

Provost and Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs





EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The University of Illinois Chicago (UIC), Chicago's only public R1 research university, seeks an accomplished, visionary, and courageous academic leader to serve as its next Provost and Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs. This executive will join UIC at a pivotal moment, partnering with Chancellor Marie Lynn Miranda to advance UIC's mission to provide the broadest access to the highest levels of educational, research, and clinical excellence.

The Provost is the chief academic officer, responsible for the planning, execution, and assessment of all academic programs across the university's 16 colleges. This leader will provide strategic vision and operational leadership to ensure academic quality, foster interdisciplinary research and scholarship, and champion initiatives that enhance student success, retention, and graduation rates. A key mandate will be to ensure strategic resource allocation, streamline processes, and develop initiatives to foster and elevate UIC's academic enterprise. The Provost is the administrative leader to the deans of eight of the university's colleges, the dean of the law school, and the dean of the university library. The deans of the university's seven health sciences colleges report to the Vice Chancellor for Health Affairs.

The ideal candidate will be a mission-aligned leader who fully embraces UIC's dual commitment to access and excellence. As a university ranked first in Illinois and ninth nationally for advancing social mobility, UIC seeks a Provost who will build on this strength and drive even greater student opportunity. This leader will engage faculty, staff, and students while defining and implementing a bold academic vision. The next Provost must be a forward-looking leader capable of making difficult decisions, a skilled communicator who can build consensus, a collaborative partner to constituents across campus and beyond, and a key thought partner to the Chancellor in enhancing UIC's nearly \$500 million research portfolio. This is an exceptional opportunity to shape the future of one of the nation's most dynamic and diverse urban public research universities.



THE ROLE OF THE PROVOST

The Provost and Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs is responsible for the planning, execution, and assessment of UIC's academic programs so that students are prepared to pursue their educational goals and become productive and contributing members of their communities. The position provides leadership over academic policy matters, regularly advises the Chancellor and campus community, and partners closely with the Vice Chancellor for Health Affairs to ensure alignment and cross-collaboration. The Provost ensures systematic review of academic programs for quality and course content and provides forward-looking guidance and vision in the areas of curricular and program development, interdisciplinary research and scholarship, and workforce preparation. The Provost is responsible for advancing efforts to increase student success and retention across the university.

The Provost will work with their reporting colleges to ensure strategic resource allocation and will advocate for efforts to streamline processes, reduce costs, and develop new revenue sources and opportunities. Such efforts may include , in thoughtful collaboration with the CFO, a review of resource utilization with the objective of preserving quality, increasing revenues, and maximizing budgets by growing new programs with potential for enrollment gains, enhancing strong programs, and combining, reducing, or eliminating programs and initiatives that are less strategic or underutilized.

The Provost will provide leadership and guidance to the deans of a wide range of colleges and academic units. This includes working with deans to ensure alignment with UIC's academic mission and strategic endeavors and supporting the recruitment, development, and retention of an outstanding and diverse faculty.



KEY AREAS OF LEADERSHIP

Strategic Vision

The Provost will articulate and implement a bold vision that advances UIC's mission and key priorities. This leader will position UIC as a premier urban public research university, leveraging its R1 status, diverse student body, and location in Chicago to drive innovation in teaching, research, and community engagement. The Provost will partner closely with the Chancellor and senior leadership to elevate the institution and align academic priorities with institutional strategy, ensuring UIC remains competitive nationally and globally.

Academic Leadership

The Provost will oversee the academic enterprise across 16 colleges and multiple campuses, fostering collaboration and reducing silos. They will champion interdisciplinary programs, curricular innovation, and faculty development. The Provost will ensure academic quality, promote student success initiatives, and support research growth across disciplines. They will lead efforts to modernize general education, streamline academic program review, and integrate emerging technologies such as AI into teaching and learning.

Resource Management

The Provost will navigate a complex financial landscape, including deferred maintenance and space constraints. They will exercise strong fiscal judgment and collaborate with the CFO and Chancellor to optimize resource allocation.

Community and Connection

UIC prides itself on its contributions to the cultural richness of the city of Chicago and is unapologetically diverse and deeply committed to access and excellence. The Provost will sustain and strengthen this culture, creating a supportive environment and ensuring policies and practices promote inclusion for students, faculty, and staff. They will advocate for underrepresented groups, address morale issues, and foster an environment where all members of the community thrive. The Provost will foster greater connectivity across the city and state and promote further opportunities for students.

External Engagement

The Provost will serve as a visible ambassador for UIC, building relationships and articulating UIC's distinct value proposition. They will seize opportunities for partnerships that advance research, innovation, and student success.



PRIORITIES FOR UIC'S PROVOST

- ▶ Drive student success: improve retention, graduation rates, and post-graduation outcomes.
- ▶ Envision and identify innovative opportunities for UIC as a 21st-century university resolute in its dual commitment to access and excellence.
- ▶ Modernize general education and streamline academic program review and approval processes.
- ▶ Strengthen shared governance and faculty engagement, including upcoming union negotiations.
- ▶ Recruit and retain talented, diverse faculty and staff and invest in their career development; incentivize service and teaching excellence; and manage promotion and tenure process.
- ▶ Collaborate with the Vice Chancellor for Research to advance research excellence and interdisciplinary collaboration; remove structural barriers to large-scale projects.
- ▶ Champion innovation in online learning, and leverage AI to enhance educational delivery.
- ▶ Advocate for UIC at the University of Illinois System level and in the city; elevate UIC's profile nationally and globally.
- ▶ Address structural deficits and develop sustainable financial strategies at the college level in collaboration with the CFO.
- ▶ Foster a culture of transparency and trust, and incentivize collaboration in a decentralized environment.



PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATIONS AND PERSONAL QUALITIES

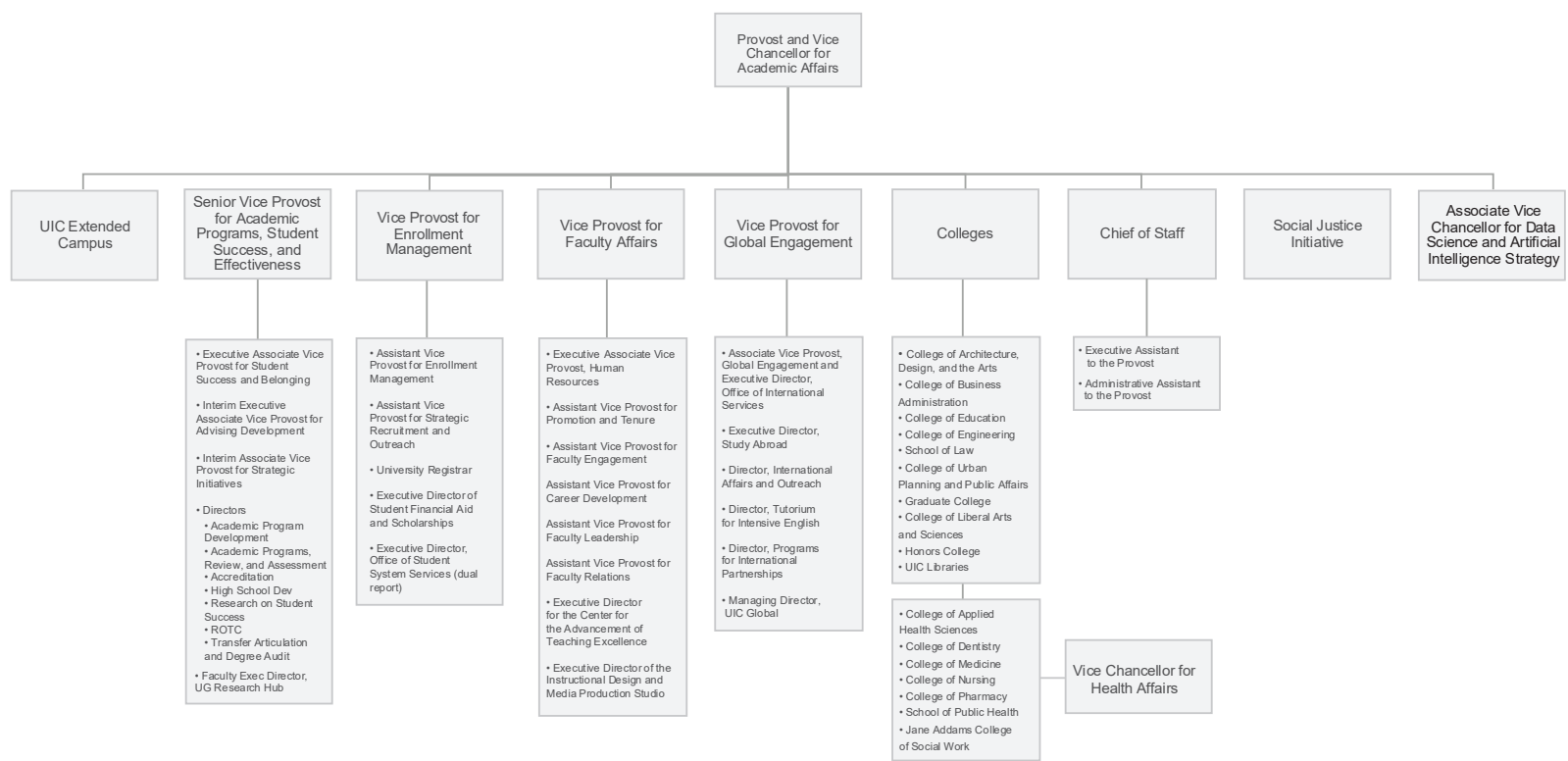
UIC seeks to appoint an accomplished academic leader who understands the broad, multifaceted role the institution plays as Chicago's only public research-intensive university. The Provost must fully embrace UIC's mission and commitment to access and excellence. The successful candidate will need to bring a spirit of optimism and energy to engage stakeholders in defining a vision that advances the university. The Provost will be a forward-looking, courageous leader capable of making difficult decisions and embracing challenges and the changing landscape in higher education.

The Provost will have a well-established academic scholarship and leadership record, preferably from an R1 institution. The successful candidate must possess a terminal degree and strong scholarly record as a recognized thought leader or contributor in their field of study or expertise. The next Provost will possess intellectual breadth and the ability to champion disciplines and interdisciplinary programs across every school and college. The Provost will demonstrate an established record of effective, strong, collaborative, and committed leadership. The ideal candidate will also have experience working within a complex, decentralized environment. The successful candidate will be a skilled communicator and convener who is visible, accessible, transparent, and able to build consensus.

Other qualities of the next Provost and Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs include:

- ▶ Deep understanding and appreciation of shared governance, promotion, and tenure management; experience working in unionized settings is preferred.
- ▶ Ability to manage complexity, collectively solve problems, and make data-informed decisions; serve as a proactive, analytical, and thoughtful leader.
- ▶ Strong financial acumen and experience with fiscal management and institutional planning.
- ▶ Ability to articulate a compelling vision and inspire a broad range of stakeholders.
- ▶ Experience in research leadership, particularly in fostering interdisciplinary and collaborative initiatives.
- ▶ Experience with fundraising and external engagement.
- ▶ Entrepreneurial mindset: able to take calculated risks and seize opportunities.
- ▶ Exceptional interpersonal and communication skills; collaborative and approachable.
- ▶ Proven ability to build consensus, mentor leaders, and foster a culture of accountability.
- ▶ Resilience, sound judgment, and integrity; able to navigate ambiguity and lead through change.
- ▶ Sense of humor.

PROVOST AND VICE CHANCELLOR FOR ACADEMIC AFFAIRS
ORGANIZATION CHART





COLLEGES AND ACADEMIC UNITS REPORTING TO THE PROVOST INCLUDE:

[College of Architecture, Design, and the Arts](#)

[College of Business Administration](#)

[College of Education](#)

[College of Engineering](#)

[College of Liberal Arts and Sciences](#)

[College of Urban Planning and Public Affairs](#)

[Graduate College](#)

[Honors College](#)

[University Library](#)

[School of Law](#)

The Provost is also responsible for effective leadership of various administrative units that support the academic and overall university missions, including:

- ▶ Academic Programs, Student Success and Effectiveness
- ▶ Enrollment Management
- ▶ Faculty Affairs
- ▶ Global Engagement
- ▶ Social Justice Initiative



ABOUT THE UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS CHICAGO

Overview

The University of Illinois Chicago is Chicago's only public research university and is a Department of Education-designated Minority-Serving Institution. It serves as a thriving hub for research, education, and innovation.

UIC is classified as an Asian American and Native American Pacific Islander-Serving Institution and a Hispanic-Serving Institution. It is one of only 30 Hispanic-Serving Institutions classified as very high research status (R1) by the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching. UIC students — undergraduate, graduate, and professional — are highly successful in attaining nationally and internationally competitive fellowships, scholarships, and grants to follow their academic and career interests in Chicago and around the globe. UIC's total student enrollment in fall 2025 is 35,869, the largest in the university's history and a 5.8% increase over 2024. UIC welcomed 5,405 first-year students in fall 2025, marking its largest incoming class ever.

In addition, the diverse patient population served by the University of Illinois Hospital & Health Sciences System (UI Health) includes many individuals who have historically faced disadvantages in health promotion and health care. UIC is advancing multiple initiatives to address health disparities across Chicago and beyond.

UIC's research award portfolio reached nearly \$500 million in fiscal year 2025, supporting 3,440 sponsored research projects, and produced drug and technology licensing revenue of \$5.6 million. UIC was ranked sixth for research expenditures among high Hispanic-enrollment institutions in the 2023 National Science Foundation Higher Education Research and Development Survey. UIC is also home to several notable National Institutes of Health research programs, such as the Center for Clinical and Translational Science, a \$22 million center that is a nucleus for basic translational data science and community-based research. UIC's projected fiscal year 2026 revenues are \$4.56 billion, including \$1.69 billion in medical center revenues.

In 2024, UIC's employee (faculty and staff) diversity data by race/ethnicity reflected: Latina/o/x/e 19%; White 39%; Asian 16%; Black 20%; U.S. Nonresident 3%; Multi-race 1%; Unknown 2%; American Indian or Alaska Native <1%; and Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander 0%. These staff members are dispersed across the state, serving on campuses and/or educational programs in Rockford, Peoria, Springfield, the Quad Cities, and Urbana.

More than 300 UIC Flames compete in 18 NCAA Division I sports as a member of the Missouri Valley Conference, which includes 11 public and private institutions that have strong academic reputations and a tradition of athletic success. UIC's own success includes 77 conference championships and nearly 50 NCAA Championship appearances.



MISSION

UIC's mission is to provide the broadest access to the highest levels of educational, research, and clinical excellence. UIC lives this mission every day: 56% of our students are Pell grant-eligible, more than half are first-generation college students, and our hospital and clinics provide world-class care to some of the most underserved communities in Chicago. At the same time, our faculty bring in roughly half a billion dollars in research funding annually. We believe and have shown that access and excellence can thrive together.

As Chicago's only public R1 research university, UIC has one of the most ethnically rich and culturally diverse campuses in the nation. Located in the heart of Chicago, it is an integral part of the educational, technological, and cultural fabric of one of the world's greatest cities. With nearly 36,000 students, UIC prides itself on being a national leader among public higher-education institutions in providing access to an outstanding education across its 16 academic colleges, including one of the nation's largest medical schools and Chicago's only public law school. UIC is recognized nationally for its ability to advance social mobility and was recently named an Opportunity University by the Carnegie Foundation, recognizing the university for providing both higher access and higher earnings after graduation.

UIC also operates the state's major academic health enterprise, the University of Illinois Hospital & Health Sciences System (UI Health), along with a network of federally qualified clinics and regional health sciences campuses in Peoria, Rockford, and Urbana-Champaign.

Recent Noteworthy Achievements:

- ▶ [UIC enrollment hits all-time high](#)
- ▶ [UIC earns top honors in Washington Monthly's 2025 College Rankings](#)
- ▶ [UIC graduate programs in top 25 in U.S. News rankings](#)
- ▶ [U.S. News rates UIC among national leaders in social mobility](#)
- ▶ [University of Illinois Chicago retains status as top-tier Research 1 University](#)
- ▶ [UIC's new computer science building signifies enrollment, program growth](#)



ACADEMICS

The University of Illinois Chicago features 16 academic colleges and 95 bachelor's, 100 master's, and 65 doctoral degree programs. UIC is home to over 2,500 faculty members with an abundance of academic offerings to explore. They are award-winning professors, American Association for the Advancement of Science fellows, Fulbright scholars, and National Science Foundation Career Award winners. UIC students enjoy a low 1-to-17 faculty-student ratio and have exceptional access to the scientists, artists, writers, clinicians, educators, and innovators whose work shapes our world.

UIC's comprehensive academic and research offerings span over 100 departments and divisions, including biomedical and health disciplines, urban planning, public affairs, arts, social work, business, education, law, humanities, social sciences, natural sciences, and engineering. Several graduate programs are ranked in the top 25 in the country in the 2025 U.S. News & World Report's Best Graduate Schools rankings. Students and faculty across many disciplines have opportunities to engage and collaborate with Chicago-based corporations and with leading researchers at Argonne National Laboratory and Fermilab. UIC awards more than 2,900 STEM-related degrees annually.

ACADEMIC HEALTH ENTERPRISE

The University of Illinois Hospital & Health Sciences System (UI Health) provides comprehensive care, education, and research to the people of Illinois and beyond. As the university's academic health enterprise, UI Health includes a 451-bed tertiary-care hospital in Chicago, 40 outpatient clinics, the University of Illinois Cancer Center, and a network of 11 federally qualified health centers (Mile Square Health Center). It also integrates the activities of UIC's seven health sciences colleges, which operate in six locations across the state.

From studying the molecular basis of disease to improving the health of communities, researchers in the health sciences colleges routinely collaborate to move medical breakthroughs from the laboratory to new treatments, procedures, and preventive approaches to improve patient outcomes. UIC's excellence in health sciences research spans numerous areas, including cancer biology, drug development and delivery, genomics, and pharmacogenomics.

UI Health is dedicated to the pursuit of health equity and is committed to training the health care leaders of the future. More than 30% of the students enrolled in UIC's health sciences colleges identify as part of an underrepresented group. Among health care professionals in Illinois:

- ▶ 1 in 3 pharmacists trained at the Retzky College of Pharmacy.
- ▶ Over 8,000 practicing nurses trained at the College of Nursing.
- ▶ 1 in 3 dentists trained at the College of Dentistry.
- ▶ 1 in 4 social workers trained at the Jane Addams College of Social Work.
- ▶ 1 in 3 physicians spent time training or providing clinical care in our hospital and health system.



UI Health provides a wide range of specialty, primary, and emergency care services. As the state's only public academic health enterprise, UI Health is committed to serving the diverse needs of all patients who seek care among its more than 40 care delivery locations. With 1.5 million patient visits, UI Health hospital and clinics and the College of Dentistry are among the few Medicare/Medicaid providers of oral health services for the State of Illinois.

UI Health also has achieved:

- ▶ First designated Center of Excellence in Robotic Surgery in the United States.
- ▶ Home to a cure for sickle cell disease through stem cell transplantation.
- ▶ Comprehensive Stroke Certification.
- ▶ National Accreditation for Breast Centers.
- ▶ Home to the Illinois Eye & Ear Infirmary for over 150 years, with expertise in complicated eye conditions.



LEADERSHIP

Dr. Marie Lynn Miranda, PhD

Marie Lynn Miranda, PhD, became the 10th chancellor of the University of Illinois Chicago in July 2023. A leader in geospatial health informatics, she is also a faculty member in both the Department of Pediatrics and the Department of Mathematics, Statistics, and Computer Science. Chancellor Miranda resonates deeply with UIC's mission to provide the broadest access to the highest levels of educational, research, and clinical excellence.

Miranda's priorities as chancellor include advancing student success and faculty scholarship; enhancing UIC's nearly \$500 million research portfolio; engaging with Chicago communities to address health and educational equity; partnering with the corporate, nonprofit, and government sectors to provide opportunities to UIC students and faculty; and building a positive and uplifting environment for all who work and study at UIC.

Chancellor Miranda trained at Duke University and Harvard University; she is a fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science. She actively participates in Chicago's civic life, serving on various national and local boards, and is deeply committed to the role of UIC in equitably shaping Chicago, Illinois, and the world.

ABOUT CHICAGO

Chicago, situated on Lake Michigan in Illinois, is the third-largest city in the U.S. and a significant global hub for culture and commerce. Internationally famed for its stunning architecture, it has a skyline punctuated by skyscrapers. The city is also renowned for its museums and well-established civic and cultural institutions, as well as globally recognized restaurants, theaters, and sophisticated entertainment venues. A robust public transportation system, including the dense and interconnected network of Chicago Transit Authority trains and buses, as well as the commuter rail system, conveniently connects UIC to the entire six-county Chicago metropolitan region. Some of the best public and private schools in Illinois and the Midwest are located in Chicago and its suburbs. Chicago comprises 77 distinct neighborhoods, each populated by people from diverse ethnic backgrounds. Chicago offers a lifestyle rivaled by few U.S. or international cities. It's a wonderful place to live, work, and play. UIC is considered an anchor institution in this world-class city.



BENEFITS

The University of Illinois Chicago and the State of Illinois offer competitive wages, benefit programs, and resources for employees. Benefits offered by UIC include health care options, wellness programs, educational opportunities, tuition assistance, vacations, holidays, and other leave benefits, and university retirement plans. Detailed information can be found on the System Human Resources website.

EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

The University of Illinois Chicago is an affirmative action, equal opportunity employer that has a strong institutional commitment to the principle of diversity and is particularly interested in receiving applications from a broad spectrum of people. We are committed to equal employment opportunities regardless of sex, gender identity, sexual orientation, race, color, religion, national origin, disability, protected Veteran status, age, or any other characteristic protected by law.

Offers of employment by the University of Illinois may be subject to approval by the university's board of trustees and are made contingent upon the candidate's successful completion of any criminal background checks and other pre-employment assessments that may be required for the position being offered. Additional information regarding such pre-employment checks and assessments may be provided as applicable during the hiring process. As a qualifying federal contractor, the University of Illinois System uses E-Verify to verify employment eligibility. The University of Illinois System requires candidates selected for hire to disclose any documented finding of sexual misconduct or sexual harassment and to authorize inquiries to current and former employers regarding findings of sexual misconduct or sexual harassment.

The university provides accommodations to applicants and employees. [Request an accommodation.](#)



PROCEDURE FOR CANDIDACY

The University of Illinois Chicago invites inquiries, nominations, and applications for the position of Provost. Interested candidates should confidentially submit a curriculum vitae and letter of interest (Adobe PDF files preferred) to uicprovost@russellreynolds.com.

The search is supported by Russell Reynolds Associates, with confidential inquiries and nominations directed to Joi Hayes and Alison Ranney at uicprovost@russellreynolds.com.

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