

Facts about UChicago Medicine's Proposed Cancer Center

The University of Chicago Medicine plans to establish the first freestanding facility dedicated to cancer care and research in Chicago. Building a world-class cancer facility on the South Side will increase access to advanced care to a part of Chicago that has been seeing shrinking healthcare resources for many years. Here are some facts and other information about the proposed cancer center.

CANCER CENTER: BY THE NUMBERS

- Size: about 500,000 square feet
- Estimated cost: \$633 million
- Location: East 57th Street, between South Maryland and South Drexel Avenues
- Anticipated annual volume: 200,000 outpatient visits and 5,000 inpatient admissions (Current annual volume: 120,000 outpatient visits and 3,800 inpatient admissions)
- Among key features:
 - 128 new hospital beds dedicated to patients with cancer
 - 100 exam rooms
 - Outpatient services
 - Full suite of imaging and diagnostic solutions
 - Clinical trials unit and research clinic space
 - Stem-cell treatment and processing facilities
 - Genetic testing and counseling
 - Radiation oncology and infusion services
 - Urgent care to serve unique needs of patients with cancer
- Economic impact: over 500 construction jobs. In addition, at least 41% of contract dollars will go to minority-owned and woman-owned firms.

ABOUT THE COMMUNITY

Residents of the South Side experience a high cancer burden. Inequities in the burden of cancer are largely driven by the social determinants of health, including access to cancer prevention, early detection and care. The problem is expected to grow worse.

- The CDC predicts the nation's cancer rates will increase by 49% between 2015 and 2050.
- Cancer death rates on the South Side are nearly twice the national average.
- Cancer is the second-leading cause of death on the South Side (behind heart disease) and the leading cause in five neighborhoods — Calumet Heights, East Side, Kenwood, South Deering and Woodlawn.
- About 56% of patients on the South Side leave the area to get healthcare. For cancer needs alone, 67% of residents who are seeking inpatient care leave the South Side.
- Research has found that patients living farther from healthcare facilities have worse health outcomes, longer lengths of hospital stay, non-attendance at follow-up visits, higher rates of chronic disease-related deaths, lower five-year cancer survival rates, and increased overall disease burden.
- To help address the access issue, a collaborative of 13 South Side providers, including UChicago Medicine, is working to establish the [South Side Healthy Community Organization](#), scoped to serve over 400,000 residents with more seamless and more accessible healthcare.

CANCER CENTER TIMELINE

- Jan. 31, 2022 — UChicago Medicine submits request to the state regulatory Health Facilities and Services Review Board (HFSRB) seeking approval to spend money on design and site planning for the proposed cancer center.
- Latter part of February 2022 — HFSRB holds a public meeting, giving UChicago Medicine the opportunity to share information about the proposed project with the community.
- Fall 2022 — UChicago Medicine plans to file a subsequent certificate of need application for the construction of the building.
- Spring 2023 — Estimated start of construction (based on regulatory approval)
- 2026 — Cancer center opens to patients.

CANCER ACHIEVEMENTS

The University of Chicago has long been recognized for its strength in basic and translational research with fundamental and seminal contributions to understanding the basic biology of cancer and its treatment. In addition, UChicago Medicine:

- Is one of two NCI-designated [comprehensive cancer centers](#) in Illinois and 51 in the U.S. The “Comprehensive” distinction is the gold standard for cancer programs bestowed by the National Cancer Institute and recognizes the innovative research, leading-edge treatments, and extensive community outreach and education initiatives conducted at or by the organization.
- Is one of 32 U.S. institutions selected as Lead Academic Participation Sites for the NCI’s [National Clinical Trials Network](#), with more than 300 open therapeutic trials and more than 1,000 patients enrolled per year.
- Is ranked among the [25 top cancer hospitals](#) by *U.S. News & World Report*.
- Has more than 200 cancer specialists caring for patients of all ages.
- Is the first site in the country to be certified for [FDA-approved CAR T-cell therapies](#) for specific blood cancers in both adult and pediatric patients.