

# KIRK KERKORIAN SCHOOL OF MEDICINE



## Vice President for Health Affairs and Dean, Kirk Kerkorian School of Medicine at UNLV

### Leadership Profile

March 2026



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## The Opportunity

The University of Nevada, Las Vegas (UNLV) invites nominations and applications for the position of Vice President for Health Affairs and Dean of the Kirk Kerkorian School of Medicine. This is an exceptional opportunity to join a rapidly advancing public Carnegie R1 university with a strong and growing research and clinical mission at a moment of significant institutional momentum. The successful candidate will play a central role in shaping the future of medical education and healthcare delivery in Southern Nevada and will help position UNLV as a national model for an integrated, community-responsive academic health enterprise.

This dual-role position combines the responsibilities of chief executive officer of the School of Medicine with enterprise-level leadership across UNLV's health affairs initiatives. Reporting jointly to the President and to the Executive Vice President and Provost, the Vice President for Health Affairs and Dean of Medicine will operate at the highest levels of institutional leadership, aligning priorities across education, research, and clinical care while advancing a unified and forward-looking vision for growth, impact, and sustainability.

UNLV stands at an important inflection point. As a public urban research university serving one of the most dynamic and diverse metropolitan regions in the United States, UNLV is expanding its research enterprise, strengthening its academic programs, advancing its clinical enterprise, and deepening its impact on the region's economic and social vitality. Within this broader context, the continued development of a comprehensive Academic Health Center represents one of the University's most significant strategic opportunities in partnership with its hospital partner, University Medical Center of Southern Nevada (UMC), along with UNLV's other health science colleges, including Dental Medicine, Nursing, Public Health, and Integrated Health Sciences.

The mission of the Kirk Kerkorian School of Medicine is to serve patients, students, medical professionals, and the broader community as a transformational force for improving healthcare in Nevada. Founded in 2014, the School was established to address Nevada's longstanding shortage of physicians and to improve healthcare access and outcomes across the state. The School earned preliminary accreditation by the Liaison Committee on Medical Education (LCME) and accreditation from ACGME as an institutional sponsor of graduate medical education in 2016, welcoming its charter class in 2017. Since that time, the School has awarded medical degrees to nearly 300 graduates and currently serves more than 250 students across 12 academic departments, supported by a growing faculty that includes over 140 academic faculty, more than 400 community faculty, and over 100 administrative faculty (professional staff).

The School of Medicine continues to build a developing but promising research enterprise that complements its educational and clinical missions, with emphasis on strengthening infrastructure, recruiting high-impact faculty, and advancing interdisciplinary collaboration. At the same time, the School is advancing innovative approaches to medical education, including competency-based learning, simulation, and emerging applications of digital health and artificial intelligence.

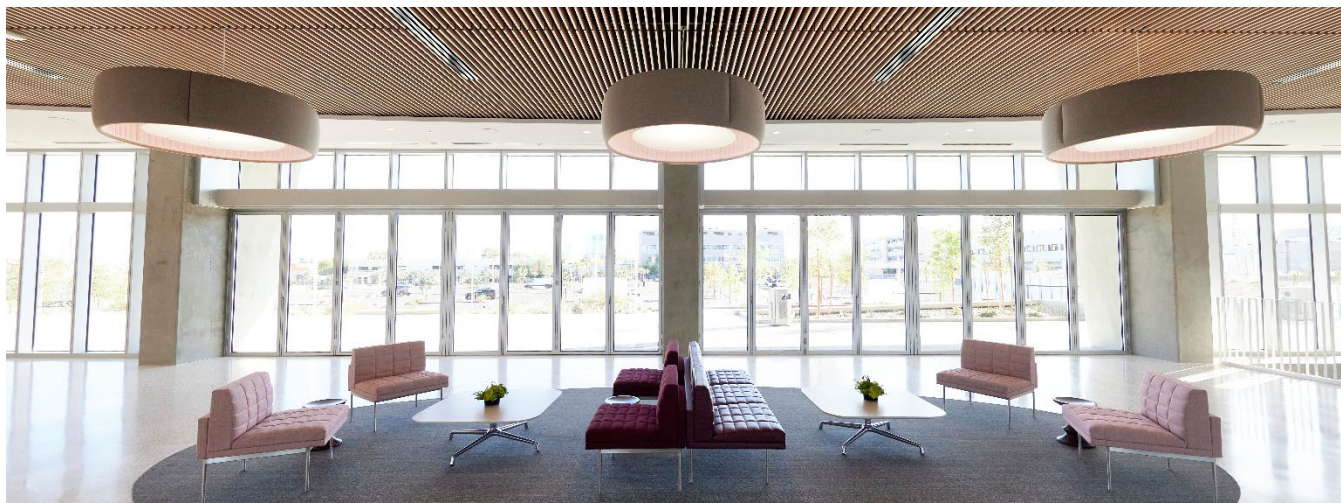
A central component of this opportunity is the continued growth and integration of UNLV Health, the School's clinical practice plan. Established in 2017, UNLV Health has grown into a multi-specialty academic practice with nearly 120 faculty physicians and advanced practice providers, supported by over 450 clinical and administrative staff. The enterprise delivers substantial and growing patient volumes and serves as a critical platform for clinical training, workforce development, and community impact across Southern Nevada.

The clinical enterprise remains in an active phase of expansion, with significant opportunity to grow specialty services, recruit additional specialty physicians, increase access to care, and strengthen alignment with the academic mission. The next Vice President for Health Affairs and Dean of Medicine will be responsible for elevating this enterprise through disciplined operational leadership, thoughtful expansion of clinical programs, and the strengthening of key affiliations.

Financial sustainability and growth will be central to success in this role. The Vice President and Dean must bring strong business acumen and a clear understanding of the financial drivers of academic medicine, including clinical revenue, state support, research grants, graduate medical education funding, and philanthropy. This leader will be expected to strengthen the financial performance of the clinical enterprise, grow and diversify revenue streams, align resources with strategic priorities, and build a sustainable model that supports continued expansion across education, research, and patient care.

This is a role for a strategic, entrepreneurial, and collaborative leader who can build and integrate an academic health enterprise in a region with substantial need and opportunity. The successful candidate will help translate UNLV's institutional momentum into sustained impact in education, research, and clinical care across Nevada.

Candidates should hold an M.D. or M.D./Ph.D. with credentials appropriate for tenure at the level of full professor and bring a distinguished record of achievement in academic medicine along with substantial leadership experience in complex organizations that integrate education, research, and clinical care. The successful candidate will demonstrate strong operational and financial acumen, including experience managing large budgets and advancing sustainable clinical enterprises; a clear understanding of the relationships among medical schools, faculty practice plans, and health system partners; and a track record of developing clinical networks, expanding graduate medical education, and recruiting and retaining high-performing faculty and specialty physicians. Experience engaging external stakeholders, including health system leaders, government officials, and community partners, will be essential, as will the ability to lead in a matrixed environment with clarity, judgment, and a collaborative approach.



## The Role

The Vice President for Health Affairs and Dean of the Kirk Kerkorian School of Medicine serves as a senior executive leader of the University of Nevada, Las Vegas, with responsibility for advancing the University's academic, clinical, and research missions in health. This dual-role position integrates leadership of the School of Medicine with enterprise-level coordination of UNLV's health affairs strategy, requiring a leader who can operate effectively across institutional, academic, and clinical environments.

As Vice President for Health Affairs, the individual provides strategic and organizational leadership for the University's health-related initiatives, partnerships, and long-term development of an Academic Health Center in collaboration with UMC. As Dean, the individual serves as the chief executive officer of the School of Medicine, responsible for its academic, administrative, and financial leadership. Together, these responsibilities require a leader who can align institutional priorities, strengthen infrastructure, and translate vision into sustained operational and financial performance.

## Responsibilities

### Vice President for Health Affairs

In their role as Vice President for Health Affairs, the individual will:

- Provide enterprise-level leadership for UNLV's health affairs strategy, aligning education, clinical care, and research across the University's health-related programs and partnerships.
- Lead the advancement of a coordinated Academic Health Center, working collaboratively with UMC and University leadership and the deans of health-related disciplines to strengthen interdisciplinary education, research, and clinical integration.
- Serve as the University's primary representative for health-related initiatives, building and sustaining relationships with health systems, government leaders, community organizations, and philanthropic partners.
- Strengthen and expand strategic partnerships with clinical affiliates, including UMC and other regional health systems, to support clinical training, research collaboration, and patient care delivery.
- Guide the development of a cohesive and sustainable clinical strategy that supports the growth of UNLV Health and aligns with regional healthcare needs.

- Advance external engagement at the state and regional levels, including legislative and policy engagement, to support funding, workforce development, and healthcare access across Nevada.
- Work closely with the President and the Provost to align health-related priorities with institutional strategy, ensuring coordinated planning and execution across academic and operational units.

## Dean of the Kirk Kerkorian School of Medicine

As Dean, the individual will:

- Serve as the chief executive officer of the School of Medicine, with responsibility for its academic, administrative, and financial leadership, consistent with University and Nevada System of Higher Education policies.
- Lead the development and execution of the School of Medicine's strategic plan, ensuring alignment with institutional priorities and the evolving healthcare and workforce needs of Nevada.
- Provide leadership for all educational programs, including undergraduate medical education, graduate medical education, and continuing medical education, ensuring academic excellence, innovation, and full compliance with LCME and ACGME accreditation standards.
- Champion student success across the educational continuum, including recruitment, retention, progression, and residency placement, while fostering a supportive, high-quality learning environment that prepares graduates to meet the needs of diverse and underserved communities.
- Advance innovation in medical education through the integration of competency-based learning, simulation, interprofessional education, and emerging technologies such as digital health and artificial intelligence.
- Lead faculty affairs, including the recruitment, development, evaluation, promotion, and retention of high-performing faculty and department chairs across clinical and basic science disciplines.
- Strengthen and expand the School's research enterprise by supporting faculty scholarship, increasing extramural funding, and advancing interdisciplinary collaboration aligned with institutional priorities.
- Oversee the financial management of the School of Medicine, including budgeting, resource allocation, and long-term financial planning, ensuring alignment of resources with academic and strategic priorities.
- Lead and actively participate in fundraising, alumni engagement, and philanthropic efforts in partnership with University advancement, cultivating donor relationships, strengthening alumni connections, and securing major gifts to advance strategic priorities across education, research, and clinical programs.
- Ensure effective governance and engagement with faculty, including shared governance processes, transparent decision-making, and accountability for performance across departments and administrative units.
- Promote a culture of professionalism, integrity, inclusion, and continuous improvement throughout the School, with a strong commitment to serving the diverse communities of Southern Nevada.

## Shared and Integrated Responsibilities

Across both roles, the Vice President for Health Affairs and Dean of Medicine will:

- Lead the continued growth and integration of the clinical enterprise, including UNLV Health, with responsibility for strengthening operational performance, expanding specialty services, and aligning clinical programs with the academic mission.

- Advance financial sustainability across the academic and clinical enterprise, including strengthening clinical revenue, optimizing state support, expanding graduate medical education funding, and supporting philanthropic growth.
- Recruit and retain specialty physicians and clinical leaders to expand access to care, strengthen training programs, and support the development of a comprehensive Academic Health Center.
- Drive performance and growth across the academic health enterprise, ensuring measurable progress in clinical capacity, financial outcomes, and program development.
- Align clinical, academic, and research priorities to ensure a cohesive and high-performing academic health enterprise that responds to the needs of Southern Nevada.

## Reporting Relationships

The Vice President for Health Affairs and Dean of Medicine operates within a dual reporting structure that reflects the scope of the role. In their capacity as Vice President for Health Affairs, the individual reports directly to the President of UNLV and serves as a member of the President's senior leadership team. In their role as Dean of Medicine, the individual reports to the Executive Vice President and Provost and works closely with academic leadership across the institution.

The Vice President and Dean will partner closely with both the President and the Provost in setting strategic priorities, aligning resources, and advancing the University's academic and health-related initiatives.

Direct reports to the Vice President and Dean include:

- Vice Dean for Clinical Affairs
- Department Chairs
- Associate Dean for Research
- Associate Dean for Graduate Medical Education and Designated Institutional Official
- Vice Dean for Academic Affairs
- Chief Information and Marketing Officer
- Associate Dean for Finance and Facilities and Chief Financial Officer
- Senior Associate Dean for Faculty Affairs
- Executive Associate Dean for Administration and Chief Executive Officer of UNLV Health
- Chief of Staff



## Candidate Profile

The University of Nevada, Las Vegas seeks a Vice President for Health Affairs and Dean of the Kirk Kerkorian School of Medicine who is a strategic, entrepreneurial, collaborative, and forward-looking leader with the ability to build and support a modern academic health enterprise. The successful candidate will bring a distinguished record of achievement in academic medicine, combined with the leadership capacity, operational discipline, and external engagement skills required to guide a complex and evolving organization.

This individual will be both an accomplished academic leader and a capable executive, with demonstrated success building programs, strengthening infrastructure, and driving measurable outcomes. They will demonstrate the ability to lead through growth and change, build effective teams and systems, and establish strong partnerships across academic, clinical, and community settings. The role requires a leader who can translate vision into execution, balancing innovation with accountability, financial sustainability, and long-term impact.

### Leadership Characteristics

The successful candidate will demonstrate:

- A builder's mindset, with the ability to lead through growth, ambiguity, and change while establishing strong organizational foundations.
- A collaborative and transparent leadership style, with a commitment to shared governance and meaningful engagement across faculty, staff, students, and partners.
- The ability to lead in a matrixed environment, aligning multiple stakeholders across academic, clinical, and community settings.
- A strategic and systems-oriented perspective, with the ability to connect institutional priorities and guide coordinated action.
- A visible and credible leadership presence, with the ability to build trust, communicate effectively, and represent the institution externally.
- Strong interpersonal and communication skills, including the ability to listen, engage, and motivate teams toward shared goals.

## Qualifications

Candidates should hold an M.D. or M.D./Ph.D. with credentials appropriate for tenure at the level of full professor and bring a record of achievement in academic medicine, along with substantial leadership experience in complex organizations that integrate education, research, and clinical care. Additional qualifications include:

- Board certification in the candidate's specialty or discipline.
- Senior leadership experience (e.g., dean, vice dean, department chair, health system executive, or equivalent) with responsibility for complex academic and/or clinical operations.
- Demonstrated success managing large and complex budgets, including responsibility for financial performance and long-term sustainability.
- Experience leading or working closely with a clinical enterprise or faculty practice plan, including understanding of clinical revenue, payer mix, and operational performance.
- A track record of developing and managing hospital and health system partnerships, including affiliation agreements and clinical alignment.
- Experience with accreditation processes (LCME and ACGME), including oversight of compliance and program quality, as well as expansion of graduate medical education and associated funding models.
- Demonstrated success in recruiting and retaining faculty and specialty physicians across clinical and academic areas.
- Experience engaging external stakeholders, including government leaders, health systems, and community partners.
- Experience supporting or advancing research programs and extramural funding, aligned with institutional priorities.

Preferred qualifications include:

- Experience serving as a dean or in a senior executive role within an academic health system.
- Demonstrated success in fundraising and philanthropic engagement.
- Experience leading in a high-growth or resource-constrained environment.
- Familiarity with value-based care models and evolving healthcare delivery systems.
- Evidence of national recognition or leadership in health policy or professional organizations.



## About the Kirk Kerkorian School of Medicine at UNLV

### Overview

The [Kirk Kerkorian School of Medicine at UNLV](#) is a young and rapidly advancing medical school established to improve healthcare access and outcomes across Nevada. The School was officially established on August 22, 2014, when the Nevada System of Higher Education (NSHE) Board of Regents approved funding for its start-up costs. On June 11, 2015, Governor Brian Sandoval signed Senate Bill 514 at the UNLV Student Union, authorizing the funding necessary to launch the School along with other supporting measures.

The creation of the School of Medicine was a strategic response to Nevada's longstanding shortage of physicians and the need for a stronger academic health presence in Southern Nevada. A study conducted by Tripp Umbach, a national consulting firm specializing in academic health and medical education, projected that a medical school in Las Vegas could generate an annual economic impact of approximately \$1.2 billion and create up to 8,000 jobs in the region by 2030. These projections underscore the School's role not only in improving health outcomes, but also in advancing economic development across the state.

The School achieved preliminary accreditation from the Liaison Committee on Medical Education (LCME) and accreditation from the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (ACGME) as a sponsoring institution in 2016, welcoming its charter class in 2017. It subsequently achieved full LCME accreditation in 2021. Since that time, the School has awarded medical degrees to nearly 300 graduates and currently enrolls more than 250 medical students.

The Kirk Kerkorian School of Medicine operates within a distributed academic and clinical model, with 12 active academic departments supported by more than 140 academic faculty, over 400 community faculty, and more than 100 administrative faculty (professional staff). This model reflects strong integration with community-based clinical partners and supports a mission-driven approach to education, care delivery, and workforce development.

### Mission

We serve our patients, students, medical professionals, and community as a transformational force for improving healthcare in Nevada.

## Vision

We will deliver high-quality, innovative education, research, and superb clinical care to meet the healthcare needs of the growing and diverse population of Nevada.

## Values

- Excellence
- Innovation
- Compassion and humility
- Inclusion
- Integrity

## Priorities

Our strategic planning efforts are grounded in continuous quality improvement processes that drive high performance and produce measurable, achievable outcomes aligned with the following strategic pillars:

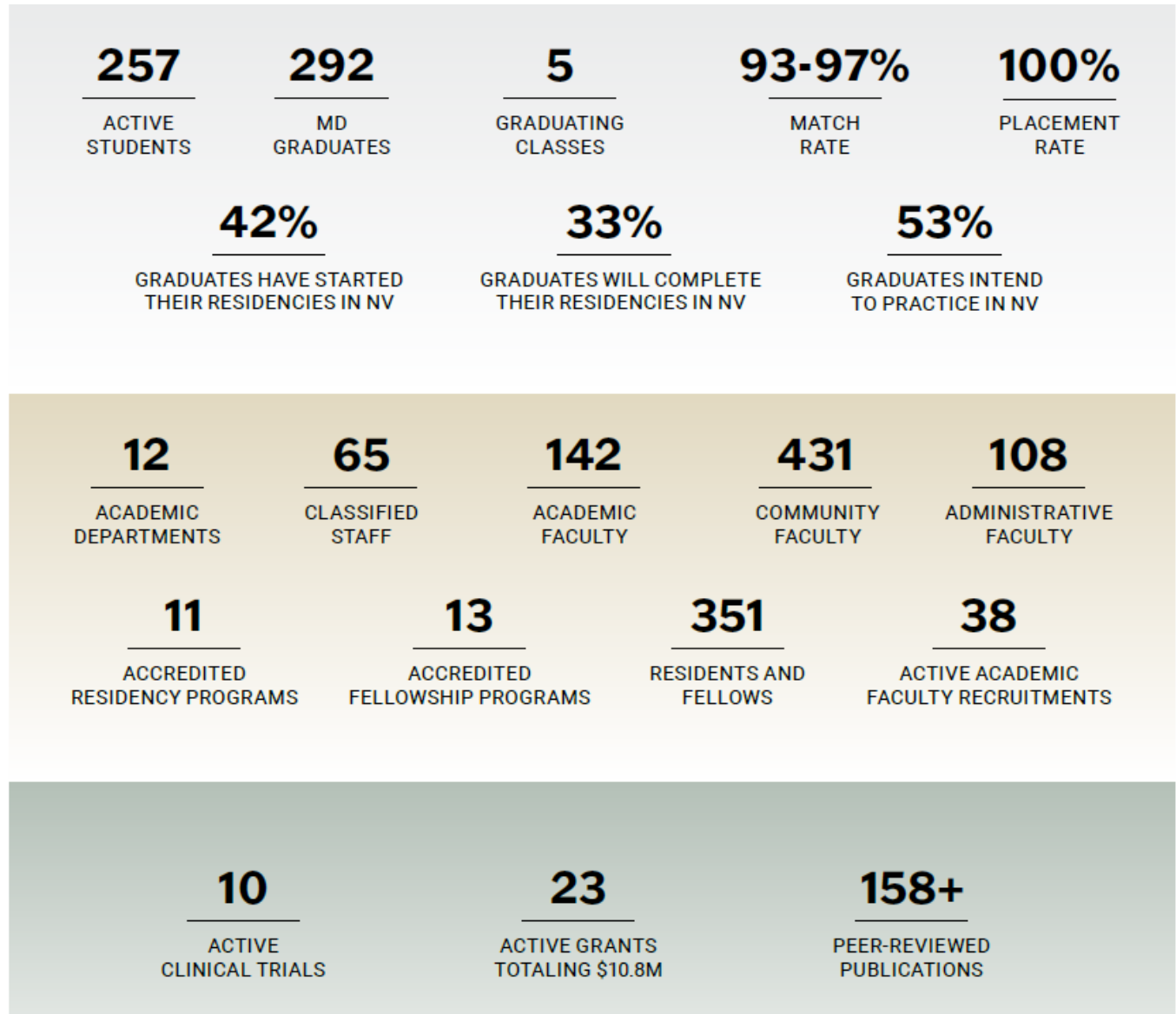
- **Education:** Deliver evidence-based curriculum and teaching techniques at all levels of education, with a strong emphasis on faculty development and educational innovation.
- **Patient Care:** Provide high-quality, cost-effective care in a patient- and family-centered environment. This includes advancing population health, strengthening ties with teaching hospitals, and forming partnerships with governmental and business organizations.
- **Research:** Expand the research enterprise to generate discoveries that improve individual and population well-being.
- **Community Engagement:** Ensure quality and access to healthcare and healthcare information for all Nevadans. This includes creating local programs to identify, educate, and market healthcare resources, and fostering strong community partnerships.

## Academic Departments

The School was approved for 24 academic departments by the Nevada System of Higher Education (NSHE) Board of Regents in 2015, with three additional departments approved since then. As of 2025, the school has 12 active academic departments.

- Brain Health
- Emergency Medicine
- Family and Community Medicine
- Gynecologic Surgery and Obstetrics
- Internal Medicine
- Medical Education
- Otolaryngology - Head & Neck Surgery
- Orthopaedics
- Pediatrics
- Plastic Surgery
- Psychiatry and Behavioral Health
- Surgery

Kirk Kerkorian School of Medicine at UNLV by the Numbers



Research

The Kirk Kerkorian School of Medicine at UNLV Office of Research supports a dynamic and growing research enterprise structured around three core teams: sponsored clinical trials, the Grant Resource Assistance & Navigation Team (GRANT), and Research & Data Analytics Resources (RADAR). From FY2016 through FY2025 Q3, over 260 grants were submitted with a 65% success rate, totaling more than \$283 million in submissions and over \$10 million awarded in FY2025 alone. Key funders include National Institutes of Health (NIH), National Institute on Aging (NIA), Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA), and other federal and state agencies. The institution currently supports 10 active clinical trials in diverse areas such as autoimmune diseases, endocrinology, and surgical innovation. Research output has been robust, with over 158 peer-reviewed publications and significant scholarly activity. Strategic development initiatives include monthly seminars, individualized mentoring, and a structured research curriculum. Ongoing efforts focus on interdisciplinary collaboration, infrastructure expansion, and the upcoming launch of a research education platform in Fall 2025.

## Education

### Undergraduate Medical Education

The fully accredited Doctor of Medicine (M.D.) program at the Kirk Kerkorian School of Medicine at UNLV is rooted in relationships between faculty and students, physicians and patients, school and community. The basic mission is simple: to educate physicians who will improve the health of Nevadans. On a deeper level, this means recruiting a diverse and talented student body that reflects the community it will one day serve.

The four-year experience is divided into three phases of study – foundations, clerkships, and career exploration – and approaches training and education in a way that will provide graduates with the comprehensive knowledge and skills necessary to meet the ever-changing needs of patients. The curriculum also helps students navigate new technologies and advancements in medicine. The program focuses on small-group learning while having a highly dedicated administration, faculty, and staff that focus on continuous improvement and provide comprehensive student support.

Since admitting its first cohort of medical students, two dual-degree programs – Doctor of Medicine and Master of Business Administration (M.D./M.B.A.) and Doctor of Medicine and Master of Public Health (M.D./M.P.H.) – have been established through partnerships with the Lee Business School and the UNLV School of Public Health.

### Graduate Medical Education

The goal of the Kirk Kerkorian School of Medicine at UNLV Office of Graduate Medical Education (GME) is to train residents and fellows to become outstanding specialists and subspecialists. Both residents and fellows provide supervised patient care at University Medical Center, the primary teaching hospital, as well as other community sites, such as the Veterans Affairs (VA) Southern Nevada Healthcare System, Sunrise Hospital and Medical Center, Mike O'Callahan Military Medical Center, surgical centers, and community physician offices. These patient care experiences allow trainees to become familiar with different populations of patients and their unique healthcare needs.

All trainees have opportunities to experience high-fidelity simulation along with standardized patient exercises. They also have access to a dedicated surgical skills lab focusing on laparoscopy, endoscopy, and arthroscopy, as well as robotic-assisted surgery.

The Kirk Kerkorian School of Medicine Graduate Medical Education programs aim to train residents and fellows to be compassionate, knowledgeable physicians who practice in Nevada to mitigate the physician shortage and contribute to the community.

### Continuing Medical Education

The Kirk Kerkorian School of Medicine at UNLV Continuing Medical Education (CME) Program is dedicated to advancing medical professionals into lifelong learners. The program is committed to providing high-quality, evidence-based professional development opportunities, and increasing physician competence through individual and team strategies, skills, performance, and care coordination, which in turn improve patient health outcomes.

Despite only receiving initial accreditation in July 2023, the program has already hosted notable events, such as monthly grand rounds and the 2024 NFL Health and Safety Super Bowl Medical Summit. In addition, the CME program has been approved as a Project ECHO (Extension for Community Healthcare Outcomes) hub, bringing healthcare providers and subject matter experts together for virtual and collaborative knowledge sharing and learning.

## Couple and Family Therapy Program

In addition to medical education, the school of medicine is also home to the Couple and Family Therapy (CFT) Program, located in the department of psychiatry & behavioral health. The program offers a master's degree that prepares students for a career as a marriage and family therapist, as well as a mental health counselor by integrating components of couple and family therapy theories and mental health diagnoses.

## Military Medicine

The Kirk Kerkorian School of Medicine at UNLV is part of the largest and most successful military-civilian partnership in the country. Along with UNLV Health, the Veterans Administration Hospital, University Medical Center, Air Force School of Aerospace Medicine, Mike O'Callaghan Military Medical Center, Air Force Special Operations, and various ground and air ambulance services, the school has created synergies that have benefited their physicians, physicians in training, and most importantly the Southern Nevada community.

40 military physicians hold faculty appointments with the school. These physicians teach residents, fellows, and medical students in specialties such as trauma, general surgery, emergency medicine, obstetrics and gynecology, and pulmonary and critical care medicine. In addition, the United State Air Force sponsors 38 residents and fellows per year in general surgery, obstetrics and gynecology, and pulmonary and critical care medicine.

## Facilities



The five-story Kirk Kerkorian Medical Education Building (MEB) offers state-of-the-art design, cutting-edge technology, and environmental advancements.

Functionality and flexibility abound in the 135,000-square-foot building, providing optimum learning opportunities with standardized patient rooms, a simulation suite, virtual anatomy classrooms, and a prosection lab. The building also houses an open forum for large gatherings, a learning resource center operated by UNLV Libraries, as well as a cafe, wellness center, outdoor terrace, and walking trail for students.

Certified LEED Silver, the building earned points by adhering to prerequisites and credits that address carbon, energy, water, waste, transportation, materials, health, and indoor environmental quality.

Additional facilities are located throughout the Las Vegas region.

## Financials

From 2020 to 2025, the school of medicine experienced notable revenue growth, increasing from \$141.9 million to a projected \$166.3 million. State support also grew significantly, climbing from \$34.2 million in 2020 to nearly \$52 million by 2025, with enhancements in FY24 and FY25 to support the medical education building, the development of an Academic Health Center, and new faculty recruitment. These enhancements were made permanent in the FY26–27 biennial budget, underscoring Nevada's long-term commitment to the school's mission.

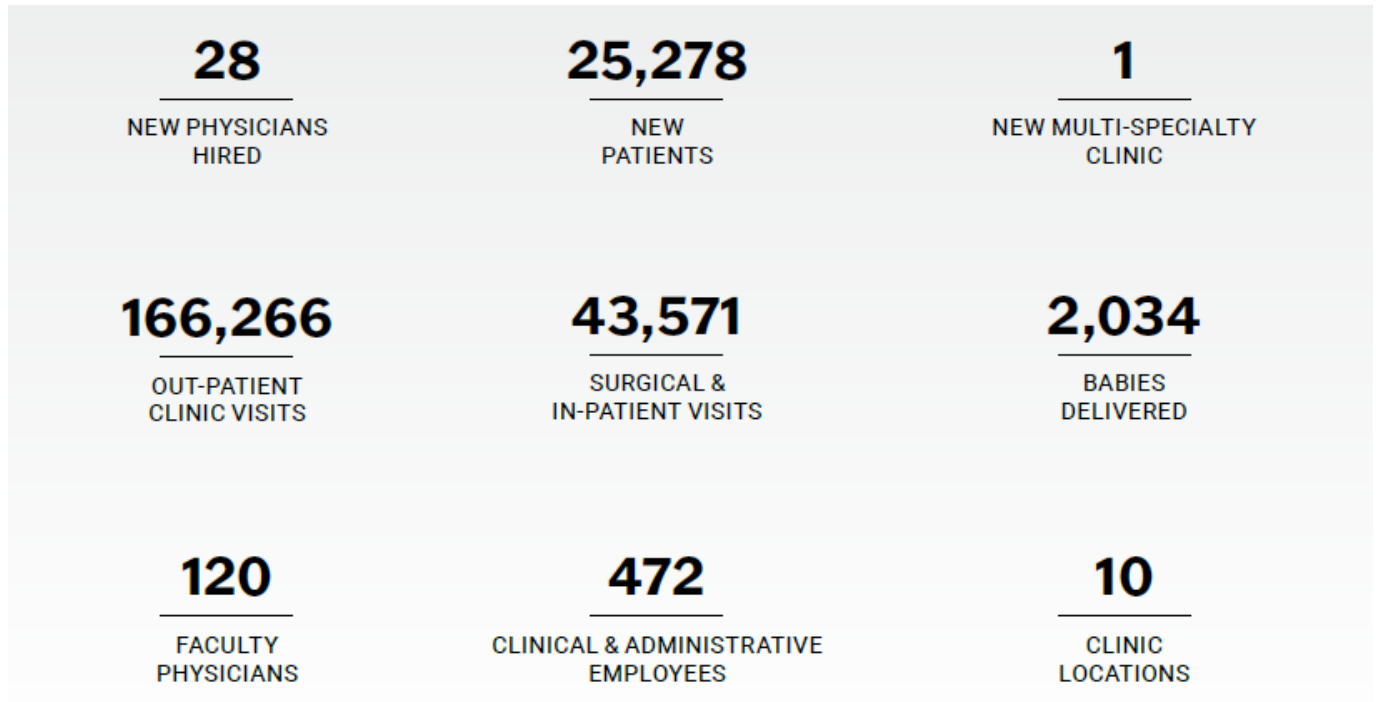
Practice plan revenues also saw major gains, reaching \$58.6 million in FY24, boosted by UNLV Health's participation in the Medicaid directed payment program, which had a \$12 million impact that year. Alongside this, approximately 40 new clinical faculty members are being recruited in the current biennium, expanding capacity to

provide care for the community while training students and residents. Although hospital revenues have remained relatively flat, the graduate medical education (GME) program continues to expand, with new residency and fellowship programs strengthening Nevada's physician pathways. Philanthropic support remains focused on scholarships, residency sustainability, and clinical initiatives, while endowment income shows gradual progress.

Overall, the school's financial trajectory demonstrates resilience and growth. With stable hospital revenues, increasing state support, clinical expansion, and strong enrollment trends, the school is well-positioned to advance its mission. Continued collaboration with state and community partners provides a solid foundation for future success, ensuring that Nevada's medical education and healthcare needs are met for years to come.

## The Practice Plan (UNLV Health)

### UNLV Health by the Numbers (2024)



UNLV Health opened in 2017 as the associated practice plan of the Kirk Kerkorian School of Medicine at UNLV. With more than 120 faculty physicians and advanced practice providers, together with residents, fellows, and over 450 administrative and clinical staff, UNLV Health is providing much needed care for Southern Nevada and its visitors. Dedicated to helping underserved communities in Nevada, UNLV Health is leading transformative healthcare while educating and training Nevada’s future healthcare practitioners.

With eight clinical departments and ten locations, UNLV Health is supporting the primary and specialty care needs of the community in its ambulatory clinics and through ongoing partnerships with the University Medical Center of Southern Nevada, Sunrise Hospital, Grant a Gift Autism Foundation Ackerman Center, Clark County School District, and others.

UNLV Health represents a central pillar of the School of Medicine’s academic and clinical mission and is a key driver of its future growth. As the faculty practice plan continues to mature, there is significant opportunity to expand clinical services, increase patient access, and strengthen its role as an integrated academic practice. The enterprise is positioned to grow through the recruitment of additional specialty physicians, expansion of ambulatory and specialty care services, and deeper alignment with clinical partners across the region.

The next Vice President for Health Affairs and Dean will be expected to lead a focused and disciplined strategy for the practice plan, strengthening operational performance, enhancing patient experience, and improving financial outcomes. This includes growing clinical revenue, optimizing payer mix, expanding service lines, and ensuring that clinical operations effectively support the educational and research missions of the School.

Visit [unlvhealth.org](http://unlvhealth.org) for more information.

## Academic Health Center

The University is actively advancing the development of a comprehensive Academic Health Center designed to integrate its clinical, educational, and research activities across health disciplines. This effort brings together the Kirk Kerkorian School of Medicine, School of Dental Medicine, School of Nursing, School of Public Health, School of Integrated Health Sciences, and other health and mental health related programs to create a more coordinated and impactful model of academic medicine.

The University Medical Center of Southern Nevada (UMC) serves as UNLV's hospital partner for the development of the Academic Health Center. This relationship is foundational to the success of the enterprise, providing critical infrastructure for clinical training, graduate medical education, and patient care. The Vice President for Health Affairs and Dean of Medicine will play a central role in strengthening and expanding this partnership, while also working with other partners to build a cohesive and high-functioning regional network.

Working in close collaboration with University leadership and fellow deans, the Vice President and Dean will help shape the strategic direction, operational model, and long-term success of the Academic Health Center, positioning UNLV as a leading example of an integrated, community-focused academic health enterprise.



## About the University of Nevada, Las Vegas

Founded in 1957, the University of Nevada, Las Vegas (UNLV) is Nevada's largest public research university and a vibrant center for education, innovation, and community impact. Designated as a Carnegie R1 institution and recognized with the Carnegie Community Engagement classification, UNLV offers more than 350 undergraduate, graduate, and professional programs across 17 colleges, schools, and academic units, including professional schools in medicine, law, and dental medicine.

UNLV's 335-acre main campus, located in the heart of Las Vegas, provides an unmatched environment for discovery, collaboration, and creative enterprise. The University enrolls nearly 34,000 students and employs nearly 4,400 full-time faculty and staff who advance the institution's mission through research, teaching, and service. Since its founding, UNLV has awarded more than 176,000 degrees and built a global network of 150,000 alumni who are driving economic activity, leadership, and public service across Nevada and beyond.

UNLV plays a pivotal role in the vitality and diversification of Nevada's economy. The University contributes approximately \$3 billion annually in economic impact through education, research, health care, and industry partnerships. With an endowment exceeding \$350 million, UNLV continues to invest strategically in faculty excellence, student achievement, research capacity, and academic infrastructure.

As a university of opportunity and ambition, UNLV provides access to high-quality education for students from across Nevada and the nation, including many who are the first in their families to pursue higher education.

Positioned at the center of a thriving metropolitan city and an economy defined by innovation, UNLV is shaping the future of the Silver State and the region through discovery, access, and impact.

## Minority-Serving Institution (MSI)

UNLV prides itself on being an institution of opportunity, dedicated to supporting students who have been traditionally underrepresented in higher education as they pursue their academic and professional goals. Designated by the U.S. Department of Education as a Title III and Title V Minority-Serving Institution (MSI) in 2012 and later recognized in 2015 as both an Asian American and Native American Pacific Islander–Serving Institution (AANAPISI) and a Hispanic-Serving Institution (HSI), UNLV enrolls a high percentage of racial and ethnic minority students. These designations reflect the university’s ongoing commitment to reducing barriers to academic success and advancing educational equity.

## UNLV at a Glance

- 335-acre main campus in the heart of Las Vegas
- 33,706 students
- 4,400 full-time faculty and staff
- 17 colleges, schools, and academic units
- 350 undergraduate, graduate, and professional programs
- Carnegie R1 Classification
- Carnegie Community Engagement Classification
- 176,000 degrees awarded; 150,000+ alumni worldwide
- \$350 million endowment
- \$3 billion annual economic impact



## Leadership

### About the President

**Chris L. Heavey, Ph.D.**, was appointed Interim President of the University of Nevada, Las Vegas in April 2025 by the Nevada System of Higher Education Board of Regents, with a three-year appointment extending through April 2028. A longtime member of the UNLV community, President Heavey has served the University for more than three decades as a faculty member, department chair, dean, executive vice president and provost, and now president. His leadership is defined by deep institutional knowledge, integrity, and a commitment to advancing UNLV’s mission through academic excellence, operational effectiveness, and community partnership.

President Heavey’s vision for UNLV centers on transformation – building the systems, structures, and culture that allow the University to fulfill its potential as Southern Nevada’s research university and anchor institution. His priorities focus on aligning academic programs, research, and operations to function cohesively and efficiently in support of student success and institutional growth. Under his leadership, UNLV is strengthening its foundation for innovation, expanding access and opportunity, and reinforcing the University’s role in meeting the region’s workforce and economic development needs.

The Vice President for Health Affairs and Dean of Medicine will serve as a key strategic partner to the President in advancing the University’s health-related priorities, including the development of an Academic Health Center, expansion of the clinical enterprise, and strengthening of UNLV’s role in addressing the healthcare needs of Nevada. Working closely together, they will align institutional strategy with health system growth, community impact, and long-term sustainability.

## About the Provost

**Lakshmi N. Reddi, Ph.D.**, will join UNLV as Executive Vice President and Provost effective June 1, 2026. Dr. Reddi is an accomplished academic leader with extensive experience in advancing research excellence, academic innovation, and student success at major public research universities.

As the University's chief academic officer, the Provost provides leadership for all academic programs, faculty affairs, and research initiatives, and plays a central role in aligning academic priorities with institutional strategy. Dr. Reddi brings a strong commitment to interdisciplinary collaboration, data-informed decision-making, and strengthening the infrastructure that supports teaching, research, and student achievement.

The Vice President and Dean will work in close partnership with the Provost to advance the academic mission of the School of Medicine, including medical education, faculty development, research growth, and accreditation. Together, they will ensure that the academic health enterprise is aligned with UNLV's broader goals for excellence, access, and impact, while supporting the continued evolution of the University as a leading public R1 institution.

## The Community

### Las Vegas, Nevada



Southern Nevada is a region defined by possibility. Las Vegas offers the amenities of a major metropolitan area in a setting surrounded by exceptional natural beauty, from the sandstone cliffs of Red Rock Canyon to the open waters of Lake Mead and the mountain forests of Mount Charleston. The area's more than 300 days of sunshine each year, proximity to the desert and the mountains, and easy access to national parks and scenic areas across the Southwest make it one of the country's most distinctive places to live and work. Residents enjoy a high quality of life, a reasonable cost of living compared with many large cities, and a strong sense of regional pride and growth.

Over the past several decades, Las Vegas has developed into one of the nation's most connected and forward-looking cities. Long known as a global center for hospitality, entertainment, and tourism, it is also home to an expanding knowledge-based economy anchored in health care, technology, advanced manufacturing, logistics, and professional services. The region hosts many of the nation's largest conventions, trade shows, and professional meetings, creating a constant exchange of ideas and expertise. This infrastructure connects UNLV to industries and organizations that value innovation and collaboration, giving faculty and students direct pathways to applied research, workforce development, and community engagement.

Las Vegas continues to attract new residents and businesses because of its accessibility, entrepreneurial culture, and spirit of reinvention. The city's global reach, diverse population, and emerging industries align naturally with UNLV's mission as Southern Nevada's public research university, expanding educational opportunity and driving regional progress. For those who choose to work and lead here, Las Vegas offers an ecosystem of growth and collaboration where the University's research, workforce development, and innovation initiatives directly influence the region's prosperity and long-term success.

## Procedure for Candidacy

All applications, nominations, and inquiries are invited. Applications should include, as separate documents, a CV/resume and a letter of interest. Review of applications has begun and will continue until the position is filled.

WittKieffer is assisting the University of Nevada, Las Vegas in this search. Please direct all applications, nominations, and inquiries to [UNLVDeanofMedicine@wittkieffer.com](mailto:UNLVDeanofMedicine@wittkieffer.com).

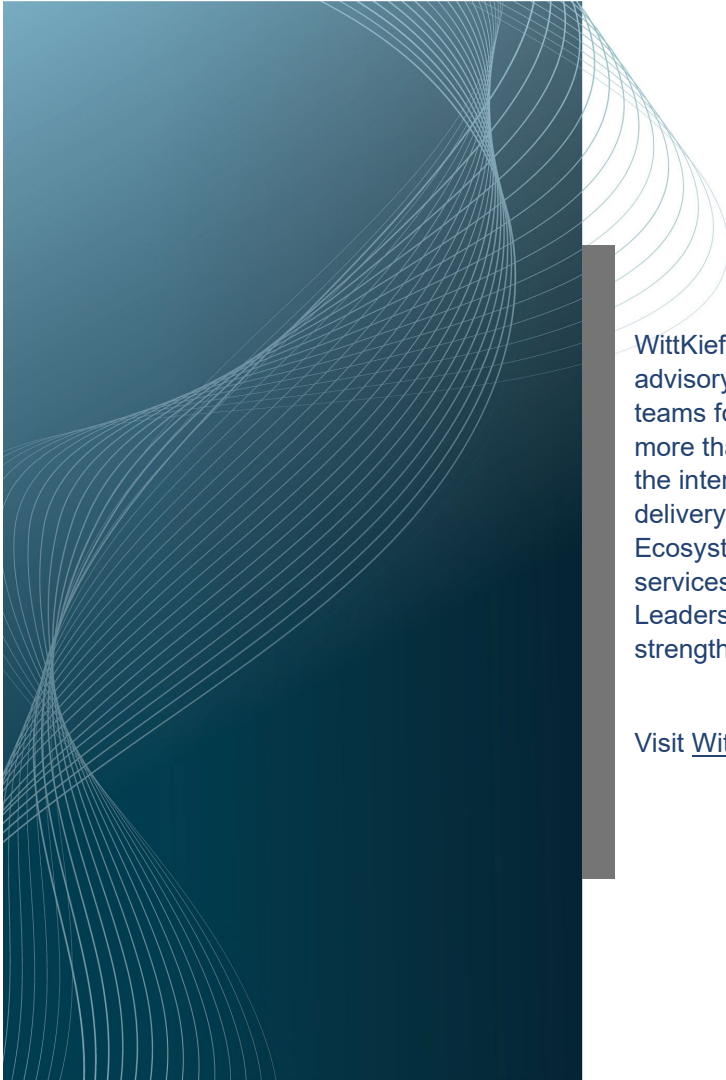
Nominations and applications may also be directed through the WittKieffer Candidate Portal by [clicking here](#).

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|--|---|---|
| <b>Kimberly Smith</b><br>Executive Partner<br>781-564-2625 | <b>Zach Smith, Ph.D.</b><br>Executive Partner<br>949-797-3531 | <b>Alana Penley</b><br>Senior Associate<br>404-788-2561 |
|--|---|---|

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