



TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY FACTS

BY THE NUMBERS:

- Texas A&M University, which opened in 1876 as the first public institution of higher learning in the Lone Star state, has the second largest student population in the country. Student [enrollment](#): **69,000-plus** in Fall 2018 in College Station, including Texas A&M at Galveston, Texas A&M at Qatar, The Higher Education Center at McAllen, Texas A&M Health Science Center and Texas A&M School of Law.
- The flagship university has **three branch campuses**: Almost **2,000** students attend in **Galveston**, just **over 500** are enrolled in **Doha, Qatar** and **202** at **The Higher Education Center** which opened in McAllen this fall.
- More than **\$905 million** invested in **research** annually; Texas A&M is No. 1 in Texas public and private schools in total research expenditures.
- **Corps of Cadets** Fall 2018 enrollment: **More than 2,400** students.
- Ranked **best value** among colleges in the nation for veterans.
- Roughly **1,150 veterans** are enrolled at Texas A&M.
- Along with the University of Texas and Rice, Texas A&M is **one of only three** [Tier 1](#) research universities in the state.
- Texas A&M is a **land-grant, sea-grant** and **space-grant institution**. It was among the first four universities to hold the triple designation.

QUICK HISTORY:

Texas A&M opened its doors 142 years ago as an all-male military college. It remains one of only six senior military colleges and the Corps of Cadets is the largest

uniformed body outside of the national service academies. The Corps — often referred to as the “Keepers of the Spirit” — historically has produced more officers than any other institution in the nation, other than the academies.

- Under the leadership of President James Earl Rudder, a retired World War II general, Texas A&M [formally opened](#) its student body to women and enrolled its first African-American students in 1963, while making participation in the Corps of Cadets optional.
- Now has **19 colleges** offering **130** undergraduate degree programs, as well as **268** master’s and doctoral degree programs.
- Texas A&M University defines its purpose by six [core values](#): **Excellence, Integrity, Leadership, Loyalty, Respect** and **Selfless Service**.

HELPFUL LINKS:

- For stories about Texas A&M, go to: today.tamu.edu
- The Bush School of Government & Public Service: bush.tamu.edu
- George H.W. Bush Presidential Library and Museum: bush41.org
- George H.W. Bush Presidential Library Foundation: bush41.org/foundation

Texas A&M is part of the Texas A&M University System, one of the largest systems of higher education in the nation. Through a statewide network of 11 universities and seven state agencies, the Texas A&M System educates more than 152,000 students and makes more than 22 million additional educational contacts through service and outreach programs each year.

Why did former President Bush select Texas A&M University to house his legacy?

The 41st president has said he wasn't alone when the critical decision was made: He leaned on his best friend and wife, Barbara Bush, and together they enthusiastically chose Texas A&M University, a 90-mile ride from their home in Houston. A contributing factor was the commitment by A&M leadership to open a graduate school to teach about government and public service, but the rich and storied traditions at the university deepened the attraction to the College Station campus.

Here's an abbreviated timeline on the three components of the Presidential Center: The George H. W. Bush [Presidential Library and Museum](#) (operated by the [National Archives](#) and Records Administration); the Bush School of Government and Public Service; and the George Bush Presidential Library Foundation.

- **Jan. 18, 1990:** After a year and a few months of being courted by Texas A&M University, then-President George H. W. Bush and First Lady Barbara Bush hear a formal presentation in their living quarters on the second floor of the White House. The subject had been raised after the 1988 election by former student Michel T. Halbouty, a successful businessman in the oil industry.
- **May 3, 1991:** President Bush calls William McKenzie, the chairman of Texas A&M University System Board of Regents, to say he and Barbara decided to locate their library and museum in Aggieland.
- **Nov. 30, 1994:** The Bushes, along with Texas A&M officials and supporters, break ground on a 90-acre site surrounded by oak and cottonwood trees on the

west side of campus. The site was carved out to house the \$40 million Bush School of Government and Public Service, as well as the \$82 million library and museum and conference center. The Library and Museum is operated by the National Archives and Records Administration, while the Bush Presidential Library Foundation is a non-profit fundraising unit. Before a single brick was put in place, the Bush Foundation board of directors raised the \$82 million needed.

- **Sept. 10, 1997:** Classes start for the inaugural class of 19 students at the Bush School of Government and Public Service, which is operated through Texas A&M University.
- **Nov. 7, 1997:** George H. W. Bush Presidential Library and Museum celebrated its opening with tens of thousands of well-wishers at a ceremony that included former Presidents Jimmy Carter and Gerald Ford, as well as then-President Bill Clinton, and a future president George W. Bush, who was governor of Texas at the time. Nancy Reagan also spoke on behalf of her husband.

What's Inside: The Bush Museum has more than 122,000 artifacts, while the Bush Archives house 44 million pages of records, 2 million photographs, 10,000 video recordings, 1,377 foreign head-of-state artifacts, 800 hours of audio and the vice presidential records for not just Bush, but also Dan Quayle.

The Bush complex is one of 14 Presidential Libraries documenting Presidents Herbert Hoover through Barack Obama.

