



An Arbor Day Foundation Program

**Celebrating leadership in wellness and community engagement through trees.**

Tree canopy is a critical component of community health infrastructure — but urban tree cover is shrinking, and its health benefits are not often equitably distributed. The Tree Campus Healthcare program recognizes health institutions that make a mission-aligned impact on community wellness through tree education, investment, and community engagement.



**The Challenges » We're Facing**



**People are less active.**

Only 23% of adults get enough exercise.



**Mental health is at risk.**

1 in 5 adults has a mental health condition.



**Increased pollution threatens health.**

Air pollution causes 1 in 9 premature deaths per year.



**Urban temps are rising.**

Heat-related ED visits are projected to rise.



**Safe outdoor spaces are critical to health.**

Presence of crime limits youth physical activity.

**The Solution » Through Trees**

**Trees promote physical activity.**

People living in neighborhoods with high levels of greenery are three times as active.

**Trees create calming spaces.**

Viewing community trees can significantly aid stress recovery.

**Trees clean the air.**

Trees remove over 17 million metric tons of air pollution per year in the U.S.

**Trees cool urban spaces.**

Trees reduce the size and effect of urban heat islands.

**Trees reduce crime in public spaces.**

A 10% increase in tree canopy has been associated with a 12% decrease in crime.

Special thanks to our professional partner, The Davey Tree Expert Company, and to our program collaborators, Practice Greenhealth, the Professional Grounds Management Society, and the USDA Forest Service.





# Program Standards

To be recognized as a Tree Campus Healthcare facility, five program standards must be fulfilled:

## STANDARD 1: Advisory Committee

Each qualifying facility or campus will have an Advisory Committee with at least three members, from among the following groups: healthcare providers, facility or grounds managers, administrators, patient advocates, residents, and community forestry advocates or officials.



## STANDARD 2: Facility Tree Care Plan

Qualifying plans will set policies that govern management practices, both for staff and contractors. For facilities with little or no space for trees on their own property due to site restrictions, facilities may adopt the street, boulevard, or park trees near or adjacent to the campus.

## STANDARD 3: Community Forestry Project

The facility will lead one or more community forestry projects during the year, including tree planting, tree maintenance, tree inventory, tree monitoring, or other practices in the community. Activities may occur on private or public property, and involve either employees or volunteers, so long as community residents benefit from the project.

## STANDARD 4: Celebrate & Educate

The facility will sponsor at least one celebration event — such as Arbor Day — or an awareness campaign that highlights the connection between trees, nature, and human health.



## STANDARD 5: Financial Investment

The suggested annual financial investment towards implementation of the facility tree care plan, tree projects, education events, and community outreach by the facility is \$2 per employee (Full-Time Equivalent), either as cash or in-kind contribution, or in combination.

Healthcare facilities across the country are stepping up to improve the tree canopy — and overall wellness of residents — on their campus and in the communities they serve. Join their ranks with a commitment to trees and recognition as a Tree Campus Healthcare facility.

» Find out more at [treecampushealthcare.org](https://treecampushealthcare.org)

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arborday.org