The History of
Tampa General Hospital
From medical pioneers and local heroes to groundbreaking discoveries and technological advancements, Tampa General Hospital has proudly been at the forefront of medicine for 90 years.
The first of several facilities, which would later become Tampa General Hospital, is built.

The Gordon Keller Hospital is built on North Boulevard, and the Gordon Keller School of Nursing is established.

Nurse Clara Frye turns a building on Lamar Street into a health care facility for African Americans.

1905
1910
1923
1925

Land on Davis Islands is deeded to the City of Tampa by Mr. D.P. Davis, and a $1M bond issue is approved on March 19, 1925, to build the hospital.
The City of Tampa purchases nurse Clara Frye’s hospital, renaming it the Tampa Negro Hospital. Clara continues working there until her retirement.

1927

Tampa Municipal Hospital, a memorial to Mr. Gordon Keller, opens on Davis Islands with 186 beds. The hospital is fully accredited by the American College of Surgeons.

1928
The City of Tampa places Tampa Municipal Hospital under the governance of a hospital board.

1931

The City of Tampa opens a new, 62-bed hospital for African Americans on Union Street at the Hillsborough River, dedicated as the Clara Frye Memorial Hospital.

1937

Governance of Tampa Municipal Hospital returns to the City of Tampa.

1949
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1953</td>
<td>The Tampa Municipal Hospital Auxiliary is formed and opens to both male and female volunteers.</td>
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<td>1956</td>
<td>Tampa Municipal Hospital officially changes its name to Tampa General Hospital.</td>
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<td>1959</td>
<td>An expansion of Tampa General Hospital results in growth to 514 beds.</td>
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<td>1961</td>
<td>TGH’s governing board changes its name to the Hospital and Welfare Board of Hillsborough County.</td>
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<td>1962</td>
<td>TGH and Clara Frye Memorial Hospital are put under the governance of the Hillsborough County Board of Public Assistance.</td>
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A two-story addition, housing obstetrics and an intensive care unit is added to TGH.

Governance of Tampa General Hospital is transferred to the Hillsborough County Commission.

The Gordon Keller School of Nursing is transferred to Hillsborough Community College.
1970

An affiliation agreement between Tampa General Hospital and the University of South Florida College of Medicine is signed.

This agreement makes Tampa General Hospital the primary teaching hospital for USF’s medical school and residency programs.
The Clara Frye Memorial Hospital is demolished.

Governance of TGH is transferred by a state legislative act to the Hillsborough County Hospital Authority (HCHA).

A $14.2 million renovation and expansion is completed.

1973

1974

1979

1980

The first kidney transplant at TGH is performed.

The Tampa General Hospital Foundation is established.

Governance of TGH is transferred by a state legislative act to the Hillsborough County Hospital Authority (HCHA).
A $160 million bond issue is passed that will be used to triple the size of TGH.

$160 million

1982

TGH opens a 59-bed rehabilitation center connected to the main hospital by a pedestrian bridge.

1984

The first successful heart transplant in Florida is performed at TGH.

1985

TGH is designated a level I trauma center by the state of Florida, and the West Pavilion is opened.

1986
TGH adds liver transplant to its transplantation program.

TGH begins its aeromedical transport program with one helicopter.

The HCHA rejects an attempt to convert Tampa General Hospital from a public to a private, not-for-profit corporation.

The Children’s Medical Center opens in the East Pavilion.

The Suncoast Ronald McDonald House becomes Tampa General Hospital’s neighbor.

1987
TGH begins its aeromedical transport program with one helicopter.

1989
The HCHA rejects an attempt to convert Tampa General Hospital from a public to a private, not-for-profit corporation.

1990
TGH dedicates an area of the hospital in memory of Clara C. Frye.

1991

1992
1997
The HCHA approves the conversion of Tampa General Hospital from a public to a private, not-for-profit corporation.

2001
Pancreas transplant is added to the TGH transplant program.

2002
U.S. News & World Report names Tampa General Hospital one of the nation’s Top-50 Hospitals for Kidney Disease.

The first lung transplant is performed at TGH.
A new outpatient surgery center opens, adding eight operating rooms.

The Joint Commission awards disease-specific certification in 11 specialties.

Tampa General Hospital receives Magnet designation from the American Nurses Credentialing Center.

TGH earns the distinguished Consumer Choice Award from the National Research Corporation.

The Bayshore Pavilion opens in phases, beginning with the Emergency & Trauma Center, Neuroscience Intensive Care Unit and Trauma Intensive Care Unit. The remaining floors, including the Cardiovascular Center, the Women's Center and the Digestive Center, open later the following year.
Tampa General Hospital implements its EPIC Electronic Health Record.

2010

LifeLink® physicians and surgeons join the TGH family as the Tampa General Medical Group.

TGH opens the Jennifer Leigh Muma Neonatal Intensive Care Unit.

2011

TGH celebrates its 1,000th heart transplant and 300th lung transplant.

Tampa General Hospital implements its EPIC Electronic Health Record.
Tampa General Hospital jumps from the 10th busiest to the fourth busiest transplant program in the United States.

Ronald A. Hytoff, President & CEO of Tampa General Hospital, is named as one of the Becker’s Hospital Review's “100 Non-Profit Hospital, Health System CEOs to Know” based on his experience, awards and community involvement.

In May 2012, Ron Hytoff announces his retirement after 16 years of service, including 12 years as the President & CEO.

2012

Tampa General Hospital is named the #1 hospital in Florida by U.S. News & World Report’s Best Hospitals 2012-2013.
Tampa General Hospital and Florida Hospital Tampa Bay agree on a partnership to develop new clinical programs and services in the Tampa Bay area. The new partnership will help Tampa residents have greater access to health care services and will allow both Tampa General Hospital and Florida Hospital to expand their services throughout the community.

James R. Burkhart, DSc, MSHHA, FACHE, joins TGH as President & CEO.
In January 2015, Tampa General Hospital and Florida Hospital announced West Florida Health, a new jointly-owned, not-for-profit health care company. West Florida Health provides accessible, affordable care for the community by expanding the continuum of care available throughout the Tampa Bay area.

In February 2015, West Florida Health, the joint partnership between Tampa General Hospital and Florida Hospital, launched a new home care agency that provides home care services in Hillsborough, Hernando, Pasco and portions of Sumter counties.

In December 2014, Tampa General Hospital became the first hospital on the west coast of Florida to be awarded Comprehensive Stroke Certification, the highest national designation, from the Healthcare Facilities Accreditation Program, a national certification organization recognized by the Federal Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services.

Tampa General Hospital became the first hospital in Tampa Bay, and one of only three hospitals in Florida, to offer MRI-guided laser technology for minimally invasive neurosurgery. The laser technology uses light energy to destroy brain tumors, resulting in more precise surgeries and faster recovery time for patients. Surgeons can view real-time images of the brain during surgery without moving the patient from the operating table.
In May 2015, Tampa General Hospital received full heart failure accreditation from the Society of Cardiovascular Patient Care (SCPC) for demonstrating its expertise and commitment to enhancing the quality of care for heart failure patients.

In May 2015, Tampa General Hospital received international recognition by Baby-Friendly USA, Inc. as a baby-friendly designated birth facility. TGH is the first hospital in Hillsborough County, and one of only three in the Tampa Bay area, to earn the hospital initiative.

In July 2015, Tampa General Hospital received accreditation as a Chest Pain Center with PCI (percutaneous coronary intervention) from the Society of Cardiovascular Patient Care (SCPC).
TGH launches TGH Virtual Care. This telehealth technology allows patients to have interactive online urgent care visits with board-certified physicians 24/7/365 via a mobile app, tablet or computer.

James R. Burkhart
President & CEO

In November 2016, James R. Burkhart announces his resignation after serving as President & CEO for nearly four years.
TGH’s first outpatient facility begins seeing emergency center patients on March 27, 2017. The TGH Brandon Healthplex is home to a free-standing emergency care center, lab and imaging services, outpatient surgery center, pharmacy and physician offices.

Tampa General Hospital is named the #1 hospital in Tampa Bay by U.S. News & World Report’s Best Hospitals 2017-2018.

JOHN D. COURIS
President & CEO
John D. Couris joins TGH as President & CEO, September 2017.
Recognition

U.S. News & World Report - America’s Best Hospitals

2002 Top-50 hospital in Kidney Disease

2005 Top-50 hospital in Orthopedics

2006 Top-50 hospital in Orthopedics

2007 Top-50 Hospital in FIVE specialties:
• Ear, Nose & Throat
• Gynecology
• Kidney Disease
• Orthopedics
• Urology

2008 Top-50 Hospital in SEVEN specialties:
• Ear, Nose & Throat
• Endocrinology
• Gynecology
• Cardiology & Heart Surgery
• Kidney Disease
• Orthopedics
• Urology

2009 Top-50 Hospital in SEVEN specialties:
• Diabetes & Endocrine Disorders
• Geriatric Care
• Gynecology
• Cardiology & Heart Surgery
• Kidney Disorders
• Orthopedics
• Urology

2010 Top-50 Hospital in SIX specialties:
• Diabetes & Endocrinology
• Geriatrics
• Cardiology & Heart Surgery
• Kidney Disorders
• Orthopedics
• Urology

2011 Top-50 Hospital in SEVEN specialties:
• Cardiology & Heart Surgery
• Diabetes & Endocrinology
• Geriatrics
• Gynecology
• Nephrology
• Orthopedics
• Urology
Recognition

**U.S. News & World Report - America’s Best Hospitals**

2012 Tampa General Hospital is named the **#1 HOSPITAL IN FLORIDA** and a Top-50 hospital in **NINE** specialties:
- Cardiology & Heart Surgery
- Diabetes & Endocrinology
- Ear, Nose & Throat
- Geriatrics
- Nephrology
- Neurology & Neurosurgery
- Orthopedics
- Pulmonology
- Urology

2013 Tampa General Hospital is named the **#1 HOSPITAL IN TAMPA BAY** and a Top-50 hospital in **SIX** specialties:
- Cardiology & Heart Surgery
- Ear, Nose & Throat
- Nephrology
- Orthopedics
- Pulmonology
- Urology

2014 Tampa General Hospital is named the **#1 HOSPITAL IN TAMPA BAY** for the second year in a row and a Top-50 hospital in **FOUR** specialties:
- Cardiology & Heart Surgery
- Nephrology
- Orthopedics
- Urology

2015 Tampa General Hospital is named the **BEST HOSPITAL IN TAMPA BAY** in the Tampa metro area and a Top-50 hospital in **SIX** specialties:
- Cardiology & Heart Surgery
- Gastroenterology & GI Surgery
- Nephrology
- Orthopedics
- Pulmonology
- Urology

2016 Tampa General Hospital is named the **TOP HOSPITAL** in the Tampa metro area and a Top-50 hospital in **SIX** specialties:
- Cardiology & Heart Surgery
- Diabetes & Endocrinology
- Gastroenterology & GI Surgery
- Nephrology
- Pulmonology
- Urology

2017 Tampa General Hospital is named the **TOP HOSPITAL** in the Tampa metro area and a Top-50 hospital in **SIX** specialties:
- Cardiology & Heart Surgery
- Diabetes & Endocrinology
- Gastroenterology & GI Surgery
- Nephrology
- Pulmonology
- Urology
Recognition

Trauma Verification

2013 Tampa General Hospital's level I trauma center for adults and children is the first and only program in Florida to achieve verification from the American College of Surgeons (ACS) for the quality of its trauma care.

2016 Tampa General Hospital's level I trauma center for adults and children receives re-verification from the American College of Surgeons (ACS). It is one of only two verified level I trauma centers in the state.

Magnet Designation

2005 Tampa General Hospital receives Magnet designation from the American Nurses Credentialing Center.

2009 Tampa General Hospital is redesignated as a Magnet Hospital by the American Nurses Credentialing Center.

2014 Tampa General Hospital is redesignated as a Magnet Hospital by the American Nurses Credentialing Center and remains the only Magnet-designated hospital in Tampa.

The Joint Commission National Quality Approval

2005 Disease-specific certification in 11 specialties.

2010 Disease-specific certification in 16 programs.

2015 Disease-specific certification in 12 programs.

2016 Disease-specific certification in seven programs in the areas of:
- Benign Esophageal Disorder
- Joint Replacement – Hip
- Joint Replacement – Knee
- Joint Replacement – Shoulder
- Orthopedic Trauma
- Sleeping Disorder
- Ventricular Assist Device (advanced certification)
Recognition

Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities (CARF) Accreditation
Tampa General Hospital has held accreditation by the Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities since 1973.

- 2014 Tampa General Hospital receives re-accreditation from the Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities for adult and pediatric inpatient rehabilitation.

Comprehensive Stroke Certification
2014 Tampa General Hospital becomes the first hospital on the west coast of Florida to be awarded Comprehensive Stroke Certification, the highest national designation, from the Healthcare Facilities Accreditation Program, a national certification organization recognized by the federal Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services.

Electrophysiology Services Accreditation status from the Society of Cardiovascular Patient Care (SCPC)

- 2016 Tampa General Hospital was awarded full Atrial Fibrillation with Electrophysiology Services Accreditation status from the Society of Cardiovascular Patient Care (SCPC) for its expertise and commitment to quality care.

‘Business of the Year’ by the Florida State Minority Supplier Development Council (FSMSDC)

- 2016 Tampa General Hospital is honored for supporting minority-owned business. TGH was named ‘Business of the Year’ by the Florida State Minority Supplier Development Council (FSMSDC).
Recognition

National Research Corporation Consumer Choice Award
TGH earns the distinguished “Consumer Choice Award” from the National Research Corporation.


Burn Center Verification

2003 Tampa General Hospital’s Regional Burn Center becomes the first verified burn center in Florida.

2007 Tampa General Hospital’s Regional Burn Center is re-verified.

2013 Tampa General Hospital’s Regional Burn Center is re-verified and remains one of just three burn centers in the state to earn verification.

2017 Tampa General Hospital’s Regional Burn Center is re-verified through 2019.

American Heart Association/American Stroke Association

2014 TGH receives the “Get With The Guidelines – Stroke, Gold Plus Quality Achievement Award.” This is the 10th consecutive year TGH has received the highest stroke performance award available for the program.

2014-2016 TGH named a Platinum Fit-Friendly organization.

2015 TGH receives the American Heart Association/American Stroke Association’s “Get with the Guidelines - Stroke, Gold Plus Achievement” award with Target: StrokeSM Honor Roll Elite Plus.

2017 TGH receives the American Heart Association/American Stroke Association’s “Get with the Guidelines - Stroke, Gold Plus Achievement” award with Target: StrokeSM Honor Roll Elite Plus.
Recognition

American Heart Association

2013  TGH receives the “Mission Lifeline Silver Receiving Quality Achievement Award” from the American Heart Association for providing exceptional care to patients experiencing the most deadly form of heart attacks. It is the hospital’s first time receiving the award.

Commission on Accreditation of Medical Transport Systems

2013  Tampa General Hospital’s Aeromedical Transport Program is accredited by the Commission on Accreditation of Medical Transport Systems.

American Hospital Association/Hospitals & Health Networks

2013  TGH is recognized by the American Hospital Association as one of the nation’s most wired hospitals in the Hospitals & Health Networks publication. TGH was the only hospital in Tampa Bay to be named among the 2013 rankings.

2014  TGH is again recognized as one of the nation’s most wired hospitals. This was Tampa General Hospital’s first time as a winner in the advanced category, in addition to being one of only 20 hospitals in the country to earn the national recognition.

2015  Tampa General Hospital is again recognized as one of the nation’s most wired hospitals in the Hospitals & Health Networks publication.

2016  Tampa General Hospital is again recognized as one of the nation’s most wired hospitals in the Hospitals & Health Networks publication.

2017  Tampa General Hospital is recognized for the 5th consecutive year as one of the nation’s most wired hospitals in the Hospitals & Health Networks publication.
Recognition

Beacon Award for Excellence

2010  TGH’s Cardiothoracic ICU receives the prestigious Beacon Award for Excellence.

2011  TGH’s cardiac telemetry unit receives a Silver Beacon Award for Excellence from the American Association of Critical-Care Nurses (AACN). It is the hospital’s first non-critical care unit to receive the award.

2017  Tampa General Hospital’s Medical Intensive Care Unit earned the silver level Beacon Award for Excellence from the American Association of Critical-Care Nurses (AACN). This is the only Medical Intensive Care unit on the west coast of Florida and one of just three in the state to receive this designation, which runs through 2020.

Practice Greenhealth

2012  TGH is recognized with the “2012 Partner for Change Award“ for its environmentally responsible operations.

Nurses Improving Care for Healthsystem Elders (NICHE)

2011  TGH is designated as a Nurses Improving Care for Healthsystem Elders (NICHE) site by the Hartford Institute for Geriatric Nursing.

2015  TGH is the only hospital in Hillsborough County, and one of just five in Florida, to earn the Exemplar status from the Nurses Improving Care for the Healthsystem Elders (NICHE) organization.

Becker’s Hospital Review

2014-2017  TGH named on list of “100 Great Hospitals in America.”