



COLLEGE OF MEDICINE - KNOXVILLE

Dean, University of Tennessee Health Science Center, College of Medicine – Knoxville
Senior Vice President and Chief Academic Officer, UT Medical
Knoxville, Tennessee

THE SEARCH

The [University of Tennessee Health Science Center, College of Medicine - Knoxville](#) (UTHSC COM – Knoxville) and [UT Medical](#) seek a collaborative leader with strategic vision, emotional intelligence, and demonstrated ability to balance operational and academic priorities to serve as Dean of UTHSC COM – Knoxville, and as Senior Vice President (SVP) and Chief Academic Officer (CAO) of UT Medical.

UTHSC COM – Knoxville is a leading academic medical education and clinical research enterprise dedicated to excellence in undergraduate and graduate medical, dental education, and clinical and translational medical research. The College sponsors a robust portfolio of fully accredited residency and fellowship programs in medicine, dentistry, and oral and maxillofacial surgery, while serving as a major clinical training site for third- and fourth-year medical students from UTHSC COM – Memphis and other institutions. UTHSC COM – Knoxville consists of 548 faculty, hosts an average of 50 medical students each month, and currently trains 273 residents and fellows, of which 252 are in 20 Accreditation Council on Graduate Medical Education (ACGME) accredited specialty and subspecialty programs, alongside 15 residents and fellows in Commission on Dental Accreditation (CODA) accredited dentistry and oral surgery programs and six fellows in other subspecialty programs, reflecting UTHSC COM – Knoxville’s commitment to excellence in graduate medical education. The discovery mission provides an environment that promotes meaningful clinical and translational research in the areas of therapeutics, diagnostics, effective healthcare delivery, and quality improvement that can positively impact patients and enhance the reputations of the UTHSC COM – Knoxville and UT Medical both regionally and nationally.

UT Medical is the primary clinical partner for UTHSC COM – Knoxville, forming a fully integrated academic health system that supports a rapidly expanding research enterprise. Joint research efforts are strategically aligned with the health needs of the Appalachian region, with particular emphasis on health disparities, oncology, cardiovascular and vascular disease, advanced perinatal care and the development of translational and data-driven technologies. Recent growth in research infrastructure has strengthened investigator-initiated and collaborative clinical and translational research, including expanding cross-state oncology collaborations with the University of Tennessee Knoxville and multiple UTHSC colleges. Oncology

research represents a significant and growing area of distinction, including work in cancer prevention, early detection, imaging, precision diagnostics, and outcomes research, with an intentional focus on rural populations. These efforts are supported by emerging partnerships that bridge clinical care, population health, and basic and applied sciences, positioning the campus to further advance multi-institutional and interdisciplinary research initiatives, such as the Center for Precision Health aimed at bridging scientific discovery and clinical application. As the region's academic health system, three-time Magnet® recognized hospital, and Level I Trauma Center, UT Medical serves as a major referral center for Eastern Tennessee, Southeastern Kentucky, and Western North Carolina. Guided by a mission to serve through healing, education, and discovery, the 710-bed anchoring hospital is home to the region's only dedicated Heart Hospital, the only transplant center, the region's first certified comprehensive stroke center, a private-room Level III neonatal intensive care unit, and a regional perinatal center.

This is a pivotal leadership opportunity to shape the academic future of East Tennessee's only university-affiliated academic health system, advancing a shared vision for excellence in patient care, medical education, research, and community health impact. The Dean and SVP/CAO will join a collaborative, forward-looking executive team committed to growing UT Medical's academic mission, expanding its research enterprise, and transforming health outcomes across Tennessee and beyond. Positioned at the intersection of education, discovery, and compassionate care, this role enables an academic leader to shape the trajectory of a growing academic health enterprise and transform lives across Tennessee and the surrounding region.

Reporting to [Michael Hocker, MD, MHS](#), Executive Dean, College of Medicine and Professor, College of Medicine – Memphis, Department of Emergency Medicine and [Keith Gray, MD, MBA, FACS](#), President and Chief Executive Officer of UT Medical, the Dean and SVP/CAO is charged with strategic leadership across all academic programs, ensuring excellence in medical education, graduate medical education, and research, while fostering a culture of innovation, interprofessional collaboration, and scholarly achievement. The ideal candidate would be a diplomat and a flexible convenor, an experienced clinician educator and mentor, and someone who can support and continue to grow the research mission. Additionally, the Dean, SVP/CAO will be a community-oriented leader with experience growing programs and forging strong hospital partnerships, who can represent the campus internally and externally. Qualified candidates must hold an MD, DO, or PhD, with applicable leadership experience in an academic medical center setting. Progressive academic leadership experience in an LCME-accredited medical school or academic health system is expected, as well as demonstrated success in advancing medical education, GME program growth, and academic-clinical partnership development. The successful candidate will qualify for an appointment as an associate or full professor at UTHSC COM – Knoxville.

UTHSC COM – Knoxville and UT Medical have retained Isaacson, Miller, a national executive search firm, to assist in this recruitment. Please direct all applications, nominations, and inquiries in confidence to Isaacson, Miller, as indicated later in this document.

UNIVERSITY OF TENNESSEE COLLEGE OF MEDICINE – KNOXVILLE

The University of Tennessee College of Medicine – Knoxville was initially established in 1956 as the UT Memorial Research Center and Hospital, which also provided the graduate medical and dental educational (GMDE) and research programs in Knoxville. The GMDE programs collectively became the UT Graduate School of Medicine with the formation of the University of Tennessee Medical Center (UTMC) in 1991, and more recently were renamed the UTHSC COM – Knoxville with the increased emphasis on undergraduate medical education in Knoxville as well as the statewide presence of the University of Tennessee Health Science Center (UTHSC).

UTHSC COM – Knoxville’s mission is to advance medical education required to train the next generation of physicians and dentists, deliver comprehensive and compassionate care with its hospital partner, UT Medical, and conduct innovative research that is meaningful for patients and their families. UTHSC COM – Knoxville provides training for third- and fourth-year medical students and second-year physician assistant students, as well as an independent graduate medical education (GME) program. UTHSC COM – Knoxville also provides continuing medical education (CME) services for faculty, residents, and practicing physicians in the East Tennessee region, as well as advanced medical simulation for students, residents, and faculty.

Undergraduate Medical Education

UTHSC COM – Knoxville is one of the three College of Medicine regional campuses for UTHSC, alongside campuses located in Memphis, Chattanooga, and Nashville. UTHSC COM – Knoxville and UT Medical partner together to form the region's only academic health system, educating students, residents, and fellows in medicine and dentistry in the East Tennessee area.

Each year, approximately 200 medical students from the University of Tennessee College of Medicine and accredited schools across the United States elect clinical rotations at UTHSC COM – Knoxville. Medical students are considered an integral part of the health care team, receive individualized attention from faculty and residents, and experience diversity in patient backgrounds and clinical diagnoses. Many students remain at UTHSC COM – Knoxville for residency training as a direct result of their clinical experience as a medical student, and 42 percent of trainees choose to practice medicine in Tennessee as their next career step.

Core clerkships for third-year medical students are offered in family medicine, internal medicine, obstetrics and gynecology, surgery, neurology, and psychiatry. Fourth-year electives are offered and encompass all specialties and subspecialties.

Non-University of Tennessee medical students may elect one four-week rotation at UTHSC COM – Knoxville in their 4th year. More information on undergraduate medical education (UME) can be found [here](#).

Graduate Medical Education & Continuing Medical Education

In support of UTHSC COM – Knoxville’s mission to advance medical education required to train the next generation of physicians and dentists, deliver comprehensive and compassionate care with hospital partners, and conduct innovative research that is meaningful for patients and their families, UTHSC COM – Knoxville sponsors [12 residency programs and 18 fellowships](#). UTHSC COM – Knoxville launched the Neurology program in 2025 and is preparing to launch two more programs in 2027: a Pediatrics residency in partnership with East Tennessee Children’s Hospital (ETCH) and a Family Medicine Rural Track in partnership with Starr Regional Medical Center – Athens.

UTHSC COM – Knoxville is accredited by the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME). The UTHSC COM – Knoxville accredited program of [continuing medical education](#) is focused on fulfilling its mission of improving patient care for the citizens of Tennessee.

UT Center for Advanced Medical Simulation

The [UT Center for Advanced Medical Simulation](#), established in early 2007, is a state-of-the-art 6,500 square foot simulation center offering medical teams at UTHSC COM – Knoxville, UT Medical, and healthcare professionals across the region opportunities to master medical skills using life-size human patient simulators, laparoscopic and endoscopic simulators, and other skills-building models.

The UT Center for Advanced Medical Simulation is the only facility in Tennessee and one of just 68 in the world to earn accreditation as a Level I Comprehensive Accredited Education Institute (AEI) from the American College of Surgeons (ACS). The Level I designation is the top accreditation available.

Research

[Research](#) at UTHSC COM – Knoxville includes investigator-initiated clinical research and translational research, both of which are integral to the UME and GME missions, as well as bridging with the University of Tennessee, Knoxville, the state’s flagship land grant institution. Investigator-initiated clinical research is supported by the [Office of Research Support](#), which houses a multitude of research professionals and provides research coordination and support across multiple divisions, and by the [Office of Biostatistics and Research Consultation](#), which aids with study design and statistics. Over the past four years, the number of open prospective investigator-initiated trials has increased 250% with the number of enrolled subjects expanding ninefold. UTHSC COM – Knoxville includes seven translational research programs which integrate with ten academic departments and associated core residencies as well as three fellowships. Collective outcomes include significant evidence of entrepreneurship as well as a three-fold increase in annual extramural funding over the past five years. UTHSC COM – Knoxville has the following [research laboratories](#):

- Amyloidosis and Cancer Theranostics Program
- Preclinical and Diagnostic Molecular Imaging Laboratory
- The Physical Activity and Metabolism (PAM) Laboratory

- Trauma, Inflammation, and Diabetes Research Laboratory
- Vascular Research Laboratory
- Anesthesiology Research Division
- Molecular Imaging & Theranostics Research Program

Research focuses on clinical and translational studies in therapeutics, diagnostics, and drug delivery, as well as health care disparities with an emphasis on Appalachia, and quality improvement to advance patient care.

UTHSC COM – Knoxville provides centralized infrastructure and resources through the Office of Research Support to advance investigator-initiated clinical research interests and aligns many of its initiatives with the mission and values of UT Medical and patient needs. The College collaborates with the [University of Tennessee, Knoxville](#) which includes the Colleges of Nursing, Engineering, Business, and Veterinary Medicine, and the [Oak Ridge National Laboratory](#).

The new [Center for Precision Health](#), a 15,000 square-foot facility in UT Medical’s Orthopaedic Institute at the UT Research Park at Cherokee Farm, represents a shared commitment to collaboration between UT Knoxville, UTHSC COM – Knoxville, and UT Medical. The Center, which includes areas for a clinical core facility, advanced medical device innovations, entrepreneurial development, and computational medicine, will house UT faculty, UT Medical physicians, and community partners. It is designed to facilitate transdisciplinary collaboration that will improve the lives of Tennesseans. Faculty contribute to projects that integrate clinical research with innovative technologies such as genomics, health informatics, and predictive analytics, addressing complex health challenges across Tennessee and beyond.

Accreditation

The University of Tennessee Health Science Center College of Medicine underwent its last full-site accreditation by the Liaison Committee on Medical Education (LCME) in 2021. The program is at the midpoint of its full accreditation term with the next full survey visit expected in 2029-30. The most recent accreditation review identified areas for improvement, particularly student satisfaction with some preclinical courses. Continuous quality improvement (CQI) initiatives are currently underway. LCME accreditation includes regional campuses in Knoxville, Chattanooga, and Nashville. The regional campuses provide training sites for third- and fourth-year medical students, accommodating 20-25 students per class.

The UTHSC COM – Knoxville also offers numerous GME programs accredited by the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (ACGME) and a Physician Assistant Program accredited by ARC-PA. UTHSC COM – Knoxville underwent its last accreditation in January 2025 and was determined to be in substantial compliance with the Institutional requirements, and the Review Committee did not issue any new citations.

Financial and Funds Flow

The financial status of UTHSC COM – Knoxville is stable due to its diverse funding sources. The College manages a direct budget of over \$72 million, which includes \$5 million annually in philanthropic support and grants, and \$18 million from state appropriations and clinical services.

GME is a significant part of UTHSC COM – Knoxville’s funds flow. The Dean receives a recurring budget allocation from the state and has flexibility with GME money for recruitment. UTHSC uses an incremental budget model, and tuition dollars are handled centrally on the Memphis campus.

UT Medical

As the region’s academic health system, ANCC Magnet® designated hospital and Level I Trauma Center, UT Medical serves as a referral center for Eastern Tennessee, Southeastern Kentucky, and Western North Carolina. UT Medical Center, a 710-bed hospital, is home to the region’s only dedicated Heart Hospital, the only transplant center, the first certified comprehensive stroke center, a private neonatal intensive care unit, and serves as a regional perinatal center. UT Medical offers the following Centers of Excellence:

- Brain & and Spine Institute
- Cancer Institute
- Center for Emergency & Trauma
- Heart Lung Vascular Institute
- Center for Complex Medicine
- Center for Perioperative Medicine
- Orthopaedic Institute
- Primary Care Collaborative
- Center for Women & Infants

Through a unique partnership, UT Medical and UTHSC COM – Knoxville educate healthcare professionals who take their advanced skills to practices, hospitals, and research labs across Knoxville and around the world. UT Medical educates new medical professionals while carrying out their own clinical practice and conducting research to improve the healthcare of Tennesseans. Statewide, the University of Tennessee has provided more than 12,000 medical students, physicians, and dentists with the education and experience to make them skilled and compassionate healthcare providers. Over the last 25 years, UT Medical has prepared many of the physicians who practice medicine in the East Tennessee region.

There are several private practice groups at UT Medical (e.g., radiology, urology & anesthesiology). UTHSC COM – Knoxville has a contract with them for teaching, and the faculty receive compensation for training.

University Health System

Faculty within UTHSC COM participate in practice groups that contribute to the statewide mission. Many faculty are dually employed by the health system and the University. UT Medical is part of University Health System, Incorporated. University Health System (UHS) is a regional health system that comprises UT Medical, University Health System Ventures, Inc., and various partnerships and joint ventures with physicians and health care companies. University Health System is affiliated with UTHSC COM –

Knoxville and numerous regional hospitals and physician organizations. UHS supports and collaborates with UTHSC COM – Knoxville and other academic endeavors as part of its commitment to excellence in education and research.

ROLE OF THE DEAN AND SVP/CAO

The Dean serves as the chief academic and administrative officer for UTHSC COM – Knoxville. The Dean provides strategic leadership across all academic programs, ensuring excellence in medical education, GME, and research, while fostering a culture of innovation, interprofessional collaboration, and scholarly achievement.

In partnership with UT Medical leadership, the Dean and SVP/CAO, who also serves on the executive leadership team, will align academic programs with clinical and research priorities, expand GME opportunities, strengthen basic and translational research, and integrate discovery with care delivery to create a nationally recognized model of an independent academic health system.

The Dean and SVP/CAO has a dual report to [Keith Gray](#), MD, MBA, FACS, President and Chief Executive Officer of UT Medical and [Michael Hocker](#), MD, MHS, Executive Dean, College of Medicine and Professor, College of Medicine – Memphis, Department of Emergency Medicine. The Dean and SVP/ CAO leads a team of 19 direct reports including the Chairs of Anesthesiology, Family Medicine, General Dentistry, Internal Medicine, OB/GYN, Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery, Pathology, Pediatrics, Radiology, General Surgery, Urology, as well as the DIO & Assistant Dean for GME, Assistant Dean for UME, Assistant Dean for Research, Assistant Dean for Clinical Affairs & Faculty Development, Assistant Dean for Finance and Administration, the Director of the Medical Library, the Director of the IRB and the Medical Director for the Advanced Medical Simulation Center.

Substantial opportunities await the next Dean and SVP/CAO.

KEY OPPORTUNITIES AND CHALLENGES FOR THE DEAN AND SVP/CAO

Drive strategic enrollment and program expansion

The Dean and SVP/CAO will have a distinctive opportunity to lead intentional growth in medical education, residency, and fellowship programs aligned with the healthcare needs of East Tennessee and the broader region. UTHSC COM – Knoxville’s unique position as a regional campus and deep integration with UT Medical provides a strong foundation for expanding GME, broadening clinical training opportunities, and strengthening the physician workforce pipeline. Building on recent momentum, including the launch of a Neurology residency program in 2025 and preparation for two additional programs in 2027, UTHSC COM – Knoxville projects growth from 273 residents and fellows to a full complement of 328, while continuing to develop additional residency and fellowship programs. In addition, a needs and feasibility assessment is currently underway to explore increasing UTHSC College of Medicine’s entering class size from 150 to

275 students annually, in response to physician shortages across the state. The Dean will collaborate with the Executive Dean to determine how Knoxville can best support these efforts.

Through strategic partnerships and targeted investment, the Dean and SVP/CAO will position the College among the nation's leading regional academic medical centers, advancing its mission while improving access, quality, and outcomes for the communities it serves.

Advance integration and collaboration across the academic and clinical enterprise

The Dean and SVP/CAO will serve in a senior leadership role within a highly aligned academic health environment that unites UTHSC COM–Knoxville, UT Medical, and the University Health System under a shared strategic vision and governance structure. Advancing President Boyd's "*Be One UT*" vision, the Dean will leverage the distinct strengths of each campus to drive outcomes-focused collaboration across education, research, and clinical missions, while navigating the complexities of a statewide academic health system and fostering strong partnerships across campuses and with community stakeholders.

Working in close partnership with UT Medical's CEO, COO, and senior leadership, the Dean will ensure strong alignment of educational, clinical, and research priorities across a growing and innovative academic health enterprise. UTHSC COM–Knoxville and UT Medical share deep alignment and synergy, with UT Medical serving as a trusted clinical partner and a powerful platform for mission integration. With both organizations poised for continued expansion—and with new leadership at the Chancellor and Executive Dean levels—the Dean will be uniquely positioned to strengthen UTHSC COM–Knoxville's role in addressing Tennessee's most pressing health challenges, particularly in underserved urban and rural communities.

Building on established collaborations with UT Medical, ETCH, and community clinics, the Dean will further expand partnerships that advance workforce development, innovative models of care, and community engagement, reinforcing the land-grant mission and shaping the healthcare landscape across Knoxville and the state.

Accelerate the growth of research and academic excellence

The Dean and SVP/CAO will have a significant opportunity to advance research by leveraging strong partnerships with UT Medical, Oak Ridge National Laboratory, UT Knoxville, and UTHSC's statewide campuses. Building on emerging strengths in cancer, cardiovascular disease, radiopharmaceuticals, drug development, and bench-to-bedside translational science, the Dean can expand clinical and translational research, foster innovation, and improve community health outcomes across Tennessee. Through support of cross-campus research initiatives and the development of interprofessional education and dual-degree pathways with UT Knoxville's professional schools, the Dean can further elevate UTHSC COM – Knoxville's academic profile and national impact.

Cultivate philanthropic support and wisely steward resources

The Dean and SVP/CAO will have a key opportunity to strengthen UTHSC COM – Knoxville’s financial foundation by engaging donors, corporate partners, and public agencies to accelerate research, education, and clinical initiatives. With the University Health System providing significant funds flow to support the College and private practice groups as important partners, the Dean must combine strategic business acumen with collaborative leadership to optimize resources and align priorities. The Dean will play a key role in championing major capital initiatives, including planning and concept stages of a new research and education building that would cut across UTHSC COM – Knoxville, UT Medical, UT Knoxville, and private partnership. The Dean will also lead innovative fundraising efforts that expand philanthropic support, enhance faculty recruitment, bolster student and research programs, and elevate UTHSC COM – Knoxville’s regional and national impact.

Lead forward-facing community engagement and strengthen regional impact

The Dean and SVP/CAO will serve as the public face of UTHSC COM – Knoxville, engaging students, faculty, healthcare partners, community organizations, and state and national stakeholders to advance its mission. This role offers a unique opportunity to expand UTHSC COM – Knoxville’s statewide impact by growing the physician workforce, enhancing access to care in underserved communities, and fostering collaborations with regional hospitals, clinics, and professional organizations. By cultivating strong relationships both within and outside the campus, the Dean can reinforce a culture of collaboration and support, elevate the UTHSC COM – Knoxville’s regional and national reputation, and position it as a leading driver of medical education, research, and community health across Tennessee.

QUALIFICATIONS AND CHARACTERISTICS

This position requires a collaborative leader with strategic vision, emotional intelligence, and demonstrated ability to balance operational and academic priorities.

Essential Qualifications

- M.D., D.O., or Ph.D. with applicable leadership experience in an academic medical center setting;
- Minimum of five years of progressive academic leadership experience in an LCME-accredited medical school or academic health system;
- Demonstrated success in advancing medical education, GME program growth, and academic-clinical partnership development;
- Qualified for an appointment as an associate or full professor at UTHSC COM – Knoxville.

Preferred Experience and Leadership Attributes

- National recognition in a clinical, research, or educational discipline;
- Experience in developing and sustaining research collaborations, securing extramural funding, and leading academic transformation;

- Experience in integrating academic and health system strategies to achieve institutional excellence and growth;
- Operational and financial management experience of a department or functional equivalent;
- A community-oriented convenor, mentor, and consensus-builder;
- Ability to inspire and engage faculty, staff, and learners in a shared academic mission;
- Demonstrated commitment to servant leadership, mentorship, and the academic values of integrity, compassion, and excellence;
- Skill in fostering interdisciplinary collaboration and aligning academic and clinical priorities.

KNOXVILLE, TENNESSEE

Located in the foothills of the Great Smoky Mountains National Park, Knoxville, Tennessee, is known for its excellent quality of life with a relatively low cost of living, abundant restaurants, access to nature, and more. It is easily accessible via several interstates and an airport. A popular destination for people and families of all ages, Knoxville is experiencing steady growth as word spreads about its abundant opportunities and warm, welcoming community. Additional details about Knoxville can be [found here](#).

APPLICATIONS, INQUIRIES, AND NOMINATIONS

Screening of complete applications will begin immediately and continue until the completion of the search process. Inquiries, nominations, referrals, and CVs with cover letters should be sent via the Isaacson, Miller website: <https://www.imsearch.com/open-searches/university-tennessee-health-science-center-college-medicine-knoxville-ut-medical>

Jamie Sands, Partner
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The University of Tennessee Health Science Center is an EEO/AA/Title VI/Title IX/Section 504/ADA/ADEA employer. All qualified applicants will receive equal consideration for employment without regard to race, color, national origin, religion, sex, pregnancy, marital status, sexual orientation, gender identity, age, physical or mental disability, or covered veteran status.

APPENDIX

UNIVERSITY OF TENNESSEE SYSTEM

The University of Tennessee System supports five universities – UT Health Science Center, UT Knoxville, UT Chattanooga, UT Martin, and UT Southern – and two statewide institutes: the Institute for Public Service and the Institute of Agriculture. The system has an enrollment of over 53,000 students, has over 360,000 living alumni, and maintains an endowment of over \$1 billion, with this year being the best year ever in philanthropy. The University of Tennessee system, under the remarkable, integrative leadership of [President Randy Boyd](#), embarked on a campaign to identify and develop system-wide core values, creating “[Be One UT](#).” These core values guide all UT campuses, including UT Health Science Center. President Boyd’s inspirational leadership is championing increased student enrollment to 71,000 by 2030, growth in research and philanthropy, and impacting major societal and public health issues for Tennessee in making this “the greatest decade” for the University of Tennessee.

University of Tennessee Health Science Center

The University of Tennessee Health Science Center in Memphis was founded in 1911, launching programs in medicine, dentistry, and pharmacy, and following up with programs in health professions, graduate health sciences, and nursing shortly thereafter. Part of the University of Tennessee System, the UT Health Science Center serves the entire state and is part of the system that carries the land grant mission and an R1 research university. UT Health Science Center awarded over 1,100 degrees and trained over 1,400 residents and fellows in 2023 while receiving over \$100 million in research grants and contracts and over \$115 million in total research and development expenditures as reported in the FY 2022 HERD Report. UT Health Science Center has trained over 53,000 healthcare professionals since its inception, making it the largest educator of healthcare professionals in the state.

UT Health Science Center COM traces its origins to 1889 when it was founded as the Tennessee Medical College in Knoxville. In 1911, the College moved to Memphis as the University of Tennessee’s College of Medicine. In the following 100+ years, the COM has developed world-class clinical, education, and research programs to advance the health of the people of Tennessee, the United States, and the world. The COM – Memphis has 19 departments, over 1,200 faculty, over 700 medical students, 60 PA students, and 860 residents and fellows.

The campus grew its statewide footprint, launching the UT Graduate School of Medicine in Knoxville in 1963, the UT College of Medicine in Chattanooga in 1974, and in 2014, UT Health Science Center launched a campus in Nashville. The six colleges across four campuses enrolled over 3,000 students in the Fall of 2023 and employ more than 6,000 people, contributing approximately four billion to the Tennessee economy. UT Health Science Center is built on the strategic pillars of engaging communities, educational excellence, expanding research, advancing health, and developing talent to achieve its mission of

transforming lives through collaborative and inclusive education, research/scholarship, clinical care, and public service.

While Memphis serves as the flagship campus, with six colleges, [Dentistry](#), [Graduate Health Sciences](#), [Health Professions](#), [Medicine](#), [Nursing](#), and [Pharmacy](#), the multiple campuses of UT Health Science Center are strategic in enabling expanded reach and impact across the entire state, with each campus reflecting the city and region and also offering distinct expertise - such that UT Health Science Center is truly statewide (“Memphis is our home and Tennessee is our campus.”) in its presence.

UT Health Science Center is led by [Peter Buckley, MD](#), who became the 11th Chancellor of UT Health Science Center in 2022. Dr. Buckley serves as the CEO, overseeing all six health science colleges. Prior to coming to UT Health Science Center, Chancellor Buckley was the dean at Virginia Commonwealth University, School of Medicine, and Medical College of Georgia. He previously served as the chair of psychiatry at the Medical College of Georgia and vice chair at Case Western Reserve University.

College of Medicine

UT Health Science Center COM traces its origins to 1889, when it was founded as the Tennessee Medical College in Knoxville. In 1911, the College moved to Memphis as the University of Tennessee’s College of Medicine. In the following 100+ years, the COM has developed world-class clinical, education, and research programs to advance the health of the people of Tennessee, the United States, and the world. The COM – Memphis has 19 departments, over 1,200 faculty, over 700 medical students, 60 PA students, and 860 residents and fellows.

UNIVERSITY OF TENNESSEE, KNOXVILLE

The [University of Tennessee, Knoxville](#) (UT) is a land-grant, Carnegie Research 1 “Very High Research Activity” and “Community Engaged” institution committed to excellence in teaching, research, and public service. Guided by the Volunteer spirit of leadership and service, UT combines rigorous academics with innovative research to enrich lives and transform communities. The University is home to more than 40,000 students, 2,300 faculty, 6,000 staff, and offers more than 900 programs of study across [14 degree-granting colleges and schools](#).

This document has been prepared based on the information provided by the University of Tennessee Health Science Center and UT Medical. The material presented in this leadership profile should be relied on for informational purposes only. While every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of this information, the original source documents and information provided by UTHSC and UT Medical would supersede any conflicting information in this document.