

Frequently Asked Questions:

PPD and the NC Research Campus: New Tenant Brings New Jobs

What does PPD do?

PPD, Inc., (PPD) is a leading global contract research organization (CRO) providing discovery, development and post-approval services as well as compound partnering programs. Clients and partners include pharmaceutical, biotechnology, medical device, academic and government organizations. With offices in 30 countries and more than 10,200 professionals worldwide, PPD applies innovative technologies, therapeutic expertise and a commitment to quality to help its clients and partners maximize returns on their R&D investments and accelerate the delivery of safe and effective therapeutics to patients.

What type of professionals will work in the facility?

PPD's office will employ clinical researchers, project managers and clinical research associates (CRAs). These professionals administer clinical trials, providing all types of support for clients.

How many jobs may PPD create at the NC Research Campus and who are they for?

PPD may create 200 to 300 clinical researcher, project manager and clinical research associate (CRA) positions. Also, Rowan Cabarrus Community College will develop a certificate and degree program for potential CRAs.

What will PPD's office in Kannapolis be like?

PPD will join Carolinas Healthcare System in the campus' Medical Office Building. The company will lease 40,000 square feet, and may eventually add more space.

What is the significance of PPD's partnership with the campus?

CROs are very important to the drug development process. Having PPD, one of the world's leading CROs, on campus will help to build a competitive, well-rounded scientific community. PPD may also attract other pharmaceutical and biotechnology organizations.

Why did PPD choose the NC Research Campus?

The NC Research Campus is quickly developing into one of the world's most comprehensive life science research centers. The campus combines the research power of world-renowned universities and workforce training programs with the know-how of business. This "dream team" includes Duke University, the University of North Carolina system, the N.C. Community College System and David H. Murdock (chairman and owner of Castle & Cooke, Inc. and Dole Food Company, Inc.).

Recalling his first tour of the campus, PPD CEO Fred Eshelman said, "My jaw dropped as we walked around and I realized that this was indeed a unique, complete and scientifically outstanding concept, which is rapidly becoming a reality."

How long has PPD operated in North Carolina?

PPD has operated from its corporate headquarters in Wilmington, N.C., since 1986. PPD also has offices in the Research Triangle region of the state.