

# Accolades & Accreditations



## Accolades

### 2019

- Plano is the [3<sup>rd</sup> Most Affordable City for Early Retirement](#) by Smart Asset (August 30)
- Plano is the [5<sup>th</sup> Cheapest City for Healthcare in the US](#) by Becker's Hospital Review (August 29)
- Plano is the [Top City in the US with Most Working Senior Citizens](#) by Provision Living (August 21)
- Plano is the [2<sup>nd</sup> Hardest Working City in America](#) by Monster.com (August 20)
- Plano is the [Best City in Texas \(5<sup>th</sup> Best in America\) to Buy a Family Home](#) by Smart Asset (August 14)
- Plano is [4<sup>th</sup> Best City to Raise a Family](#) by WalletHub (July 23)
- Plano is among [Least Stressed Cities](#) by WalletHub (July 15)
- Plano is the [#1 City with the Most Working Seniors](#) by provisionliving.com (June)
- Plano is the [10<sup>th</sup> Best City to Retire](#) by Niche (June 7)
- Plano is one of the [Best Places for Veterans Seeking a High-Quality Education](#) by College Factual (May 24)
- Plano is [5<sup>th</sup> Least Severely Housing Cost-Burdened City in the USA](#) by Smart Asset (May 15)
- Plano is the [3<sup>rd</sup> Safest City in the United States](#) by Haven Life Insurance (May 12)
- Plano is one of the [Best Cities for People with Student Loan Debt](#) by Fox Business (May 7)
- Plano is [#2 City Where Women are Most Successful](#) by Smart Asset (April 10)
- Plano is the [Best Place to Live if You Want to Get Rich](#) by Thrillest (April 9)
- Plano is [2<sup>nd</sup> Best Southern City to Retire](#) by GOBankingRates (March 22)
- Plano is [America's Happiest City in 2019](#) by Patch.com (March 11)
- Plano is [#4 Best Cities to Buy a House in America](#) by Niche (March 7)
- Plano is [#5 Best City to Live in America](#) by Niche (March 5)
- Plano is [#4 Best City for Foodies](#) by Yelp (March 5)
- Plano is ranked [#2 Smart City in Texas](#) by All Home Connections (Feb. 27)
- Plano is [2019's #5 Hardest Working City](#) by WalletHub (Feb. 25)
- Plano is one of the [Best Cities for College Students to earn a High-Quality Degree](#) by College Factual (Jan 9)
- Plano is [#7 Best City to Find a Job in This Year](#) by Fox Business
- Plano is [#2 Most Affordable City if you have Student Loan Debt](#) by gobankingrates.com
- Plano is [#7 Best City to Work from Home](#) by Smart Asset
- Plano is [#7 Best Place to Find a Job in 2019](#) by WalletHub
- Plano is [#18 Safest City in America for 2018](#) by Smart Asset

### 2018

- Plano is [#3 Safest City in America](#) by WalletHub

- Plano is [#5 Best Places to Retire](#) by Livability
- Plano is [#4 City Where Workers are Most Committed to Their Jobs](#) by Smart Asset
- Plano is [#28 Best Cities for Veteran Homebuyers](#) by Veterans United Home Loans
- Plano is [5<sup>th</sup> Best Place to Retire](#) by Livability
- Plano is [#6 Best Place for Veterans to Live](#) by WalletHub.
- Plano [#49 – The 50 Best US Cities for Vegans and Vegetarians](#) by the Matador Network
- Plano [#5- Best Cities for Owning and Driving a Car](#) by TheStreet
- Plano [#2 of 10 Most Affordable Cities in the US for Early Retirement](#) by This Is Insider.
- Plano is [#25 in Best Cities for Vets to Live](#) in the Military Times.
- Plano is [#14 among the 25 most affordable cities for first-time homebuyers](#) according to Credit Sesame.
- Plano named [#6 Best Place to Raise a Family](#) by WalletHub.
- Plano ranks [#6 in Best U.S. Cities to Find a Job](#) by thestreet.com
- Plano is [#12 in U.S. Healthiest Cities in the U.S.](#) by thestreet.com
- The City has earned the **Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts' Transparency Stars Program** recognition in the categories of: Traditional Finances, Contracts & Procurement, Economic Development, Public Pensions and Debt Obligations.
- Plano [15th most friendly city for pets in US, 2nd in Texas](#) by WalletHub.
- Plano named [Least Stressed City in Texas](#) by WalletHub
- Plano is [#2 Most Livable City](#) by Smart Asset
- Plano is [#5 Best City to Drive](#) in America by WalletHub
- Plano is [#1 Best Place to Live](#) in 2018 by Area Vibes.
- Plano is [#8 Most Undervalued City in America](#) by Smart Asset.
- Plano is [#6 Best City to Buy a Family Home](#) by Smart Asset
- Plano is [Best in Texas and #9 in America for Cities with the Most Economic Class Diversity in 2018](#) by WalletHub.
- Plano [58<sup>th</sup> best city in USA, 4<sup>th</sup> best in Texas](#) to celebrate 4<sup>th</sup> of July by USA Today
- Plano ranked [#12 in America's Fittest Cities](#) by WFAA.
- Plano is [#13 Best City for Living the American Dream](#) by Smart Asset
- Plano is [#9 in Cities Where Women Are the Most Successful](#) by Smart Asset.
- Plano named [5<sup>th</sup> Happiest City in America](#) by WalletHub.
- Plano is [#1 Best City to Buy a House in America](#) by Niche.
- Niche ranks Plano #2 in [2018 Cities with the Best Public Schools in America](#).
- Plano named #9 [2018 Safest Cities in America](#), by Niche.
- Plano is [#18 Best City to Sell a House](#) by Smart Asset
- Plano ranked #3 in [2018 Best Cities to Raise a Family in America](#) by Niche.
- Plano is in [Top 25 Cities for Millennials in America](#) by Niche.
- Plano is [#10 Best City to Retire in America](#) by Niche.

- Plano named [2018 #4 Best City to Live in America](#) by Niche
- Plano named [one of North Texas' Top-Ranking Healthiest U.S. Cities](#) by Dallas Business Journal.
- Plano is [#1 Best Place in the South to Relocate Your Headquarters](#) by Southern Business and Development Magazine.
- Plano-Dallas-Irving [Named #3 Best Performing City in America](#) by Milken Institute.

## 2017

- Plano is [#6 Best Place to Find a Job](#) according to WalletHub.
- Plano ranked [#18 Safest City in America](#) by Smart Asset.
- WalletHub names [Plano 8<sup>th</sup> Safest City in America, & Safest in Texas.](#)
- Plano named [#12 in the U.S. & #1 in Texas for Best Wallet Fitness](#) by WalletHub.
- Plano ranked [2<sup>nd</sup> Least "Sinful" City in America](#) by WalletHub.
- Reward Expert ranks [Plano Safest Big City in the U.S.](#)
- Plano among the [Safest Places to Live in Texas](#) by Elite Personal Finance.
- Plano named [#5 Best Place to Live for Veterans](#) by WalletHub.
- For the second consecutive year, Plano ranks third [Most Livable City in America](#) by Smart Asset.
- Smart Asset names Plano one of the [Best Places for Green Jobs.](#)
- Business Insider names Plano [#2 City Where Americans Work the Hardest.](#)
- Plano named [#4 Best Place in America to Retire](#) by Livability.
- Plano ranks in [Top 10 U.S. Cities to Buy a Family Home](#) by Smart Asset.
- Plano is named the [19<sup>th</sup> Hardest-Working City in America](#) by Smart Asset.
- [WalletHub](#) ranks Plano in top 100 Greenest City in America.
- Plano ranked [#2 Safest Big City in the U.S.](#) by MSN.
- Citylab names Plano [#2 Most Prosperous of the Country's 100 Largest Cities – America's Most and Least Distressed Cities.](#)
- Plano ranked as one of the top [North Texas Cities on Best Places for Grads](#) list by 'The Dallas Morning News'.
- RentCafé's, Rental Market Study ranks Plano #10 for [U.S. Cities Where Rents Have Fallen Year to Year.](#) Year to Year change-1.1%.
- Plano named [#1 Best Place to Live](#) by Area Vibes.
- Plano named [#2 Most Prosperous City](#) by CityLab.
- WalletHub ranks Plano [3<sup>rd</sup> Best Place to Raise a Family.](#)
- Plano named one of the ["Most Livable" Cities in America](#) at the U.S. Conference of Mayors Annual Meeting.
- Plano is ranked #5 on the ["Best Cities for Veteran Homebuyers in 2017"](#) list.
- [WalletHub](#) ranks Plano the 19<sup>th</sup> Happiest Place to Live in the USA, #1 in Texas.
- [Smart Asset](#) ranks Plano the 8<sup>th</sup> best city to sell a house.
- Plano named the 10<sup>th</sup> Best City for Cybersecurity Professionals by [GoodCall.com.](#)
- Three neighborhoods from Plano make *The Dallas Morning News'* [2016 list of best neighborhoods.](#)

- [Smart Asset's](#) ranks Plano the 7<sup>th</sup> Best City in the USA.
- Plano earns President's Circle Award by Keep America Beautiful.
- Smart Asset's ranks Plano #7 in the [Best Cities of 2016](#).
- [WalletHub](#) ranks Plano the Second Best City for Jobs in America.
- Plano has been ranked as one of the ["2017 Best Cities for New Grads"](#).
- Plano Texas makes ["Top 10 Best Cities for Keeping Your New Year's Resolutions"](#).
- Plano named ["#5 Best City to Raise a Family"](#).
- Plano named ["Safest City in America with Population 250,000+ and 11th Safest Overall in the Country"](#).
- [Niche](#) ranks Plano #4 Best Public Schools in America.
- Plano named ["#1 Best City in America to Buy a House"](#).
- Plano named ["A Top City for Millennials in America"](#).
- Plano named ["A Top City for Recent College Grads."](#)

## 2016

- Plano ranked 5<sup>th</sup> by [Milken Institute's 2016 Best Performing Cities](#).
- Three of Plano's neighborhoods ranked as "Best Neighborhoods in DFW for 2016" by Dallas Morning News.
- Plano is ranked #1 for "Best Neighborhoods in DFW for 2016" (West Plano) by Dallas Morning News.
- Plano is ranked #3 for "Best Neighborhoods in DFW for 2016" (East Plano) by Dallas Morning News.
- Plano is ranked #10 for "Best Neighborhoods in DFW for 2016" (North Central Plano) by Dallas Morning News.
- Plano is ranked #1 (West Plano) and #3 (North Central Plano) for lowest crime in "Best Neighborhoods in D-FW for 2016".
- Plano is ranked #1 - North Central Plano, #2 - West Plano and #8 – East Plano for best schools in "Best Neighborhoods in D-FW for 2016".
- Plano is ranked #6 - West Plano for most Well-Maintained and Quiet in "Best Neighborhoods in D-FW for 2016".
- Plano is ranked #1 - East Plano for Pet Friendliness in "Best Neighborhoods in D-FW for 2016".
- Plano is the best city to live in Texas according to [Money Magazine](#).
- Plano named 3<sup>rd</sup> best place to live in America by [Money Magazine](#).
- Plano is ranked the 3<sup>rd</sup> Hardest Working City in America by [Money Magazine](#).
- Plano is awarded the 2015 National Community Improvement Award by the Keep America Beautiful Foundation.

## 2015

- Dallas-Plano-Irving is ranked the 5<sup>th</sup> best performing of large cities in the U.S by the [Milken Institute](#).
- Plano is named the 7<sup>th</sup> safest city in America by [Law Street Media](#).
- Plano wins League of American Bicyclists Bike Friendly Community Bronze Award.
- The American Planning Association (APA) named Downtown Plano one four Great Neighborhoods on their annual Great Places in America List.

- Plano Parks and Recreation is the 2015 National Recreation and Parks Association (NRPA) [Gold Medal](#) award winner for Excellence in Parks and Recreation.

## 2014

- The [Milken Institute](#) Names Plano #9 Best Performing City in the Nation. Ranking components include job, wage and salary and technology growth.
- Plano named the ninth-best city for young entrepreneurs by Nerdwallet.com, the personal finance website.
- Plano was voted “Best City or Suburb for Raising Children” by the readers of *DallasChild* magazine in their annual Best for Families Survey.
- The American Planning Association Texas Chapter presented the City of Plano Planning Department with the 2014 Community of the Year and Long Range Planning Awards. Senior Planner Doug McDonald was honored with the Chapter President’s Award.
- The Marketing & Community Engagement Department wins the City-County Communications & Marketing Association (3CMA) 2014 Savvy Award for social media in recognition of their #loveplano campaign.
- The Building Officials Association of Texas has awarded Plano’s Chief Building Official Selso Mata the distinction of Building Official of the Year.
- City of Plano Planning Department earns the 2014 Certificate of Achievement for Planning Excellence.
- Plano has been named one of the most attractive cities in the U.S. to host a sporting event in the 2014 Readers’ Choice Awards by *SportsEvents* magazine.
- The Plano Convention & Visitors Bureau has received a 2014 Readers’ Choice Award from *ConventionSouth* for its professionalism, creativity and service to meeting planners.
- Plano is recognized as a 2014 Gold Star Affiliate by Keep Texas Beautiful, a designation conferred on just 57 of more than 370 affiliates in 2014. Gold Star recognition is the highest status any community affiliate can achieve.
- Plano Environmental Health earns 2<sup>nd</sup> place in the 2014 North Texas Recycling Awards for their “Distinguished Greenscape Project” sponsored by the North Texas Corporate Recycling Association.
- Plano is named one of the 10 Healthiest Cities in America by TIME Magazine. In the TIME Magazine book titled “Healthiest Places to Live”, Plano is the focus of a chapter called “Best Place for Staying Safe”.
- *D Magazine* ranks Plano in the top 20 for the Best Suburbs in North Texas.  
<http://interactive.dmagazine.com/content/best-dallas-suburbs-2014>
- Plano Public Safety Communications dispatcher wins Texas Association of Public-Safety Communication Officials Telecommunicator of the Year Award.  
[Telecommunicator of the Year](#)

## Accreditations

### City

- National Civic League All America City 1994

### Building Inspections

- International Accreditation Service (IAS) Building Departments Accreditation – 1 of 2 cities in Texas and 1 of 21 in the nation. Plano was the first Texas Building Inspection Department to receive this honor in 2007.

### Fire Department

- Commission on Fire Accreditation International (CFAI) – 1 of 11 in Texas and 1 of 259 in the United States and Canada.
- Commission for Accreditation of Ambulance Services (CAAS) – 1 of 10 in Texas and 1 of 183 in the United States and Canada.
- Insurance Services Office, Inc. (ISO) Class 1 Public Protection Classification. Received 10-year reaccreditation in 2017.
- The **only** fire department in the country with a population of over 250,000 to hold both CFAI and CAAS accreditations AND a Class 1 ISO rating.

### **Health Department**

- North Central Texas Animal Shelter Coalition Gifted Animal Placement (GAP) Certification – 1 of 105 GAP-certified shelters in the nation.

### **Parks and Recreation Department**

- Commission for Accreditation of Parks and Recreation Agencies (CAPRA) – 1 of 6 in Texas and 1 of 97 in United States.
- Plano Senior Recreation Center is accredited by the National Institute of Senior Centers – 1 of 7 in Texas and 1 of 188 in the nation.

### **Plano Public Library System**

- Texas State Library and Archives Commission, annually since 1974.

### **Police Department**

- Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies (CALEA) with Flagship Status – November 2009 – 1 of 6 in Texas and 1 of 153 in the nation. The initial CALEA accreditation was earned in 1992.
- In 2012 the Commission on Accreditation of Law Enforcement Agencies (CALEA) presented the Plano Police Department with the prestigious Meritorious Service Award for 20 years of successful accreditation. The Department also earned the Gold Standard Assessment recognition and the Accreditation with Excellence status.
- The Plano Police Department Crime Scene Investigation Unit is the first law enforcement agency in the continental United States to attain national accreditation by the ANSI-ASQ National Accreditation Board/FQS. The accreditation applies to the disciplines of crime scene investigations, latent prints and firearms examinations, according to international standards.

### **Public Safety Communications**

- Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies (CALEA) Public Safety Communications Accreditation Program with Flagship Status – December 2008 – 1 of 2 in Texas and 1 of 12 in the nation. The initial CALEA accreditation was earned in 2005. Reaccredited in 2014.

### **Public Works & Engineering**

- Plano was the first Texas agency to receive accreditation from The American Public Works Association in December 2005. Re-accredited in June 2014.

### **Purchasing**

- 2013 Achievement of Excellence in Procurement (AEP) Award
- Plano Purchasing Department Earns National Procurement Award for 18<sup>th</sup> Straight Year
- National Institute of Governmental Purchasing Outstanding Agency Accreditation Achievement Award 1 of 2 in Texas and 1 of 60 in the United States and Canada

## Senior Center

- Plano Senior Recreation Center has been accredited by the National Institute of Senior Centers.