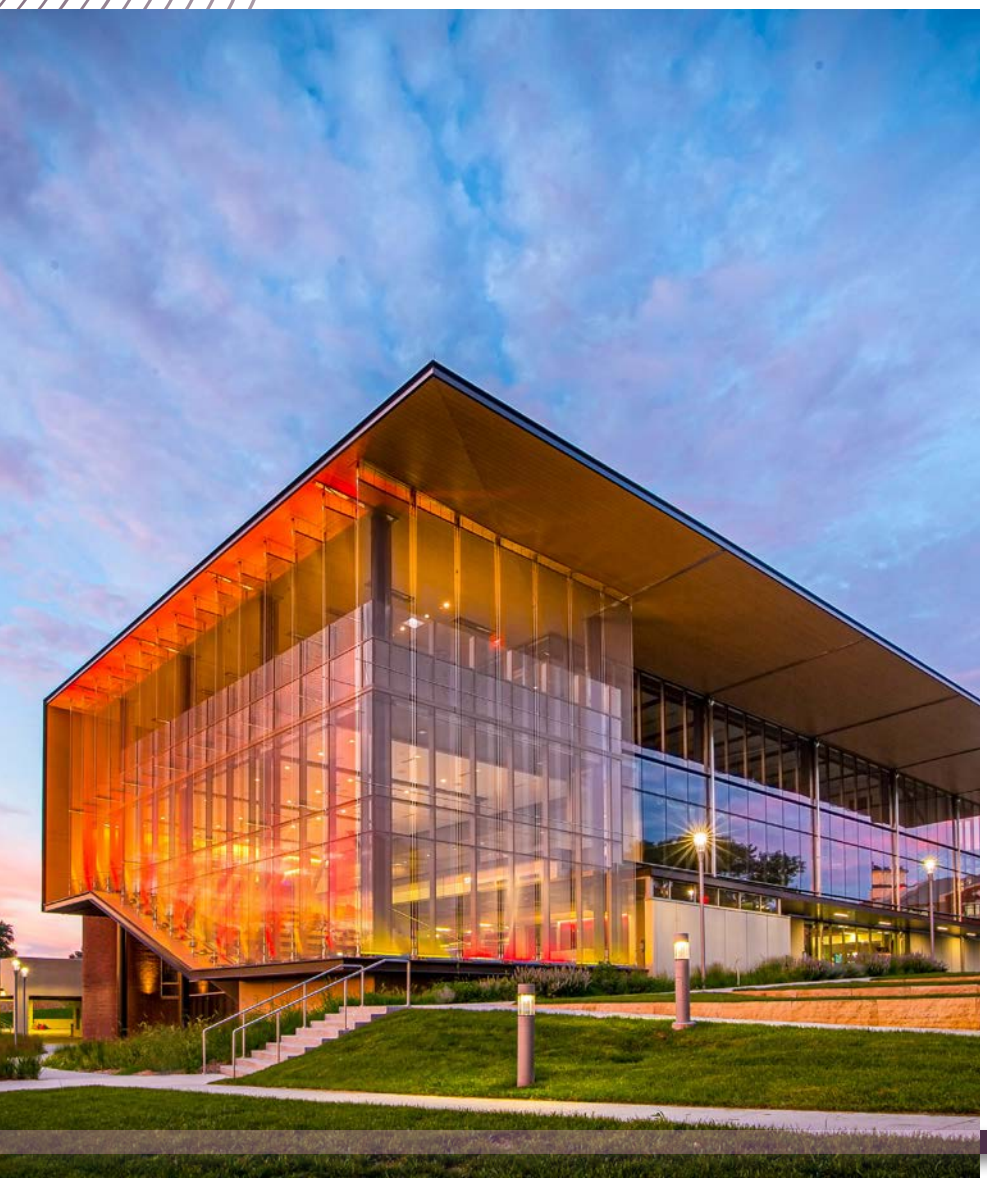
Kansas City University



Provost and Executive Vice President for Academic, Research, and Clinical Affairs

LEADERSHIP PROFILE

DECEMBER 2025

WittKieffer

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THE OPPORTUNITY

Kansas City University (KCU) seeks a visionary and accomplished executive to serve as its next provost and executive vice president for Academic, Research, and Clinical Affairs (Provost). This role offers an extraordinary opportunity for a strategic and innovative leader to guide the university into its next era, shaping future-ready academic programs that anticipate evolving health care workforce needs, leverage cutting-edge technologies (including artificial intelligence, simulation, and telehealth), and prepare graduates for collaborative, patient-centered, evidence-based practice.

A private university founded in 1916, KCU is home to the fourth largest medical school in the United States and has expanded to include the College of Osteopathic Medicine (with two campuses), College of Dental Medicine, College of Biosciences, and College of Health Professions. With campuses in Kansas City and Joplin, Missouri, KCU serves nearly 2,200 enrolled students and partners with leading health care systems, research centers, and community organizations to address the needs of their distinct communities.

Reporting directly to the president and chief executive officer, Marc B. Hahn, DO, the provost serves as the chief academic officer for KCU, providing bold, forward-thinking leadership for all academic, research, and clinical education programs across KCU's campuses and programs. The provost champions academic excellence, research, and interprofessional education that prepare students to make a lasting impact on health care. As a member of the Senior Leadership Team and the President's Cabinet, the provost plays a critical role in setting strategic priorities, allocating resources, and ensuring alignment with KCU's mission, vision, and values. This leader will shape the future of KCU's academic, research, and medical education programs.

The ideal candidate will be a bold, forward-thinking leader in health sciences education with a distinguished track record of innovative health care leadership. Candidates must possess a terminal degree (e.g., DO, MD, DDS/DMD, PhD, or equivalent) in a health sciences or related discipline and have a history of leadership success.

Please refer to the Procedure for Candidacy page at the end of this document for details on how to apply or request additional information.

ORGANIZATION OVERVIEW

Across the two campuses, KCU offers a variety of programs, including osteopathic and dental medicine, clinical psychology, biosciences, and anesthesiologist assistance, serving nearly 2,200 enrolled students. Since its founding in 1916, KCU has forged a proud history by building strong community ties and addressing the health needs of its neighbors. With a mission of *improving the well-being of the communities they serve* and a vision of *changing health care for good*, KCU is committed to helping create a healthier, brighter future.

KCU is home to four distinct colleges across two campuses: the College of Osteopathic Medicine, the College of Biosciences, the College of Dental Medicine, and the most recent College of Health Professions. Each plays a unique role in shaping future health care professionals.

KCU offers the following degree programs: Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine (DO), Doctor of Clinical Psychology (PsyD), Doctor of Dental Medicine (DMD), Master of Science in Biomedical Sciences (MS), Master of Science in Biomedical Sciences Research (MS), and Master of Health Science in Anesthesiologist Assistant (MHS-AA). Students can also select from the following dual-degree options: DO/MA in Bioethics, DO/MBA in Health Care Leadership, through a partnership with Rockhurst University - Helzberg School of Management, DO/MPH in Public Health, through a partnership with the University of Nebraska Medical Center - School of Public Health, DMD/MBA in Health Care Leadership, through a partnership with Rockhurst University - Helzberg School of Management, and DMD/MPH in Public Health, through a partnership with the University of Nebraska Medical Center- School of Public Health.

The university is governed by a 14-member Board of Trustees, each contributing expertise from fields like medicine, dentistry, finance, education, and public service.

College of Osteopathic Medicine

Founded in 1916, the College of Osteopathic Medicine is the cornerstone of KCU and one of the oldest osteopathic medical schools in the United States. It offers a Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine (DO) degree, emphasizing a holistic approach to patient care that integrates body, mind, and spirit. Students receive rigorous training in clinical skills, biomedical sciences, and osteopathic principles, preparing them for diverse medical careers. The college also offers specialized tracks such as Global Health, Military Medicine, Rural Health, and Leadership Honors to tailor education to students' interests.

As one of five original U.S. colleges of osteopathic medicine, KCU is the oldest medical school in Kansas City, MO, the largest medical school in Missouri, and the fourth largest medical school in the nation. The College of Osteopathic Medicine operates across two campuses: Kansas City and the Farber-McIntire Campus in Joplin, Missouri. The college accepts up to 430 students per year (270 in Kansas City and 160 in Joplin) and offers a unique early admissions opportunity to outstanding undergraduate students at select educational institutions in Missouri and Kansas.

Medical students at KCU can choose to gain experience that delves deeper into an area of interest through a specialty track. The Global Health Track allows students to learn and experience firsthand the challenges and possibilities of international health care, preparing them to practice on a global scale. Students on the Military Medicine Track are prepared for a career in military medical service with this specialized honors track. The Behavioral Medicine Track offers students a chance to gain expertise in diagnosing and treating mental health conditions in preparation for careers in psychiatry, family medicine, and addiction medicine. Finally, KCU's Leadership Track enhances students' skills as future leaders in health care and related fields, including academic medicine, clinical enterprises, community engagement, and professional organizations.

The Rural Health Scholars program is designed to expand access to medical and dental education for students from rural, medically underserved areas in Kansas, Missouri, Oklahoma, and Arkansas. Created in partnership with Missouri Southern State University, Pittsburg State University, and eight regional community colleges, the program offers a streamlined seven-year track to a Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine or Doctor of Dental Medicine degree.

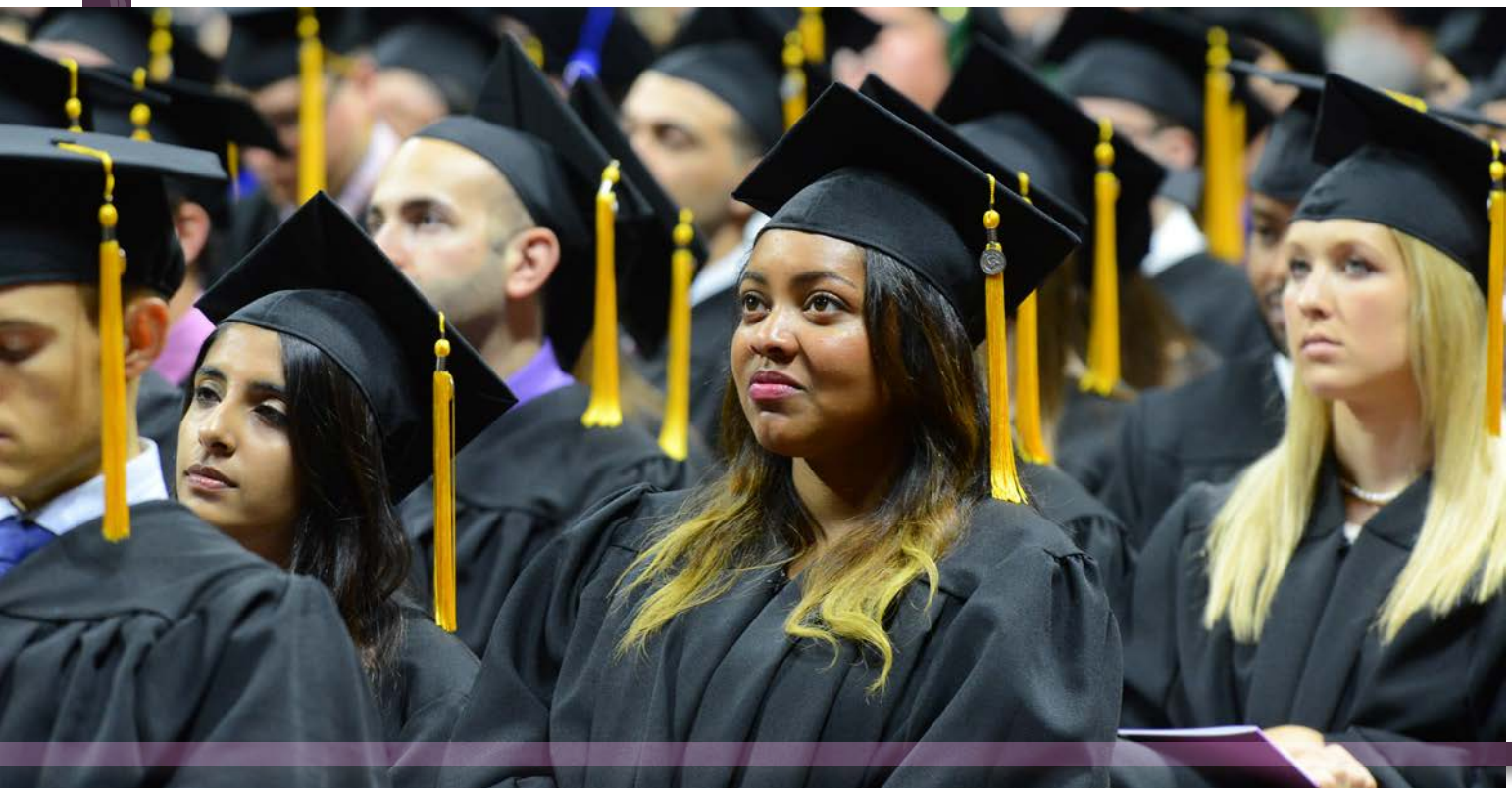
The College of Osteopathic Medicine offers an innovative and comprehensive curriculum focused on caring for the whole patient. One curricular component is Score 1 for Health, which is a preventive health program that provides free, in-school health screenings for elementary-aged children in the greatest need, including urban core and low-income families from under-resourced neighborhoods. The Score 1 for Health program is part of KCU-COM students' clinical education curriculum on both campuses - Joplin and Kansas City. Another novel medical education program that launched in Fall 2024 is the use of point-of-care ultrasound (POCUS) elective. KCU medical students are among the first to utilize new AI-powered POCUS devices. Developed in collaboration with Butterfly Network, Inc., this forward-thinking course equips future physicians with essential ultrasound skills early in the students' first year.

The KCU-GME Consortium is an Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (ACGME) accredited Sponsoring Institution. They currently have 13 accredited programs and approximately 140 residents/fellows across five states. The mission is to provide high-quality, structured, postgraduate training programs through leadership, assessment, and development while facilitating the ethical, professional, and personal development of the residents and fellows.

The Continuing Medical Education (CME) program at KCU supports physicians in their efforts to remain up to date in their profession. Maintaining clinical standards is a lifelong process that requires staying abreast of the latest procedures, technology, and approaches in medicine. The KCU-CME mission is to provide educational activities to physicians and other health care professionals that will improve competence, performance, and patient outcomes by reinforcing basic medical knowledge, communicating evidenced-based clinical information, sharing new research findings related to practice gaps, enhancing professional practice and introducing new ideas, skills and technology.

College of Biosciences

The College of Biosciences, located on the Kansas City campus, enrolls 80-120 students per year. The college offers a doctoral program providing broad and general doctoral-level training in clinical psychology, culminating in a Doctor of Clinical Psychology (PsyD) degree. The PsyD program is a five-year program, including a one-year internship, and accepts 25 students per year. The college also provides advanced education in biomedical sciences, offering a one-year Master of Science in Biomedical Sciences (MS), and a two-year Master of Science in Biomedical Sciences Research (MS). This college is ideal for students pursuing careers in research, health care, or preparing for professional schools. The curriculum blends foundational science with hands-on research opportunities, fostering critical thinking and scientific inquiry. It also supports students aiming to enhance their academic credentials before entering medical or dental programs.



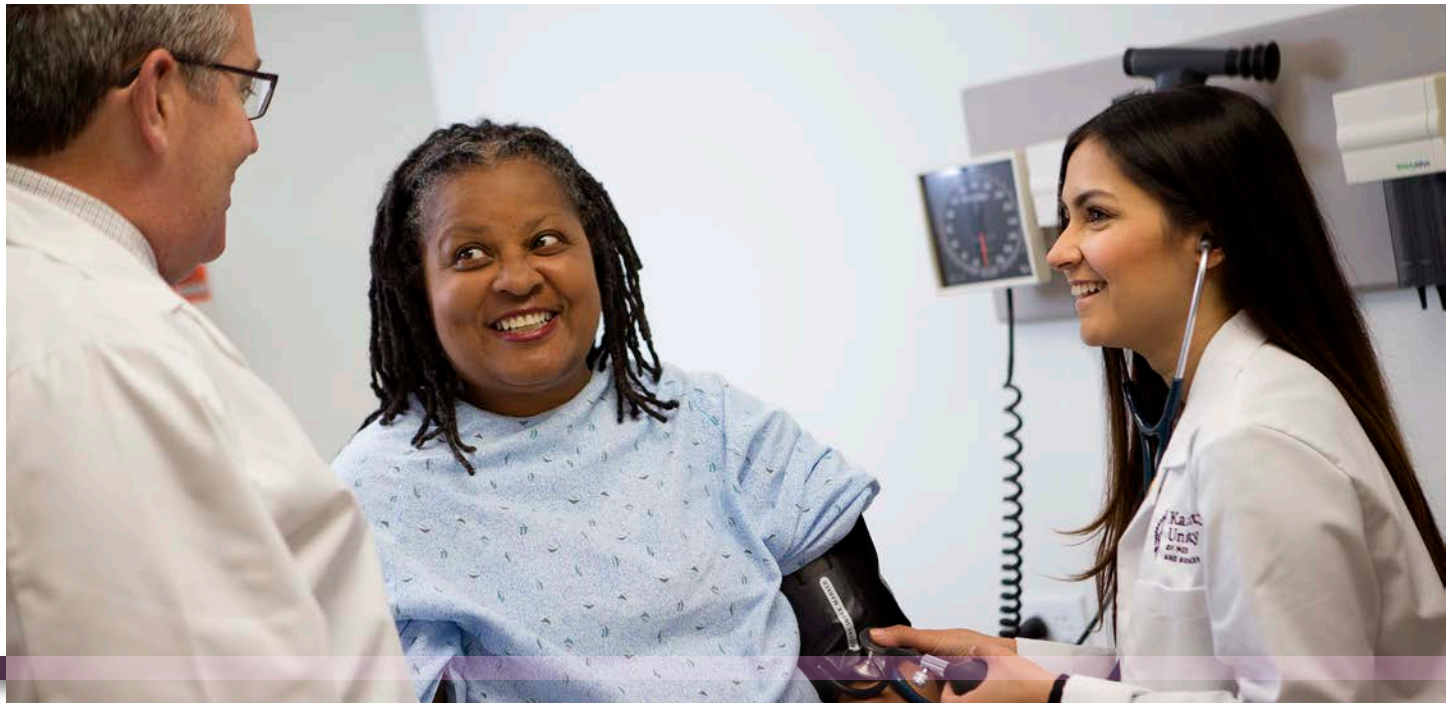
College of Dental Medicine

Started in 2023 in Joplin, Missouri, the College of Dental Medicine offers a Doctor of Dental Medicine (DMD) degree and is committed to addressing oral health disparities, especially in underserved rural communities. The program accepts 80 students per year, and the first class will graduate in 2027. The program integrates clinical practice with biomedical science and public health, ensuring graduates are well-equipped to deliver comprehensive dental care. With state-of-the-art facilities and a focus on community engagement, the college aims to produce dentists who are both technically proficient and socially conscious.

KCU's dental school addresses the significant and growing oral health needs of the four-state region. With only three dental schools in the entire area, there is a challenge in training an adequate number of dentists to help meet these needs. Nearly all counties within a 125-mile radius of Joplin qualify as Dental Health Professional Shortage Areas (DHPSAs) by the U.S. Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA).

Oral Health Center

KCU's Oral Health Center provides affordable, comprehensive dental care to underserved communities across Missouri, Kansas, Arkansas, and Oklahoma. Located at KCU's Joplin campus, the Oral Health Center is both a clinical training ground for dental students and a vital community resource. Under the supervision of licensed faculty, students deliver a wide range of services- from routine exams and cleanings to crowns, dentures, and urgent walk-in treatments. The Center accepts Missouri Medicaid and ensures that no patient is turned away due to inability to pay, including pediatric patients. Through initiatives like the Community Smiles Fund, supported by generous donations from organizations such as Delta Dental of Missouri and the La-Z-Boy Foundation, the Center expands access to care for those without insurance. This dual mission of education and service positions KCU's Oral Health Center as a cornerstone for improving oral health equity in the region.



College of Health Professions

Kansas City University's newest academic division is the College of Health Professions. It was founded to address the increasing need for skilled and compassionate health care providers across the U.S., especially in the four-state region surrounding KCU. Its mission is to broaden educational access in health sciences and strengthen the university's role as a regional and national leader in health care education.

The first degree offered is the Master of Health Science in Anesthesiologist Assistant (MHS-AA), launching in January 2026. This program is designed to prepare students for high-demand roles in anesthesia care, combining rigorous academic training with clinical experience.

Center for Population Health and Equity

The KCU Center for Population Health and Equity (CPHE) is a transformative initiative aimed at addressing the root causes of health disparities across Missouri's urban and rural communities. With a focus on social and structural determinants of health, the CPHE integrates population health and equity into KCU's academic programs, including osteopathic medicine, biomedical sciences, clinical psychology, and dental medicine, empowering students through interprofessional education. The Center serves as a hub for research, community engagement, and innovative programming, with facilities on both the Kansas City and Joplin campuses. Supported by $16 million in federal and foundation funding, the CPHE is poised to foster healthier, more equitable communities by developing solutions that promote well-being for all Missourians.

The KCU CPHE Research Lab serves as a nexus for students, faculty, staff, and community research efforts, with an emphasis on population health, public health, health equity, and health policy.

The Center's Health of the Heartland Report highlights research and case studies that examine the health factors and outcomes shaping life in Kansas City, Joplin, and nearby communities. Focused on both urban and rural populations, the report will publish annually to spotlight the drivers of health across the Heartland.

Additional programs include:

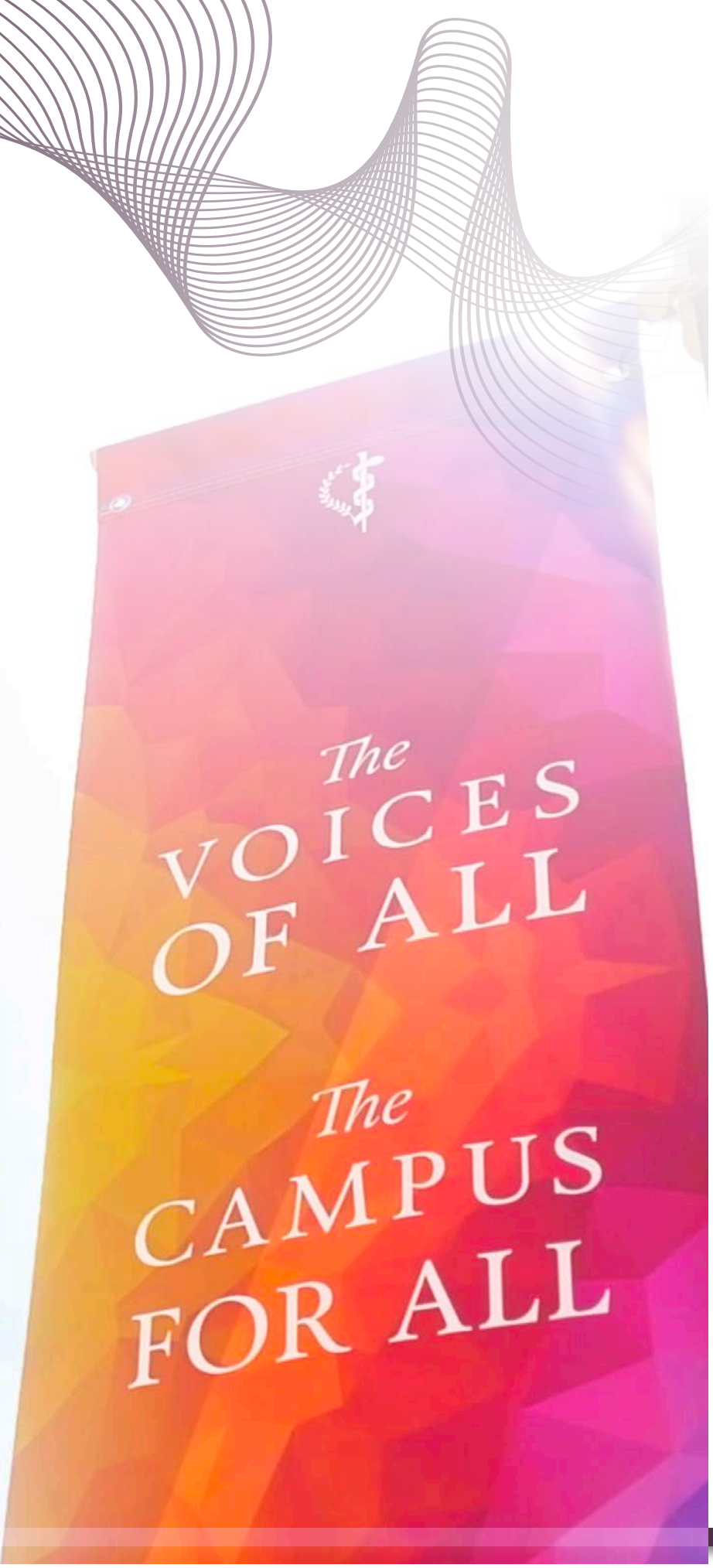
- **Score 1 for Health**
- **Student Health Advocate Program** is a program that brings KCU students and community organizations together to break down barriers to care, boost health, and connect people with the resources they need. By working alongside KCU students, individuals and families get help reaching their goals and navigating complex healthcare systems.
- **School Mental Health Partnership** is an initiative designed to address the growing demand for affordable, accessible mental health services and psychological testing among younger students. KCU's clinical psychology doctoral students are placed at public elementary schools to provide psychological assessment administration, scoring, interpretation, and report writing under the supervision of school psychologists.

Research

KCU students, faculty members, staff, residents, and fellows have the opportunity to learn about and participate in research and other scholarly activities. Participation in the research process enables students to develop additional knowledge and critical-thinking skills necessary to improve patient care through evidence-based medicine. It also continues the lifelong learning process for faculty as mentors. Research is broad and includes not only basic science (laboratory-based) endeavors but also clinical research, population health, bioethics, medical humanities, and educational research. KCU has partnerships with a number of local organizations to collaborate on research including the Children's Mercy Research Institute, BioNexus KC, MRIGlobal, and K-State Olathe (among others).

Clinical

KCU maintains a robust network of clinical partnerships that provide students with high-quality, hands-on training across diverse health care settings. These partnerships include established core sites with hospitals and health systems nationwide, where third-year osteopathic medical students complete their required clerkships in areas such as internal medicine, surgery, pediatrics, and psychiatry. KCU's clinical education model emphasizes early exposure and continuity, with students participating in a core site match process during their second year to determine their third-year placement. In the fourth year, students have the flexibility to pursue elective rotations aligned with their career interests. KCU is working to expand its clinical affiliations to create more opportunities for interprofessional training and community engagement. These collaborations are essential to KCU's efforts of preparing compassionate, competent health care professionals equipped to serve both urban and rural populations.



Mission

Improving the well-being of the communities we serve.

Vision

Changing health care for good.

KCU Goals

1. Redefining Health Education and Student Success
2. Mission Relevant Research
3. Community-Focused Service
4. Institutional Spirit
5. Responsible Stewardship

Core Values

Excellence | Striving for quality, integrity and innovation

Equity | Supporting an inclusive and collaborative environment

Empathy | Caring for our students, our colleagues and our community

Strategic Plan

KCU aspires to reimagine and redefine health sciences education for the 21st century. Along with our mission and vision, KCU's values will drive a shift in focus over the next five years from building infrastructure to building culture and experiences that support people - students, faculty, staff, patients, and communities. Future graduates will deliver a more seamless health care experience for all, and for good.

The 2022-2027 strategic plan is built on these foundational strategic themes:

- Student success is job #1
- Consistent clinical education experiences
- Support of our people
- Health equity
- Population health
- Interprofessional Education (IPE)
- Leading-edge technology
- Investment in our programs and infrastructure
- Partnerships that advance our mission
- Strategic growth

KCU by the Numbers

- 4th largest medical school in the United States by class size.
- Leading producer of physicians for the State of Missouri.
- 2nd largest producers of physicians for the State of Kansas.
- 2,113 total students enrolled (1,310 on KCU campus and 803 on Joplin campus).
- 8th most affordable private osteopathic medical school in the nation.
- 10,000+ physician alumni worldwide.
- 30% of KCU alumni practice in underserved areas.
- 46% of alumni practice in a primary care specialty.
- Named one of Ingram's 2025 Best Companies to Work For in the mid-sized category.
- Received the 2025 Bell Seal Platinum designation for workplace mental health.
- Recognized in 2025 as a Great College To Work by ModernThink and the Chronicle for Higher Education.
- Named one of the city's Healthiest Employers by the Kansas City Business Journal.

To learn more about KCU, their colleges and academic programs, visit kansascity.edu.

POSITION SUMMARY

The provost and executive vice president for Academic, Research, and Clinical Affairs is the senior academic leader at Kansas City University, driving visionary and transformative leadership across all educational, research, and clinical domains. This pivotal position oversees the development and advancement of academic initiatives across KCU's campuses, ensuring excellence in teaching, scholarship, and clinical training.

As a champion of academic rigor, interdisciplinary collaboration, impactful research, and meaningful service, the provost fosters a culture of excellence that empowers students to lead and serve in diverse health care settings. Serving on the President's Cabinet, the provost is instrumental in guiding institutional strategy, stewarding resources, and aligning initiatives with KCU's core mission, vision, and values.

The provost provides executive leadership over academic and programmatic support areas, managing an operating budget exceeding $70 million and overseeing a revenue portfolio of more than $140 million.

Reporting Relationships

Reporting to the president, direct reports include the following:

- Executive Dean of the College of Osteopathic Medicine and Vice Provost for Medical Affairs
- Dean of the College of Biosciences and Vice Provost for Research
- Dean of College of Dental Medicine and Vice Provost for Oral Health
- Dean of Health Professions
- Senior Vice Provost Student Success
- Vice Provost of Academic Administration
- Executive Director of Population Health
- Associate Provost of Accreditation

Responsibilities

- **Strategic Academic Leadership:** Provide visionary and strategic leadership for all academic, research, and clinical affairs functions across KCU's campuses and programs.
- **Innovation in Education:** Drive the development, implementation, and continual assessment of future-focused curricula that integrate biomedical sciences, clinical training, research, technology-enhanced learning, and community engagement.

- **Program Growth & Development:** Identify, design, and launch new degree programs and academic pathways that address emerging workforce needs in health care, including the integration of AI, simulation, telehealth, and other advanced educational technologies.
- **Academic Quality & Accreditation:** Ensure all programs meet or exceed the highest standards of academic rigor, clinical relevance, and interprofessional collaboration, while maintaining compliance with all applicable accreditation and regulatory bodies (HLC, COCA, CODA, APA, CAAHEP, research compliance standards, etc.).
- **Research Advancement:** Expand KCU's research enterprise by promoting faculty scholarship, fostering interdisciplinary collaborations, securing external funding, and enhancing research infrastructure.
- **Faculty Excellence:** Recruit, retain, and develop faculty who are leaders in education, research, and clinical practice; foster a culture of innovation, excellence, and continuous professional growth.
- **Clinical Service:** Provide clinical services directly or indirectly through partnership arrangements and service agreements.
- **Student Success & Well-being:** Champion initiatives that enhance the holistic well-being, academic achievement, and professional readiness of all students.
- **External Partnerships:** Cultivate strategic partnerships with health care systems, research institutions, community organizations, and industry to expand KCU's reach, impact, and reputation.
- **Fiscal Stewardship:** Oversee academic and research budgets to ensure sustainable growth, resource optimization, and alignment with strategic priorities.
- **National & Global Leadership and External Relations:** Represent KCU as a thought leader in health sciences education at regional, national, and global forums.

Leadership Attributes

The successful provost and executive vice president for Academic, Research, and Clinical Affairs candidate will demonstrate:

- **Visionary Thinking:** The ability to anticipate and respond to the future of health care and health sciences education, creating academic strategies that position KCU as a leader.
- **Technological Sophistication:** Deep understanding of emerging educational technologies, including artificial intelligence, simulation, telehealth, virtual/augmented reality, and data analytics in health sciences education and research.
- **Change Leadership:** Skilled in leading transformative initiatives, driving innovation, and fostering an agile, future-focused academic culture.
- **Mission-Driven Mindset:** Commitment to KCU's mission, vision, and values, with a strong emphasis on student success, well-being, and excellence.
- **Collaborative Leadership:** Ability to build trust, unify diverse stakeholders, and create a shared sense of purpose across campuses and disciplines.
- **Global & Interprofessional Perspective:** Understanding of the interconnectedness of health systems and the importance of preparing graduates for collaborative, patient-centered care.
- **Results Orientation:** Proven ability to set ambitious goals, measure outcomes, and ensure accountability.
- **Embrace Ambiguity:** Navigates unclear or evolving situations with confidence, maintaining productivity and focus.

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

The following goals and objectives have been identified as priorities for this position:

Elevate Academic Excellence and Student Success

The next provost will continue to position KCU as a national leader in health sciences education. By progressing the curriculum across programs, strengthening interprofessional education, and leveraging advanced technologies like AI and simulation, the provost (in partnership with University leadership and faculty) will foster a learning environment that not only meets accreditation standards but also continues to elevate board scores and professional readiness. This focus will reinforce KCU's reputation for producing exceptional graduates prepared to thrive in a rapidly evolving healthcare landscape.

Foster a Student-Centered Culture

The next provost will reinforce KCU's core values of excellence, empathy, and equity by fostering a truly student-centric environment. Through transparent communication, consistent policies, and initiatives that prioritize well-being and professional development, the provost can ensure a sense of community across campuses. Additionally, leveraging alumni networks and community engagement will ensure that KCU remains a welcoming and supportive institution where students and faculty thrive together.

Ensure Integrated Systems for Sustainable Growth

KCU's impressive expansion over the past decade presents a unique moment to unify its academic infrastructure. The provost can lead efforts to break down silos, streamline processes, and implement cohesive systems that support collaboration across colleges and campuses and allow KCU to scale appropriately and continue to increase enrollment in all programs. Establishing clear governance structures and enhancing faculty engagement will foster a culture of shared responsibility and innovation.

Drive Strategic Growth and Program Innovation

The next provost will play a central role in identifying and launching new academic offerings that continue to respond to evolving health care and community needs. By aligning these initiatives with KCU's mission and leveraging existing infrastructure, the provost can ensure new programs are both academically rigorous and financially sustainable. This growth will diversify revenue streams and strengthen KCU's position as a comprehensive health sciences university.

Advance Research and External Partnerships

With aspirations for Carnegie R2 designation and a strong regional presence, KCU is poised to elevate its research enterprise. The provost will work to champion strategic partnerships with biotech firms, health care systems, and community organizations to expand funding opportunities and research impact. By investing in infrastructure and faculty development, KCU has the potential to become a hub for translational research and innovation, attracting top talent and positioning itself as a key contributor to scientific advancement and community health.

Faculty Development, Retention, and Recruitment

The provost will advance faculty development initiatives and foster a supportive environment that leads to high morale and engagement of faculty and staff, partnering with University leadership to recruit and retain faculty of high academic distinction to continue broadening KCU's academic reach and reputation.

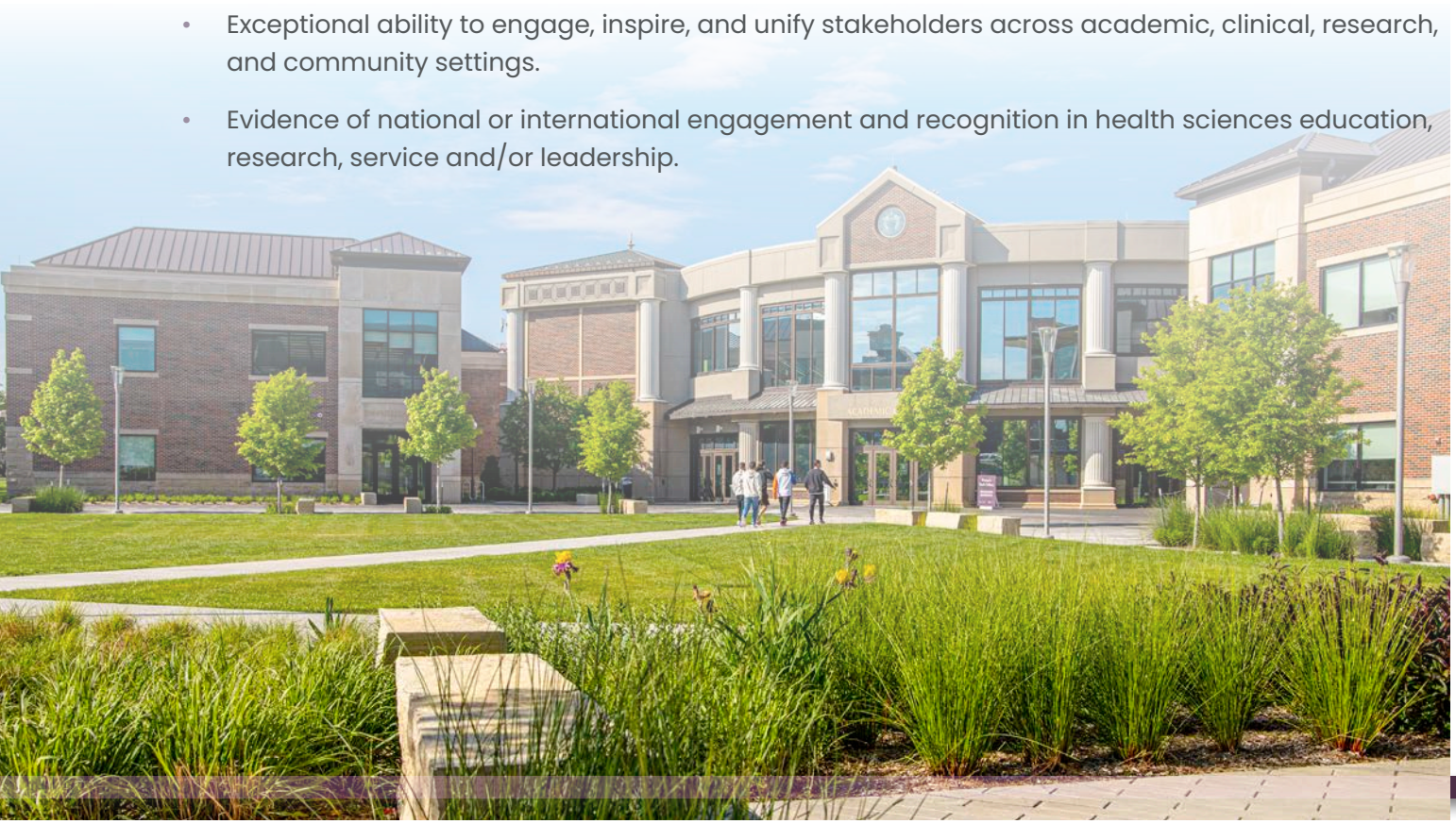
Driving Alumni Engagement and Philanthropic Efforts

In partnership with the vice president of Philanthropy and Alumni Engagement, the provost will help build strong donor relationships, clearly communicating the University's priorities and helping guide collaborative fundraising initiatives to support its mission. These efforts will directly impact supporting scholarships, programming efforts, and other endeavors to help attract students in an ever-increasing competitive environment.

CANDIDATE QUALIFICATIONS

Education, Knowledge, and Work Experience

- Earned terminal degree (DO, MD, DDS/DMD, PhD, or equivalent) in a health sciences discipline.
- Minimum of 10 years of progressive leadership experience in higher education, with substantial experience in health sciences or medical education and a track record of success.
- Demonstrated success in strategic planning, program growth, and curricular innovation, with a proven ability to anticipate and integrate future trends in health care and education.
- Proven record of managing accreditation, licensure, and regulatory processes for health professions programs.
- Extensive background in fostering interprofessional education, interdisciplinary research, and community-engaged health initiatives.
- Demonstrated success in faculty development, research capacity-building, and student-centered program leadership.
- Strong financial acumen, with experience in managing complex budgets and aligning resources with institutional priorities.
- Exceptional ability to engage, inspire, and unify stakeholders across academic, clinical, research, and community settings.
- Evidence of national or international engagement and recognition in health sciences education, research, service and/or leadership.



THE COMMUNITY

Kansas City, MO

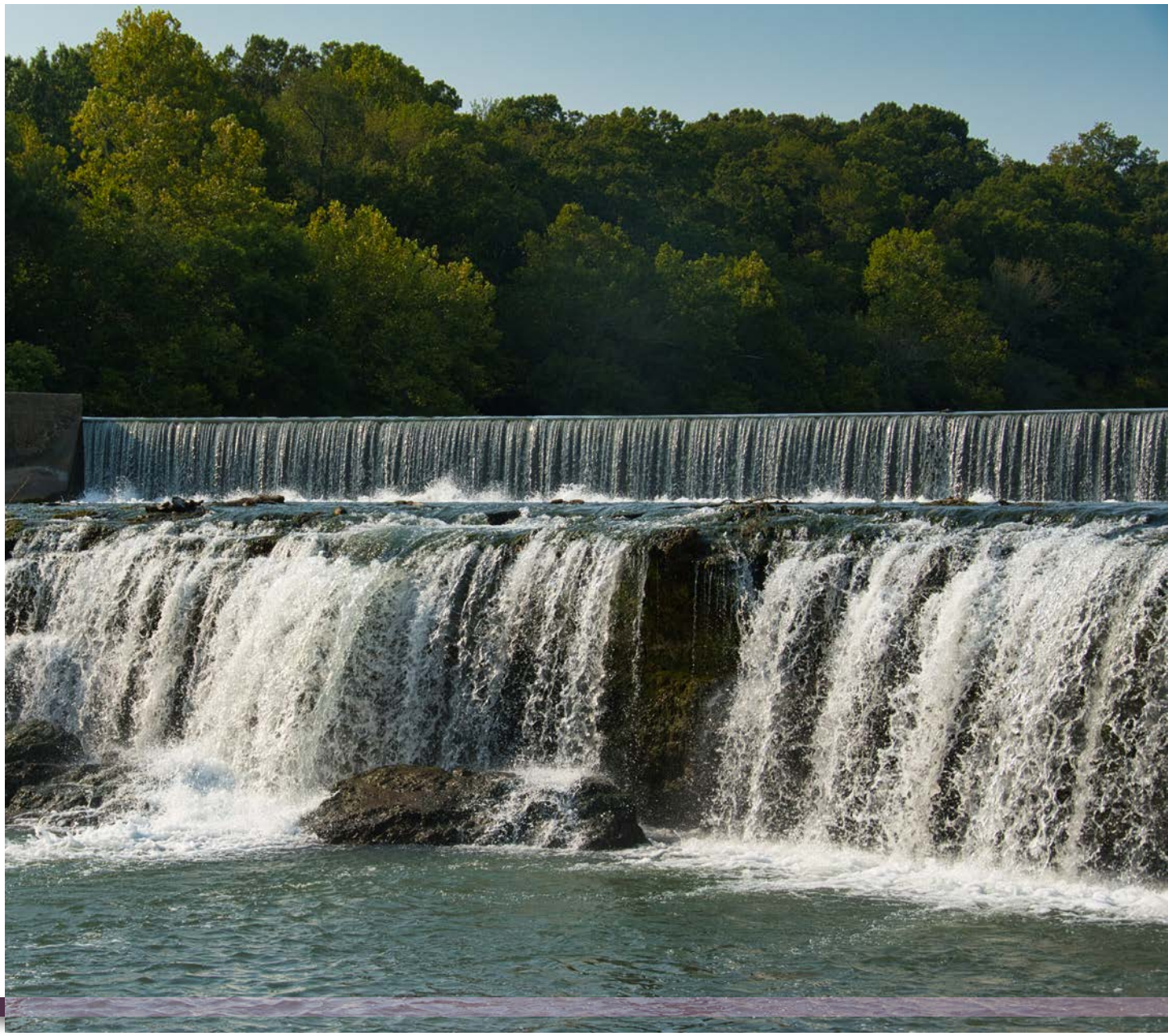
Kansas City, Missouri, is the largest city in the state of Missouri and is the anchor city of the Kansas City Metropolitan Area. With a population of nearly a half-million within a metro area of over two million, Kansas City is often referred to as the Heart of America as it is near both the population center of the country and geographic center of the 48 contiguous states. The city is well known for its historical contributions to the arts, most especially the musical styles of jazz and blues. It is home to the Kansas City Repertory Theatre and the Starlight Theatre, the latter an 8,105-seat outdoor theatre venue. The Kansas City Symphony and Lyric Opera of Kansas City are mainstays of the performing arts scene, as is the Kansas City Ballet. In 2011, the city welcomed the Kauffman Performing Arts Center, a major center for music, opera, theater, and dance. The instantly iconic buildings and institutions have become a treasured part of the Kansas City arts community.

Kansas City, Missouri, is also home to many culturally significant museums. The Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art is internationally recognized for its outstanding collection of more than 33,500 objects. In addition, Kansas City visitors can also enjoy the Steamboat Arabia Museum, The Kemper Museum of Contemporary Art, the American Jazz Museum, the Negro Leagues Baseball Museum, the Harry S. Truman Presidential Library & Museum, Union Station, the National World War I Museum & Memorial, and the Kansas City Zoo. Professional sports teams in Kansas City include the National Football League's Kansas City Chiefs, Major League Baseball's Kansas City Royals, and the Sporting Kansas City and Kansas City Current Major League Soccer teams. Kansas City was also chosen as an official site for the FIFA 2026 World Cup Games. While also boasting professional teams in three major sports: Sporting Kansas City (MLS), KC Current (NWSL), Kansas City Chiefs (NFL) and the Kansas City Royals (MLB), the city has hosted multiple FIFA World Cup™ qualifying matches, Concacaf Gold Cups (2011, 2015), men's and women's Concacaf Olympic qualifiers, the 2013 MLS All-Star game, and the 2013 MLS Cup Final.

The city is served by an international airport, has a strong and growing economy, and its population is also growing. The Missouri and Kansas sides of the city are served by quality primary and secondary schools, both public and private. Many excellent colleges and universities serve the populous including: the University of Missouri-Kansas City, one of four schools in the University of Missouri System; Rockhurst University; Kansas City Art Institute; Avila University; Park University; William Jewell College; Metropolitan Community College; Johnson County Community College; Kansas City University; and University of Kansas Medical Center. The University of Kansas main campus is located approximately 40 miles from Kansas City in Lawrence, Kansas.

Joplin, MO

Joplin, Missouri, is a welcoming city with small-town charm and big-city convenience. Located in the scenic Ozarks and on historic Route 66, it offers affordable living, strong community values, and a growing economy rooted in health care, education, and manufacturing. With a population of approximately 52,000, Joplin offers a high quality of life marked by affordable housing, a low cost of living, and a strong sense of civic pride. The city is known for its vibrant arts and culture scene, including institutions such as Harry M. Cornell Arts & Entertainment Complex, the Spiva Center for the Arts, and abundant outdoor recreation opportunities such as Grand Falls and the Wildcat Glades Conservation & Audubon Center. Joplin is home to major health care providers like Mercy Hospital and Freeman Health System, reinforcing its role as a medical center for the region and offers higher education opportunities through Missouri Southern State University, nearby Pittsburg State University and numerous community college campuses throughout the Joplin region. With a diverse economy, engaged local government, and a spirit of community, Joplin offers an ideal setting for professionals and families seeking connection, opportunity, and impact.



TIMELINE

Potential interview dates for this position have been outlined as follows:

Paper presentation of qualified candidates to Search Committee: February 2026

Round One interview dates: Late February 2026

Round Two interview dates: March - April 2026

PROCEDURE FOR CANDIDACY

Please direct all nominations and applications to Megan Welch, Daniel Flynn, Kerry A Quealy, and Eleanor Vogelsang through the WittKieffer Candidate Portal by clicking here or via email at Provost_KansasCityUniversity@wittkieffer.com

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KCU is committed to promoting an equal employment opportunity workplace. Equal opportunity is and shall be provided for all employees and applicants for employment on the basis of their demonstrated ability and competence without discrimination on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, age, national origin, genetic information (GINA), physical or mental disability, pregnancy, sexual orientation, gender identity, marital status, familial status, ancestry, military and/or veteran status, and/or any other status protected by applicable Federal, state or local law.

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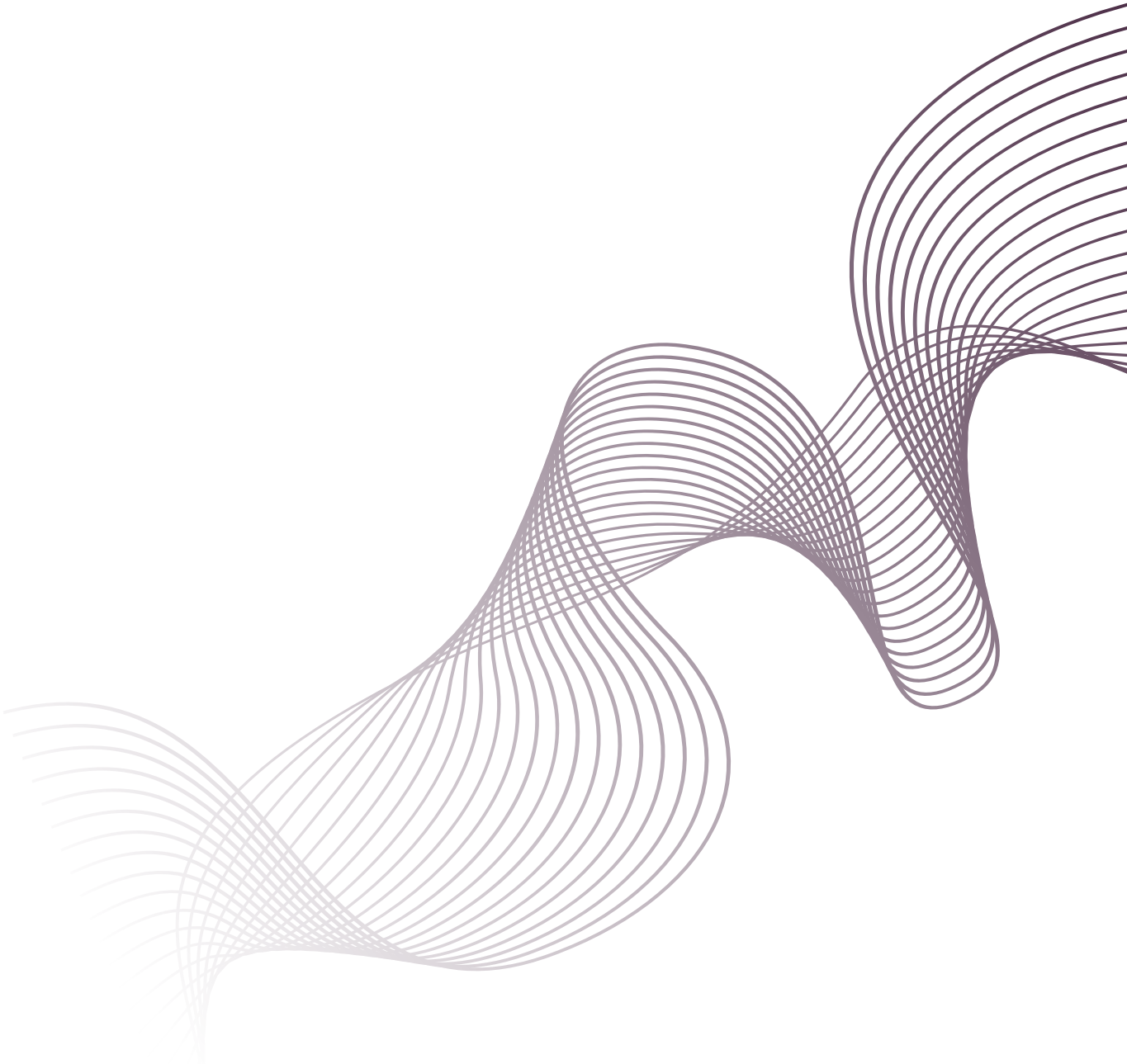

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