



## Vice President for Enrollment Management

### Leadership Profile

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*Prepared by Jim King III, Shelley Arakawa, J.D., and Ashlee Musser*



**WittKieffer**

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## Executive Summary

Case Western Reserve University, one of the nation's leading research universities, seeks an experienced, forward-thinking, solution-oriented, and collaborative leader to serve as Vice President for Enrollment Management (VPEM).

Located in Cleveland, Ohio, Case Western Reserve University (CWRU) is among the country's leading independent private research institutions and a member of the Association of American Universities (AAU) since 1969. In the fall of 2025, the university enrolled 6,534 undergraduate students and 5,854 graduate and professional students. CWRU's 267-acre campus is in the heart of Cleveland's University Circle, one of the nation's top arts districts and within walking distance of three major hospitals. Under the leadership of CWRU President Eric W. Kaler, the university is guided by three institutional priorities: to elevate academic excellence, expand the research enterprise and enhance community engagement and impact.

Case Western Reserve University is ranked among the most prestigious institutions in the world for its academic, research, and commercial success. The university is ranked #27 out of 500 in *TIME* Magazine's World's Top Universities of 2026, which examines how universities shape graduates' trajectories in innovation, leadership, earnings and public contribution over time, and is #17 in the United States. In the 2026 *U.S. News & World Report* Best Colleges, CWRU is #51 among national universities in the United States, #33 for first-year experiences, #33 for undergraduate research/creative projects, #56 in Best Value Schools, and #28 in Best Colleges for Veterans.

Case Western Reserve University is a force in higher education. With programs spanning the arts and sciences, engineering, health sciences, law, management, and social work, CWRU's research and educational opportunities allow students, faculty, staff, and alumni to tackle today's toughest problems—and transform the future. Applications for undergraduate admissions have grown by 18% since fall 2021, and undergraduate enrollment has increased 13% during the same period. With research expenditures increasing by more than 52% in recent years, CWRU has become the fastest-growing university in the AAU. As the university celebrates its bicentennial in 2026, it will mark the occasion with the opening of a new \$300 million Interdisciplinary Science and Engineering Building, intended to foster greater collaboration across disciplines to improve the world.

The Vice President of Enrollment Management is a respected and integral campus leader who will report to the provost and executive vice president, serve on the President's Council, and have substantial contact and communication with the president and members of the Board of Trustees, in addition to working closely with administrators, deans, and faculty members. CWRU seeks a new VPEM to accelerate the university's momentum. In particular, the VPEM will be asked to develop and implement an enrollment strategy that advances CWRU's aspirations, engages university partners, elevates the CWRU brand, empowers and develops a talented and committed team, enhances partnerships that expand access, and leverages technology to strengthen enrollment strategy and outcomes.

The successful candidate will be an experienced, well-networked enrollment management professional who can identify emerging opportunities, challenges, and threats and connect them to enrollment strategies that enable an institution to achieve its aspirations. The VPEM will have a demonstrated track record in balancing the mix of student disciplinary interests, net tuition revenue goals, and discount rate expectations. Assets for this role include experience in leading enrollment efforts at a highly selective, tuition-driven institution; an appreciation of CWRU's profile as a leading national research university, interdisciplinary spirit, academic rigor, and student-centered culture; and knowledge of marketing practices to elevate an institution's brand and positively impact enrollment. The VPEM will be a superb communicator who can effectively represent the institution to a wide array of constituents, facilitate information sharing with colleagues, and actively engage in open and honest dialogue. Experience with data analysis and predictive modeling to guide enrollment strategy and the ability to harness technology, including AI, will be essential for success. The VPEM will also be an exceptional collaborator – a relationship builder and team player who is open to and values the work and contribution of colleagues. As the leader of over 40 staff in the Enrollment Management Division, the VPEM will need to be adept at identifying talent, empowering a team to be strategic, data-oriented, and forward-thinking, and fostering opportunities for professional growth and development.

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

## Role of the Vice President for Enrollment Management

The Vice President for Enrollment Management is a critical leadership position within this leading research university, deeply committed to developing the leaders and innovators of the future. The individual will report directly to the provost and serve on the provost's senior leadership team. In addition, the Vice President for Enrollment Management is a member of the President's Council, a group that includes deans and vice presidents, meeting once each in the fall and spring semester. Finally, the position involves substantial contact and communication with the President and members of the Board of Trustees. The VPEM is also a campus leader, working closely with administrators, deans, and faculty members to develop and achieve the university's strategic enrollment objectives and aspirations.

The Vice President for Enrollment Management oversees a staff of over 40 across Undergraduate Admissions, Financial Aid, and Orientation and New Student Transitions. The operating budget for the division is approximately \$11 million, and the VPEM oversees the distribution of nearly \$201 million in financial aid.

Reporting to and working closely with the VPEM are the following direct reports:

- Assistant Vice President for Enrollment and Dean of Undergraduate Admission
- Director of Financial Aid
- Director of Enrollment Operations
- Director of Recruitment & Strategic Initiatives
- Regional Admission Counselor (India)



The VPEM's responsibilities include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Work collaboratively with senior leadership and office professionals to identify enrollment priorities and develop strategies to realize them.
- Involve admissions and financial aid professionals in creating mutually supportive and accountable culture.
- Present regularly to campus audiences regarding the university's efforts in enrollment management.
- Effectively communicate the value of campus and alumni chapter involvement in student recruitment.
- Assess and share conclusions regarding demographic and other trends likely to impact the university's enrollment efforts.
- Act proactively to meet challenges and seize opportunities in the admissions landscape.
- Foster cooperation among university offices critical to enrollment and retention.

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## Enrollment Management at Case Western Reserve University

The Division of Enrollment Management at Case Western Reserve University ensures the university's continued excellence by identifying, recruiting, enrolling, and retaining high-achieving and motivated students. Through each phase of enrollment—including knowledgeable admission counseling, strategic outreach, attentive operations management, a welcoming experience for first-year students and their families, and competitive financial aid programs that support undergraduate students throughout their Case Western Reserve careers—the division encourages talented students from around the globe to join the CWRU community.

Case Western Reserve University is a dynamic institution with a thriving academic community. In Fall 2025, the university enrolled 12,398 students, including 11,267 full-time and 1,131 part-time learners. The undergraduate population totals 6,534 students, while 2,323 graduate students pursue advanced degrees in fields such as arts and sciences, engineering, and biomedical sciences. Additionally, 3,541 students are enrolled in professional programs, including law, medicine, nursing, dental medicine, management, and applied social sciences. This engaged student body reflects CWRU's commitment to academic excellence, innovation, and interdisciplinary collaboration.

A link to additional enrollment data can be found [here](#).

### Office of Undergraduate Admission

The Office of Undergraduate Admissions provides a holistic, personalized admissions experience that reflects the university's core values. The team emphasizes five guiding principles:

- **Focused:** recruiting students who thrive among high-achieving peers and benefit from a strong alumni network
- **Inquisitive:** fostering learning through research, service, and innovation
- **Gutsy:** encouraging entrepreneurial ventures and global opportunities
- **Genuine:** promoting authentic community engagement through broad range of campus activities
- **Boundless:** leveraging the university's location in Cleveland's University Circle for unique cultural and institutional partnerships.

The office manages all aspects of the application process, including test-optional policies and pathways for first-year, transfer, international, and rural applicants, as well as special programs like pre-professional scholars and College Credit Plus. Admissions counselors and leadership, including the Vice President for Enrollment Management and the Assistant Vice President for Enrollment and Dean of Undergraduate Admission, provide guidance and support through phone, email, and personalized outreach. Prospective students can connect through campus tours, virtual visits, and information sessions, ensuring applicants receive comprehensive resources throughout their decision-making journey.

CWRU offers several undergraduate application deadlines: Early Action and Early Decision I, Pre-Professional Scholars Program (PPSP), Early Decision II, Regular Decision, and Spring term. To apply, students use the Common Application or the Coalition Application via Scoir and submit transcripts, optional SAT/ACT scores, essays, recommendations, and any program-specific materials.

The [CWRU in Madrid](#) program is designed for first-year students who spend their fall semester at Universidad Carlos III of Madrid before returning to Cleveland in the spring. Admission occurs during the standard first-year application process, and selected students must complete study-abroad requirements, such as a housing deposit, by early June and comply with visa, enrollment, and advising deadlines via their student portals.

The Pre-Professional Scholars Program (PPSP) grants conditional admission to Case Western Reserve's School of Medicine or Dental Medicine. Applicants indicate interest in PPSP when applying via Regular Decision or Early Decision I. The program seeks outstanding high-school candidates and requires rigorous academic credentials, leadership experience, and extracurricular involvement. Even if not selected, students may still be considered for regular undergraduate admission.

Admission to Case Western Reserve University is highly competitive. For the first-year class entering in Fall 2025, the university received 39,320 applications, admitted 13,878 students (an acceptance rate of 35%), and enrolled 1,663 (a 12% yield). The incoming class demonstrates strong academic achievement, with middle 50% SAT scores ranging from 1,440 to 1,530 and ACT composites between 32 and 35. 70% of enrolled students ranked in the top 10% of their high school class, and 90% ranked in the top 20%. Students' intended majors include engineering (34%), math and natural sciences (27%), arts, humanities, and social sciences (10%), management (8%), nursing (7%), and pre-professional programs (13%). With CWRU's single-door admission policy, once a student is admitted, they can explore the entire catalog of academic offerings across schools of engineering, nursing, and management, as well as the College of Arts & Sciences.

Outcomes for CWRU undergraduates are impressive. For the Class of 2024, nearly half of graduates secured full-time employment and another 42% chose to pursue advanced education. One-third of the students who opted to continue their education did so at CWRU, demonstrating strong confidence in the university's academic offerings and research opportunities. Graduates show particular readiness for medical school—students in the Class of 2024 had a 73% acceptance rate for MD programs (compared to 47% nationally). In addition, 100% of the Class of 2024 who applied to professional programs in dentistry, physician assistant, physical therapy, optometry, pharmacy and law were admitted to top schools.

## Office of Financial Aid

The [Office of University Financial Aid](#) consists of two offices: University Financial Aid and the Office of Student Employment. The department processes financial aid for undergraduates, graduates, and professional students.

Case Western Reserve University meets 100% of demonstrated financial need for admitted domestic undergraduates. Students qualify for aid by applying with the FAFSA and CSS Profile. More than 80% of undergraduates receive financial aid, including over \$500 million in institutional scholarships, reflecting the university's dedication to affordability and student financial success, helping to offset the cost of attendance.

## Office of Orientation and New Student Transitions

The [Office of Orientation and New Student Transitions](#) plays a vital role in welcoming and supporting new undergraduate students and their families as they begin their academic journey at Case Western Reserve University. Through programs like Discover Week, the office provides resources, guidance, and engaging experiences that help students transition smoothly into university life. From academic preparation and campus involvement to community-building activities, the team ensures every student feels connected and prepared to thrive. Orientation leaders and professional staff work collaboratively to create inclusive, meaningful experiences that foster a sense of belonging and set the foundation for success.

## Faculty Senate Admissions and Financial Aid Subcommittee

The [Faculty Senate Admissions and Financial Aid Subcommittee](#) is a standing subcommittee of the Faculty Senate that reviews cases that fall outside the normal parameters of admission. The subcommittee serves as a critical link between faculty and administrative leadership, ensuring that enrollment practices align with the university's mission and uphold principles of fairness and transparency. The VPEM is an ex-officio member and co-chairs the subcommittee. The dean of admissions and director of financial aid are also ex-officio members of the subcommittee.

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## Opportunities and Expectations for Leadership

The new Vice President for Enrollment Management will join the university at a critical moment in its history as Case Western Reserve University celebrates its bicentennial in 2026 and continues to advance President Kaler's three institutional priorities. The successful candidate will be a thought leader who partners with institutional leaders to enhance CWRU's impact locally, nationally, and globally.

Specifically, the VPEM will be asked to address the following critical and interrelated leadership themes during the first 18 to 24 months of their tenure. They are not listed in any particular order of significance:

### Develop and implement an enrollment management strategy that advances CWRU's aspirations

Case Western Reserve University is a community created to be a force in the world. As the university aims to be recognized internationally as an institution that imagines and influences the future, it will be able to build upon a strong foundation of excellence: first-year undergraduate applications have increased 18% over the last five years, and undergraduate enrollment has grown from 5,792 in fall 2021 when President Kaler first took office to 6,534 in fall 2025. CWRU seeks a new VPEM with experience, political acumen, and a collaborative style to establish a long-term vision for enrollment management that reflects CWRU's tradition of innovation and willingness to be a force in the world. Central to the VPEM's success will be the ability to:

- **Create a student body that accelerates breakthroughs:** CWRU isn't just a place that requires multiple perspectives; it demands them. CWRU is a university where the productive collision of ideas fuels the university's purpose to create energy, movement, and breakthroughs. The VPEM will employ innovative and aggressive strategies to ensure that CWRU has the breadth of perspectives needed to foster collective innovation. As competition for talent intensifies, the VPEM will need to revise how CWRU continues to enroll international students, achieve a more balanced distribution of academic majors, and reach a broader student population that brings varied life experiences and perspectives to campus.
- **Align resources for greatest impact:** University Relations and Development has been successful in raising over \$288 million in scholarships following the end of CWRU's last capital campaign, and student scholarships and programming have a prime focus in the upcoming campaign. Attention must be given to the complex priorities of managing the discount rate, optimizing net tuition revenue, and enrolling a student body of the quality, size, and experience expected and desired by CWRU. The VPEM will ensure that financial aid strategies are grounded in data, aligned with strategic priorities, and enhance CWRU's financial strength now and into the future.
- **Optimize yield and retention:** The VPEM will bring the skill and creativity that will improve yield and increase retention by employing effective predictive modeling and robust and rigorous data analysis to identify and enroll purpose-driven students and serious scholars who recognize that CWRU's unique resources and spaces—such as Sears Think[box], Samson Pavilion, and the new Celia Scott Weatherhead Leadership Institute—can fuel their drive, vision, and curiosity. The VPEM will empower the enrollment staff to develop nuanced communications and events that demonstrate the inextricable link between the CWRU culture and community and students' ability to make an impact on the world.
- **Anticipate and plan for the future:** The VPEM will be able to identify and respond to trends in student interest and expectations to identify opportunities for program innovation and new markets. The VPEM must be willing to take calculated risks in refining existing strategies and be bold in initiating new ones that further shape the class strategically and leverage CWRU's strengths.

## Engage university partners as a collaborative leader

While the new VPEN must be an especially strong operational enrollment manager, the heart of this role lies at the strategic level. President Kaler, Provost Ward, and campus leadership will welcome a collaborative partner and communicator to provide strategic thought and planning that is both agile and entrepreneurial to guide CWRU's enrollment management strategies. To that end, frequent and open communication with the president and provost in both planning and execution of strategies will be critical. As part of that effort, the VPEN will work closely with leaders from every division to create synergies for enhanced collaboration.

The VPEN will be connected in the profession and knowledgeable about the trends, opportunities, and challenges that will inform campus discussions about the mix of students across the majors, the advancement of thriving disciplines as well as new areas for interdisciplinary excellence, the impact of federal and state policy changes on CWRU, and the adjustments to current enrollment policies, practices, and procedures that may be necessary to maintain forward momentum, advance the University's mission, and stay ahead of the competition.

## Elevate the CWRU brand

University Marketing and Communications (UMC) has developed and activated a brand strategy to better position the university publicly and within the higher education community. The VPEN will play an integral role in helping to implement that strategy for external audiences, coordinating with the vice president for marketing and communications to bring bold, creative ideas and forward-thinking strategies about the use of existing and emerging technologies and various media platforms to elevate the reputation of CWRU and convey a clear and compelling narrative of the university's impact on students.



The VPEN will be an effective storyteller – someone who can harness market data to shape strategic direction, is knowledgeable about CWRU's academic programs, and can weave together connections for students and families so they can visualize the progress and possibilities that await them at CWRU. The VPEN will build the capacity of enrollment staff to think strategically about how to communicate with clarity, intention, focus, and meaningful detail to share the story of CWRU in ways that have maximum impact on college choice. On-campus experiences and recruitment events are integral in illustrating CWRU's energy, momentum, and interdisciplinary strengths. The VPEN will partner with campus leaders to reimagine campus tours, orientation, and events that gather educators and professional colleagues who influence students' college choices.

## Empower and develop a talented and committed team

The university's increase in applications has been phenomenal and has elevated CWRU's prominence. The work of the Enrollment Management Division has been a leading factor in that effort, and the VPEN will enhance the growth and development of their staff in the same way that the staff has invested in the institution's growth and contributed to its success.

The VPEM will assess organizational structures and workflows, evaluate processes, advocate for appropriate resources, and strengthen a collaborative, result-driven work culture to prevent burnout and position staff for sustained success. The new leader will also enhance staff members' abilities to leverage data, predictive analytics, AI, and other existing and emerging technologies.

The VPEM will be an accomplished manager who provides clear direction, vision, and advocacy for the division's work; fosters staff engagement; and ensures a positive team culture. The VPEM will enhance each unit's connection to the larger enrollment management strategy and to each other, and will communicate with frequency and candor regarding the university's aspirations, helping staff members understand how their work contributes to those goals. Equally important will be the ability to balance competing priorities and promote a culture of nimbleness. The VPEM will embody an ethos of authenticity and humility, has a sense of humor, and be committed to the personal and professional growth of the staff; bring innovative ideas and creativity as well as listen thoughtfully and generously with a deep desire to understand various viewpoints; approach sensitive issues with openness, transparency, and mutual respect; and be action-oriented, maintaining a strong sense of progress, optimism, and forward momentum.

As the landscape for research-intensive universities continues to evolve and enrollment management becomes increasingly competitive, approaches to addressing challenges and capitalizing on opportunities need to iterate. The VPEM must lead with a vision that prioritizes both the success and growth of the university and the enrollment management team. The VPEM will identify and create opportunities for team members to expand their knowledge in ways that enable them to better perform in their current roles and that prepare them to advance in their own careers.

### **Enhance partnerships that expand access**

Partnerships with the Small Town and Rural Students (STARS) College Network, the POSSE Foundation, QuestBridge, and United World Colleges have enabled CWRU to attract and enroll outstanding students from around the world who might not otherwise apply because of concerns about cost. Additionally, the Cleveland Scholars Program covers the entire cost of attendance and provides funding for mentored, paid on-campus research or internship experiences for accepted students from the Cleveland Metropolitan School District and East Cleveland City Schools, reflecting the university's commitment to the local community. The VPEM will nurture these important relationships and explore partnerships with other organizations, institutions, and entities that can support CWRU's efforts to provide access to an educational experience that improves and enriches people's lives.

### **Leverage technology to strengthen enrollment strategy and outcomes**

As enrollment management shifts from growth to precision, the VPEM will lead the intentional development and deployment of AI-enabled tools to enhance decision-making across the full admissions and recruiting lifecycle. Building on strong institutional investment in digital infrastructure and web presence, the VPEM will ensure that predictive analytics, modeling, and emerging technologies are used to better understand student demand, price sensitivity, yield behavior, and discount dynamics. The VPEM will guide the responsible integration of AI into recruitment, financial aid strategy, communications, and forecasting to support qualitative enrollment goals, manage discount rate pressures, and respond nimbly to domestic and international market shifts. Equally important, the VPEM will cultivate staff fluency and confidence in using these tools, embedding AI into everyday workflows while preserving human judgment, ethical practice, and high-touch engagement. Through this work, the VPEM will position enrollment management as both analytically rigorous and strategically bold, ensuring the institution continues to compete in a complex and rapidly evolving landscape.

## Measures of Success for the Vice President for Enrollment Management Position

At an appropriate interval after joining CWRU, the following items will define success for the new VPEM.

- The VPEM has earned the trust and confidence of the president, provost, the cabinet, board of trustees, academic leadership, faculty, staff, and institutional partners.
- A vision for enrollment management has been articulated in which university stakeholders see their needs and aspirations reflected and embraced and galvanize members of the campus community in the execution of strategies and tactics that advance institutional goals.
- Collaborative and positive relationships with all aspects of the campus community, including students, faculty, and staff, have been established, along with a reputation for close partnership with constituents in listening, understanding their needs, and exhibiting transparent leadership.
- Enrollment management strategies that enable CWRU to meet expectations around student body quality, mix of students, discount rate, and net tuition revenue goals.
- The Enrollment Management Division functions as a high-performing, strategic, and innovative team that combines the strengths of the distinct units into a cohesive force aimed at achieving institutional aspirations and serving students and their families.
- The new VPEM is a visible and engaged member of the CWRU, Cleveland and Northeast Ohio communities.



## Professional Qualifications and Personal Qualities

Case Western Reserve University seeks an experienced, forward-thinking, solution-oriented, and highly collaborative leader who can build trust across CWRU's constituent groups and adeptly manage complex, intersecting priorities while maintaining forward momentum. The new VPEM will possess the ability to develop and implement a compelling vision for an institution, anticipate challenges and opportunities, and lead through change with creativity, strategic focus, and resilience, as well as demonstrate most, if not all, of the following professional qualifications and personal qualities:

- **Institutional alignment:** A genuine commitment to and enthusiasm for Case Western Reserve University's mission and its distinctive strengths and ambitions, including its profile as a leading national research university, interdisciplinary spirit, academic rigor, and student-centered culture; understanding of the opportunities and challenges of operating within a dynamic urban environment and ability to clearly and compellingly convey the unique value, character, and possibilities of the location and a CWRU education.
- **Proven effectiveness and expertise in strategic enrollment management:** Progressive leadership in enrollment management, including recruitment, admissions, financial aid, student accounts, and orientation; demonstrated track record in successfully balancing the mix of students and their disciplinary interests, net tuition revenue goals, and discount rate expectations; experience in leading enrollment efforts at a highly selective, tuition-driven institution with a varied competitor set; proven skill in integrating forward-thinking and creative marketing practices to elevate an institution's brand and positively impact enrollment; ability to lead with vision, confidence, humility and a sense of humor; a well-networked professional who brings a keen sense of best practice, competitive intelligence, and insights into regional, national, and global trends affecting students' college choice and behavior.
- **Collaborative leadership:** Ability to build trust among team members and strong relationships across multiple constituencies; proven record as an effective leader working in collaborative, team-oriented environments; demonstrated commitment to shared governance, building enduring partnerships across the university; willingness to share information and engage in open and honest dialogue.
- **Leadership and management skills:** Demonstrated track record of leading an institution to achieve strategic enrollment goals while adapting to trends and changes in the higher education landscape; effective at motivating and inspiring colleagues; skill in anticipating emerging opportunities, challenges, and threats and connecting those to enrollment strategies; adept at identifying talent and empowering a team to be strategic, data oriented, and forward-thinking; a record of fostering an environment that reflects a high level of customer service, student centeredness, inclusive decision making, transparency, and collaboration; a commitment to facilitating opportunities for professional growth and development.
- **Analytical acumen and technology savvy:** Experience with data analysis and predictive modeling to guide enrollment strategy, optimize net tuition revenue, and increase retention and other student success outcomes; proven success at harnessing technology – including AI – in inventive and productive to improve efficiency, increase access, and enhance reach.



- **Exceptional communication:** Excellent oral and written communication skills; the ability to represent the institution clearly, credibly, and persuasively to a wide range of internal and external audiences; skill in interpreting enrollment concepts, data, and analysis to facilitate an understanding of the complex enrollment management landscape and alignment with institutional priorities; a commitment to thoughtful, consistent, sincere, and frank communication.
- **Personal Qualities:** Optimistic, positive, and excited about new opportunities and change; a competitive professional who is ambitious, scrappy, hungry, and results oriented; empathetic, curious, and an active listener who is eager to learn; a relationship builder and team player who is open to and values the work and contributions of colleagues; highly responsive, nimble, agile, and able to adapt to external pressures with grace and calm; innovative, imaginative, and able introduce new ideas to shape strategy.
- **Credentials:** Bachelor's degree required; master's degree preferred.



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# About Case Western Reserve University

## Overview

As one of the fastest-growing research universities in the United States, Case Western Reserve University is a force in career-defining education and life-changing research. Across our campus, more than 12,000 students from around the world converge to seek knowledge, find solutions and accelerate their impact. CWRU's programs span a wide range of fields, but the spaces of their convergence are where we thrive: where law meets management, engineering meets entrepreneurship, arts meets science, and medicine, nursing, dentistry and social work unite to improve human health. And with our location in Cleveland, Ohio—a hub of cultural, business and healthcare activity—our students gain unparalleled access to academic, research, clinical and entrepreneurial opportunities that prepare them to join our network of more than 128,000 alumni worldwide.

The university is a member of the prestigious Association of American Universities (AAU) and is fully accredited by the Higher Learning Commission and by several nationally recognized professional accrediting associations. In 2026, the university celebrates its bicentennial and rich history as an impactful and influential institution of education and research.

## Priorities

Since Eric W. Kaler joined the university as president in July 2021, CWRU has been guided by three priorities:

- Elevate academic excellence
- Expand the university's research enterprise
- Enhance community engagement and impact

## Academics

At Case Western Reserve University, learning and discovery are central to the institution's mission. The university boasts over 100 undergraduate programs, as well as approximately 160 graduate and professional programs and more than 145 dual-degree programs, offered at the following schools:

- [Case School of Engineering](#)
- [College of Arts and Sciences](#)
- [Frances Payne Bolton School of Nursing](#)
- [Jack, Joseph and Morton Mandel School of Applied Social Sciences](#)
- [School of Dental Medicine](#)
- [School of Law](#)
- [School of Medicine](#)
- [Weatherhead School of Management](#)

## Research

Case Western Reserve is committed to increasing its impact on regional, national and global health, systems, policies and economies through translational research.

Our faculty and research staff share common goals: to solve problems, break boundaries and make a positive impact on the world. With growth in annual research expenditures from nearly \$422 million in FY 2021 to nearly \$643 million in FY 2024, Case Western Reserve University is the fastest-growing AAU-member university in the country, based on National Science Foundation HERD Survey data. Students at all levels play a critical role in our

research, with undergraduates in their first semester working alongside doctoral students on meaningful projects that advance understanding.

The three critical components to the university's research ecosystem include: discovery and innovation at the Interdisciplinary Science and Engineering Building (opening in October 2026); design and prototyping at Sears think[box], the country's largest open-access innovation center and makerspace; and translation and commercialization at the 11000 Cedar Avenue Incubator.

## Student Enrollment, Faculty and Staff

In fall 2025, CWRU welcomed its largest-ever first-year class of 1,663 undergraduate students, with a total undergraduate enrollment of more than 6,500 students and a graduate and professional enrollment of nearly 5,900 students. Applications for undergraduate admissions have grown by 18% over the last five years; undergraduate enrollment has increased 13% during the same period. The total faculty at CWRU comprises nearly 1,200 full-time board-appointed faculty members and more than 3,200 full-time and part-time staff members.

## Rankings

CWRU is ranked #27 in TIME Magazine's World's Top Universities of 2026, which examines how universities shape graduates' trajectories in innovation, leadership, earnings and public contribution over time. In the 2026 *U.S. News & World Report's* Best Colleges list, the university is ranked #51. Also, the university is ranked #38 in the world for contributions to innovation and #13 in the country for translating research into commercial success. And in the 2025 Centre for Science and Technology Studies Leiden Ranking, which rates the scientific performance of universities worldwide, CWRU ranked #84 in the world and #22 in the U.S. across all sciences.



## Financial Information

The university is on strong financial footing, thanks to an approach that is disciplined and strategic. The university finished with a financial surplus in FY 2025, the 18th consecutive year that CWRU has finished a fiscal year operating overall with a positive margin. For FY 2026, the university reported an operating budget of \$1.520 billion. The market value of endowment funds as of June 30, 2025, was \$2.520 billion.

## Philanthropy

The university continues to receive extraordinary support from alumni and donors. Two of the past three years have ranked among the best in Case Western Reserve's history for philanthropy, with FY 2024 setting an all-time record of nearly \$211 million in gifts. Among these successes, fundraising for the Interdisciplinary Science and Engineering Building (ISEB) has been particularly impressive. Since launching in July 2022, the university has raised more than \$118.6 million for this 189,000-square-foot facility dedicated exclusively to cross-disciplinary research and discovery—surpassing the original \$80 million goal well before the building's October 2024

groundbreaking. Scholarship support has also remained a priority; since January 2019, nearly \$288 million has been raised to provide transformative opportunities for students.

## Mission

Case Western Reserve University improves and enriches people's lives through research that capitalizes on the power of collaboration, and education that dramatically engages students.

The university realizes this goal through:

- Scholarship and creative endeavor that draws on all forms of inquiry.
- Learning that is active, creative, and continuous.
- Promotion of an inclusive culture of global citizenship.

## Vision

CWRU aims to be recognized internationally as an institution that imagines and influences the future. Toward that end, the university will:

- Support the advancement of thriving disciplines, as well as new areas of interdisciplinary excellence.
- Provide students with the knowledge, skills, and experiences necessary to become leaders in a world characterized by rapid change and increasing interdependence.
- Nurture a community of exceptional scholars who are cooperative and collegial, functioning in an atmosphere distinguished by support, mentoring, and inclusion.
- Pursue distinctive opportunities to build on CWRU's special features, including relationships with world-class health care, cultural, educational, and scientific institutions in University Circle and across greater Cleveland.



## Core Values

### Academic Excellence and Impact

- Eminence in teaching and research
- Scholarship that changes lives and deepens understanding
- Creativity and innovation as hallmarks of CWRU's efforts

### Inclusiveness and Diversity

- Civility and the free exchange of ideas
- Civic and international engagement
- Appreciation for the distinct perspectives and talents of each individual

### Integrity and Transparency

- Academic freedom and responsibility
- Ethical behavior
- Shared governance

### Effective Stewardship

- Strong, ongoing financial planning
- Emphasis on sustainability
- Systems that support the attainment of CWRU's mission



## Leadership

### Eric W. Kaler, PhD, President



Eric W. Kaler became president of Case Western Reserve University on July 1, 2021. Previously, he served as university president at the University of Minnesota for eight years. Since joining Case Western Reserve, Kaler's focus has been on growing and improving the undergraduate program, building research productivity, and connecting to the university community.

An accomplished chemical engineer and visionary university leader, Kaler's career in higher education spans more than 40 years. President Kaler has significant expertise in elevating research, expanding fundraising, forming collaborative partnerships, encouraging entrepreneurship and advocating for access to education for all.

Kaler holds 10 patents and has published more than 200 peer-reviewed papers. In addition to election to the National Academy of Engineering and the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, Kaler is a fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, the American Chemical Society, and the Neutron Scattering Society of America. He was a member of the inaugural class of the National Academy of Inventors. He also serves on the Board of Directors of the Greater Cleveland Partnership and the Board of Trustees of The Cleveland Orchestra.

Born in Vermont, Kaler is a first-generation college graduate who earned his bachelor's degree in chemical engineering from the California Institute of Technology and his PhD in chemical engineering from the University of Minnesota.

### Joy K. Ward, PhD, Provost and Executive Vice President



Joy K. Ward has been provost and executive vice president of Case Western Reserve University since July 1, 2023. Previously, she served as dean to the College of Arts and Sciences. Ward also is an internationally recognized researcher who has published many peer-reviewed research articles on how plants respond to rising atmospheric carbon dioxide and changing climate.

As provost, Ward leads the Faculty 100 initiative, which aims to add 100 net new faculty to the university by 2028. She also leads the university's A.I. in Education initiative to enable responsible use of A.I. in teaching and learning, and the Enhancing Civility and Connection initiative to elevate civil discourse on campus. In addition, she oversaw the launch of a restructured Undergraduate Advising Support Office and implementation of new Undergraduate General Education Requirements. In her role as dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, she increased research expenditures and achieved record-breaking fundraising to support the arts, humanities and sciences.

Ward is a past recipient of the Presidential Early Career Award for Scientists and Engineers from the White House and a CAREER award from the National Science Foundation. She also is a past fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science. She serves on the external advisory committee for the Earth and Biological Sciences Directorate at the Pacific Northwest National Laboratory, and she is a member of the board of directors of Holden Forests and Gardens.

Ward received her Bachelor of Science degree from Penn State University and her master's and PhD degrees from Duke University in biology.

## The Community

### Cleveland, Ohio

Ranked as one of the country's most livable cities—and especially a great place for young professionals—Cleveland is a mid-sized city that gets high marks for its:

- Thriving healthcare and biotechnology industries
- Lively arts and cultural scene
- Low cost of living
- Four-seasons climate
- Wealth of natural resources



Cleveland often is hailed in the press as an exceptional dining city, and it has long been renowned for its arts scenes in neighborhoods such as Tremont, Ohio City/Hingetown, and Collinwood. From the theater at Karamu House and indie concerts at the Beachland Ballroom to The Cleveland International Film Festival, Friday-night polka-rock in Gordon Square and Saturday-morning shopping at the West Side Market, to walks and hikes in the Cleveland Metroparks, opportunities abound for a busy life. Moreover, CWRU is less than five miles from Playhouse Square, the country's largest performing arts center outside of New York City.

Want to cheer on a team in the stands rather than catch a show? The Cleveland Cavaliers basketball team, Cleveland Browns football team, and Cleveland Guardians baseball team all play in venues downtown. In addition, each year during commencement, graduates and their families can see the Cleveland Marathon racing through the city.

### University Circle

Just minutes away from downtown, University Circle comprises 550 park-like acres in a vibrant urban environment. CWRU's campus is just a short walk to some of Cleveland and University Circle's most outstanding destinations:

- [Cleveland Orchestra at Severance Hall](#)
- [Cleveland Museum of Art](#)
- [Cleveland Botanical Garden](#)
- [Museum of Contemporary Art Cleveland](#)
- [Cleveland Museum of Natural History](#)



### Links to Additional Information

- [Office of the President](#)
- [President Eric W. Kaler](#)
- [Board of Trustees](#)
- [Provost Joy K. Ward](#)
- [Faculty and Staff Composition and Trends](#)
- [Institutional Accreditation](#)
- [2025 State of the University](#)
- [CWRU Bicentennial Website](#)

## Procedure for Candidacy

WittKieffer is assisting Case Western Reserve University in this search. 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. Candidates will be considered until an appointment has been made. For fullest consideration, candidates are encouraged to submit their materials as soon as possible.

*Please submit all applications, nominations, and inquiries to the search team through the [WittKieffer Candidate Portal by clicking here](#). New users should select “**Register Here**” to create an account before proceeding. After logging in, navigate to “**Open Positions**” and locate the role by entering the institution’s name and clicking on the search wheel.*

Nominations and inquiries can be directed to:

Jim King III, Shelley Arakawa, J.D., and Ashlee Musser

[CWRU-VP@wittkieffer.com](mailto:CWRU-VP@wittkieffer.com)

*The annual starting base salary range for this position is from \$350,000-\$380,000. CWRU considers factors such as (but not limited to) scope and responsibilities of the position, candidate’s work experience, education/training, key skills, internal peer equity, as well as market and organizational considerations when extending an offer. University employees enjoy a comprehensive benefits package that includes excellent healthcare, retirement plans, tuition assistance, and paid time off.*

*Case Western Reserve University is an equal opportunity employer. All applicants are protected under federal and state laws and university policy from discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, national or ethnic origin, protected veteran status, disability, age and genetic information.*

*.Case Western Reserve University complies with the Americans with Disabilities Act regarding reasonable accommodations for applicants with disabilities. Applicants requiring a reasonable accommodation for any part of the application and hiring process should contact the CWRU Office of Equity at 216-368-3066 or by email at [equity@case.edu](mailto:equity@case.edu) to request a reasonable accommodation. Determinations as to granting reasonable accommodations for any applicants will be made on a case-by-case basis.*



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