

# EDUCATIONAL COMPLEX GULF SHORES, ALABAMA

Connecting industry and community with resources and research





A strategic investment in South Alabama and the Gulf Coast, the new Auburn University Educational Complex will provide the region's population access to the innovative research and educational engine of Auburn University. An ideal complement to Gulf Shores' strategic plan, *Small Town, Big Beach Vision 2025 for Sustainability,* the new complex will offer educational and economic development resources for the community, strengthening the region's ability to serve its citizens.

Situated adjacent to the city's planned Coastal Alabama
Center for Education Excellence, the complex will expand
Auburn's role as an economic resource and will advance
its outreach, academic, and research missions. In addition,
the complex will increase Auburn's presence in the state
economic development landscape, anchor the university's
efforts in South Alabama, and will help coordinate
research among university faculty and researchers based
on the Gulf Coast.

The complex will bring vital research, educational opportunities, and extension support to the area, providing 24,000 square feet of dedicated space for the Auburn University College of Veterinary Medicine referral center, the Auburn University Aviation Center, the Office of the Vice President for Research and Economic Development, and the Alabama Cooperative Extension System.

"We are honored that Auburn University has decided to invest in Gulf Shores and are thrilled to welcome them as a significant partner in education and the future of our community." – Mayor Robert Craft, Gulf Shores, Alabama

## AUBURN UNIVERSITY VETERINARY REFERRAL CENTER

The centerpiece of the Auburn University Educational Complex will be the College of Veterinary Medicine's referral center. An extension of Auburn University's acclaimed Veterinary Teaching Hospital, the referral center will provide specialty and after-hours veterinary services and educational opportunities in veterinary-specialty practice.

With a long history of serving South Alabama and West Florida, Auburn's Veterinary Teaching Hospital can now provide more efficient and responsive services in partnership with regional veterinarians.

A team of Auburn University veterinarians, technicians, and office personnel will staff the referral center. Faculty from Auburn's Veterinary Teaching Hospital will provide specialty services through temporary on-site assignments and electronic consultations. In addition, the referral center will offer veterinary continuing education for practicing veterinarians by Auburn faculty and other specialists.

A core mission of the referral center is to provide resources to Auburn Veterinary students by expanding their clinical education. In support of this mission, the 12,000-square-foot facility will include:

- Six exam rooms
- Two operating rooms, with separate spaces for anesthesia induction, surgical preparation, and recovery
- Intensive and critical care areas
- Treatment suite and endoscopy room
- Clinical laboratory
- Pharmaceutical dispensing area
- Imaging capabilities, including radiography, ultrasound, MRI, and computerized tomography (CT)
- Infectious disease isolation area
- Pet nutrition kitchen
- Separate canine and feline housing areas



#### AUBURN UNIVERSITY AVIATION CENTER

The Auburn University Aviation Center within the Auburn University Educational Complex will strengthen the university's reputation as a leader in aviation programming, encompassing more than 80 years of aviation education and 76 years of flight training.

The complex will provide a base of operations for outreach efforts focused on Gulf Shores and South Alabama. Along with aviation learning opportunities for K-12 students, the center will also host Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS) courses, which will prepare students, entrepreneurs, and professionals in an array of industries, including mapping/surveying, precision agriculture, and public safety, to properly and safely leverage UAS in economic development efforts.









## ALABAMA COOPERATIVE EXTENSION SYSTEM

Already a trusted resource for residents of the Gulf Shores region, the Alabama Cooperative Extension System (ACES) within the Auburn University Educational Complex will offer valuable resources and educational programming for South Alabama. ACES' presence in the complex will strengthen services already available at the extension office in Bay Minette and the Gulf Coast Research and Extension Center in Fairhope.

Eastern shore residents and agricultural businesses will benefit from the complex's cutting-edge plant disease and insect diagnostic laboratory. Supporting the \$107 million nursery and greenhouse industry in Baldwin and Mobile counties, the new lab will help prevent devastating losses to regional nursery, landscaping, sod, and field crop industries, which employ more than 1,000 people.

In addition, demonstration gardens and resource space will support the region's more than 700 Master Gardeners. Community members will benefit from handson instruction and advice from Master Gardeners, and future generations will be served by dedicated space for Baldwin County's 700+ 4-H members.









"The Gulf Shores complex supports Auburn University's mission of serving as an academic and economic resource to Alabama. We are excited to expand our reach to another part of the state and increase our capacity to better serve the citizens of South Alabama."

Auburn UniversityProvost Tim Boosinger

## OPENING FALL 2018

The Auburn University Educational Complex will be conveniently situated in Gulf Shores on the corner of Beach Express and County Road 8, adjacent to the planned Coastal Alabama Center for Education Excellence.





#### For more information, contact:

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