Florida is experiencing a critical shortage of trained health care professionals.

That shortage will become even more acute as our state’s population continues to increase and age. As the nation’s first comprehensive university-based medical nexus, UNF MedNex is the solution.

- Earned unanimous approval from the Florida Board of Governors
- Generated $19 million in stakeholder commitments
- Aligns education and workforce needs in Florida
- Advances Governor DeSantis’ explicit goal for Florida to be #1 in the nation in Workforce Readiness by 2030
- Promotes broad-based prosperity with high-demand, high-wage positions
- Trains and retains the medical workforce that’s vital for the State of Florida and its residents
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23% of Florida’s projected job growth between 2016 and 2024 accounts for health care. That’s 200,000 new jobs.

MedNex fulfills the critical need for a skilled and educated health care workforce in careers that have an average annual salary of $76,000.

More than job creation, MedNex propels a talent pipeline across 8 counties:
- 383,753 students
- 549 schools

More than an economic development vehicle, MedNex connects two regional hubs in Jacksonville and Palm Coast that comprise:
- 40 hospitals
- 90 health care and life science companies
- 66,029 life science employees

Our Reach:
- Hospital
- Rehabilitation Center
- Cancer Treatment Center

UNF MedNex is the solution, and with your support, it will establish a national role model.

More than job creation, MedNex has generated $19 million in stakeholder investments:

- More than a vision, MedNex has generated $19 million in stakeholder investments.

LEVERAGE regional partnerships for statewide economic development
POSITION the State of Florida for the future
EXTEND regional educational access
SERVE our growing and aging population
RETAIN homegrown talent
EXPAND the career pipeline

Increasing Florida’s future manufacturing workforce, which is critical to the state’s economic development.
As a true nexus of medicine, technology and innovation, MedNex aligns strategic partners to meet our region’s demand for a robust, educated workforce.

MILISSA HOLLAND
Mayor, City of Palm Coast

 Leading edge providers and med tech companies are choosing to relocate or start services here. This results in a need for rapid expansion of the health care workforce and opportunities for partnerships in innovation.

Lenny Curry
Mayor, City of Jacksonville

This collaborative approach with the University of North Florida can elevate both institutions as well as the health care community in our region. MedNex is a great step in the right direction.

John Avendano, PhD
President, Florida State College at Jacksonville

MedNex is an innovative opportunity, right here in the State of Florida, which can help ameliorate the shortage of qualified medical professionals. We can and must prepare our students to fill these rewarding and high-paying careers.

David OTTATI
Chief Executive Officer, AdventHealth Central Florida Division - North Region

MedNex is an innovative proposal born out of a shared vision and alignment with our state’s goals. I believe it could become a model moving forward to address our workforce readiness goals across the state.

Jacoba Olivia
Chancellor K-12, Florida Department of Education

MedNex is a bold concept to address the specific needs of the local medical community. We have a serious need for ... highly qualified, exceptional graduates.

Bradley S. Talbert, FACHE
Chief Executive Officer, Memorial Health

This program will create great benefits for ongoing research and health care efforts. We see an extensive opportunity for discovery, additional scholarly activity, experiential learning and the ability to educate the next generation of health care professionals.

Joe B. Putnam, Jr., MD, FACS
Medical Director, Baptist MD Anderson Cancer Center

We are facing increased demand for health care professionals in Northeast Florida, as well as the rest of the state.

Kent R. Thielem, MD
Chief Executive Officer, Mayo Clinic Florida

We are very enthusiastic about these opportunities to both train and expand the workforce of the future, as well as the impact on health care in the future through new discoveries.

Tushar Patel, MB, CHB
James C. and Sarah K. Kennedy Dean for Research, Mayo Clinic

It’s exciting to see UNF take a regional leadership role in supporting specific workforce needs of the health care community.

Douglas M. Baer
Chief Executive Officer, Brooks Rehabilitation

We see this opportunity as aligned with our mission to educate the next generation of health care professionals and health scientists.

Neil A. Goldberg, MD, PhD
Associate Dean for Research, Johns Hopkins All Children’s Hospital

February 2020