

## **AMARILLO**

According to the Amarillo Chamber of Commerce, we are at the center of the Texas Panhandle. Amarillo, a city of about 276,020 encompasses both Potter and Randall counties and boasts an inviting climate. At the intersection of Interstates 40 and 27. The city is at an altitude of 3,671 feet and receives about 21.14 inches of precipitation annually. The altitude and constant breeze are responsible for the clean air and low humidity. There are four distinct seasons in the city, yet the temperatures remain comfortable most of the year. Each year, there are more than 260 sunny days.

The cost of living in Amarillo is consistently 8 to 10% below the national average. People who move to Amarillo often discover they pay less in taxes, less for housing and everyday goods and less for electricity.

Travel in and out of Amarillo is made easy with Amarillo International Airport, which is served by a number of major carriers including American Airlines, Southwest Airlines, and United Airlines.

Major industries supporting the Panhandle of Texas include Ranching and Farming, Education, Banking, Oil and Gas, along with Medical and Tourism. We also like to boast about a few of our famous Amarilloans, Charles Goodnight- first rancher in the area who invented the chuck wagon, Ron Ely-actor and original TV Tarzan, Rick Husband- astronaut, Mary Jane Johnson-Opera Singer, Alex O'Brien-Tennis pro, Brandon Slay- Olympic Gold Medal winner in wrestling, Ryan Palmer- professional golfer, Zach Thomas-football player with the Miami Dolphins.

There are many outdoor sports, music and cultural activities for Amarillo residents to enjoy. Amarillo has a symphony, art museum, opera and many popular live music venues. Nearby Palo Duro Canyon provides climbing, hiking, biking, riding trails and camping. Amarillo is also home to hockey, indoor football, and a minor league baseball team, and recently added soccer.

The SOM at Amarillo has trained medical students and residents with particular emphasis in clinical care. More than 100 third-and fourth-year medical students and more than 85 residents receive training on our campus every year. Students, Residents and Physicians all do rotations with the local hospitals, Northwest Texas Healthcare System, a 495 bed tertiary care hospital, and BSA Health System, a 445 bed private hospital as well as the Amarillo VA Health Care System with 55 acute care inpatient beds and a 120 bed skilled nursing home and an ambulatory care center. The SOM is home to the Departments of Pediatrics, Internal Medicine, OB/GYN, Family Medicine, Psychiatry and Surgery.

Programs operated within the School of Medicine include, but are not limited to the following programs:

### **SimCentral**

Started in 2009, SimCentral is a health professions simulated training facility that is utilized by WTAMU, Amarillo College, and area health care providers along with every school at TTUHSC Amarillo. We broke ground on a new \$12 Million building in September 2016 and began simulation experiences in the fall 2017.

### **Mobile Sim**

Part of the "*Gateway to Health Careers*" project with Amarillo ISD and Region 16. The mobile sim travels across the top 26 counties of the Texas Panhandle to train students in hands-on learning and certifications. It also provides mobile support to local grants in women's health.

### **InfantRisk Center/MommyMeds**

The international call center located in Amarillo has fielded more than 50,000 calls since opening in 2011. Led by Dr. Thomas Hale, who is the global leader in perinatal pharmacology, the center's research provides much-needed information about how medications taken by a mother who is pregnant or breastfeeding may impact their baby. The center also created the MommyMeds app for consumers and the IRC app for medical professionals. MommyMeds soared to #1 on iTunes when it launched and both apps currently rank within the top 25 medical apps.

### **Laura W. Bush Institute for Women's Health**

The Institute was established in 2007 under the leadership and guidance of First Lady Laura W. Bush and Marjorie Jenkins, MD., and recently celebrated its tenth anniversary. The Institute has been a leader in sex & gender-based medicine and focuses on three main areas of research, outreach and education. Through many philanthropic events such as Power of the Purse, the Institute has been a leading source of funding for seed research grants, InfantRisk Center, Mobile Sim.