LUBBOCK
The City

Lubbock, the Hub City of the South Plains, has a population of just over 200,000. This west Texas city is located 5 hours west of Dallas and 2 hours south of Amarillo. Its central location and easy access to the airport and to interstate highways make travel to and from the city simple and trouble-free. Lubbock International Airport is served by American Eagle, Southwest Airlines, Continental, and ASA Delta Connection.

The cost of living in Lubbock is about 10% below the national average, making housing affordable, as well as utilities, food, and entertainment.

Lubbock’s climate is semi-arid and mild. Cool nights and warm days predominate, with low levels of relative humidity. Most of the annual rainfall occurs during the months of May, June, and July. Extended periods of cold weather during the winter months are infrequent.

Residents of Lubbock can enjoy outdoor sports, live music venues, and water activities on nearby lakes. A symphony, a ballet, and a number of museums also offer many opportunities for enjoyment.

Clinical Experiences

University Medical Center is the primary clinical affiliate for medical students in Lubbock. It is a 400 bed hospital that admits over 16,000 patients annually and it was the first designated Level I trauma center in West Texas. The hospital also includes a burn center. Students also learn through experiences at Covenant Medical Center.

Here’s what a few 3rd and 4th year students have to say about their experiences in Lubbock:

“Medically, Lubbock is an outstanding campus. Because we serve such an expansive area, most of our patients cannot jump on the county bus to come to clinic. They often wait until their disease is very late stage before coming to clinic or the ER. Because of this, we get to see very late stage pathology.”

“Almost all the faculty and residents on the Lubbock campus have excellent camaraderie. Many of us do social things even with attendings. Lubbock also has excellent ancillary services, and pleasant nursing staff.”

“The third and fourth years are very busy here, but I feel that I had plenty of learning opportunities and had a vast array of clinical experiences. The clinical faculty overall are willing to teach and are very accessible to students.”

“Overall, I would rate my experience here in Lubbock as educational, beneficial, and unique.”

“The vast majority of the patient-care component of Tech/Lubbock is in clinics here at the HSC or in the attached UMC Hospital. Occasionally I have also seen patients at the Covenant hospitals, VA Outpatient Clinics, or elsewhere in the community. At no place were the residents or faculty less than wonderful people who obviously enjoy sharing their wisdom and experience with medical students.”

“My period of clinical education in Lubbock has left me grateful for the experience and confident in my preparedness. A few years ago as a preclinical student, I wondered how in four short years I could possibly be a doctor, entrusted with making decisions about real people’s health and lives. As graduation day approaches, however, no doubt or indecision colors my eager anticipation to begin life as a resident.”

“Although I initially requested Lubbock as my clinical campus assignment because of the ease of living here (little traffic, low cost of living, plentiful housing and numerous cultural opportunities), the clinical experience at UMC has been incredible as well. There are always numerous research projects going on and faculty are eager to get you involved, the attendings are excellent teachers, and the residents are as friendly as they are bright. There is an excellent range of patient pathology yet a volume manageable enough that teaching does not suffer as a result. Outside rotations during my fourth year revealed that I had much more “hands-on” experience with making patient care decisions than is typical. Overall, Lubbock is a great place to learn medicine and I would definitely choose it again.”

To find out more about Lubbock, talk to students, or arrange a visit, please call the Office of Student Affairs at (806) 743-3005.