



Dean of the J. David Rosenberg College of Law

Leadership Profile

January 2024



WittKieffer

The Opportunity

The University of Kentucky (UK) seeks a strategic and collaborative leader with a distinguished scholarly profile to serve as the next Dean of the J. David Rosenberg College of Law (Rosenberg College of Law).

UK is a leading land-grant and public Research 1 university located in the beautiful Bluegrass region of Central Kentucky. Counted among the highest level of Carnegie Research institutions, the University is continuing its rise as one of the nation's premier public research universities with expectations of growing significantly in stature across all dimensions of the institution's mission - teaching, research, service, and care.

The Rosenberg College of Law was founded in 1908. Its mission is to be an outstanding public law school by preparing students to be lawyers and leaders to serve the country and the Commonwealth, produce widely recognized legal scholarship, and contribute to the advancement of justice. The Rosenberg College of Law takes this responsibility seriously and fulfills its mission by engaging communities across Kentucky to serve our community and the profession by enhancing public understanding of law, engaging in law reform, delivering continuing legal education, and providing legal services to the indigent.

The Dean will develop a vision for the Rosenberg College of Law and provide leadership in matters related to planning, curriculum, research and scholarship, and the Rosenberg College of Law's budget. The Dean will also engage with faculty, students, alumni, the legal community, and state and federal governmental officials to advance the goals of the Rosenberg College of Law and University. The successful candidate must possess a J.D. and/or terminal degree in their field of study of law and must qualify for appointment at the rank of tenured full professor in the Rosenberg College of Law. The candidate must also possess a significant and progressive record of leadership in a professional setting including but not limited to higher education, government, public interest, or business. They will also demonstrate a commitment and ability to advance the University's philosophy and practice relative to creating an inclusive environment. Preference will be given to candidates who possess leadership experience in the legal academy and a sustained record of excellence in research and scholarship, service, and teaching commensurate with a comprehensive research university. Additionally, the ideal candidate will demonstrate a readiness to advance the Rosenberg College of Law through fundraising and building external partnerships.

To submit a nomination or express personal interest in this position, please see [Procedure for Candidacy](#) on page 13.

Role of the Dean of the J. David Rosenberg College of Law

The Dean for the Rosenberg College of Law reports to the University's Provost and has responsibility for all students, faculty, and staff in the Rosenberg College of Law. The Dean is expected to lead the Rosenberg College of Law in alignment with the University's mission and strategic plan as an institutional leader. As a chief administrative officer within the University, the Rosenberg College of Law's Dean meets with the Provost individually and collectively with other deans. The Dean is responsible for the management and coordination of the Rosenberg College of Law and for implementing its plans, programs, services, and scholarly and research endeavors. The Rosenberg College of Law's associate deans, assistant deans, and directors of the law library, admissions, philanthropy, legal clinic, academic enhancement, and legal research and writing report directly to the Dean.

Responsibilities of the position include, but are not limited to:

- Administering the educational, research, and service work of the Rosenberg College of Law, and its efficient conduct and management in all matters not specifically charged in the University Governing Regulations.
- Managing the Rosenberg College of Law's budget, including management of all scholarship funds, and positioning it for success under the University's financial allocation models that incentivize institutional priorities such as student growth and credit hours and success, among other factors.
- Working collaboratively with faculty and supporting and encouraging their efforts in scholarship, teaching, and service, with an informed understanding of the unique requirements professional schools have in these areas.
- Bringing a deep understanding of the changes taking place in legal education and the legal profession, while overseeing, with the faculty, curriculum development, including programs to monitor and assess learning outcomes of students.
- Leading with integrity, embracing leadership as a public service, and formulating, articulating, and executing the development and implementation of a strategic shared vision that operationalizes the values of UK and will position the Rosenberg College of Law as among the highest rated in the country.
- Leading in the delivery of curriculum of the Rosenberg College of Law and the quality of the instruction given therein.
- Leading and fostering a community of engaged legal scholars.
- Ensuring that the University Governing Regulations, Administrative Regulations, Rules of the University Senate, and the Bylaws of the Rosenberg College of Law are enforced and utilized.
- Fostering an environment of shared governance by building relations with all campus communities while shepherding a college culture of collaboration.

- Emphasizing wellness and well-being for all faculty, staff, and students.
- Driving enhancements that improve the student experience, including academic achievement, affordability, and career preparedness for the challenges and rigors of practicing law.
- Ensuring inclusion is prioritized to create an environment of belonging for faculty, staff, and students of all identities and perspectives.
- Serving as an ex officio member of all college committees defined in the Rules of the Rosenberg College of Law.
- Supervising direct reports including the associate deans, assistant deans, and key administrative staff of the college.
- Recruiting appropriate associate deans, assistant deans, and directors, as necessary to fulfill specific administrative responsibilities and to advance the Rosenberg College of Law's academic goals.
- Ensuring responsibility for the assignment of duties to all personnel, and for the service provided by the faculty of the Rosenberg College of Law, individually and wholly.
- Leading ABA accreditation processes.
- Making recommendations on appointments, reappointments, terminal appointments, decisions not to reappoint, post-retirement appointments, promotions, granting of tenure, salaries, and salary changes for members of the Rosenberg College of Law or for ultimate action thereon when such authority has been delegated by the President or Provost.
- Possessing business acumen and cultural sensitivity to manage a complex organization and demonstrate the interpersonal skills that will assure successful relationship building with a variety of internal and external stakeholders, including industry leaders, donors, and affiliated organizations.
- Broadening philanthropic engagement and leading a comprehensive development strategy for the Rosenberg College of Law to support key initiatives such as capital improvements and financial assistance for student scholarships and ensuring that it is coordinated fully with the University's Philanthropy Office.
- Overseeing the periodic performance evaluation of all faculty. This includes conducting the evaluations of all direct reports and reviewing and approving the performance evaluations of faculty.
- Conducting periodic reviews of the academic unit relative to its missions, administration, and finances and making recommendations for improving its performance as outlined in the administrative regulations.
- Serving as a chief administrative officer for the Rosenberg College of Law who reports to the Provost as noted in Governing Regulation VII. The Dean will be expected to meet regularly with the Provost for both individual meetings and as part of regular meetings with the other deans.

- Ensuring the compliance of all Rosenberg College of Law policies that relate to student selection and admission, their subsequent education program, and the promotion and effectiveness of student support services and programs.
- Assuming responsibility for the appropriate allocation of administrative space assigned to the Rosenberg College of Law, for periodic review of space utilization, and for establishing and implementing guidelines for retention or reallocation of space based on faculty productivity.
- Promoting the visibility and reputation of the Rosenberg College of Law both inside and outside the University through interactions with a broad array of constituencies to advance the Rosenberg College of Law's and University's reputation locally, regionally, nationally, and internationally.
- Providing leadership for alumni engagements.
- Partnering, participating in, planning, and developing public relations and marketing activities with the University central units and in ways that support and align with the institution's mission and strategic plan.
- Assuming such other duties and responsibilities as may be requested by the Provost.

Goals and Objectives

The next Dean of the Rosenberg College of Law steps into an exceptional leadership opportunity. Among the responsibilities assigned to this position, the Dean is expected to give particular attention to the following leadership goals:

- Build on the Rosenberg College of Law's strategic plan to support the mission of the Rosenberg College of Law and the University, whose goal is to advance Kentucky.
- In alignment with the University's strategic plan, the Dean will be expected to engage faculty, staff, students, and partners to develop clear strategic priorities to move the Rosenberg College of Law forward and respond to emerging needs.
- The Dean will lead efforts to advocate and create intentional initiatives to grow an environment where all feel welcome and experience a sense of belonging. The Dean will build on and support efforts to pursue and expand a sense of inclusion and belonging in the Rosenberg College of Law. This includes retention and recruitment endeavors for the faculty, staff, and students with diverse experience and thought. The Dean will build on and support strategies that promote a comprehensive approach to the success of faculty, staff, and students that encompasses wellness, well-being, and belonging.
- Being visible and involved in advancement opportunities.

Professional Qualifications and Personal Qualities

Candidate Qualifications

- JD or equivalent degree.
- Must qualify for appointment at the rank of tenured, full professor in the Rosenberg College of Law.
- Progressive and broad academic administrative leadership experience arising from a senior-level administrative role such as department chair, center director, associate dean, or dean.
- Evidence of innovation in the classroom with demonstrated law school teaching excellence.
- Ability to build partnerships and collaborate with external stakeholders, government agencies, and legal partners to support the tri-part mission of teaching, research, and service.

Preferred Professional Experience and Characteristics

- **Mission:** Passionate advocate for the University and the Rosenberg College of Law and strong identification with the mission of both; commitment to preparing students to be lawyers and leaders to serve the country and the Commonwealth, producing widely-recognized legal scholarship, and contributing to the advancement of justice.
- **Commitment to Excellence:** Deep understanding of the foundations for excellence and integrity in teaching, research, and service, especially in the context of the Rosenberg College of Law's mission, and the ability to attract, retain, and develop outstanding faculty, students, and staff and to support them in building and sustaining programs of the highest caliber amidst a dynamic and increasingly politicized educational landscape. A record of facilitating interdisciplinary collaborations. Ability to build partnerships within the University, with state and local agencies, and with external stakeholders to enhance the Rosenberg College of Law's programs, offerings, research, and contributions to the field.
- **Authentic Investment and Interest in Students:** Commitment to understanding evolving student needs and concerns and to providing students with meaningful experiences that lead to their academic and professional success. Decision-making puts student interests at the forefront.
- **Community Engagement:** Ability to engage and build meaningful partnerships with a wide variety of external constituents including community leaders, law practitioners, and community members; and an ability to support and enhance the Rosenberg College of Law's national presence while honoring its commitment to prioritize community building in the region.
- **Managerial, Operational and Fiscal Acumen:** Ability to work, thrive, and successfully manage faculty, staff, programs and change in a large, complex environment. Experience with budgets, financial planning, market research, and strategic resource allocation.

- **Experience or Demonstrable Potential for Success in Fundraising:** Capacity and experience to lead an effective fundraising effort that inspires alumni and others to strengthen and support the Rosenberg College of Law and its mission.

Personal Characteristics and Competencies

- **Commitment to Inclusion and Belonging:** A demonstrable commitment to - and record of - leadership in advancing inclusion and belonging; and exemplary skills in communicating, collaborating with, and supporting a diverse community.
- **Articulating Vision, Undertaking Strategic Thinking and Demonstrating Capacity for Execution:** A record of formulating and articulating ambitious plans, operationalizing and executing strategic initiatives, inspiring consensus around shared goals, demonstrating superb judgment and decision-making, fostering a culture of trust and fairness, building collaboration among faculty and staff, advancing inclusion and belonging in impactful ways, and catalyzing fresh thinking so as to assure continued relevance and impact.
- **Fostering a Cohesive and High-Performing Team Culture:** An open, accessible, and transparent leadership and communication style, delegation of authority and accountability to the team to deliver and ensure alignment with overall strategy and direction, reinforces independent and open communication among Rosenberg College of Law constituents, actively seeks and accepts feedback (both positive and negative), and appropriately acknowledges the contributions of the team.
- **Demonstrating Collaborative and Courageous Leadership:** Leadership capacity to make complex decisions and to enter wholeheartedly into challenging conversations. An appreciation for and ability to work within a model and tradition of strong shared governance. The inclination to seek broad stakeholder input and the ability to take informed and decisive action when necessary while modeling exemplary institutional citizenship.
- **Being a Bridge-Builder:** Ability to break down barriers and build relationships across programs, centers, and constituencies within a complex environment of higher education, research, practice, and service. Strength for building partnerships across the University to address organization-wide challenges or opportunities. Commitment to developing connections and collaborations for engaging stakeholders in the mission to advance excellence in the practice of law.
- **Demonstrating Outstanding Communication Skills:** A propensity for active listening and the willingness to learn from others; a natural inclination to communicate openly and with transparency and respect; and the emotional intelligence to build and inspire trust, establish collaborative relationships, and ensure broad-based support for decisions, plans, and initiatives. Ability to express and generate excitement for the Rosenberg College of Law's mission and plans and the capacity to promote the interests, mission, and brand across and beyond the University's campuses. Ease with diverse constituencies and the ability to connect with audiences large and small.
- **Showing Emotional Intelligence:** Empathy skills and capacity to relate to others, see other points of view, build broad support for decisions, and inspire followership and action. The skill and experience to steward and develop relationships with current and potential partners throughout the

city, region, and Commonwealth. A palpable respect for colleagues and students, self-awareness, and the capacity and inclination to be a model colleague and university citizen.

- **Demanding Ethics and Integrity for Yourself and Others:** Excellent judgment with the highest integrity.

About University of Kentucky, J. David Rosenberg College of Law

Overview

An integral part of the University's land-grant mission, the Rosenberg College of Law provides a high-quality program of legal education by:

- Developing leaders to strengthen practice and collaborating with partners in the Commonwealth of Kentucky and beyond.
- Training students to lead a dynamic workforce through an integrated research, teaching, and service mission.
- Addressing the needs of the Commonwealth through fostering the highest standards of ethics, excellence, and professionalism.



Further, the Rosenberg College of Law is focused on improving access to training, education and resources. Critical to this focus is expanding partnerships across the state and the region to facilitate learning communities. Those efforts, in turn, provide individuals with the knowledge and skills needed to succeed as law practitioners. In short, the Rosenberg College of Law's vision is to be the catalyst of positive change in Kentucky and beyond.

The Rosenberg College of Law innovates for – and responds to – the legal needs of the Commonwealth and beyond alongside collaborators, along with other community and public leaders, practicum and workforce development partners, its alumni and other stakeholders.

Legal challenges are complex, and legal solutions require diverse perspectives and experiences. The Rosenberg College of Law – its faculty, staff and students – value the diversity and depth found in differences.

Indeed, the Rosenberg College of Law's faculty, staff and students share a commitment to inclusive, equity-focused action; it is how the Rosenberg College of Law creates, sustains and contributes to a community of belonging across the campus.

By the Numbers

Beginning in the 2023-2024 academic year, the Rosenberg College of Law was composed of 409 students; 29 full-time faculty; and 29 staff members.

An annual budget of approximately \$14 million supports Rosenberg College of Law functions and initiatives.

- 409 Total Students
 - 271 In-state (66%)
 - 138 Out-of-State (34%)
- 29 Full-time Faculty
 - 16 Tenured (55%)
 - 6 Tenure-eligible (21%)
 - 7 Tenure-ineligible (24%)
 - 19 Regular Title Series (66%)
 - 5 Clinical Title Series (17%)
 - 3 Librarian Title Series (10%)
 - 2 No Title Series (7%)
- 29 Staff

Educational Programs

The Rosenberg College of Law currently offers one graduate program and four joint degree programs with other graduate schools at the University.

- [Juris Doctorate \(JD\)](#)
- [JD/Master of Business Administration](#)
- [JD/Master of Public Administration](#)
- [JD/Master of Arts in Diplomacy and International Commerce](#)
- [JD/Master of Health Administration](#)

First-year applications are accepted only in the fall semester. There is no part-time program at the Rosenberg College of Law. First-year applications are accepted starting on September 1 through April 15. Applicants must apply online through the [Law School Admission Council \(LSAC\)](#). Admission decisions are made on a rolling basis. For the dual degree programs, interested applicants must apply independently to both programs.

The Rosenberg College of Law offers students a variety of clinical and externship experiences. The [UK Legal Clinic](#) gives students the opportunity to represent low-income or elderly individuals, as well as UK students in a variety of civil legal matters. The Clinic is supervised by a faculty member who spent 10 years as a trial attorney. Another popular clinical course is Litigation Skills, taught in UK Rosenberg Law's courtroom by local practitioners and faculty with extensive litigation experience.

In addition, the Rosenberg College of Law offers several externships for course credit, in which students can obtain experience in applied research, fact gathering, interviewing, counseling, writing advocacy and transactional documents, negotiation and trial advocacy. More information on the Rosenberg College of Law externships can be found [here](#).



Lexington, Kentucky

The City of Lexington is a wonderful place in which to live, work and study. Lexington recently appeared on *USA Today's* list of the top cities in which to live, *Vogue's* list of destinations to visit and *Forbes' Top 20 Cleanest Cities*. In 2019, Lexington was ranked in the top 30 by *U.S. News & World Report* of its 'Best Places to Live' list. With a population of roughly 323,000, anchoring a metropolitan area of 517,056 people, Lexington offers both the warmth and hospitality of a small city, alongside the amenities typically found in a large city. Lexington describes itself as having "a fortified economy, strong in manufacturing, technology and entrepreneurial support, benefiting from a diverse, balanced business base." Leading employers in the metro region include Amazon, IBM, Lexmark, Lockheed-Martin, Toyota and UPS. Approximately 70 miles from Cincinnati and Louisville, Lexington is an important part of Kentucky's "Golden Triangle," - a region of the state noted for its healthy economy and outstanding quality of life with easy access to a wide variety of arts, culture, sporting events, educational opportunities and entertainment. Lexington also has a convenient regional airport.

Lexington is also home to great sporting traditions, including horse racing and Kentucky Wildcat basketball and football. In the spring and fall, one can spend a beautiful afternoon watching thoroughbred racing at Keeneland Race Course, which hosted the 2022 Breeders' Cup. The Kentucky Derby, run in nearby Louisville, is known as one of the world's premiere racing events. The region also boasts excellent parks and natural wonders, including Red River Gorge and Mammoth Cave, the longest underground cave system in the world.

The food scene is filled with Kentucky originals, southern classics and creative fusion. City residents benefit from a great local farm-to-table food environment with re-imagined southern staples coupled with inventive bourbon-infused creations. In the heart of Bourbon Country, one of Lexington's most exciting hotspots, the Distillery District, offers creative cuisine, craft beers, local bourbons and premium ice cream on a revitalized 25-acre historic property.

Lexington has a vibrant arts scene with offerings in music, dance, theater and visual and literary arts. The Lexington Philharmonic Orchestra provides annually more than 100 concerts, educational events and community programs. The Lexington Opera House is a premier cultural destination in downtown Lexington that serves an average of 85,000 patrons every year, offering ballet, opera, children's productions, family shows, comedy, music and professional national Broadway tours.

The city also boasts a rich cultural diversity. The international population grew by 300 percent in the last decade and more than 150 languages are spoken in Lexington. International investment, students, academics and visitors from around the world bring a wealth of economic and cultural diversity to Lexington. The city has increasing diversity, with 14.5% of the population identifying as black or African American and 7.4% as Hispanic. The city is recognized for LGBTQ inclusivity, and UK HealthCare has received the designation of a LGBTQ+ Healthcare Equality Leader from the Human Rights Campaign Foundation.

The true charm of Lexington lies in the fact that it has all the amenities of a big city, while maintaining that special small-town feel. In mere minutes, motorists can drive past spectacular horse farms, through downtown and back to rolling countryside. While many cities insist on saying it, Lexington truly offers something for everyone.

For more information about Lexington, see [VisitLEX](#).

Procedure for Candidacy

The Search Committee invites letters of nomination, applications (letter of interest, complete CV, and a brief statement (one page maximum) about how you would contribute toward the University of Kentucky's mission of creating a culturally inclusive environment in the University).

Application materials should be submitted using WittKieffer's [candidate portal](#).

Candidates will also need to apply through the employment website at the University of Kentucky. The posting can be found by searching for requisition # FE03881, or via the quick [link](#).

WittKieffer is assisting the University of Kentucky in this search. For fullest consideration, candidate materials should be received by March 4, 2024.

Nominations and inquiries can be directed to:

Werner Boel, LL.M. and Ashlee Winters Musser
KentuckyLawDean@wittkieffer.com

The University of Kentucky is committed to an inclusive workforce by ensuring all our students, faculty, and staff work in an environment of openness and acceptance. We strive to foster a community where people of all backgrounds, identities, and perspectives can feel secure and welcome. We also value the well-being of each of our employees and are dedicated to creating a healthy place to work, learn, and live.

In the interest of maintaining a safe and healthy environment for our students, employees, patients, and visitors, the University of Kentucky is a Tobacco & Drug Free campus.

Upon offer of employment, successful applicants must undergo a national background check and pre-employment drug screen as required by University of Kentucky Human Resources. The University of Kentucky is an Equal Opportunity University that values inclusion. Individuals with disabilities, minorities, veterans, women, and members of other underrepresented groups are encouraged to apply.

The University of Kentucky considers the health, safety and well-being of our entire community to be a top priority. In alignment with this priority, all new hires must provide proof of COVID-19 vaccination or obtain an approved medical or religious exemption as a condition of employment. For areas that fall under the federal CMS mandate, start of employment cannot occur until two weeks after receiving the full COVID-19 vaccination series or upon obtaining an approved exemption. Only vaccines approved by the [World Health Organization](#) can be accepted.

The material presented in this leadership profile should be relied on for informational purposes only. This material has been copied, compiled, or quoted in part from University of Kentucky documents and personal interviews and is believed to be reliable. While every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of this information, the original source documents and factual situations govern.

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Appendix

The University of Kentucky



We believe the University of Kentucky — what our university president proudly calls the University of, for and with Kentucky — is essential to creating a state that is healthier, wealthier and wiser.

Our mission: to advance Kentucky in everything that we do.

This mission, outlined in our strategic plan — the UK PURPOSE — calls us to ground-breaking research, community outreach, intellectually rigorous education and technological advances that contribute to the

betterment of the Commonwealth while also fostering a cultural quality of life through our museums, libraries and special events.

By putting students first; taking care of our people; inspiring ingenuity; ensuring greater trust, transparency and accountability; and bringing together many people, one community, the University of Kentucky continues to equip the next generation of leaders who will impact our world for the better.

Located in the vibrant city of Lexington, UK is a public, land-grant and flagship institution. The campus is home to nearly 34,000 students, nearly 3,100 full-time faculty and more than 25,500 full-time staff. The university reached historic rates for enrollment and graduation in 2023, with six-year graduation rates that rank among the best in the country, according to the most recent available data.

As Kentucky's university, UK is educating and preparing a skilled workforce the state needs to compete in a global economy. Students engage in career-ready curricula that provides them with critical thinking and analytical skills — and creative capacity — they will use to attain and create more jobs.

The university is one of only eight institutions in the country with a major academic medical center and a full spectrum of academic colleges and professional schools on one contiguous campus. As such, UK is an incubator for transdisciplinary research and other scholarly work. These collaborations allow faculty, staff and students to address the rapidly changing needs of Lexington, the Commonwealth and an ever-expanding global society.

UK's student body represents more than 100 countries, every state in the nation and all 120 Kentucky counties. The University of Kentucky consists of 16 academic and professional, degree-granting colleges where learners can choose from more than 200 majors and degree programs at the undergraduate and graduate levels. UK undergraduate students compete successfully for prestigious scholarships and

awards, such as the Fulbright, Astronaut, Truman, Goldwater, Marshall, Udall, Rhodes and Gates Cambridge. In 2023, 15 UK students and alumni were awarded the National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship. Since the inception of the Fulbright Program in 1946, 288 UK faculty and staff and 135 UK students have been awarded Fulbright grants in support of research, teaching and studies in more than 70 countries around the world.

An R1 institution, UK's proposed budget for 2023-24 projects \$494 million in revenue from research grants and contracts — the third straight year the research enterprise would top \$400 million. Much of that revenue is directed toward Research Priority Areas — a focused attempt to address Kentucky's biggest challenges around cancer and diabetes, substance misuse and neuroscience, heart disease and energy as well issues around equity.

The university's dynamic research enterprise encompasses traditional scholarship, the humanities, emerging fields in technology and a robust health care enterprise with the No. 1 ranked hospital in Kentucky by U.S. News & World Report for 2023-24, eight years running.

UK is one of 34 U.S. universities with the trifecta of research excellence designations in cancer, aging and translational science: an NCI-designated Comprehensive Cancer Center (one of only 56 in the country), an Alzheimer's Disease Research Center from the National Institute on Aging and a Clinical and Translational Science Award from the NIH.

The UK Research Priorities Initiative, created in 2018 and funded by the Office of the Vice President for Research, encompasses eight research priority areas: cancer, cardiovascular diseases, diabetes and obesity, equity, energy, neuroscience, materials science and substance use disorders.

Transdisciplinary teams of scientists and clinicians have formed in these areas to tackle the most complex challenges facing Kentuckians. In 2019, UK received the most significant grant award in the institution's history, \$87 million, for the HEALing (Helping to End Addiction Long-term) Communities Study, funded by the NIH, that aims to reduce deaths from substance misuse disease.

UK HealthCare, the university's health care enterprise, is growing a nationally regarded health care system — through strategic partnerships across Kentucky — that is bringing primary and advanced specialty care to more people in need of healing

And at its heart, UK is guided by a founding mission that is as relevant today as it was at its founding nearly 160 years ago. It is a land-grant institution devoted to service in every corner and community of the Commonwealth.

UK HealthCare



UK HealthCare is the clinical enterprise and academic health system of the University of Kentucky and includes 1,029 beds at three hospitals — UK Chandler Hospital which includes a level 1-trauma center, transplant center and NIH-designated cancer center; UK Good Samaritan Hospital — an acute care facility; and Kentucky Children’s Hospital.

For the past eight years, UK HealthCare has been ranked No. 1 in Kentucky in the U.S. News & World Report’s Best Hospitals Rankings. UK’s Markey Cancer Center, Kentucky’s only National Cancer Institute-designated cancer center, has been ranked in the Top 50 nationally for cancer care for the seventh consecutive year. Additionally, Kentucky Children’s Hospital has been recognized as a 2023-24 Best Children’s Hospital and the Joint Pediatric and Congenital Heart Program, a collaboration between Cincinnati Children’s and Kentucky Children’s Hospital, ranked seventh in pediatric cardiology & heart surgery.

As an academic research institution, physicians, pharmacists, nurses are pursuing the next generation of cures, treatments, protocols and policies. Their discoveries have the potential to change what’s medically possible within our lifetimes. At the same time, educators and thought leaders in health policy and delivery are transforming the health care landscape in Kentucky to provide the right care in the right place for everyone in the state.

Inclusion

As the institution’s current strategic plan states, “UK has embraced its calling as Kentucky’s university by strengthening its commitment, not only to diversity, but to sustaining communities that care deeply about equity and a sense of belonging for everyone.”

UK has been recognized by INSIGHT Into Diversity magazine for the past seven years as a Diversity Champion and was awarded the Higher Education Excellence in Diversity (HEED) Award. In 2019, 2020, 2021 and 2022, UK was named to Forbes’ annual list of Best Employers for Diversity.

In 2020, the university announced the sponsorship of a 5-year, \$10 million research initiative focused on racial disparities and inequities across broad areas, ranging from health to the historical foundations of systemic racism. The United In True Racial Equity (UNITE) Research Initiative was designated as one of now eight research priority areas at UK. This program brings together the university’s brightest scholars and scientists and provides investments to support collaborative research that enables change.