



PRESIDENTIAL SEARCH PROSPECTUS

The Search for Buffalo State
University's Tenth President



BUFFALO STATE
The State University of New York



BUFFALO STATE IS A DIVERSE AND INCLUSIVE UNIVERSITY
COMMITTED TO THE INTELLECTUAL, PERSONAL, AND PROFESSIONAL
GROWTH OF ITS STUDENTS, FACULTY, STAFF, AND ALUMNI.



EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

FOUNDED IN 1871 as the Buffalo Normal School, Buffalo State University has grown into one of the most compelling and unique institutions within the State University of New York (SUNY) system. Located on a 125-acre campus in Buffalo's historic museum district and arts corridor, the University is well positioned as SUNY's only urban-engaged campus, deeply integrated into the fabric of the city and committed to civic engagement and community partnerships.

Buffalo State has two academic schools and 31 academic departments, offering a wide range of compelling educational programs in the liberal arts and sciences, education, applied professions, and many other disciplines. Interdisciplinary and innovative work is encouraged, as is student research. The diversity of the students, faculty, and staff at Buffalo State as well as the metropolitan backdrop offer an exciting and stimulating environment for students.

Appointed by the SUNY Board of Trustees and reporting to Chancellor John B. King Jr., the President of Buffalo State University serves as the Chief Administrative Officer of the University. The President has broad responsibility for the institution and serves as its chief representative externally. The successful candidate will join a dynamic team of SUNY presidents that is fully engaged at a national level during a critical time in higher education. For that reason, the next Buffalo State President must maintain an unparalleled commitment to student success, academic excellence, leadership, research, and economic and community engagement.

In addition to this commitment, the next Buffalo State President will also be dedicated to diversity, opportunity for all qualified students, open and shared governance, and financial as well as environmental sustainability. Overall, the University seeks a creative, inspirational, and effective administrator committed to public higher education. Ideal candidates will also have a clear commitment to the University's mission and values, a record of leadership success in complex institutions, experience enhancing enrollment and retention and addressing budget deficits, and an extraordinary communications ability that will allow them to tell a persuasive story about Buffalo State.

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



THE ROLE OF THE PRESIDENT

THE PRESIDENT OF BUFFALO STATE

UNIVERSITY serves as the Chief Administrative Officer of the University. The President is appointed by the State University of New York Board of Trustees after recommendation from the Buffalo State University Council and SUNY Chancellor John B. King Jr. The President reports to and serves at the pleasure of the SUNY Chancellor, as discussed in the SUNY section of this profile.

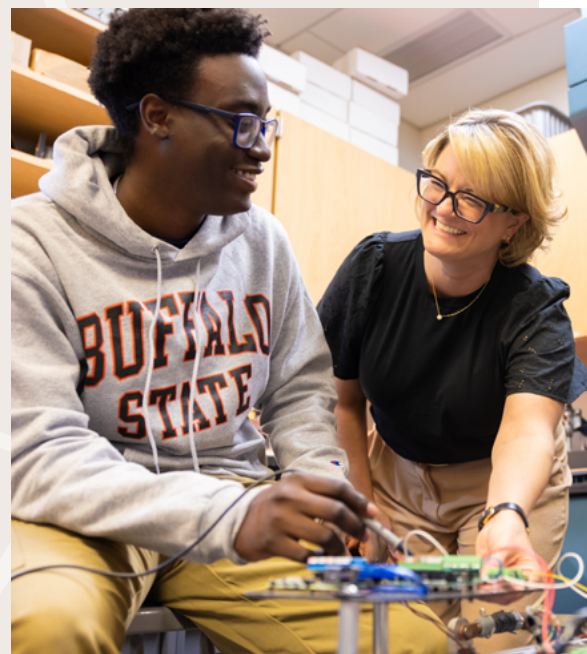
The President is supported by a cabinet of the Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs, Vice President for Finance and Management and Comptroller, Vice President for Institutional Advancement and External Relations and Executive Director of the Buffalo State Foundation, Vice President for Enrollment Management, Vice President for Student Affairs, and Chief Diversity Officer.

As the leader of Buffalo State, the President exercises broad responsibilities for all aspects of the institution and serves as its chief representative externally. The successful candidate will join a dynamic team of SUNY presidents engaged in dialogue and planning at a national level during a critical time that requires SUNY's unparalleled commitment to student

success, academic excellence, leadership, research, and economic and community engagement.

THE PRESIDENT HAS THE FOLLOWING DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES:

- Articulate a vision for Buffalo State University, unite the University around its shared mission, and implement this vision through the management of all institutional affairs
- Champion and advance Buffalo State's academic vibrancy and growth for the enrichment of its students while seeking to provide access to a diverse array of university students
- Oversee a curriculum and co-curricular activities that are both student-centered and employer-focused
- Address through bold leadership, clear vision, and transparent communication the fiscal challenges facing higher education and Buffalo State
- Provide leadership in recruiting, developing, engaging, and retaining diverse and exceptional faculty, staff, and students, as well as implement equitable practices and create an inclusive environment in which they can flourish



- Promote a culture of excellence, innovation, collaboration, and respect while maintaining a supportive community among faculty, staff, and students
- Lead the effort to generate external resources for Buffalo State, including private philanthropy, by articulating and championing strategic priorities, cultivating prospective donors, and fostering relationships with alumni and friends of the University
- Represent the institution externally and advocate on its behalf to governmental, political, and SUNY partners in furtherance of the University's goals
- Develop and maintain relationships in the Buffalo community and the wider region to further economic development for the area and the goals of the institution
- Serve as the principal external spokesperson for Buffalo State, sharing the University's story with a range of audiences in fresh and compelling ways

OPPORTUNITIES AND EXPECTATIONS FOR LEADERSHIP

BUFFALO STATE UNIVERSITY has arrived at an exciting and critical point in its history, and the next President will lead the institution into a new era of opportunity. While Buffalo State and much of higher education have experienced challenges during the past few years, enthusiasm for the University's mission and history remains strong among its constituents. By exercising innovative and effective leadership, the next President can build on this enthusiasm to help the University reach new levels of success. Specifically, the President will be expected to achieve the following:

DEVELOP A NEW AND EXCITING VISION FOR BUFFALO STATE UNIVERSITY.

Founded in 1871 as the Buffalo Normal School to train the next generation of New York teachers, Buffalo State has a long and storied history as a beacon of scholarly excellence. The University has grown significantly since its founding

while building on and strengthening its core mission of providing an affordable and accessible education to a diverse community of students. The higher education landscape has also changed dramatically, and Buffalo State has experienced the same challenges facing campuses across the country. The University's next President must develop a new and compelling vision for the institution and its future, creating an identifiable brand and clear direction. Celebrating the efforts of those who contributed to Buffalo State's past successes while mapping out a course for the University that addresses its current challenges will be critical. Through an open, transparent process using a shared governance approach that fosters ownership and communication, the next Buffalo State President can create a plan for the University's future that is grounded, supported, and successful.

ELIMINATE THE BUDGET DEFICIT. The University ended last year with a budget deficit of \$16.2 million on an

operating budget of approximately \$100 million. The University has so far made significant progress in closing its budget deficit in partnership with SUNY and through a roadmap that was developed with the SUNY system, which has included a reorganization, a voluntary separation program, and a general freeze on new hires. But there is more work to be done, and the campus is eager to see a new president develop a revenue growth model to parallel the budget reductions implemented thus far.

STABILIZE ENROLLMENT. Key to a financially sound university is healthy enrollment, retention, and student completion. While it competes with numerous public and private institutions in the Buffalo region and the SUNY system, Buffalo State presents a unique value proposition to students and families as an urban, diverse, and exciting campus that attracts a committed and unique mix of students through its dedication to access. The President will work with the Vice President for Enrollment Management to create a clear and detailed plan to stabilize and increase enrollment, including a robust residential population, over time. As part of this plan, the President will continue to extol Buffalo State, inspiring prospective students to attend and elevating the University's reputation for flexible, relevant education that prepares students for the marketplace and for life. The president will also clearly articulate the value of the liberal arts in workforce development, meeting employer needs while ensuring student success.



Buffalo State's most recent enrollment update for fall 2025 is encouraging. The university welcomed 1,293 undergraduate freshmen this fall, up 3.7% from a year ago, and among the largest incoming freshman classes in the four-year SUNY University Colleges sector. In addition, the retention rate from its fall 2024 class was 65.5%, an increase of 7.8 percentage points from the previous year.

Buffalo State experienced a significant increase in residential students for fall 2025. The total number of on-campus residents is 1,962 students, an increase of 3.6% from a year ago and the highest level since fall 2020. The retention rate for residential students has improved to 65.1%, up 20.6 percentage points from three years ago.

Special programs have driven some of the growth:

- The ACE program (Advancing Completion through Engagement), nearly doubled in size from last year, with 387 students this fall, a remarkable milestone for this proven driver of student success in SUNY that provides wraparound support to ensure academic success, retention, and on-time graduation.
- Roar 2 Success (Recognizing Opportunities and Achieving Results)—which recently expanded to a two-year student advocacy program, allowing it to both extend its longevity and provide greater levels of support—increased its retention rate to 65.5%, up 18.7 percentage points from a year ago.
- The Educational Opportunity Program (EOP)—for those from historically excluded communities—has grown to 385 students, also showing significant retention rate gains with an increase of 12.1 percentage points from a year ago, to 71.9%.

- The Muriel A. Howard Honors Program—for the University's most high-achieving and intellectually committed undergraduate students—enrolled the third-largest incoming class in its history and now has 659 students.

ENSURE ROBUST STUDENT

SUPPORT. Critical to stabilizing enrollment at Buffalo State is raising the retention and graduation rates for its students. As the University has evolved over time, the student body has presented more financial need than has been previously seen, which makes some students' continued matriculation challenging. In addition, some incoming Buffalo State students need additional support to ready themselves for the rigors of collegiate academics. The next Buffalo State President must recognize these trends and strengthen the academic, residential, and co-curricular supports currently in place at the University in a deliberate and data-driven way to ensure student retention and continuity. The President must also identify new programs and opportunities that will contribute to student success and satisfaction.

EVALUATE ACADEMIC PROGRAMS

AND OFFERINGS. Buffalo State has earned a reputation as a regional institution with an impressive array of degrees and disciplines, as well as clear strengths in programs as diverse as arts and sciences, education, and applied professions. As part of an overall strategic planning process, the next President must engage the University



community in developing an academic vision that builds on these strengths and plots a new course to identify Buffalo State's unique advantages for incoming students. As part of this effort, the next President will also continue to encourage the development of in-demand academic programs.

PARTNER EFFECTIVELY WITH

CHANCELLOR JOHN KING AND THE

SUNY SYSTEM. As was mentioned above, Buffalo State's budget-balancing effort has been undertaken in partnership with Chancellor King and SUNY system leadership to ensure a positive outcome. The next President must recognize the deep value of this relationship and the need to continue working toward the goals of this plan in partnership with SUNY while simultaneously developing solutions that extend beyond the austerity measures currently being implemented. Through a strong relationship with the larger system, Buffalo State will remain financially strong and supported while developing a vision for the future.

PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATIONS AND PERSONAL QUALITIES

THE NEXT BUFFALO STATE UNIVERSITY PRESIDENT will be dedicated to academic excellence, student success, support of scholarly research, diversity, opportunity for all qualified students, open and shared governance, and financial as well as environmental sustainability. The University seeks a creative, inspirational, and effective administrator committed to public higher education and to promoting the liberal arts and sciences, education, and applied professional programs to educate future generations of students.

An earned doctorate from an accredited institution is required.

The ideal candidate will have the following qualities and characteristics:

- Clear commitment to and appreciation for the mission of Buffalo State University and its role as an anchor institution dedicated to access, excellence, and community engagement
- Record of leadership and management experience required to guide a public institution of higher learning, including demonstrated success at progressive levels of leadership in a college, university, or similarly complex organization and the ability to build highly productive teams
- Strong record of aligning budgets with strategic goals, effective resource allocation, and setting financial priorities, as well as a demonstrated record of addressing complex fiscal challenges
- Record of enhancing student enrollment management and demonstrated success in enhancing enrollment and retention

- Deep respect for the work of faculty and staff and the ability to communicate and collaborate effectively with them
- Experience working in a unionized environment and a deep understanding of shared governance
- Awareness of the issues that affect students both inside and outside the classroom; a demonstrated commitment to their success and well-being, and holistic development; and an ability to connect with students in a personal and meaningful way
- Record of achievement and unwavering dedication to strengthening diversity, equity, and inclusion while fostering a culture of opportunity across all populations
- Ability to communicate and collaborate effectively with SUNY system administration, other SUNY institutions, and government leaders, as well as the political acumen to champion the University to these groups
- Capacity to articulate and execute an entrepreneurial, innovative, and expansive vision for Buffalo State's future that distinguishes the University within the SUNY system and the region, inspiring optimism, and mobilizing the community
- Ability to thrive in an urban setting, to be a visible and engaged leader within the communities served by

the University, and to form lasting partnerships with organizations in Buffalo and across the region

- Ability to lead initiatives to maintain and enhance the academic stature of the University and a commitment to scholarship, innovation, and creativity
- Demonstrated experience in fundraising across a diverse donor base, as well as a record of building strong relationships with alumni, friends, corporate and foundation leaders, and individual donors
- Passion, optimism, flexibility, adaptability, and an abiding sense of humor that is manifested in a personal style that balances confidence with humility



ABOUT BUFFALO STATE

BUFFALO STATE is a Carnegie Professions-Focused Undergraduate/Graduate-Master's Large/Medium institution, accredited by the Middle States Commission on Higher Education. Buffalo State has two academic schools and 31 academic departments, all connected by common intellectual foundations and offering a full range of educational programs in their areas of study. The academic centers offer intellectual enrichment and community engagement and provide opportunities for students and faculty to work together across disciplines.

The total enrollment for fall 2025 is 6,095 students, with 5,196 undergraduate and 899 graduate students. Buffalo State received a record-breaking 27,000-plus applications for fall 2025, the largest application pool in the university's history.

With a student population of over 6,000, Buffalo State serves a diverse and inclusive community. Nearly 50% of students identify as people of color, and 42% are first-generation university students. The University maintains a strong commitment to justice, equity, diversity, and inclusion, recognized nationally through awards such as the Carnegie Elective Classification for Community Engagement, the Higher Education Excellence and Distinction (HEED) Award, and the Inclusion Diversity Equity Awareness (IDEA) Award.

Buffalo State's faculty and staff are distinguished by their academic excellence and community involvement. More than 80% of full-time faculty hold terminal degrees, and many have received prestigious

OVERVIEW: Founded in 1871 as the Buffalo Normal School, Buffalo State University has evolved into one of the largest comprehensive institutions within the State University of New York (SUNY) system. Located on a 125-acre urban campus in Buffalo's historic museum district and arts corridor, the University is uniquely positioned as SUNY's only urban-engaged campus, deeply integrated into the fabric of the city and committed to civic engagement and community partnerships.

honors, including SUNY Distinguished Professor ranks and Fulbright grants. The University's small class sizes foster close student-faculty interaction and personalized learning experiences.

The campus features state-of-the-art facilities, including a \$100 million Science and Mathematics Complex and Whitworth Ferguson Planetarium, the Great Lakes Center—the only field station on the Great Lakes within SUNY—and newly renovated E.H. Butler Library, which serves as the academic heart of the institution.

Buffalo State's mission is to empower students to succeed and inspire a lifelong passion for learning, with a vision to be a nationally recognized leader in public higher education. The University embraces values such as access, student-centered learning, intellectual discovery, community engagement, and respect for diversity.

With over 100,000 alumni worldwide, including 57,000 in Western New York, Buffalo State continues to build on its legacy of excellence, preparing students to become leaders and change-makers in an increasingly global society.

MISSION

Buffalo State is a diverse and inclusive university committed to the intellectual, personal, and professional growth of its students, faculty, staff, and alumni. Its mission is to empower students to succeed and to inspire a lifelong passion for learning. Buffalo State is dedicated to

excellence in teaching, research, service, scholarship, creative activity, and cultural enrichment.

VISION

Buffalo State will be a nationally recognized leader in public higher education known for:

- its caring and rigorous academic environment where lives are transformed through education;
- the intellectual and creative accomplishments of its faculty, staff, students, and alumni;
- its cross-culturally competent community dedicated to developing leaders for an increasingly global society.

VALUES

We, the Buffalo State community, are committed to:

- actively facilitating access to public higher education;
- excellent learning experiences in and out of the classroom;
- being student centered;
- the rigors, joys, and fulfillment of intellectual discovery;
- engagement, applied learning, and partnerships with the community;
- social responsibility;
- respect for diversity and individual differences;
- supportive and collegial relationships;
- opportunities for individuals to realize their full potential.

NAME:

SUNY Buffalo State University

FOUNDED:

1871

LOCATION:

Buffalo, NY | 125-acre campus

INTERIM PRESIDENT:

Bonita R. Durand, Ph.D.

DESIGNATION:Carnegie Professions-Focused
Undergraduate/Graduate-
Master's Large/Medium**ACCREDITATION:**Middle States Commission on
Higher Education**ALUMNI:**100,000+ around the world;
57,000+ in Western New York**ATHLETICS:**NCAA Division III
8 men's and 11 women's varsity
sports

BUFFALO STATE AT A GLANCE

DATA (FALL 2025)**ENROLLMENT**

6,095 students
5,196 undergraduate
899 graduate
1,962 residential students
41.7 percent first-generation
college students

CLASS SIZE

- 92.5 percent of all classes have fewer than 40 students
- Average undergraduate class size is 17
- Classes for undergraduate majors usually have between 12 and 25 students
- One faculty member for every 14 students

ADMISSIONS**ACCEPTANCE RATE**

83.0 percent (First-time
applicants)

UNDERGRADUATE

Enrollment Status
Full time: 4,671
Part time: 525
Total: 5,196

AGE OF STUDENTS

Under 25: 4,562
25 and over: 634

ETHNICITY

Black or African
American: 1,508
American Indian or
Alaskan Native: 26
Asian: 320
Hispanic: 733
Multiracial: 280
Native Hawaiian or
Pacific Islander: 4
International: 97
White: 2,221
Unknown: 7

GEOGRAPHIC ORIGIN

Erie County: 2,660
Niagara County: 327
Other NY State: 1,953
Other States: 159
International: 97

GENDER

Female: 2,874
Male: 2,315
Non-binary: 7

GRADUATE

Enrollment Status
Full time: 344
Part time: 555
Total: 899

ETHNICITY

Black or African American: 98
American Indian or
Alaskan Native: 4
Asian: 38
Hispanic: 60
Multiracial: 29
Native Hawaiian or
Pacific Islander: 1
International: 19

White: 649
Unknown: 1

GEOGRAPHIC ORIGIN

Erie County: 589
Niagara County: 84
Other NY State: 173
Other States: 34
International: 19

GENDER

Female: 660
Male: 236
Non-binary: 3

**FACULTY AND STAFF
PROFILE (2024-25)**

Full time: 984
Part time: 335
Total: 1,319

- Percent of full-time faculty with doctoral degrees: 78%
- Percent of full-time faculty with terminal degrees: 83%
- Faculty members awarded the SUNY Chancellor's Award for Excellence in Teaching: 62



2022–2026 STRATEGIC PLAN

THE BUFFALO STATE UNIVERSITY STRATEGIC PLAN FOR 2022–2026

serves as a comprehensive roadmap guiding the institution's mission, values, and vision for the future. Rooted in a commitment to academic excellence, community engagement, and inclusive practices, the plan reflects Buffalo State's unique role as the only urban-engaged campus within the State University of New York system. As the University continues to evolve in response to societal changes and student needs, the Strategic Plan outlines five foundational pillars that shape its priorities and initiatives. These pillars are the commitment to access, equity, social justice, and belonging; the land Buffalo State occupies as an urban-engaged anchor campus; a shared vision for student success; professional success for faculty and staff; and sustainability for a better future—each reinforcing Buffalo State's dedication to fostering a vibrant, inclusive, and forward-thinking academic community.



THE BUFFALO STATE COUNCIL

(see page 18) remains steadfast in its commitment to the mission and strategic direction of Buffalo State, as outlined in the [2022–2026 Strategic Plan](#). Buffalo State occupies a distinguished position within the higher education landscape of Western New York and the broader SUNY system. As the only urban-engaged campus in SUNY, it offers exceptional and affordable undergraduate and graduate education while maintaining a deep-rooted connection to the city of Buffalo.

Buffalo State is actively involved in and supportive of nearly every facet of the city. Under the guidance of accomplished faculty, students are encouraged to link their academic pursuits—both majors and minors—to the pressing issues facing Buffalo. This approach enables students to contribute meaningfully to civic dialogue while forging strong connections between their coursework and real-world applications, ultimately preparing them for future leadership roles.

The Strategic Plan's pillars also reflect the increasing diversity of the student population and emphasize the importance of keeping equity and inclusion at the heart of the educational experience. This commitment includes efforts to further diversify faculty and staff and to provide professional development that meets the evolving needs of students and other stakeholders.

The current Strategic Plan articulates a clear identity for Buffalo State and outlines pathways to deepen its dedication to educating diverse learners through engagement both inside and outside the classroom. The Council anticipates continued success for Buffalo State under the guidance of this plan. In a rapidly changing world, the Council commends the institution's ongoing evolution and its collaborative efforts to advance the campus's educational mission.

ACADEMIC OVERVIEW

BUFFALO STATE

UNIVERSITY provides a strong academic foundation for future leaders across a wide range of disciplines—including science, education, technology, the arts, and innovation. In today's dynamic world, leadership demands a hands-on approach. Students at Buffalo State are prepared for professional success through distinctive academic programs that integrate research, internships, field study, and service-learning opportunities, ensuring they graduate with both knowledge and practical experience.

Buffalo State's wide array of undergraduate and graduate programs include several that are unique within the SUNY system. The university's visual arts program and fashion and textile technology program are among the largest and most comprehensive of their kind within SUNY. The Patricia H. and Richard E. Garman Art Conservation Department is one of the leading art conservation programs in North America, and the Creativity and Change Leadership Department/Center for Applied Imagination enjoys global renown as the birthplace of brainstorming and the creative problem-solving process. Building on its historical foundation as a teachers college, Buffalo State continues to earn recognition for the quality of its teacher-preparation programs and international professional development schools. All eligible academic programs are accredited.

Buffalo State fosters a learning environment that focuses on advancing each student's potential. With one faculty member for every 14 students, students

interact directly with qualified, committed instructors—four out of five hold the highest degrees in their fields.

Academic support programs assist students through mentoring, tutorials, workshops, and independent learning experiences. Honors curricula provide enrichment opportunities for advanced students. Campus resources address the specific needs of underrepresented students, students with disabilities, and adult learners.

Buffalo State has two academic schools, the School of Arts and Sciences and the School of Education and Applied Professions, with 31 academic departments between them.

SCHOOL OF ARTS AND SCIENCES:

Established in 2021 through the strategic merger of the School of Natural and Social Sciences and the School of Arts and Humanities, the School of Arts and Sciences at Buffalo State University has emerged as the largest academic unit on campus.





and Sciences engage in collaborative teaching, research, and creative activity, encouraging students to think critically, communicate effectively, and approach complex challenges from multiple angles. This interdisciplinary ethos prepares graduates to thrive in a rapidly evolving global landscape, equipped with the skills and adaptability needed for leadership in a wide range of professional and civic arenas. The School's heralded Anne Frank Project—which hosts an annual social justice festival, study in Rwanda, professional development

exchange and professional development beyond the classroom.

The School of Education and Applied Professions is based in Bacon Hall on the Buffalo State campus, featuring modern facilities that support both academic excellence and community involvement. Its programs are nationally accredited, ensuring rigorous standards in teacher preparation and professional training. With a focus on innovation, inclusivity, and practical experience, the School continues to be a leader in shaping educators and professionals who are ready to make a difference in their communities and beyond.

STUDENT LIFE

Buffalo State University offers a vibrant and inclusive campus life designed to enrich the student experience beyond the classroom. The University fosters a diverse and creative environment where students can build lasting friendships and memories. With over 70 student clubs and organizations, 19 NCAA Division III varsity sports teams, and many dining options (including an “all-you-care-to-eat” dining hall, seven retail locations, grab-and-go market in the Campbell Student Union, and three satellite retail locations including a fully licensed Starbucks), the campus offers countless opportunities for students to get involved and stay engaged. One of the University's unique traditions is Bengal Pause, a campuswide break held every Tuesday and Thursday from 12:15 to 1:30 p.m., encouraging students to participate in various activities and connect with peers. The Division of Student Affairs at Buffalo State University is dedicated to supporting student success, fostering meaningful connections, and building a strong sense of community. Whether students are just beginning their journey as Bengals or considering joining the campus, the division plays a central role in helping them navigate university life and make the most of their experience.



and more—is a prime example of the university's mission to make a difference in the world.

SCHOOL OF EDUCATION AND APPLIED PROFESSIONS: The School of Education and Applied Professions at Buffalo State University was established in 2025 through the merger of the former School of Education and School of the Professions. This newly formed School brings together a wide range of academic programs and initiatives aimed at preparing students for meaningful careers in education and professional fields. By combining expertise in education with a wide array of professional disciplines, the School offers a robust platform for students to pursue careers in teaching, leadership, health, hospitality, fashion, and technology.

At the heart of the School's mission is a commitment to experiential learning. Students engage in high-impact practices such as Teach and Study Away programs, service learning, community engagement, and faculty-mentored research. These opportunities not only enhance academic understanding but also cultivate real-world skills and global perspectives. The School also supports international experiences for educators, encouraging cross-cultural

The School brings together faculty from diverse fields—ranging from the natural sciences and social sciences to the humanities and fine arts—creating a vibrant intellectual community that reflects the University's commitment to a modern, integrated approach to liberal arts education. Through this structure, Buffalo State offers students a dynamic academic experience that blends traditional liberal arts foundations with contemporary perspectives and real-world applications. Faculty within the School of Arts



Buffalo State offers a wide range of resources to help students discover their purpose and create a personalized plan for success. The University encourages involvement in student clubs, athletics, and leadership opportunities such as student government. Engaging in campus activities outside of the classroom allows students to explore new interests, apply their learning in real-world contexts, and immerse themselves in the vibrant culture of the campus. The scenic grounds feature notable attractions like the Burchfield Penney Art Center and the Whitworth Ferguson Planetarium, while nearby landmarks such as the AKG Art Museum, Buffalo Zoo, and Buffalo History Museum offer additional opportunities for enrichment and exploration.

The University takes pride in ensuring that students feel engaged, included, and supported in all aspects of their lives. The Division of Student Affairs is committed to creating an environment where every student can thrive and encourages individuals to reach out for assistance

whenever needed. Buffalo State aims to provide a transformative university experience—one that students will remember for a lifetime.

ATHLETICS

Buffalo State's 70,000-square-foot Sports Complex is home to the NCAA Division III Buffalo State Bengals and includes the Sports Arena, Ice Arena, and Houston Gymnasium. The Sports Arena boasts a 3,500-seat basketball arena, a one-tenth-mile (160-meter) indoor track, the 1,800-seat Ice Arena (Buffalo's only collegiate ice rink), and the SUNY Buffalo State University Intercollegiate Athletics Hall of Fame. Houston Gym includes the Kissinger Multi-Use Facility; the campus Fitness Center; a group cycling studio; and basketball, racquetball, and volleyball

courts. Surrounding athletics facilities include Coyer Field and press box for football, lacrosse, and soccer competition with spectator bleacher seating for 3,000; a softball field; practice fields; and a quarter-mile (400-meter) outdoor track.

Men's Division III sports include basketball, cross country, football, ice hockey, soccer, track and field (indoor and outdoor), and volleyball. Women's Division III sports include acrobatics and tumbling, basketball, cross country, ice hockey, lacrosse, soccer, softball, track and field (indoor and outdoor), volleyball, and wrestling. Students can sign up for intramural activities, including team and individual sports, or use athletic facilities for recreation with their current Buffalo State Bengal ID.

FOUNDATION REPORT

CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEET

JUNE 30, 2025

Cash and Investments	\$109,723,904
Investment in Split Interest Agreements	\$2,042,074
Other Current Assets	\$6,819,106
Long-Term Assets	\$43,400,399
Funds Held in Trust for Others	\$1,191,167
Total Assets	\$163,176,650

Liabilities	\$35,338,302
Net Assets	\$127,838,348
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	\$163,176,650

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES

JUNE 30, 2025

Revenue

Private Support	\$8,141,032
Fees, Events, Other Revenue	\$6,371,315
Net Investment Income	\$10,130,283
Donated Services and Supplies	\$1,334,231
Total Revenue and Support	\$25,976,861

Expenses

	\$11,920,803
Change in Value Split Interest Agreements	(\$264,992)
Total Expenses Losses and Other	\$11,655,811

Increase (Decrease) in Net Assets	\$14,321,050
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FINANCES

FISCAL YEAR JULY 1, 2023, TO JUNE 30, 2024

REVENUE	Amount	% of Total
Tuition and Fees	\$24,411,528	10.65%
Federal Operating Grants and Contracts	\$4,884,264	2.13%
Sales and Services of Auxiliary Enterprises	\$17,160,040	7.49%
State Appropriations	\$134,820,637	58.82%
Federal Non-operating Grants	\$18,323,039	7.99%
State Non-operating Grants	\$10,411,428	4.54%
All Other Operating Grants and Contracts	\$13,685,087	5.97%
Gifts, Investment Income, and Other	\$5,521,996	2.41%
Total Revenue	\$229,218,019	100%

EXPENDITURES	Amount	% of Total
Instruction	\$91,427,926	38.37%
Research	\$5,094,340	2.14%
Public Services	\$9,329,462	3.92%
Academic Support	\$23,766,331	9.97%
Student Services	\$17,998,984	7.55%
Institutional Support	\$52,723,435	22.13%
Other Expenses	\$292,737	0.12%
Scholarships	\$10,974,286	4.61%
Auxiliary Services	\$26,667,428	11.19%
Total Expenditures	\$238,274,929	100%



CAMPUS

BUFFALO STATE UNIVERSITY is a walkable campus situated on 125 acres within the city of Buffalo's historic museum district and arts corridor. The campus is bordered by distinctive and engaging neighborhoods that enable students to participate in nationally recognized community engagement and service experiences in an urban setting. This location fosters an environment where the city becomes the classroom and academic programs can move beyond the campus buildings into the surrounding neighborhoods.

As an Anchor Institution for the city, Buffalo State takes seriously its role in improving the community through responsible stewardship of its human and financial resources, and fully embraces its mission as SUNY's urban-engaged campus. Buffalo State's diverse student population, engaged and exceptional faculty, wide range of academic programs, and applied learning opportunities create a unique community of scholars who believe in the power of education to transform lives. The campus consists of 45 buildings, including nine active residence halls. The University completed a four-phase, \$100 million Science and Mathematics Complex in 2021. The campus boasts state-of-the-art classrooms and labs, historic brick buildings, and classic quads lined with trees and outdoor art. Buffalo State's Great Lakes Center—the only field station on the Great Lakes within the SUNY system—provides comprehensive and up-to-date science to enhance and sustain the ecological function of the Great Lakes' ecosystems into the future.



LEADERSHIP AND GOVERNANCE

THE PRESIDENT OF BUFFALO STATE UNIVERSITY serves as the Chief Administrative Officer of the University. The legal authority to appoint the President is vested in the Board of Trustees of SUNY. The College Council of each such institution is given responsibility for recommending a candidate or candidates to the SUNY Trustees. The President serves at the pleasure of the Chancellor and the SUNY Board of Trustees.

STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK The State University of New York is the largest comprehensive system of higher education in the United States, and more than 95 percent of all New Yorkers live within 30 miles of at least one of SUNY's 64 colleges and universities. Across the system, SUNY has four academic health centers, five hospitals, four medical schools, two dental schools, a law school, the country's oldest school of maritime, and the state's only college of optometry, and manages one U.S. Department of Energy National Laboratory. In total, SUNY serves about 1.4 million students among its entire portfolio of credit- and non-credit-bearing courses and programs, continuing education, and community outreach programs. SUNY oversees nearly a quarter of all academic research in New York. Research expenditures systemwide were nearly \$1.16 billion in fiscal year 2024, including significant contributions from students and faculty. There are more than 3 million SUNY alumni worldwide, and one in three New Yorkers with a college degree

is a SUNY alum. To learn more about how SUNY creates opportunities, visit suny.edu.

SUNY's leadership structure consists of a Board of Trustees, Chancellor, system administration senior staff, and campus presidents, each official working together to advance the mission of the state university system: "...to provide to the people of New York educational services of the highest quality, with the broadest possible access, fully representative of all segments of the population in a complete range of academic, professional, and vocational postsecondary programs including such additional activities in pursuit of these objectives as are necessary or customary."

SUNY CHANCELLOR JOHN B. KING JR. John B. King Jr. is the 15th Chancellor of the State University of New York (SUNY), the largest comprehensive system of public higher education in the United States. As Chancellor, Dr. King and the SUNY Board of Trustees have established four pillars to guide SUNY's progress: student success; research and scholarship; diversity, equity, and inclusion; and economic development and upward mobility.

Under Chancellor King's leadership, SUNY has seen its largest operating aid increase in five decades, including double-digit percentage increases for every state-operated campus, the first two back-to-back operating aid increases for community colleges in decades, and dedicated recurring annual funding for expanding mental

health services, services for students with disabilities, paid internships, and research, as well as addressing food insecurity.

Under Chancellor King, SUNY has experienced back-to-back enrollment gains in every sector for the first time in 15 years. As part of the Chancellor's commitment to student success, SUNY launched ASAP and ACE—the nation's leading, evidence-based retention and completion initiatives—at 25 campuses, and is in the process of scaling these programs to reach 10,000 students within the next two years. Chancellor King has also championed a systemwide Civics and Service Agenda, which includes the launch of the Empire State Service Corps to provide paid community service opportunities to hundreds of SUNY students each year.

In research and scholarship, Chancellor King is committed to achieving Governor Hochul's charge to double research expenditures. Under Chancellor King's leadership, SUNY is at the forefront of cutting-edge research that fuels economic growth, drives social impact, and enhances human well-being. SUNY researchers are leading the way in areas including artificial intelligence, renewable energy, quantum computing, semiconductor development, and biotechnology and health care. SUNY is implementing the Governor's Empire AI research center for the public good, which is hosted at the University at Buffalo and includes SUNY's four University Centers as well as leading private universities.

SUNY's enabling statute requires that the University "provide educational services of the highest quality with the broadest possible access." To advance diversity, equity, and inclusion, Chancellor King has championed expanded access for students from low-income backgrounds, veterans, AmeriCorps alumni, first-generation



fees, books, and supplies for adults ages 25–55 who don’t already have a college degree to pursue an associate’s degree in a high-demand field. Chancellor King has been at the forefront of promoting this transformational opportunity and ensuring that SUNY is ready to help empower eligible New Yorkers to enter the workforce in high-demand careers.

college students, and students from communities with high levels of adversity. The Chancellor ensured the successful implementation of SUNY’s Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion General Education requirement, and relaunched PRODiG+ as a postdoctoral fellowship for faculty from all backgrounds who are committed to diversity, equity, and inclusion. Chancellor King has ensured that SUNY stands firmly against antisemitism, Islamophobia, and other forms of hatred and bigotry—including by requiring Title VI training for all faculty, staff, and student organization leaders.

To ensure economic development and upward mobility for the students SUNY serves, Chancellor King has established the ambitious goal that every undergraduate student will complete an internship or other experiential learning opportunity before they earn their degree. To advance that goal, the Chancellor has overseen the launch of the Chancellor’s Summer Research Excellence Fund, the NYS FAFSA Completion Corps, the Climate Corps, and the Veterans Enrollment and Support Internship Program. In addition, Chancellor King is leading implementation of Governor Hochul’s SUNY Reconnect initiative, which provides free community college tuition,

Before being appointed SUNY Chancellor, Dr. King served in President Barack Obama’s cabinet as the 10th U.S. Secretary of Education. Upon tapping him to lead the U.S. Department of Education, President Obama called Chancellor King “an exceptionally talented educator,” citing his commitment to “preparing every child for success,” and his lifelong dedication to public education as a teacher, principal, and leader of schools and school systems. Following his service as U.S. Secretary of Education, Dr. King was President and CEO of the Education Trust, a national civil rights nonprofit, and served as Professor of the Practice at the University of Maryland College Park.

Before joining President Obama’s cabinet, Chancellor King served as New York State Education Department (SED) Commissioner, and was the first African American and first Puerto Rican to lead in that role. As SED Commissioner, Dr. King oversaw all elementary and secondary schools, as well as public, independent, and proprietary colleges and universities, professional licensure, libraries, museums, and numerous other educational institutions.

Chancellor King holds a Bachelor of Arts in government from Harvard University and a J.D. from Yale Law School, as well

as both a Master of Arts in the teaching of social studies and a doctorate in education from Teachers College at Columbia University.

SUNY BUFFALO STATE COUNCIL

The SUNY Buffalo State Council provides advice to the President and University administration, represents the State of New York and its taxpayers in affirming that the University is fulfilling its public mission, and receives information about university programs, budgets, enrollments, facilities, and student learning. Council members are appointed by the governor and serve seven-year terms. One Buffalo State student member is recommended by faculty and staff and serves on a rotating basis. The statutory areas of responsibility entrusted by the trustees of SUNY to college councils are the development of recommendations for the University presidency should that position become vacant and review and approval of the proposed University budget plan.

SUNY BUFFALO STATE SENATE

The Buffalo State Senate is the official agency through which the University faculty, staff, and students engage in the governance of the institution. The Senate, as a legislative body of representatives, is responsible for review of University policy and procedure and for making recommendations on such matters to the President.

FACULTY AND STAFF COLLECTIVE BARGAINING

Most faculty and staff are represented by United University Professions (UUP) and other collective bargaining units. UUP is the nation’s largest higher education union, representing faculty and professional staff across all the campuses in the SUNY system.



ABOUT BUFFALO, NEW YORK

KNOWN AS THE CITY OF GOOD NEIGHBORS, Buffalo is the second-largest city in New York State with a population of over 273,000. The population of the greater Buffalo Niagara region is roughly 1.2 million. Buffalo boasts commercial, residential, and institutional buildings from some of the most revered architects in American history. One example is the [Richardson Olmsted Campus](#) located in the heart of Buffalo and bordering Buffalo State. Buffalo is home to over 50 private and public art galleries, most notably the [Buffalo AKG Art Museum](#) and Buffalo State's own [Burchfield Penney Art Center](#). Buffalo State collaborates with the [Buffalo Philharmonic Orchestra](#), as well as dramatic presentations, dance, and musical performances offered at venues throughout the city, including Shea's 710 Theatre and the larger arts and music community. Nightlife

in Buffalo centers on the city's entertainment district. Buffalo lies at the eastern end of Lake Erie at the head of the Niagara River. Buffalo offers four beautiful seasons with vibrant fall foliage, snow-globe winters, blossoming springtimes, and moderate summer temperatures. The [Buffalo Waterfront](#) offers a variety of outdoor activities, entertainment, museums, and dining venues. Buffalo has two major professional sports teams, the Buffalo Bills (National Football League) and the Buffalo Sabres (National Hockey League), and Buffalo is also home to the Buffalo Bandits (National Lacrosse League) and Buffalo Bisons (Triple-A baseball). Buffalo is a 25-minute drive from Niagara Falls, two hours from Toronto, and three hours from Cleveland. To learn more about the city of Buffalo, please visit <https://visitbuffalo.com>.



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.

WittKieffer is assisting Buffalo State University in this search.

For fullest consideration, candidate materials should be received by January 16, 2026.

Application materials should be submitted using [WittKieffer's Candidate Portal](#).

Nominations and inquiries can be directed to:
Greg Duyck, Ashlee Musser, and Sarah Seavey
BuffaloStatePresident@wittkieffer.com

SUNY Buffalo State University ("Buffalo State") is committed to maintaining a learning and workplace environment free from sexual harassment and unlawful discrimination. In its continuing effort to seek equity in education and employment, and in support of federal and state anti-discrimination legislation, Buffalo State has adopted this complaint procedure for the prompt and equitable investigation and resolution of allegations of unlawful discrimination on the basis of age, race, creed, color, national origin, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, military status, sex, disability, predisposing genetic characteristics, familial status, marital status, domestic violence victim status, or criminal conviction. Harassment on the basis of the above-protected categories is one form of unlawful discrimination. Buffalo State will take steps to prevent discrimination and harassment, to prevent the recurrence of discrimination and harassment, and to remedy its discriminatory effects on the victim(s) and others, if appropriate. Sex discrimination includes sexual harassment and sexual and interpersonal violence and may be addressed under this policy or the campus's Title IX policy, depending on whether the alleged conduct meets the definition found at 34 CFR § 106.30. Retaliation against a person who files a complaint, serves as a witness, or assists or participates in any manner in this procedure is strictly prohibited and may result in disciplinary action.



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