

# TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY HEALTH SCIENCES CENTER EL PASO

## **NEWS RELEASE**

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## Tuition Revenue Bonds Approved by Texas Legislature for Science Building at Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center El Paso

Over \$75 million in tuition revenue bonds (TRBs) were approved by the recent 84<sup>th</sup> Texas Legislature to build Medical Science Building II at the Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center El Paso campus. The original plan for the Paul L. Foster School of Medicine was to have two medical science buildings. The first, Medical Science Building I opened in 2005. Medical Science Building I houses four centers of emphasis—Cancer, Diabetes and Obesity, Infectious Disease, and Neurosciences.

"We are extremely appreciative that the legislature chose to authorize state-funded campus construction projects this session. It represents a significant investment and sends a clear signal regarding the importance of higher education in our state. The capital projects approved for the institutions of the Texas Tech University System will help address facility needs due to our continued growth in enrollment and research. This commitment of nearly \$250 million in projects to the Texas Tech System, including \$75 million to TTUHSC El Paso, is critically important to the continued success of our institutions, our faculty and our students. We express our sincere thanks to the entire West Texas legislative delegation for their efforts and support. We appreciate the tireless efforts of Sen. Jose Rodriguez, Rep. Cesar Blanco, Rep. Marisa Marquez, Rep. Joe Pickett, Rep. Joe Moody and Rep. Mary Gonzalez on our behalf," said Texas Tech University Chancellor Robert Duncan.

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"Medical Science Building II will allow our research programs to expand by recruiting additional scientists to tackle the border's health-related challenges. This means greater odds of turning new research findings into preventative measures and effective treatments. We are grateful to our state legislators for making TTUHSC El Paso a top legislative priority," said TTUHSC El Paso President and Dean of the Paul L. Foster School of Medicine, Richard Lange, M.D., M.B.A.

The five-year TTUHSC El Paso strategic plan calls for growth to over 1,400 students and residents. Enrollment this past fall for students in all three schools was at an all-time high with a total of 491 students.

Clinical departments at TTUHSC El Paso include anesthesiology, family medicine, internal medicine, neurology, obstetrics and gynecology, orthpaedic surgery, pathology, pediatrics, psychiatry, radiology and surgery.

#### About Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center at El Paso

Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center at El Paso, the Texas Tech University System's fourth university, has a mission to provide education, research, and patient care to West Texas. It is comprised of the Paul L. Foster School of Medicine, the Gayle Greve Hunt School of Nursing and is a regional campus for a Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences. The university has a clinical practice called Texas Tech Physicians which is part of the largest network of healthcare physicians in West Texas. Research focuses on cancer, diabetes and metabolic disorders, infectious diseases, and neurosciences.