



## **About the University of California, Davis**

UC Davis is one of the nation's top public research universities, with a tradition of service to the region, nation and the world. UC Davis, which celebrates its centennial in 2008, is a pioneer in interdisciplinary problem solving. Its four colleges, five professional schools, more than 100 academic majors and 86 graduate programs provide a comprehensive, rigorous and research-based learning environment for students, faculty and researchers. The 30,000-student university has its main campus in the Sacramento Valley, near the state capital and the San Francisco Bay Area.

One of 10 campuses in the University of California system, UC Davis ranks 10th among U.S. universities based on contributions to society (*Washington Monthly*), 12th in research funding among public universities (National Science Foundation) and 16th among public universities nationwide (National Research Council). It is one of 62 North American universities admitted into the prestigious Association of American Universities.

UC Davis Health System is one of five health systems within the University of California. It is an integrated, academic health system consisting of the UC Davis School of Medicine, the 577-bed, acute-care hospital and clinical services of UC Davis Medical Center, and the 800-member physician group known as UC Davis Medical Group. The health system also includes a National Cancer Institute-designated cancer center, a comprehensive children's hospital and a Level I trauma center. In 2007, the health system was named one of the 100 most highly integrated health networks in the United States.

UC Davis School of Medicine is ranked 44th among U.S. medical schools in research funding from the National Institutes of Health. It is ranked by *U.S. News and World Report* among the top 50 medical schools in the nation for both primary care and research. The school operates the largest family nurse practitioner and physician assistant training program in California.

UC Davis Medical Center serves as a clinical training site for health care professionals, including physicians, nurses, pharmacists, radiological technicians, medical transcriptionists and others. The medical center's all-R.N. nursing staff is one of the most highly regarded in the nation, and is distinguished by its peer/partner relationship with medical staff. Nurses are encouraged and given assistance to seek advanced degrees. They also are encouraged to design, conduct and publish their own research studies, reflecting the health system's commitment to academically rigorous, evidence-based medicine.

The health system maintains the historic UC Davis campus tradition of being guided by public service in all of its endeavors: research, patient care and education. The health system has a reputation for encouraging students to cross traditional dividing lines among departments, divisions and programs, emphasizing teamwork, partnerships and interdisciplinary collaboration.

Faculty, researchers and students have scores of collaborative relationships, not only among units within the health system, but also with the university's other colleges and professional schools and outside organizations, including:

- UC Davis professional schools, including the School of Education, Graduate School of Management, School of Veterinary Medicine and School of Law, and the colleges of Engineering, Biological Sciences, Letters and Science, and Agricultural and Environmental Sciences.
- California National Primate Research Center
- Shriners Hospitals for Children–Northern California
- Veterans Affairs Northern California Health Care System
- USDA Western Human Nutrition Research Center
- Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory

The distinguishing features of UC Davis Health System include:

**The Center for Health and Technology.** This program is a world leader in the use of telecommunications and information technology to improve the availability and delivery of high-quality health care. Its “distance education” program uses interactive technologies to deliver continuing medical education (CME) and continuing nursing education (CNE) to health professionals in remote regions. Consumer health information also is delivered via distance education, with wellness classes in adult and pediatric asthma management, heart disease prevention and prenatal care, among many others.

**The Family Nurse Practitioner/Physician Assistant Program.** UC Davis has the oldest and largest program of its kind in California, and the only physician assistant program in the UC system and other California public universities. The program is recognized for the excellence of its training, the diversity of its student body, and the placement of graduates in medically underserved areas of California. The program has earned honors from the Song Brown Commission and the California Office of Statewide Health, Planning and Development.

**Student-run clinics.** Five free, student-run clinics for specific, medically underserved populations are another way that the health system provides students with opportunities to engage in direct patient care early in their education. The clinics provide primary care free of charge, sponsor health information forums, collaborate with other educational institutions to train health care workers, and foster the advancement of knowledge about health disparities and other areas of medical research.

**The UC Davis Clinical and Translational Science Center.** This is the academic home for innovative and collaborative medical research conducted at UC Davis and its many institutional and community partners. The center expedites the translation and integration of science from a variety of disciplines into discoveries and treatments that benefit society. Established with a Clinical and Translational Science Award from the National Institutes of Health (NIH), the center is transforming how scientists and clinicians are trained and how they conduct clinical and translational research so that new treatments reach patients more quickly.

For more information about UC Davis and the UC Davis Health System, see [www.ucdavis.edu](http://www.ucdavis.edu).