

November 4, 2024

Mr. John Camele
650 Highway 74 South
Peachtree City, GA 30269

Dear Mr. Camele,

On behalf of Commerce Lexington's economic development division, we want to thank you for considering Lexington as a potential location for Project Pharmaceuticals. Our central location, top-ranked research university, strong manufacturing background, and educated workforce are among the many reasons Lexington is the best choice.

Covering nine counties in Central Kentucky, the Greater Lexington Region is a thriving metro area with nearly 700,000 people living within a 30-mile radius. Located at the crossroads of I-64 and I-75, Lexington is at the center of a 34-state distribution area and is within a 600-mile radius of most of the nation's manufacturing employment, retail sales, and population. By virtue of this geographic location and Kentucky's integrated system of state-maintained roads, interstates, and parkways, Lexington is within overnight range of over half of the United States' market and within a two-hour to many of the nation's largest cities.



Airport Access

Lexington is home to the Blue Grass Airport (LEX), which offers 16 non-stop destinations on major carriers including Delta, American, United, and Allegiant Air. Within an hour's drive of Lexington are the Louisville Muhammad Ali International (SDF) and Cincinnati/Northern Kentucky International (CVG) Airports. Combined our region offers more than 100 non-stop daily flights and one stop access to 389 global destinations.

Educated Workforce

Lexington is a very smart city. According to the most recent Census data, Lexington is the 16th most highly educated city in the nation. More than 47% of the population over age 25 has at least a bachelor's degree. We are also 13th in the nation whose population over age 25 has an advanced degree. This is a result of the success of the area's colleges and

universities. Within 40 miles of Lexington there are 12 institutions of higher education, which enroll nearly 80,000 students and graduate over 18,000 students annually. Each college will serve as a potential source for workforce and future partnerships for your company.

Our flagship university is the University of Kentucky (UK), which is in the heart of Lexington. Specific to pharmaceuticals, the UK College of Pharmacy was ranked #6 in the nation in 2024 by U.S. News & World Report and is home to the largest pharmacy education and research building in the world.

Bluegrass Community and Technical College (BCTC) also contributes to the area's skilled labor force by offering degree programs and certificates designed to support life sciences across the Greater Lexington Region. With their recent expansion in Winchester, BCTC now has the capacity to allow even more students to enroll in life sciences programs.

A Growing Bioeconomy

The life science and biopharma industries were recently identified by a strategic target industry study as growth opportunities for Greater Lexington. With the number of companies already in the region and the existence of an educated workforce along with the University of Kentucky's robust \$450 million research and development expenditures and the recent designation of Markey Cancer Center as an NCI-Designated Comprehensive Care Center – the first and only in KY, the Greater Lex region is focused on expanding the bioeconomy.

Kindeva Drug Delivery's recent acquisition of Summit Biosciences in Coldstream Research Campus, Neogen's \$6 million investment in their Lexington facility in 2023, and a \$175 million project in 2022 to expand Catalent's manufacturing capability in Winchester is evidence that bio companies recognize the potential of the Greater Lexington Region's growing bio economy.

At the intersection of I-75 and I-64, The University of Kentucky's Coldstream Research Campus is home to more than 50 organizations and more than 2,250 employees working in biotechnology, pharmaceuticals, equine health, and other industry sectors. This growing area is within 75 miles of the UPS Healthcare Campus in Louisville that features cold storage and overnight worldwide delivery.

Quality of Life

Greater Lexington is fortunate to have a wonderful quality of life, characterized by lower housing costs, vibrant downtowns, and a diverse selection of restaurants and nightlife options. Cultural amenities such as art galleries, entertainment venues, and the renowned Keeneland Racecourse contribute to the overall richness of the region. This exceptional quality of life, coupled with the new talent attraction campaign focusing on promoting the region's strengths to young professionals, aims to increase the workforce in the region and drive economic growth for years to come.

As you can see, we are proud of our community, and we believe Lexington is ideal for Project Pharmaceuticals. We appreciate you considering Lexington as a potential location and look forward to our continued work with you!

Sincerely,



Gina Greathouse
Executive Vice President | Economic Development

