THE UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA

Leadership Profile
October 2026

Dean of the College of Nursing



Executive Summary

The University of Arizona (U of A) invites nominations and applications for the position of Dean of the College of Nursing. This is a pivotal opportunity for a visionary and strategic leader to guide Arizona's top-ranked nursing program into its next era of excellence and impact.

The University of Arizona is one of the world's preeminent public research universities and the most prestigious institution in the American Southwest. The state's flagship, land-grant university, and a Hispanic-Serving Institution (HSI), the U of A serves more than 75,000 students across 20 colleges and advances more than $1 billion in annual research. Arizona is guided by its three Strategic Imperatives: Success for Every Student, Research that Shapes the Future, and Engagement with Our Communities to Create Opportunity. The university is led by President Suresh Garimella and Provost Patricia Prelock, with strategic oversight provided by the Arizona Board of Regents (ABOR).

The University of Arizona College of Nursing seeks an accomplished, visionary, and collaborative leader to serve as its next Dean. The Dean will advance excellence and innovation in nursing education, research, and practice; foster a supportive and inclusive environment for faculty, staff, and students; and strengthen the College's reputation and impact through strategic partnerships, interdisciplinary collaboration, and responsible stewardship of resources.

In alignment with the university's strategic imperatives, key priorities for the next dean include articulating a compelling vision that inspires faculty, staff, students, and partners to new levels of academic excellence and public value; modernizing curricula to enhance student success; and advancing interdisciplinary research. This includes implementing the Academic Success Goals through intentional engagement while cultivating cross-functional collaboration with deans and senior leaders, and the provost to set a transformative standard for student success.

The College of Nursing is a critical part of the university's land-grant mission, innovating nursing and interdisciplinary education, practice, research, and service to develop leaders, address healthcare challenges, and promote health, equity, and inclusiveness. The College of Nursing has a main campus located in Tucson and a distance campus located in Gilbert, Arizona. The campus in Tucson is home to a traditional BS program, Master of Science- Entry to the Profession of Nursing Program (MEPN), DNP, PhD and certificate programs The Gilbert campus is home to the CON's BSN-Integrated Health Pathway and a second location for MEPN. The innovative graduate and undergraduate degrees of the College of Nursing are highly respected across higher education with several rankings:

- #1 Bachelor of Science in Nursing in Arizona (*US News & World Report,* 2025)
- #1 Doctor of Nursing Practice in Arizona (*US News & World Report,* 2025)
- #19 Bachelor of Science in Nursing nationally (*US News & World Report,* 2025)
- #11 Doctor of Nursing Practice across public institutions (*US News & World Report,* 2025)

Research and scholarship are central to the College's mission, with areas of excellence spanning prevention and health promotion, population and community health, and systems and models of care. In fiscal year 2025, faculty secured $7.5 million in extramural grant funding, and the College managed approximately $40 million in active research grants as of October 2025. Through interdisciplinary collaborations and partnerships with healthcare systems and communities, faculty, staff, and students advance nursing science and develop innovative approaches to improving health and healthcare delivery.

The College of Nursing has received a prestigious National Institutes of Health (NIH) T32 institutional training grant, a significant milestone that recognizes the college's nationally competitive research environment and its commitment to preparing the next generation of nurse scientists.

In addition to the research training support, the College of Nursing has been funded for multiple traineeship and student support initiatives through the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA). Students in our Family Nurse Practitioner, Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner, and Nurse-Midwifery programs have received competitive traineeships that provide longitudinal clinical placements throughout rural and urban underserved Arizona to develop a strong primary care and behavioral health workforce ready to meet the demands of our state and communities.

The dean reports to the provost and chief academic officer and oversees a $22.9 million budget. The dean will advance excellence and innovation in nursing education, research, and practice; foster a supportive and inclusive environment for faculty, staff, and students; and strengthen the College's reputation and impact through strategic partnerships, interdisciplinary collaboration, and responsible stewardship of resources.

The University of Arizona College of Nursing seeks an accomplished, visionary, and collaborative leader to serve as its next Dean. The ideal candidate will demonstrate a commitment to the University of Arizona's land-grant mission and to improving health in Arizona and beyond. They will bring a record of academic leadership, integrity, transparency, and success in advancing institutional priorities. Candidates must be registered nurses, hold a terminal degree in nursing or a related field, and possess a distinguished record of achievement in research & scholarship, teaching, and service appropriate for appointment at the rank of full professor.

To submit a nomination or express personal interest in this position, please see Procedure for Candidacy at the end of this document.

Position Summary

Opportunities and Expectations for Leadership

As the College's chief academic and administrative officer, the Dean will provide strategic leadership to advance excellence in nursing education, research, and practice.

The next Dean will have the opportunity to build upon the College's strengths while shaping its future as a national and international leader in nursing education and research. The Dean will champion academic innovation, strengthen research and scholarly infrastructure, support faculty and student success, and expand interdisciplinary and community partnerships. Through these efforts, the Dean will position the College to address evolving healthcare workforce needs, advance health equity, and improve health outcomes in Arizona and beyond.

An effective and trusted leader, the Dean will demonstrate integrity, transparency, and a commitment to shared governance and collaborative decision-making. The Dean will cultivate strong relationships across the College, university, healthcare community, and external partners while providing responsible financial stewardship and pursuing opportunities for strategic growth, philanthropic investment, and institutional advancement.

Serving a diverse academic community across the Tucson and Gilbert campuses, the Dean will lead a College offering undergraduate, graduate, doctoral, and certificate programs that prepare nurses, advanced practice clinicians, educators, leaders, and scientists. The Dean will support an accomplished faculty whose research and scholarship advance healthcare delivery, improve patient and population health, and strengthen the nursing workforce. Working collaboratively with university leadership and the College community, the Dean will shape a bold and sustainable future for nursing education, research, and practice.

Core Responsibilities

Strategic Leadership

- Establish and advance a strategic vision that positions the College as a national and international leader in nursing education, research, and practice while advancing health equity and community impact.
- Lead innovative, sustainable growth of academic programs across the Tucson and Gilbert campuses to meet evolving healthcare workforce needs.
- Champion academic quality and regulatory compliance by ensuring continued accreditation through CCNE, COA, ACME, and other applicable bodies, while collaborating with university leadership to support institutional accreditation.

Academic Leadership and Academic Success

- Oversee academic programs, curriculum development, educational innovation, and continuous quality improvement across undergraduate and graduate education, aligned with AACN standards.
- Advance student recruitment, admissions, retention, progression, and success through inclusive, supportive educational environments and equitable access to opportunities.
- Foster an inclusive academic culture characterized by shared governance, transparent communication, collaboration, and strong academic and clinical partnerships.
- Committee reorganized content but overall meaning/direction remained the same.

Faculty and Staff Leadership

- Recruit, develop, recognize, and retain outstanding faculty and staff across all tracks, overseeing personnel matters, promotion, tenure, performance evaluation, and professional development.
- Cultivate an organizational culture of trust, accountability, belonging, equitable opportunity, and continuous improvement.
- Build and maintain effective working relationships with all internal and external stakeholders and possess an institutional approach to leadership to build trust among critical stakeholders.

Financial Management

- Provides visionary yet disciplined financial leadership, thoughtfully balancing the pursuit of growth and innovation with responsible stewardship of the College's resources.
- Diversifies and increases revenue across a range of sources, including new and innovative educational programs and delivery models, expanded online and professional education, new research funding opportunities, industry and government partnerships, philanthropy, and other emerging revenue streams.
- Administers the College's business affairs, including budget planning and execution, fiscal stewardship, and compliance with institutional policies, state, and federal regulations.
- Is responsible for the financial health, resilience, and capacity of Nursing and maintains rigorous oversight of expenses, resource allocation and financial performance.

Research and Scholarly Activity

- Advance research and scholarship aligned with university priorities, supporting ethical conduct, scholarly productivity, and meaningful participation by tenure-track, career-track, and research-track faculty, staff, and students.
- Ensures alignment of the college's research with the university's strategic research initiatives (https://research.arizona.edu/strategic-research-initiatives)

- Support the growth of research and scholarship infrastructure, resources, and opportunities to strengthen the impact of work conducted by faculty, staff, and students.
- Expand external research funding and interdisciplinary collaborations across the university, healthcare systems, and community partners to advance innovation and improve health outcomes.

External Relations

- Serve as a visible ambassador for the College, strengthening its reputation and relationships with alumni, Board of Regents, healthcare organizations, industry, government, and community stakeholders.
- Lead philanthropic engagement and fundraising in collaboration with the University of Arizona Foundation, securing support for strategic priorities.
- Develop and sustain strategic partnerships with healthcare systems and community organizations to advance education, clinical practice, research, workforce development, and health outcomes across Arizona.

University Collaboration and Institutional Stewardship

- Collaborate with university leadership to advance institutional priorities, secure resources, and contribute to university governance, strategic planning, and policy development.
- Strengthen cross-unit collaboration and the College's contributions to the university's academic, research, and community engagement missions.

Professional Qualifications

- **Academic and Professional Credentials:** Holds an active registered nursing license or is eligible for RN licensure in Arizona; a terminal degree in nursing or a related field; and a distinguished record of academic achievement appropriate for appointment as a professor.
- **Administrative Experience:** Possesses significant experience in nursing leadership and administration, preferably within a research-intensive university setting. Proven experience building and developing effective leadership teams, successfully leading organizations through significant change, and creating structures that enable employees to advance institutional priorities.
- **External Relations Experience**: Demonstrates a strong record of building and sustaining relationships with alumni, healthcare and industry partners, governing boards, and community stakeholders at the local, national and international levels.

Key Competencies

- **Strategic Financial Acumen:** Demonstrates strong strategic planning skills and financial management expertise.
- **Integrity, Transparency, and Accountability:** Demonstrates ethical leadership, honesty, transparency in decision-making, and accountability. Builds trust through consistent actions, open communication, and a commitment to fairness.
- **Collaborative and Inclusive Leadership:** Fosters a culture of mutual respect, shared governance, and meaningful engagement with faculty, staff, students, and stakeholders. Values diverse perspectives and promotes collaborative decision-making.
- **Communication and Relationship Building Skills:** Communicates clearly and effectively, builds strong relationships, navigates difficult conversations, and engages internal and external stakeholders around shared priorities.
- **National and Global Perspective:** Demonstrates an understanding of national and international trends, health policy, and emerging challenges and opportunities affecting nursing education, research, practice, and healthcare.
- **Organizational Leadership and Execution:** Demonstrates a record of translating strategic vision into actionable plans, clear priorities, effective organizational structures, responsible resource allocation, and measurable results. Builds and develops effective leadership teams, leads organizations through significant change, and creates environments that enable faculty and staff to advance institutional priorities.

About the College of Nursing

Purpose and Promise

At the University of Arizona College of Nursing, education, research and clinical practice come together to transform health care, prepare the next generation of nursing leaders, and improve the health and well-being of individuals, families and communities across Arizona and beyond.

The University of Arizona College of Nursing advances the university's land-grant mission through excellence in nursing education, research, practice, and service. With campuses in Tucson and Gilbert, the College offers innovative undergraduate, master's, doctoral, and certificate programs that prepare nurses, advanced practice clinicians, educators, leaders, and scientists to address evolving healthcare challenges and improve health outcomes in Arizona and beyond.

The College serves **2,304 students as of Fall 2025**, including 861 pre-nursing students, 266 traditional BSN students, 274 BSN-Integrative Health students, 360 Master of Science – Entry to the Profession of Nursing (MEPN) students, 491 DNP students, 38 PhD students, and 14 graduate

certificate students. In fiscal year 2025, the College awarded **602 degrees and certificates**, reflecting its contributions to preparing the next generation of nursing professionals.

The College's nationally recognized academic programs emphasize educational excellence, innovative teaching, and preparation for professional practice. Its Bachelor of Science in Nursing and Doctor of Nursing Practice programs have earned recognition in *U.S. News & World Report* rankings. Student outcomes further reflect this commitment to academic quality, including 2024 first-time NCLEX pass rates of **96% for BSN graduates and 92% for MEPN graduates**, and a three-year average certification pass rate of **98% among DNP graduates**.

Research and scholarship are central to the College's mission, with areas of excellence spanning prevention and health promotion, population and community health, and systems and models of care. In fiscal year 2025, faculty secured **$7.5 million in extramural grant funding**, and the College managed approximately **$40 million in active research grants** as of October 2025. Through interdisciplinary collaborations and partnerships with healthcare systems and communities, faculty, staff, and students advance nursing science and develop innovative approaches to improving health and healthcare delivery.

The College is committed to preparing the next generation of nurse scientists and strengthening Arizona's healthcare workforce through significant federal investments in research training and advanced practice education. The NIH-funded **Training in Health Research for Innovative Vital Healthcare (THRIVE) T32 program** provides approximately $1 million over five years to support PhD student research training. Additionally, multiple **Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA)-funded traineeship and student support initiatives** provide competitive funding and clinical training opportunities for students in the **Family Nurse Practitioner, Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner, and Nurse-Midwifery programs**. These initiatives support longitudinal clinical placements in rural and urban underserved communities throughout Arizona, preparing advanced practice nurses to expand access to primary care, behavioral health, and maternal healthcare services.

Together, these achievements provide a strong foundation for the College's next Dean to advance academic excellence, strengthen support for faculty, staff, and students, enhance research and scholarship, and ensure the long-term sustainability and impact of nursing education, research, and practice.

Excellence in Nursing Education, Research and Clinical Practice

The University of Arizona College of Nursing prepares compassionate, highly skilled nurses and nurse leaders who are equipped to address the increasingly complex needs of patients, communities and health systems. The College combines rigorous academic preparation with hands-on clinical experiences, innovative teaching and nationally recognized research.

The College offers educational pathways designed to meet students and nurses wherever they are in their professional journey—from undergraduate preparation to advanced clinical practice, nursing research and academic leadership. Programs are offered in Tucson and Gilbert, with flexible online options available for several graduate programs.

Graduate

- **Master of Science in Nursing – Entry to the Profession (MEPN)** - An accelerated pathway for individuals who already hold a bachelor's degree and want to enter the nursing profession while earning a master's degree.
- **Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP)** - An advanced practice program preparing nurses to become leaders in evidence-based clinical practice. The program offers eight specialty options and flexible full- and part-time study.
- **Doctor of Philosophy in Nursing (PhD)** - A research-focused doctoral program preparing nurse scientists, educators and leaders to generate new knowledge, influence health policy and advance nursing science. Pathways include BSN-to-PhD, MS-to-PhD, DNP/PhD dual degree and post-DNP PhD options.
- **Graduate Certificates** - Part-time, online opportunities for practicing nurses to deepen their expertise in areas including AI ready healthcare, adult-gerontology acute care, family care, pediatrics, midwifery and psychiatric mental health nursing.

Undergraduate

- **Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN)** - A rigorous, nationally recognized program combining classroom education, simulation and clinical experiences to prepare students for professional nursing practice.
- **Bachelor of Science in Nursing - Integrative Health Emphasis (BSN-IH)** - An accelerated program in Gilbert that integrates evidence-based nursing with whole-person wellness and emphasizes physical, mental and spiritual health.

Research and Clinical Scholarship in the College of Nursing

The University of Arizona College of Nursing is a nationally competitive environment for nursing research and scholarship, advancing new approaches to health and well-being through interdisciplinary research, clinical partnerships and community engagement.

The College's research excellence is organized around three broad areas:

- **Prevention & Health Promotion -** Faculty develop and test interventions designed to prevent disease, promote healthy behaviors and improve individuals' ability to manage their health and the factors that influence it.
- **Population & Community Health -** Researchers partner with populations and communities to understand the social, environmental and other determinants of health and develop culturally appropriate interventions that improve health outcomes.

- **Systems & Models of Care -** Faculty investigate complex healthcare systems and innovative approaches to improving healthcare delivery, patient outcomes and the health and well-being of the nursing workforce.

College faculty conduct research across areas including aging, women's health, cancer, chronic disease, mental health, health behavior, cancer survivorship, border health, integrative health, caregiving, end-of-life care, physical activity and self-management.

The College supports this work through dedicated research infrastructure, including the Behavioral/Applied Clinical Sciences Laboratory, Biological Laboratory and other specialized research resources. These facilities provide faculty and graduate students with sophisticated environments for clinical, behavioral and biomarker research.

The College also supports student success initiatives including the Advanced Nursing Education Workforce (ANEW) scholarship, Behavioral Health Workforce Education and Training Program (BHWET), and the support and advancement of Native American nurses in the Indians in Nursing: Career Advancement and Transition Scholars (INCATS) program.

The College's Office of Research & Scholarship further strengthens its research enterprise by supporting faculty and graduate students with proposal development, grant administration, IRB consultation, statistical support, faculty mentoring, collaboration development, research seminars, dissemination and other scholarly services.

The College's research portfolio demonstrates meaningful impact across healthcare and communities. Current funded projects include research addressing cancer symptom management, psychological distress among cancer survivors, integrative approaches to cancer pain, health equity and the nursing workforce.

In 2026, the College received a $1.005 million, five-year NIH T32 institutional training grant to establish the Training in Health Research for Innovative Vital Healthcare (THRIVE) program. The program will support four PhD students each year through stipends, tuition, research expenses and professional development, strengthening the pipeline of nurse scientists and community-engaged researchers.

Clinical Partnerships and Community Impact

The College of Nursing connects education and research to the realities of healthcare delivery. Students gain experience in real-world clinical settings through relationships with Arizona's leading hospitals and healthcare systems, while faculty engage in clinical research, quality improvement and collaborative scholarship. The College maintains research and clinical collaboration with Banner Health facilities and other partners, creating opportunities to translate research into practice and improve patient care.

This combination of academic excellence, clinical preparation and research creates a distinctive environment for faculty, staff and students. The College is positioned not simply to educate

nurses, but to help shape the future of healthcare by preparing professionals who can lead change, advance evidence-based practice and address the health challenges facing Arizona and the nation.

The College actively expands global healthcare perspectives through dedicated international engagement, cross-border partnerships, and exchange programs designed for both local and international students. The primary pathways for global engagement include global learning and student opportunities through study abroad programs and international student services. Nursing faculty frequently engage in cross-border education and bi-national and regional collaborations. The College also hosts international nursing cohorts for specialized training through the inbound summer exchange program featuring clinical observations with local partners and simulation training.

Philanthropy, Alumni Engagement, and Fundraising Success

The University of Arizona College of Nursing is supported by a strong community of Wildcat Nurses who remain engaged with the College throughout their careers. Every graduate of the College automatically becomes a member of the College of Nursing Alumni Council, creating a lifelong connection among alumni, faculty, students and the nursing profession. The Alumni Council actively supports the College's commitment to excellence in teaching, research, scholarship and service.

The College's alumni network represents a powerful community of nurses, educators, researchers, advanced practice providers and healthcare leaders working throughout Arizona and across the nation. Alumni engagement provides opportunities for mentorship, student support, professional networking, events and continued connection to the College.

Philanthropic support plays an important role in expanding the College's ability to educate future nurses, advance innovative research, provide student opportunities and strengthen the nursing workforce. As the demand for highly educated nurses, advanced practice providers, nurse scientists and healthcare leaders continues to grow, opportunities exist to engage alumni, donors, healthcare organizations and community partners in supporting the College's future.

The University of Arizona College of Nursing is uniquely positioned at the intersection of **education, research, clinical practice and community impact**. With a nationally recognized academic enterprise, a growing research portfolio, strong clinical partnerships and a passionate community of Wildcat Nurses, the College is helping shape the future of nursing and improve health outcomes across Arizona and beyond.

The University of Arizona

For nearly 150 years, the University of Arizona has built a legacy as one of the world's preeminent public research universities and the most prestigious institution in the American Southwest. As Arizona's flagship, land-grant university, the University of Arizona pushes beyond the limits of what's possible, advancing discovery, educating leaders, and delivering solutions that serve the state, the nation, and humankind.

One of only eight institutions nationally – and the first in the Southwest – to achieve the combined distinction of Carnegie R1, Association of American Universities, and Hispanic-Serving Institution status, we advance more than $1 billion in annual research while striving to ensure success for every student and engaging with our communities to create opportunity.

The university serves more than 75,000 students including in-person and online, across its 20 colleges offering more than 300 academic programs. Its research enterprise is internationally recognized, with strengths spanning space sciences; optics; water resources; health and biomedical research; climate and the environment; national security; and data science. University of Arizona researchers have led era-defining achievements from pioneering the search for life beyond Earth to advancing breakthroughs in human health and precision medicine.

The university also boasts many top-ranked arts programs, including Dance, Performing Arts, Photography, and Film. Creative exploration is celebrated throughout the university, engaging the community in part through showcasing student talent and globally recognized artists and performers in our backyard.

Guided by Three Strategic Imperatives

Success for Every Student

We foster academic excellence, connection, and opportunity, preparing graduates from all backgrounds and from any community for impactful careers and lives of engaged citizenship. With a proud tradition of interdisciplinary degree programs and experiential learning, backed by national leadership in evidence-based teaching, we create the environment and community where Wildcats can pursue their boldest ambitions.

Research that Shapes the Future

The University of Arizona's research, scholarship and creative endeavors transcend disciplines and solve urgent global grand challenges. We have excelled by bringing together scientists, engineers, artists, and scholars to advance knowledge and its use for the good of humankind and the planet. Because of our comprehensive excellence, the U of A's impact circles the globe and reveals the mysteries of the universe. We are called to address pressing challenges and to explore the unknown, using the unique advantages of our region, distinctive expertise, institutional

assets, and a tradition of transdisciplinary collaboration. Inspired by our home and engaged with our Southern Arizona community, the U of A's strengths build on each other. The result is a long history of research excellence with significant impact across the full range of disciplines. From exploring the far reaches of the universe to understanding the inner workings of human biology, and from reconstructing the planet's past through tree-ring research and earth sciences to building the quantum internet while planning for its societal and legal impacts, the U of A leads at all scales of time and space.

Engagement with Our Communities to Create Opportunity

As Arizona's land-grant university, we are committed to democratizing education and expertise, and we engage communities throughout our state to help meet their evolving needs. For more than 140 years, we have worked with neighbors and friends throughout the state. In all our community engagement, we embrace Indigenous knowledge through collaborative relationships with Native Nations, and we integrate local insights to co-create solutions that respect our region's cultural traditions. We are here for our state, providing a comprehensive academic health enterprise, Arizona's only public veterinary medicine college, innovative leadership in Native American advancement and tribal engagement, a Hispanic-Serving Institution designation, the vibrancy of Arizona Arts, the passion and joy created by Arizona Athletics, a major presence in online education, and deep engagement with K-12school districts and community colleges in STEM, literacy, and teacher education. We don't just serve Arizona – we work in partnership with our fellow Arizonans.

University Leadership

Suresh Garimella, President



Suresh Garimella serves as the 23rd president of the University of Arizona and University Distinguished Professor in the Department of Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering. A nationally renowned scholar, researcher, and academic leader, President Garimella led a collaborative process to generate *Delivering on Our Promise*, the U of A's strategic imperatives. A shared vision for the institution's future and guide for university initiatives – Success for Every Student, Research that Shapes the Future, and Engagement with Our Communities to Create Opportunity – the imperatives build on the university's distinctive strengths and recommit to the land-grant mission. Garimella's career spans leadership roles at major public research universities, including service as president of the University of Vermont and Executive Vice President for Research and Partnerships at Purdue University. He has served as a member of the National Science Board, the Department of Energy Office of Science Advisory Committee, and a fellow of multiple national academies.

Patricia Prelock, Provost and Chief Academic Officer



Patricia A. Prelock serves as Provost and Chief Academic Officer, overseeing all colleges and academic programs, faculty affairs, student success initiatives, and enrollment management. A highly accomplished scholar and leader, Provost Prelock brings extensive experience guiding complex academic enterprises and advancing interdisciplinary education and research. Prior to joining the U of A in May 2025, Provost Prelock served as interim president at the University of Vermont during the 2024–2025 academic year. Her extensive leadership experience includes over five years as provost and senior vice president, 10 years as Dean of the College of Nursing and Health Sciences, and over seven years chairing the Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders.

See the president's full leadership team on the Office of the President website.

The Arizona Board of Regents (ABOR)

The university is governed by the Arizona Board of Regents, which provides strategic oversight for Arizona's public university system and is committed to access, affordability, and accountability in service to the state.

Tucson, Arizona



Tucson is a vibrant multicultural city located in the southwest of the United States. The city is known for exceptional opportunities for year-round outdoor activities, and exciting cultural offerings.

Tucson has been continuously settled for more than 12,000 years and is the ancestral home to the Tohono O'odham and Pascua Yaqui peoples. It is one of the "Mega-Trend" cities of the 21st century known for its Optics Valley, premier health services center for the Southwest, the astronomy center of the world, home to a premier research institution, U of A, and a tourism destination.

Historically, the state economy was based on five key industries; cattle, cotton, copper, citrus and climate. While each of these industries remains central to the economy of Arizona, growth in Tucson is now centered on aerospace, transportation and logistics, manufacturing, health care, and leisure and hospitality.

The greater Tucson area serves 35 million people within a 500-mile radius. Its geographic proximity to Phoenix, Mexico, California and other major markets on the West Coast has made it an economic epicenter. Approximately 35% of Tucson's population is Hispanic and the Tucson Hispanic Chamber of Commerce serves a primary role in ushering trade on both sides of the border, recognizing the Hispanic market is the fastest growing ethnic segment in the country.

Tucson was rated a "mini-mecca for the arts" by the *Wall Street Journal*. Tucson is one of a select few cities of its size that boasts its own ballet company, professional theater, symphony, and opera company. The city's natural history and cultural heritage are also on display in more than 30 regional museums.

Tucson is situated in the Sonoran Desert and is surrounded by five mountain ranges. A trip from the valley floor to the 9,157-foot Mt. Lemmon summit traverses seven of the world's nine life zones. The city lies between Catalina State Park to the North, Coronado National Forest to the Northwest, Saguaro National Park to the East and West and the Tohono O'odham Nation to the South.

Tucson is the perfect place for the outdoor enthusiast. With more than 800 miles of bike paths, Tucson has been ranked by Bicycling magazine as one of the top cycling cities in the U.S. for several years running and is home to internationally known bicycling events such as El Tour de Tucson. Golf is another popular activity with dozens of regional golf courses.

All the exercise options are a great advantage considering that Tucson is a "foodie" destination. It was recently dubbed our nation's first City of Gastronomy by the U.N.'s Educational Scientific and Cultural Organizations (UNESCO) as part of its Creative Cities Network.

Additional information on Tucson is available here.

Employment At the University of Arizona

The University of Arizona is consistently recognized as one of America's best employers and offers a comprehensive benefits package designed to support employees and their families across all stages of life and career.

Benefits include:

• Competitive health, dental, vision, and prescription drug coverage

• Robust retirement plans with employer contributions

• Generous paid leave, including more than four weeks of annual vacation, paid parental leave, paid sick time, 10 paid holidays, and annual university closure time

• Tuition reduction programs for employees and eligible family members

• Wellness programs, health screenings, and employee assistance counseling

• Childcare reimbursement and adult/elder care support services

• Flexible work and work-life programs where applicable

The university also offers relocation support through contracted relocation advisors to assist candidates and their families in learning more about Tucson, housing options, and community resources.

The University of Arizona is committed to fostering a supportive, inclusive and collaborative workplace, and supporting the professional growth and well-being of its employees.

Procedure for Candidacy

All applications, nominations, and inquiries are invited. Applications should include, as separate documents, a CV or resume and a letter of interest addressing the themes in this profile. Nominations and inquiries can be directed to: Lisa Gundy, Director, Human Resources, at hr-executivesearch@arizona.edu.

Equal Opportunity Statement

The University of Arizona is an equal opportunity, affirmative action (qualified veterans/people with disabilities) institution. The University does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, sex (including pregnancy), national origin, age, disability, veteran status, sexual orientation, gender identity, or genetic information in its programs and activities. Title IX of the Educational Amendments of 1972 protects individuals from discrimination based on sex in any educational program or activity operated by recipients of federal financial assistance. As required by Title IX, the University of Arizona does not discriminate based on sex in its educational programs or activities, including in admission and employment. Inquiries concerning the application of Title IX may be referred to the University's Title IX Coordinator or to the U.S. Department of Education, Assistant Secretary, or both.