to make health care more accessible to people who use the emergency room for primary care.

Northeast Florida Healthy Start/Little Miracles
Florida’s governor created Florida’s Healthy Start initiative in 1991 to reduce Florida’s high infant mortality rate. Florida law mandates that community-based Healthy Start coalitions oversee the maternal and infant health care services in their communities. Offered through the hospital’s obstetrics and gynecology practice and labor and delivery unit, services include prenatal education, childbirth and breastfeeding classes, parenting classes, counseling for drug and domestic abuse, and other services. The Little Miracles Program began at UF Health Jacksonville in 2000 to improve the health of mothers and their babies in Jacksonville and to encourage prenatal care. Enrollees receive benefits such as prenatal education, insurance assistance, access to a 24-hour on-call nurse hotline and direct physician line, enrollment in an incentive-based rewards program with monthly drawings and citywide baby showers.

Total Care Clinic
The UF Health Total Care Clinic is an outpatient practice on the UF Health Jacksonville campus that addresses the needs of patients whose care is rendered through the City Contract program. Patients seen at the Total Care Clinic have a panel of doctors, nurses and other providers dedicated to maintaining and improving their health as well as assisting them with specialty care. On-site case managers coordinate and track the care of patients, especially those who have complex or chronic medical conditions. Services include primary care, psychiatry and mental health, pharmacist-assisted medication management and health education for chronic medical conditions such as diabetes, heart disease and malnutrition.

Trauma
Physicians and staff at UF Health TraumaOne lead patient education efforts in Northeast Florida and Southeast Georgia by teaching a variety of public courses, including bicycle safety instruction for children; car seat safety instruction for parents; distracted driving simulation for teens and adults; fall prevention techniques for senior citizens; mock DUI events for high school students; Stop the Bleed techniques for children and adults to help prevent deaths during mass casualty events; and Hands-only CPR. In addition, TraumaOne providers and staff are actively involved in training regional emergency medical services, or EMS, personnel.
At UF Health, our patients are at the center of everything we do. Our reputation is built upon the expertise of exceptional physician faculty and expert care teams from a broad range of disciplines and specialties.

WE EDUCATE, TREAT, CARE AND CURE. As the leading academic health center in the Southeast, UF Health rigorously pursues research that has the potential to save and extend lives and uncover solutions for serious diseases and illness.

UF Health — which seeks support for faculty, programs and infrastructure that will allow us to respond to the most pressing health challenges of our time — represents the largest component of the University of Florida’s comprehensive campaign. To date, more than $1.8 billion has been raised toward a $3 billion goal. Private philanthropy provides scholarships and fellowships that help attract spectacular students, creates faculty endowments that help recruit and retain national leaders, and supports exceptional patient care.

Through investments from individuals, foundations and corporations, our talents and resources will improve the health and well-being of our patients, our communities and citizens throughout the world.

Together, we will GO GREATER to contribute to the health of future generations.

Philanthropy
Building healthier communities, which lead to healthier future generations.
There’s a reason the Sunshine State is the tourism capital of the world and the third-most populous state in the country. As a Florida resident, you’re never far from the world’s best beaches, theme parks and attractions (and their Florida resident discounts) and cultural arts. Factor in our favorable tax rate and entrepreneurial spirit, and it’s easy to see why so many individuals, families and businesses choose to make Florida their home.

- One of only seven U.S. states without state income tax
- More than 160 state parks that offer hiking, fishing, canoeing, camping and so much more
- Walt Disney World, Universal Orlando, Legoland, Busch Gardens, SeaWorld, Kennedy Space Center, Daytona International Speedway, the mermaids of Weeki Wachee and the Florida Museum of Natural History … all just a car ride away
- Hundreds of miles of beaches to enjoy year-round

**Gainesville**

*One of the Top 100 Best Places to Live.*

From the natural beauty of our wide-open trails, to the hospitality of our tight-knit community, to the stores we love and the new ones to discover, it’s all here. But that’s just a snapshot of today — because our home city has big plans for the future.

With an average high of 65 degrees in January, you rarely hear the terms “wind chill factor” and “freezing rain” in Gainesville — unless you happen to be watching a national weather forecast. Mild winters and warm summers are par for the course in the Sunshine State. With its beautiful natural landscape, nearby freshwater springs and stunning prairies, Gainesville has been called an “urban forest.”

There’s more to the climate in Gainesville than the weather and scenic environment. There is the climate of innovation and entrepreneurship that has resulted in the creation of a substantial number of new businesses in recent years, making the city especially attractive for dual-career families.

UF’s Strategic Development Plan provides a robust framework for building a more dynamic city by leveraging the brainpower of experts across the university. This innovative model for town-and-gown relationships earned UF the Society for College and University Planning’s 2017 “Excellence in Planning for an Existing Campus” award. The worldwide organization’s recognition is akin to winning an Academy Award in the motion picture industry.
Jacksonville
One of the Nation’s 10 Best Big Cities.

Jacksonville, the largest city in area in the continental United States, is a rapidly growing metropolitan city in Northeast Florida and home to nearly 850,000 residents.

Jacksonville is known for its convenient location, mild climate, reasonable cost of living and high quality of life. Recognized as “America’s Logistics Center,” Jacksonville is a leading distribution center, with a transportation network embracing port and air cargo facilities, rail and trucking routes. Millions of tons of raw materials and manufactured goods move through the city annually. Jacksonville is consistently rated one of the “Hottest Cities in America” for business expansions and relocations in an annual poll featured in Expansion Management magazine.

The city is also home to two large military bases — Naval Station Mayport and Naval Air Station Jacksonville.

Among Jacksonville’s many natural assets is one of the largest urban park systems in the country. The active and passive parks and preservation lands are a key part of the city’s landscape. Swimming and surfing are popular at nearby barrier island beaches, such as Atlantic Beach, Jacksonville Beach and Neptune Beach. Championship golf courses in the area include Ponte Vedra Beach’s TPC Sawgrass, headquarters of the PGA Tour.

Jacksonville also offers a major symphony orchestra, a sports and entertainment complex downtown and numerous special events each year. The home of the NFL’s Jacksonville Jaguars, the city welcomed its first Super Bowl in 2005.

Jacksonville has been named one of the 10 Best Big Cities to Live by Money Magazine.
For us, being a destination means the start of another journey, one that leads our scientists and our students to new discoveries and treatments.