



## [Texas Tech branch coming to Williamson County](#)

By [David C. Doolittle](#) | American Statesman Tuesday, August 19, 2008, 10:34 AM

**Texas Tech University and Texas Tech Health Sciences Center have signed on to become academic partners at the East Williamson County Higher Education Center outside Taylor.**

Officials from Texas Tech, which has its main campus is in Lubbock, made the announcement at a news conference at the campus of Temple College at Taylor. The yet-to-be-opened center, which will be built on 68 acres west of Taylor, will also be home to Temple College at Taylor and will house a campus of Texas State Technical College.

The two Texas Tech institutions have no firm plans yet for what they will offer. But they will be working with other partner schools to assessing the needs of the center and how they can play a role there.

"It's our mission to serve under-served areas and to expand access education where the students are," Bob Hickerson, chief operations officer for the division of off-campus sites for Texas Tech.

The Temple College at Taylor Foundation wants to build a 25,0000-square-foot building that would cost about \$6 million, City Manager Frank Salvato has said. It is expected to be open in the fall of 2009.

Several other universities and schools are planning to expand or locate campuses in Williamson County.

Austin Community College and Texas State University currently share space at the Round Rock Higher Education Center near A.W. Grimes and University Boulevards. Each plans to expand to their own campuses nearby.

Texas A&M's Health Science Center is also planning a campus off A.W. Grimes in Round Rock.

**Courtesy of JB Goodwin**