

## Work on new Homewood Suites by Hilton starts near Penn in Phila.

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Hilton Worldwide said this week it is moving forward with two hotel projects near the [University of Pennsylvania](#) — a new hotel and a renovation of an existing hotel.

A \$50 million Homewood Suites by Hilton broke ground Wednesday at 4109 Walnut St. in Philadelphia. The hotel, which is slated to open in spring 2012, is situated near the Penn campus, as well as the [Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania](#) and the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia.



The hotel will feature 136 extended-stay suites, averaging 500 square feet. Hotel amenities will include a free shuttle to area facilities.

Campus Apartments in Philadelphia is the developer. The project was jointly financed by the state, [Philadelphia Industrial Development Corp.](#), [The Reinvestment Fund](#), US Bank Community Development Corp. and [Beneficial Bank](#).

The hotel will create 300 full- and part-time jobs. A second phase of the development will include a 150,000-square-foot office building.

Not far away, at 3600 Sansom St., the Hilton Inn at Penn will undergo a multimillion renovation to update its 238 guest rooms and suites, to be completed in March.

The work will be done in two phases. Upgrades will include in-room Apple iPads, energy-saving technology, ergonomic chairs, chaise lounges and “spa-like” bathrooms.

The hotel opened as the Inn at Penn in 1999, and was then managed by Promus Hotels. In 2001, it became part of Hilton Corp. and the name changed to the Hilton Inn at Penn.

McLean, Va.-based Hilton Worldwide, which is owned by the [Blackstone Group](#), has 3,600 hotels in 82 countries. For more on planned hotel development in Philadelphia, click [here](#).