KEY INDUSTRY

Health Sciences in Southwest Michigan


Southwest Michigan First offers you access to everything a company needs to come together for success. Boasting a history of life science innovation that began when Dr. W. E. Upjohn invented the first friable pill, the region now offers biological, organic, pharmacological and advanced manufacturing expertise for both human health and animal health. The industry in this region is also buoyed by an angel network committed to entrepreneurship and the WMed Innovation Center, a 69,000-square-foot life science incubator partnered with the Western Michigan University Homer Stryker M.D. School of Medicine.

DID YOU KNOW?

- **Kalamazoo** ranks in the top three places in the U.S. with the **lowest cost of living**.
- LinkedIn’s Economic Graphic Research Team named **Kalamazoo** second on its list of **top-12 cities with thriving job markets**.
- **Personal finance website** ranked **Kalamazoo** first on its list of **10 best cities for high salaries and low cost of living**.

THE REGION IS HOME TO

- Over 200 regional health science companies
- More than 36 successful life science start-ups since 2003
- Zoetis Inc.’s Animal Health Global Research and Development Headquarters
- Western Michigan University Homer Stryker M.D. School of Medicine (and the $100 million anonymous gift in 2011 for its formation, the nation’s 2nd largest university gift ever)
- Access to Local Venture Capital Funds
- WMed Innovation Center
- International Food Protection Training Institute
- Midwest’s 4th largest cluster of medical device suppliers
- 8th largest biopharmaceuticals cluster in the U.S.
- Over 80,000 employed in the health sciences
- According to the Batelle/BIO State Bioscience Report, the Kalamazoo/Portage metro is one of 5 communities has four of the five bioscience sub-sectors (agricultural feedstock and chemicals; bioscience related distribution; drugs and pharmaceuticals; medical devices and equipment; research, testing and medical laboratories)
- $100 million anonymous gift to Western Michigan University in 2011 for formation of a medical school, the nation’s 2nd largest university gift ever!
- Six Fortune 500 companies are headquartered or physically present, including Stryker, Kellogg, Pfizer, Abbott Laboratories, Zoetis and Thermo Fisher Scientific
- More than 303,000 college and university students within a 2-hour driving radius