

TEXAS BIOTECHNOLOGY & LIFE SCIENCES INDUSTRY

Texas Medical Center in Houston

Texas Economic Development & Tourism Office | Office of the Governor

Texas is a leading global hub for biotechnology and life sciences. Thanks to a multitude of factors, including our world-class institutions, professional talent and focus on innovation, Texas is home to thousands of life science and research firms. In addition to the headquarters for McKesson and Tenet Healthcare, global industry leaders such as Galderma, Novartis, Abbott, Alcon, Medtronic, Luminex and more have significant operations in the state. Plus recent announcements like Lilly's new active pharmaceutical ingredient manufacturing facility in Harris County and AstraZeneca's expansion in Coppell prove that Texas is an attractive location for pharmaceutical manufacturing.

For decades, Texas has been an epicenter for groundbreaking medical research. With a robust network of academic and research institutions, including nine of the nation's top 200 medical schools and 16 Tier One research universities, Texas schools spend more than $8.3 billion in total annual research and development expenditures. The Texas Medical Center (TMC) in Houston is the largest medical complex in the world. Already a research mega-site, TMC is partnering with three state universities to develop a state-of-the-art research collaborative campus which will keep Texas on the cutting edge of discovery and innovation in medicine.

By cultivating a premier environment for scientific advancements, Texas has become a leader in pharmaceuticals, animal and agricultural biotech, medical device manufacturing, cancer research, biomedicine and more. Texas' emphasis on innovation and industry collaborations have created a climate where biotech and life science firms can flourish well into the future.

EXCEPTIONAL TALENT POOL:

Texas is home to one of the largest clusters of life science and biotech professionals in the country. Texas can readily supply life science companies with a highly skilled, diverse pool of talent, generating up to nearly 18,000 industry-related graduates annually.

EXPANDING MEDICAL SCHOOL SYSTEMS:

Texas is already home to 16 medical universities, nine of which rank among the nation's top 200 medical schools, and our prestigious higher education network continues to expand.

TOP-TIER FOR BIOTECH-RELATED DOCTORATES:

Our state continues to churn out some of the nation's top scientists—more than 900 biotech-related doctorates each year. Texas ranks second in the country for total biotech-related doctorates awarded.

ATTRACTING PROMINENT RESEARCHERS:

The Governor's University Research Initiative (GURI) was created by the State of Texas to bring the best and brightest researchers in the world to the state. The grant program assists eligible institutions of higher education in recruiting Nobel Laureates and other distinguished researchers to their campus in the fields of science, technology, engineering, mathematics and medicine.

RESEARCH & DEVELOPMENT HUB:

Research and development (R&D) is the lifeblood of the biotech industry in Texas. The state has more than 2,600 biotechnology-related R&D firms, and ranks #2 nationally for number of clinical trials—more than 24,500 completed, plus more underway.

TEXAS' TOP RANKINGS FOR BIOTECH WORKERS (2024)

#1	Chemical Engineers
#1	Veterinary Technologists & Technicians
#1	Clinical Laboratory Technologists & Technicians
#2	Ophthalmic Medical Technicians
#3	Bioengineers & Biomedical Engineers

THERE ARE MORE THAN 16,500 HIGHLY SKILLED WORKERS IN THE MEDICAL DEVICE SECTOR.

MD ANDERSON IS CONSIDERED THE #1 FACILITY FOR CANCER CARE IN THE NATION.

THE TEXAS MEDICAL CENTER CONDUCTS MORE CLINICAL TRIALS THAN ANY OTHER SINGLE SITE IN THE WORLD.

TEXAS IS HOME TO THE LARGEST MILITARY MEDICAL COMPLEX IN THE NATION.



Governor Greg Abbott celebrated the announcement of Lilly's new $6.5 billion active pharmaceutical ingredient manufacturing facility in Harris County.

ADVANCING PHARMACEUTICAL MANUFACTURING:

In December 2025, Lilly announced they will construct an active pharmaceutical ingredient (API) manufacturing facility, totaling around 1 million square feet, in Harris County. Investing $6.5 billion and creating more than 600 new jobs, this is the largest investment in API manufacturing in Texas to date. The investment boosts pharmaceutical manufacturing in Texas and reduces reliance on foreign countries for the manufacturing and supply of medicines and medical supplies. Together, Lilly and Texas will help shape the future of pharmaceutical manufacturing for the nation and the world.

RACING TOWARDS A CURE FOR CANCER:

The State of Texas is leading an unprecedented fight against cancer. Texans voted to create the Cancer Prevention and Research Institute of Texas (CPRIT), which is the largest taxpayer-funded cancer research organization in the country, with more than $6 billion dedicated to research grants. There are also four NCI-Designated Cancer Centers in Texas, including The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center, which ranks #1 for cancer care in the nation. Not to mention, MD Anderson launched a joint venture, the Cell Therapy Manufacturing Center based at TMC, to accelerate the development and manufacturing of innovative cell therapies for patients with cancer.

CONTACT US

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
TEXAS ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & TOURISM OFFICE

Texas Economic Development & Tourism Office (EDT) serves as the state's leading economic development organization marketing Texas as the world's premier business investment destination. The division pursues business expansion and relocation prospects, with the goal of developing job creation and export opportunities for the Texas business community.

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