

- [Health Care](#) April 17, 2024

UCF medical school partners with Nemours Children's Health

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Nemours Children's Hospital Florida in Lake Nona has 130 beds.

RYAN LYNCH/OBJ



By [Ryan Lynch](#) – Staff Writer, Orlando Business Journal

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The University of Central Florida has partnered with Nemours to create a new department at [the school's College of Medicine](#).

UCF and [Nemours Children's Health](#) on April 17 announced the University of Central Florida College of Medicine - Nemours Children's Health Department of Pediatrics. In addition, the Jacksonville-based nonprofit pediatric health system will become UCF's third Pegasus Partner.

AdventHealth and Orlando Health were the inaugural partners, providing a total of \$10 million to help kick off the construction of the [\\$68 million, 90,000-square-foot Dr. Phillips Nursing Pavilion](#).

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The program with Nemours will affect all 480 UCF medical students for each year and will expand collaboration between the school and the health system. The goal is to enhance the recruitment and retention of new pediatric doctors.

“We are grateful for Nemours Children’s longstanding partnership with UCF and the impact growing our collaboration will have for children and their families and for our College of Medicine students and faculty,” UCF President Alexander Cartwright said in a prepared statement. “Together, we are strengthening our community’s health and well-being, investing in the development of new innovative clinical practices and devices, and developing the talent that will serve future generations of Floridians for decades to come.”

Every medical student at UCF goes through their pediatric training at Nemours, with more than 1,100 doctor candidates having been trained by the system.

“We have long valued our partnership with UCF, and this newly established department is a natural continuation of our joint efforts,” Martha McGill, president of the Central Florida Region for Nemours Children’s Health, said in a prepared statement. “Nemours Children’s is one of the nation’s largest pediatric health systems, and together we will be able to provide medical students and trainees with the depth, complexity and variety of experience and skill-building we offer.”

Meanwhile, a January Florida TaxWatch report cited that by 2030, Florida’s supply of family medicine physicians, general internal medicine physicians and pediatric physicians is expected to meet only 62%, 65% and 76% of [demand, respectively, for each specialty](#).

Nemours Children's Health owns the [130-bed Nemours Children's Hospital Florida](#) in Orlando's Lake Nona community and a 208-bed hospital in Delaware, as well as a network of more than 70 primary and specialty care practices.

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