

State Hospitals

Deteriorating conditions at Texas' state hospitals made headlines for years, highlighting the desperate need for significant repairs and improvements.

Beginning in 2016, the Meadows Institute provided data-driven guidance toward the goal of developing a modernized state hospital system with facilities located closer to where people live, operated in partnership with state-funded medical schools and local health systems.

In 2017, the 85th Texas Legislature committed to an ambitious three-phase plan, beginning with an initial \$300 million for the planning and implementation of new state hospital construction projects.

This brief provides an overview of funding the Texas Legislature has approved for state hospital and inpatient facility projects, including a historic **\$2.3 billion investment** by the 88th Texas Legislature. To date, total investment in modernizing Texas' state hospital system and expanding inpatient capacity **exceeds \$3.6 billion.**

Shown above: concept renderings of the Austin State Hospital Campus, re-imagined as more than a hospital, rather as a platform for the entire continuum of care for a brain health system. Images created by Page/ for Dell Medical School.



Concept renderings of the John S. Dunn Behavioral Sciences Center. Images created by Perkins & Will for The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston.

MAY 2017

85th Texas Legislature appropriates \$300M for Phase I

- **\$125M** to the UT Health Science Center at Houston (UTHealth Houston) for planning and construction of a new state hospital in Houston (264 beds). The hospital, now known as the **John S. Dunn Behavioral Sciences Center**, is located next to the Harris County Psychiatric Center and operated by UTHealth Houston.
- **\$30.5M** to **Kerrville State Hospital** for planning and renovations to open 70 new maximum-security unit (MSU) beds.
- **\$15.5M** to Dell Medical School for planning to replace the **Austin State Hospital** (240 beds).
- **\$26M** to San Antonio State Hospital and the UT Health Science Center at San Antonio for planning to replace the **San Antonio State Hospital** (300 beds) and renovate an existing unit to provide 40 new non-MSU beds.
- **\$96M** to **Rusk State Hospital** for construction of a new unit with 100 MSU beds and planning to replace 100 non-MSU beds.

MAY 2019

86th Texas Legislature appropriates \$445.3M for Phase II

- **\$165M** for partial construction of the **Austin State Hospital** replacement.
- **\$190.3M** for partial construction of the **San Antonio State Hospital** replacement.
- **\$90M** for construction of the **Rusk State Hospital** 100 non-MSU bed replacement.

MAY 2021

87th Texas Legislature appropriates \$321.3M for Phase III

- **\$124.1M** for remaining construction of the **Austin State Hospital** replacement.
- **\$152.4M** for remaining construction of the **San Antonio State Hospital** replacement.
- **\$44.75M** for planning and land acquisition for the **Texas Behavioral Health Center in Dallas**, to be operated by UT Southwestern (200 adult beds).

OCTOBER 2021 (Special Session)

87th Texas Legislature appropriates \$292.8M

- **\$237.8M** to construct the **Texas Behavioral Health Center in Dallas**.¹
- **\$15M** to expand capacity at **Sunrise Canyon Hospital in Lubbock**.
- **\$40M** to construct the **Permian Basin Behavioral Health Center** (100 beds), to be operated through an agreement with the Midland and Ector County Hospital Districts.

MAY 2023

88th Texas Legislature appropriates \$2.26B

STATE HOSPITALS

- **\$573M** to replace the **Terrell State Hospital** (250 beds).
- **\$452M** to replace the **Wichita Falls State Hospital** (200 beds).
- **\$159M** to construct the **Amarillo State Hospital** (75 beds).
- **\$50M** for planning, land acquisition, and initial construction of a new 50-bed **El Paso State Hospital**.

MSU CAPACITY

- **\$121M** to construct a 50-bed MSU facility on the **Lubbock State Supported Living Center campus**.
- **\$120M** to construct a 50-bed MSU facility in the **Rio Grande Valley**.
- **\$15M** to rehabilitate the Alamo Hall unit on the **San Antonio State Hospital** campus to add a 40-bed MSU.

COMMUNITY-OPERATED CAPACITY

- **\$101.9M** to complete construction of the **Texas Behavioral Health Center in Dallas**.
- **\$86.7M** to construct 100 additional beds at the **Permian Basin Behavioral Health Center**.
- **\$85M** to construct up to 100 beds in the **Rio Grande Valley**.
- **\$64M** to construct 72 beds as an addition to **Baptist Hospitals of Southeast Texas in Beaumont**.
- **\$50M** to construct up to 100 beds in **Montgomery County**.
- **\$40M** to construct up to 60 beds in **Victoria County**.
- **\$45M** to construct 30 additional beds at **Sunrise Canyon in Lubbock**.
- **\$33.6M** to construct the **Uvalde Behavioral Health Campus** (32 crisis beds), to be operated by Hill Country MHDD Centers.
- **\$7.9M** for renovations and deferred maintenance at the **Harris County Psychiatric Center**.
- **\$7M** to renovate an existing facility to add 44 beds at the **University of Texas Health Science Center at Tyler**.

COMMUNITY MATCHING GRANTS

- **\$100M** for a grant program to fund local construction of **jail diversion facilities, step-down facilities, supportive housing, crisis stabilization units, and crisis respite units**.
- **\$15.9M** for grants to construct inpatient mental health beds at **children's hospitals**.

¹ Note: Following legislative appropriations, Children's Health donated \$200 million to support a pediatric wing where UT Southwestern pediatricians will exclusively treat children and adolescent patients. Up to 96 beds will be reserved for pediatric patients, bringing the total facility to 296 beds.