



# **GENERAL COUNSEL AND VICE CHANCELLOR FOR LEGAL, AUDIT, RISK, AND COMPLIANCE**

## **Position Profile**





## THE OPPORTUNITY

**Fayetteville State University ("FSU")** seeks an accomplished and collaborative legal executive to serve as its next General Counsel and Vice Chancellor for Legal, Audit, Risk and Compliance. As the University's chief legal officer and a key member of the senior leadership team, the General Counsel and Vice Chancellor will serve as a trusted advisor to the Chancellor, Board of Trustees, and senior administrators while providing leadership for the **Division of Legal, Audit, Risk and Compliance**. The next leader will bring sound judgment, strategic perspective, and a collaborative, solutions-oriented approach to

navigating the complex legal and regulatory landscape of higher education.

Working closely with leaders and partners across the University, the General Counsel and Vice Chancellor will help address emerging legal and institutional matters, strengthen effective governance and responsible decision-making, and provide practical counsel in support of FSU's mission and priorities. This highly visible role offers a meaningful opportunity to contribute to institutional strategy and support Fayetteville State University's continued growth and advancement.

# THE INSTITUTION

Founded in 1867, Fayetteville State University (FSU) is a public Historically Black University, the second-oldest public university in North Carolina, and a constituent institution of the University of North Carolina System. Today, FSU serves more than 7,600 students, with a record enrollment of 7,607 in fall 2025. The University offers bachelor's and master's degree programs rooted in the liberal arts tradition, as well as a Doctor of Education, and serves traditional and nontraditional students from rural, military-affiliated, and various other backgrounds.

FSU continues to build upon its historic commitment to access and opportunity while expanding its academic and research enterprise. In the 2025 Carnegie Classifications, FSU was

designated among Research Colleges and Universities, reflecting the University's growing research activity. Under current leadership, federal and state grant awards for research and programmatic support have grown from \$15 million in the 2020-21 academic year to \$46 million as reported in fall 2025. Located in Fayetteville, a community with strong ties to nearby Fort Bragg, FSU provides specialized programs and services for military-affiliated students while advancing its mission through teaching, learning, research, public service, and partnerships with the broader community.

For more information about FSU, visit [www.uncfsu.edu](http://www.uncfsu.edu).

## **RES NON VERBA** // *DEEDS NOT WORDS*



### **FAYETTEVILLE, NORTH CAROLINA**

Home to Fayetteville State University, Fayetteville is a dynamic and culturally rich city of nearly 210,000 residents in southeastern North Carolina. Located adjacent to Fort Bragg, the city has deep ties to the military community and a distinctive identity shaped by its history, service, and strong sense of community.

Fayetteville offers a growing downtown with arts, dining, entertainment, and cultural attractions, along with abundant parks and recreational opportunities, including the scenic Cape Fear River Trail.

With continued investment in economic and community development, Fayetteville blends a rich heritage with the energy of a city continuing to grow and evolve.

For more information, visit [DistiNCTly Fayetteville](http://DistiNCTlyFayetteville.com).

# THE LEADERSHIP



**DARRELL T. ALLISON, J.D.**, serves as the 12th Chancellor and Chief Executive Officer of Fayetteville State University, a role he has held since March 2021. A longtime advocate for education and expanding opportunity, Chancellor Allison previously served on the University of North Carolina Board of Governors and as a trustee of North Carolina Central University. Since joining FSU, he has focused his leadership on student success and career preparation, support for military-affiliated students, regional economic development, and strengthening the University's resources and infrastructure. Under his leadership, FSU reached a record enrollment of more than 7,600 students in 2025, secured more than \$200 million for capital projects, expanded its research and grant activity, and strengthened partnerships throughout Fayetteville and the surrounding region. Guided by the University's *Res Non Verba - Deeds Not Words* tradition, Chancellor Allison has emphasized listening, collaboration, affordability, and creating opportunities that position students for success while advancing FSU's continued growth and impact.



# THE ROLE

Reporting to the Chancellor, the General Counsel and Vice Chancellor for Legal, Audit, Risk and Compliance serves as Fayetteville State University's chief legal officer and a strategic advisor to University leadership. The General Counsel provides counsel to the Chancellor, Board of Trustees, senior administrators, and members of the University community while providing executive leadership for the Division of Legal, Audit, Risk and Compliance (LARC).

The Division supports FSU in managing its ethical, legal, regulatory, and risk responsibilities, bringing together key functions across Legal, Internal Audit, Title IX and Compliance, and Enterprise Risk Management. The General Counsel will lead and develop the professionals within the Division while fostering a collaborative, responsive, and service-oriented approach to supporting the University. Working closely with leaders across FSU, this individual will provide practical counsel, help navigate complex legal and regulatory matters, and support informed decision-making that advances the University's mission and priorities.

## KEY RESPONSIBILITIES



**Strategic Legal Counsel:** Serve as chief legal advisor to the Chancellor, Board of Trustees, and senior administrators on matters affecting the University.



**Legal & Regulatory Guidance:** Advise the University community on state and federal laws and regulations, (governance, accreditation, employment law, student affairs, compliance, contracts, and institutional risk management.



**Leadership & Team Development:** Lead, supervise, mentor, and develop attorneys and staff within the Division, fostering collaboration and professional growth.



**Institutional Partnership:** Collaborate with University leaders on initiatives, policies, and operations to support compliance with applicable legal and regulatory requirements.



**Contracts, Policy & Governance:** Provide counsel on the development and review of contracts, policies, procedures, legislation, regulations, and other legal matters affecting the University.



LEGAL



INTERNAL AUDIT



TITLE IX &  
COMPLIANCE



ENTERPRISE RISK  
MANAGEMENT

# THE QUALIFICATIONS

## MINIMUM EDUCATION, EXPERIENCE, AND SKILLS

- » Earned J.D. from an ABA-accredited law school.
- » Member of, or eligible to become a member of, the North Carolina State Bar within one year of hire, and in good standing.
- » At least seven (7) years of progressively responsible experience in higher education or public-sector law.
- » Exceptional oral, written, research, analytical, organizational, and interpersonal skills.
- » Demonstrated ability to advise senior University officials, exercise sound judgment, manage competing priorities, and address complex, multidisciplinary legal issues.
- » Demonstrated ability to communicate ideas, opinions, and legal concepts clearly and effectively to non-lawyers, both orally and in writing.
- » Demonstrated understanding of legal issues affecting higher education, including employment law, governance, student affairs, compliance, and federal higher education policy.
- » High level of problem-solving skills, including the ability to work proactively and pragmatically.
- » Strong organizational and leadership skills.





## HOW TO APPLY

### CONTACT INFORMATION

Fayetteville State University is partnering with the UNC System Office Executive Search team to support this search. Questions about the position or search process, as well as nominations, may be directed to [executivesearch@northcarolina.edu](mailto:executivesearch@northcarolina.edu).

### APPLICATION PROCESS

Please visit [FSU General Counsel Job Posting](#) to submit application materials. Applications received by **October 14, 2026** will be given priority consideration, although confidential review of applications will begin immediately. The position will remain open until filled.

### CONFIDENTIALITY

Candidate materials will be maintained in confidence throughout the search process. Finalists invited to participate in campus interviews may be asked to waive confidentiality to facilitate engagement with the broader University community. References will not be contacted without a candidate's prior knowledge and consent.

### COMPENSATION AND BENEFITS

Salary for this position is commensurate with education and experience. The position includes a comprehensive benefits package in accordance with UNC System policies and procedures. To learn more about employee benefits, please visit [uncfsu.edu/human-resources/benefits](https://uncfsu.edu/human-resources/benefits)



1200 Murchison Rd, Fayetteville, NC 28301 | (910) 672-1111

**[uncfsu.edu](http://uncfsu.edu)**