

## A Brief Chronology of Prairie View A&M University

**February 1876:** Texas State Representative William H. Holland submits an “act to establish an agricultural and manual school for colored youths of the state.”

**August 14, 1876:** The Fifteenth Legislature authorizes the creation of the “Agricultural and Mechanical College of Texas,” “established for colored youths.”

**1877:** The state takes title to 1,388 acres in Waller County for the site of the college.

**March 11, 1878:** Alta Vista College for Colored Youth opens with eight students.

**1878:** L.W. Minor of Mississippi named the first Principal (1878-1879).

**April 19, 1879:** The school is renamed “Prairie View State Normal School.” The school is the first coeducational public institution of higher learning in the state.

**1885:** First diplomas granted.

**1887:** The Twentieth Legislature adds “the Agriculture & Mechanical Department” to the official school name.

**1890:** The institution becomes a Land Grant College (Second Morrill Act, 1890).

**1899:** The institution renamed Prairie View Normal and Industrial College.

**1901:** The institution begins offering a four year course of study.

**1918:** The Prairie View Training School for nurses established.

**1919:** Four year senior college program began.

**1921:** First four year degree offered.

**1930:** College of Arts and Sciences established.

**1937:** Division of graduate studies added.

**1939:** First Masters degree granted.

**1945:** Prairie View Normal and Industrial College renamed Prairie View University.

**1947:** Prairie View University renamed Prairie View A&M College of Texas.

**1947 - 1948:** Dr. E.B. Evans appointed as Principal and subsequently appointed by the Texas A&M University Board of Directors as Prairie View's first President.

**1950:** School of Engineering established.

**1958:** The institution accepted for membership in the Southern Association.

**1964:** First white students attend Prairie View.

**1968:** The Navy ROTC program established.

**1972:** College of Business established (degrees offered since early 1930s).

**August 27, 1973:** Prairie View A&M College renamed Prairie View A&M University and is an independent unit of the Texas A&M University System.

**1982:** Prairie View becomes a party to U.S. Dept. of Education's Office of Civil Right's lawsuit.

**1983:** College of Nursing relocates to Texas Medical Center complex in Houston.

**November 6, 1984:** A constitutional amendment restructures the state's Permanent University Fund (PUF) to include Prairie View A&M as a beneficiary of its proceeds.

**1998:** School of Architecture established.

**1999:** College of Juvenile Justice established.

**2000:** University College established.

**2001:** The University's first doctoral program (Ph.D. in Juvenile Justice) is offered.

**2001:** Funding approved by 77<sup>th</sup> Texas Legislature to support state commitment to Office of Civil Rights (OCR) Priority Plan.

**July 2002:** "Land-Grant institution by federal statute" added to Mission Statement.

**2003:** Dr. George C. Wright is named as the seventh president of Prairie View.

**December 2004:** First Ph.D. awarded (Juvenile Justice).