



# UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS COLLEGE OF MEDICINE

Regional Dean, Rockford Campus  
University of Illinois College of Medicine  
Rockford, Illinois

## THE SEARCH

The University of Illinois College of Medicine seeks an outstanding physician executive and medical education leader to serve as the next Regional Dean for its Rockford campus. This is a pivotal opportunity to guide a nationally recognized campus with a vital rural health mission and enduring community partnerships. In addition to advancing educational excellence, the Regional Dean will be uniquely positioned to influence public health, expand access to care, and improve health outcomes across the region and state by leveraging the campus's deep connections with community leaders and public health officials. The Regional Dean will play a central role in shaping the campus's strategic direction, strengthening academic and clinical partnerships, and elevating its visibility across Illinois and beyond.

The University of Illinois College of Medicine (UICOM) is one of the largest and most diverse medical schools in the country, with campuses in Chicago, Peoria, and Rockford. Each campus contributes uniquely to the College's mission to advance health through education, research, clinical care, and social responsibility. The UICOM Rockford campus (UICOMR) operates with the support of the broader University of Illinois Chicago (UIC) system while maintaining the autonomy to address regional needs and drive local innovation. Located in northern Illinois, UICOMR is home to a nationally recognized rural health program that shapes rural healthcare delivery across Illinois and beyond. The campus is part of the UIC Health Sciences Campus-Rockford and serves as a hub for interdisciplinary learning and community-based medical education. Since its founding in 1971, UICOMR has grown in scope and impact, becoming a four-year medical campus in 2017. Today, the campus hosts approximately 224 undergraduate medical education students and several dozen trainees.

Reporting to the Executive Dean of UICOM, the Regional Dean serves as the chief academic and administrative officer of the Rockford campus. This strategic leadership role calls for integrity, vision, and experience in navigating complex educational landscapes. As demand for physicians grows across Northern Illinois, the Regional Dean will strengthen the region's healthcare workforce by fostering innovative partnerships with affiliate organizations and aligning educational and clinical missions. A highly visible and trusted community leader, the Regional Dean will oversee faculty recruitment and development, drive innovation in medical education and research, and ensure the campus's financial and operational sustainability. With a commitment to student-centered learning, community engagement, and expanding access to care, the incoming Regional Dean will have the opportunity to lead

transformative initiatives that not only prepare the next generation of physicians but also improve health and well-being across Illinois. In doing so, the Regional Dean will address a number of key opportunities and challenges:

- Drive a bold and strategic vision for the future of UICOMR
- Recruit and retain faculty committed to medical education and community health
- Strengthen clinical partnerships to expand the UICOMR footprint
- Lead strategic growth and modernization of the UICOMR campus
- Foster a culture of collaboration, equity, and community impact

A complete list of the desired qualifications and characteristics can be found at the conclusion of this document, which was produced with the support of [Isaacson, Miller](#), a national executive search firm.

## ABOUT THE UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS COLLEGE OF MEDICINE (UICOM)

UICOM's three campuses, located throughout the state, make up one of the nation's largest public medical schools. Each campus has its own character and provides students and faculty with unique opportunities for research and study. The Chicago campus, located in one of the largest medical districts in the nation, serves a wide range of diverse and underserved patients, specifically at the University of Illinois Hospital and partnering clinics across the city, all while retaining proximity to various unique neighborhoods, such as Little Italy or Humboldt Park that offer distinguishing character to urban living. The Peoria campus is blocks from a Level I trauma center and a full-service tertiary children's hospital. The College of Medicine Rockford and its National Center for Rural Health Professions are located on the UIC Health Sciences Campus, allowing interdisciplinary learning. With approximately 1,200 students enrolled across its three campuses in Chicago, Peoria, and Rockford, students in each campus have the unique opportunity to learn in rural and/or urban environments with an integrated curriculum that is delivered simultaneously across all three campuses. The College of Medicine offers nearly 90 residency and fellowship programs to over 1,130 postgraduate trainees, consisting of three campuses with differing environments but a shared strategic vision. In 2024, UIC's College of Medicine rose to 50th in NIH research funding, receiving over \$123 million in awards. The College underwent its most recent full survey for re-accreditation with LCME in April 2018 and is currently undertaking a comprehensive Institutional Self-Study in preparation for its next full survey in 2026. The College enjoys Tier 2 ranking by *U.S. News & World Report* in both primary care and research. These achievements reflect the College's growing national impact and reinforce Rockford's role in shaping the future of healthcare through innovation, education, and service.

More information about the University of Illinois Chicago and the University of Illinois College of Medicine can be found in **Appendix I**.

## University of Illinois College of Medicine Rockford (UICOMR)

Located in approximately 80 miles northwest of Chicago, the campus is part of the University of Illinois Chicago (UIC) Health Sciences Campus-Rockford and serves as a hub for interdisciplinary learning and community-based medical education. Since its founding more than 50 years ago, UICOMR has grown in scope and impact, most recently becoming a four-year medical campus in 2017. Today, the campus hosts approximately 224 undergraduate medical education students and several dozen trainees. The campus is supported by approximately 177 faculty and academic professionals, 635 non-salaried faculty, 134 civil service staff, 26 residents, and over 140 hourly and student workers.

Coinciding with Rockford's transition to a four-year campus, the Illinois Medicine Curriculum launched across the medical school in 2017. Through an intensive process, faculty from across all campuses collaborated on curricular renewal to integrate teaching of basic sciences with clinical applications, enhance student-directed learning, and utilize active learning methodologies. The Undergraduate Medical Education MD curriculum is organized into Phase 1 (pre-clerkship curriculum), Phase 2 (core clerkships plus electives), and Phase 3 (career pathway selectives, sub-internship, and intra- and extramural electives). Themes woven throughout the four-year curriculum are: Foundational Knowledge; Clinical Practice of Medicine; Health, Illness & Society; Health Care Systems; and Professional Development. More recently, Artificial Intelligence (AI) has been introduced to the curriculum, spanning all three campuses and comprising six parts. Students learn the basics of AI; social and ethical implications of AI; AI-enhanced clinical encounters; evidence-based evaluation of AI-based applications; workflow analysis for AI-based applications; and practice-based learning and improvement regarding AI-based applications.

At the Graduate Medical Education level, UICOMR hosts a residency program in [Family Medicine](#) with tracks offered in [Rural Training](#) and [Surgical Obstetrics](#). The campus also hosts two fellowship programs in [Addiction Medicine](#) and [Headache Medicine](#). In addition to the core medical program, UICOMR offers the [Master of Science in Medical Biotechnology](#), a program focused on the development of pharmaceutical products, vaccines, and medical devices. Various Grand Rounds and other Continuing Medical Education opportunities are offered remotely through UICOMR.

To learn more, visit: <https://rockford.medicine.uic.edu/>

### **National Center for Rural Health Professions**

The National Center for Rural Health Professions (NCRHP) at UICOMR is a nationally recognized leader in preparing health professionals to serve rural and underserved communities. Certified by the Illinois Board of Higher Education and designated as a Pan American Health Organization/World Health Organization Collaborating Centre, NCRHP supports a wide array of interdisciplinary programs. The National Center for Rural Health Professions at UICOMR plays a pivotal role in advancing rural health initiatives statewide, nationally, and globally.

The [Rural Medical Education \(RMED\)](#) Program, Student Pipeline Program, Native American Pathways, and Global Health Partnership—that train students in medicine, pharmacy, nursing, and behavioral health. One of the largest and best-ranked rural medical education programs nationally, the RMED program is a supplement to the regular MD curriculum, and it recruits students to serve in rural underserved areas as rural physicians.

The NCRHP is also home to the Illinois Area Health Education Centers Network (AHEC) Program, Student Pipeline Program, Native American Pathways Program, Global Health Partnership Program, and the Rural Health Professions Program. Within the Rural Health Professions Program is supplemental education that trains medical, pharmacy, advanced practice nursing, and behavioral health students. Through innovative education, research, and policy initiatives, NCRHP equips future practitioners with the skills and commitment needed to advance health equity in rural settings locally and globally.

### **Clinical Landscape**

UICOMR operates a diverse portfolio of clinical programs that serve the region's health needs while providing robust training environments for medical students and residents. Central to this is the [UI Health Mile Square Health Center—L.P. Johnson Rockford](#), a Federally Qualified Health Center and teaching facility that houses the Family Medicine Residency Program and offers comprehensive lifespan care. Adjacent is [UW Health Swedish American Hospital](#), a 329-bed acute care teaching hospital affiliated with the University of Wisconsin and offering more than 40 specialties, which serves as the Family Medicine Residency program's inpatient partner. These institutions enable seamless inpatient and outpatient experiences for learners and patients alike.

UICOMR also continues to explore opportunities to deepen engagement with two other prominent health systems in Rockford. [OSF HealthCare](#), headquartered in Peoria, is an integrated nonprofit Catholic health system operating 17 hospitals across Illinois and Michigan, including [OSF Saint Anthony Medical Center](#) – a 241-bed hospital in Rockford, known for its comprehensive stroke center and regional burn unit. [Mercyhealth](#), headquartered in Rockford, is a nonprofit, vertically integrated regional health system with over 85 facilities across 55 communities in southern Wisconsin and northern Illinois. Its regional hub, [Mercyhealth Javon Bea Hospital—Riverside](#), is a 194-bed regional referral hospital and Level I trauma center offering advanced surgical, cardiac, and neonatal care. These institutions play a vital role in the region's healthcare ecosystem and present meaningful opportunities to expand clinical education. Strengthening these partnerships will be essential to expanding access to diverse training experiences, supporting the recruitment of clinical teaching faculty, and advancing the shared mission of preparing physicians to serve the region with excellence and compassion.

Specialized initiatives at UICOMR include the [Medical Evaluation Response Initiative Team \(MERIT\)](#), a child-centered program offering expert evaluations and treatment for suspected abuse cases, and [Correctional Health Care Services](#), which delivers comprehensive medical, dental, and mental health care to inmates at Winnebago County correctional facilities. These programs exemplify the College's commitment to serving vulnerable populations while integrating community-based learning.

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As a community-based medical school, UICOMR relies on a broad network of clinical affiliations locally, regionally, and globally that enrich student learning and extend the College's impact across diverse care settings. The next Regional Dean will play a pivotal role in stewarding and expanding these partnerships to ensure the long-term sustainability of the medical education program. There is a unique opportunity to thoughtfully align stakeholder interests around shared values and goals, advancing healthcare access and quality in an underserved region through collaboration, innovation, and strategic vision.

## Research

Research on the Rockford campus is supported by a range of programs—including the James Scholar Program, Student & Resident Research Travel Awards, and the Walter Rice Craig Scholars Program—that foster early engagement in research. Signature initiatives include the [Regenerative Medicine and Disability Laboratory](#), which integrates stem cell biology, bioengineering, and nanomedicine to develop treatments for motor neuron diseases and improve implant integration, as well as the [3D Bioprinting Lab](#), which enables the creation of specialized tissues for study. Notable breakthroughs include the development of the Shingrix™ shingles vaccine and Lfguard™, a promising candidate for preventing lymphatic filariasis. [Research Day](#), held annually each April, showcases the breadth of faculty and student research, reinforcing the campus's commitment to innovation and community impact.

## Current Context

[Dr. Alex Stagnaro-Green, MD, MHPE, MHA](#), has served as Regional Dean of UICOMR since 2014, guiding the campus through a period of significant growth, innovation, and community impact. A nationally recognized physician-executive and researcher, Dr. Stagnaro-Green brought a deep commitment to academic excellence, public health, and service to underserved communities. Under his leadership, UICOMR played a central role in the region's COVID-19 response, operating the primary testing site in Rockford and processing over 440,000 specimens through its on-campus PCR lab. He championed the expansion of research and innovation and the growth of the Master of Science in Medical Biotechnology program.

Dr. Stagnaro-Green also led the implementation of a five-year strategic plan that expanded the campus's educational footprint, strengthened the Family Medicine Residency Program, and oversaw the campus's transition to a four-year Undergraduate Medical Education program. Dr. Stagnaro-Green has also laid critical groundwork for a proposed \$100 million [Rural Health Sciences Education Building](#). This transformative project will expand UIC programs in dentistry, public health, social work, and applied health, and has the potential to double the student population—further distinguishing Rockford as a national leader in rural health education. His tenure was marked by a strong emphasis on community engagement, rural health, and equity in medical education. In recognition of his contributions, he received the Dean's Award for Excellence in Healthcare Leadership in 2019. Dr. Stagnaro-Green will step down in January 2026, leaving behind a legacy of visionary leadership and a campus well-positioned for continued growth and impact. The next Regional Dean will build on this legacy, stewarding the campus through UICOMR's LCME reaccreditation cycle in 2026 and continuing to grow UICOMR's operations and impact.

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## ROLE OF THE REGIONAL DEAN

The Regional Dean is responsible for providing visionary leadership and strategic oversight of the UICOMR campus. This includes advancing the campus's mission in medical education, research, clinical care, and community engagement. This individual will ensure alignment of the campus's mission and goals with the overall vision of the College of Medicine, guide the strategic growth of UICOMR, increase its footprint and visibility in the region, and foster innovation. The Regional Dean will work closely with campus, regional, college, and university leaders to foster a culture of excellence with an emphasis on social responsibility. They will help ensure an enhanced healthcare environment for the community, ultimately improving the overall health and well-being of people in Illinois.

Reporting directly to the Executive Dean of the College of Medicine, the Regional Dean of the Rockford Campus will lead a team of 8 department chairs and 14 campus administrators. The Regional Dean will oversee academic programs, faculty development, and campus operations, ensuring alignment with the College's mission to advance health through education, research, and community engagement. Key responsibilities also include fostering academic excellence, strengthening clinical and community partnerships by fostering collaboration across UIC's campuses, and strengthening Rockford's impact on rural and regional healthcare across Illinois. The Regional Dean oversees an annual operating budget of approximately \$30 million comprised of funding from multiple sources, including institutional funds, research grants and contracts, philanthropic and clinical revenues.

### Duties:

- Work in collaboration with the Vice Dean of Education on curriculum development efforts. Stay abreast of current curriculum trends and instructional strategies.
- Oversee curriculum implementation, program evaluation, and faculty development to enhance academic quality and student outcomes.
- Assure compliance with all College of Medicine policies that relate to student selection and admission, their subsequent education program, promotion, and the effectiveness of student support services and programs.
- Provide leadership, direction, supervision, and performance evaluation to faculty and staff; includes the elements of recruitment, development, and retention of a diverse and talented team of high-quality employees.
- Promote efforts to improve the quality of academic programs and maintain professional accreditation.
- Monitor student retention and outcome data; collaborate with academic offices to support student success.
- Build relationships with regional stakeholders, including industry partners and alumni, to promote the college and its programs.
- Lead the regional campus in meeting and maintaining all applicable LCME (Liaison Committee on Medical Education) accreditation requirements.
- Develop and implement campus policies and procedures.

- Ensure compliance with relevant policies, regulations (state, federal, and industry), and LCME (Liaison Committee on Medical Education) accreditation standards.
- Manage the budget and fiscal resources of the regional campus, allocating resources effectively, and ensuring financial sustainability and sound financial stewardship.
- Oversee faculty and staff benefits, payroll, promotion, and tenure processes.
- Work in collaboration with the Vice Dean for Clinical Affairs and the Executive Dean to align the clinical mission with research and education, drive improvements in quality while ensuring outstanding educational and patient care experiences locally and rurally.
- Work in collaboration with the Vice Dean of Research to foster a culture of excellence in research, enhance UICOMR's research portfolio, and ensure the integration of research with clinical and educational COM missions.
- Facilitate collaboration between the regional campus, clinical partners, and other external organizations.
- Represent the regional campus and advocate for its interests to internal and external constituencies, including local and state governments, healthcare partners, and community leaders.
- Oversee a comprehensive philanthropic and development strategy through cultivating and maintaining relationships with alumni, donors, and other stakeholders.
- Identify and pursue external funding opportunities to include corporate sponsorships, grants, and donations.
- Participate in and oversee the regional campus' advisory board activities.
- Promote and support initiatives to enhance diversity, equity, and inclusion within the regional campus for faculty, residents, students, and staff.

## KEY OPPORTUNITIES AND CHALLENGES FOR THE REGIONAL DEAN

The Regional Dean must be innovative, entrepreneurial, and collaborative in stewarding the operations of UICOMR and advancing its missions. In doing so, they will be responsible for addressing the following key opportunities and challenges:

### **Drive a bold and strategic vision for the future of UICOMR**

The next Regional Dean will have the opportunity to lead UICOMR into its next chapter by shaping a bold, inclusive, and forward-looking strategic vision. This vision will honor the campus's legacy while positioning it as a dynamic leader in medical education, research, and community health—particularly in the areas of rural health, mental health access, and health equity. It will also align with the broader goals of the UICOMR and reflect the distinct strengths and aspirations of the Rockford region.

This is a moment to build on momentum and deepen collaboration across departments, campuses, and community partners. The Regional Dean will guide a strategic planning process that reflects the full scope of the campus's mission—from education and research to clinical care and civic engagement—while

empowering leaders across the institution to contribute meaningfully. A thoughtful and inclusive approach will be essential to ensuring that diverse perspectives are reflected in decision-making and that the resulting vision resonates across the campus and community.

The Regional Dean will be well-positioned to elevate Rockford as a destination for top-tier students, faculty, and healthcare partners. This includes identifying new opportunities for academic innovation, expanding research initiatives that address regional health disparities, and strengthening clinical care delivery through expanded strategic partnerships. A central focus will be enhancing the student experience—through curricular innovation, campus culture, and support services—and cultivating a campus identity rooted in excellence, equity, and community impact.

### **Recruit and retain faculty committed to medical education and community health**

The Regional Dean will prioritize the recruitment and retention of faculty who are not only academically accomplished but also deeply committed to teaching, mentorship, and community engagement. The Regional Dean will foster a culture of excellence, partnership, and inclusion—one that supports faculty through meaningful research opportunities, professional development, and strong connections to students and the broader Rockford community. Many faculty members are based in hospital-affiliated practices, and the Regional Dean will play a key role in cultivating relationships with physicians who are inspired by the opportunity to shape future medical professionals. Strengthening partnerships with local hospitals and healthcare systems will be essential to attract and retain top-tier faculty, support residency programs, and expand clinical learning environments.

This is also a moment to galvanize the academic rigor of the campus by advancing basic and translational research, particularly in departments such as Biomedical Sciences. The Regional Dean will champion research across the full translational spectrum, while working to ensure equitable access to resources and recognition for both research and medical education programs. Through strategic partnerships and external funding, the Regional Dean will sustain faculty development and retention, building a vibrant academic community that reflects the values and aspirations of the Rockford campus.

### **Strengthen clinical partnerships to expand the UICOMR footprint**

Playing a pivotal role in expanding the clinical reach and impact of the Rockford campus, the Regional Dean will be charged with deepening the relationships with its three primary healthcare partners: Mercyhealth Javon Bea Hospital–Riverside, OSF Saint Anthony Medical Center, and UW Health SwedishAmerican Hospital. These institutions are essential to delivering high-quality clinical training and ensuring students have access to diverse, hands-on experiences across a range of specialties. The Regional Dean will lead efforts to enhance Graduate Medical Education programming and explore innovative models for collaboration and revenue generation that support both educational excellence and community health.

The Regional Dean will also oversee UICOMR's extensive rural training network, which includes more than 60 affiliated rural clinics and hospitals across Illinois. These sites are integral to the campus's leadership



in rural medical education and provide students with immersive, community-focused care experiences. Strengthening these partnerships will be essential to sustaining programs such as RMED, Family Medicine Residency, and Correctional Care Services, while expanding clinical opportunities through initiatives like street medicine and new residency tracks. The Regional Dean will work collaboratively with hospital leaders, local government, and community organizations to ensure clinical teaching faculty are well-supported and that Rockford continues to serve as a model for community-based medical education.

### **Lead strategic growth and modernization of the UICOMR campus**

As the Rockford campus continues to evolve, the Regional Dean will guide its physical and technological transformation to support cutting-edge education, research, and clinical care. The Regional Dean will advocate for state, federal, and philanthropic funding to support infrastructure projects that align with the campus's long-term goals, while pursuing additional creative revenue-generating initiatives and partnerships. Serving as the public face and chief advocate for the campus, the Regional Dean will effectively communicate the vision and value of UICOMR to external stakeholders to attract resources, partnerships, and sustainable fundraising – all in service of continued growth.

Within UICOM, this will also include advocating for resources such as the Academic Facilities Maintenance Fund Assessment (AFMFA) and Repair and Renovation (R&R) funds, which are directed by the College of Medicine and support capital renewal and deferred maintenance across UIC's regional campuses. A cornerstone of this strategic development is the proposed Rural Health Sciences Education Building, which will expand UIC programs in dentistry, public health, social work, and applied health.

Technology modernization is also underway, with UICOMR students now participating in a comprehensive AI curriculum that spans all four years of medical education. This initiative prepares students to critically evaluate and apply AI tools in clinical settings, and reflects the campus's commitment to integrating advanced technologies into both education and operations. The Regional Dean will champion the integration of other critical technologies—such as data analytics and simulation-based learning—into the campus's educational and operational infrastructure, ensuring that UICOMR remains at the forefront of innovation in medical training and healthcare delivery.

### **Foster a culture of collaboration, equity, and community impact**

The Regional Dean will set a clear, inspiring example as a collaborative leader, actively engaging with stakeholders across the three UICOM campuses—Rockford, Chicago, and Peoria—to advance shared goals in education, research, and healthcare delivery. This cross-campus collaboration will be essential to promoting innovation, improving access to care, and elevating the statewide impact of the College of Medicine. The Regional Dean will work closely with campus leadership to align strategic priorities, share best practices, and ensure that Rockford's voice is represented in systemwide initiatives.

Locally, the Regional Dean will strengthen partnerships with community organizations, public health agencies, and local government to reinforce Rockford's role as a trusted partner in improving health outcomes. The Regional Dean will simultaneously foster a campus culture that is inclusive, equitable, and

student-centered—one that supports faculty and staff through transparent leadership, professional development opportunities, and a shared sense of purpose. Bolstering the student experience will remain a top priority, with a focus on mentorship, wellness, and ensuring equitable access to resources.

Through strategic community engagement, public outreach, and storytelling the Regional Dean will strengthen the visibility and identity of UICOMR in the region. The successful Regional Dean will enhance UICOMR's reputation as a model for community-engaged, equity-driven medical education.

## QUALIFICATIONS AND CHARACTERISTICS

The successful candidate must hold an MD, MD/PhD, DO, or equivalent terminal degree in an appropriate field, qualify for either a [Clinical/Teaching \(CT\) or Research/Teaching \(RT\) tenure track faculty position](#) in the College of Medicine, and demonstrate a proven ability to partner and collaborate with medical education leaders at both the strategic and operational levels. The desired qualifications and experience of an ideal Regional Dean include the following:

- MD, MD/PhD, DO, or equivalent degree;
- Eligibility for either Clinical/Teaching or Research/Teaching tenure track faculty position in the College of Medicine;
- Significant and progressively responsible administrative leadership experience in an academic medical center or a similar healthcare environment;
- Proven experience in medical education, scholarly activity, and patient care;
- Prior experience with Liaison Committee on Medical Education (LCME) accreditation process;
- Strong collaborative leadership, management, and strategic planning skills;
- Excellent communication, interpersonal, and diplomatic skills;
- Demonstrated ability to build, lead, and maintain effective teams;
- Financial acumen and experience in budgetary management and resource development;
- Proven student-centric commitment while facilitating a positive work and learning environment;
- Appreciation of institutional culture and the ability to work collaboratively with diverse and community stakeholders;
- Commitment to diversity, equity, and inclusion.

## COMPENSATION AND LOCATION

General office environment, with occasional travel to the UICOM Chicago and Peoria campuses. Requires extensive computer-based work, frequent interpersonal communication, and public speaking. The expected salary range for this position is \$450,000 to \$500,000.

Located in northern Illinois along the Rock River, Rockford is a city on the rise—an increasingly vibrant and affordable community with a growing population, a revitalized downtown, and a deep commitment to inclusive progress. Under [Mayor Tom McNamara's](#) leadership since 2017, Rockford has seen significant progress: eight consecutive balanced budgets, major capital investments, and a declining crime rate. The city's population is growing for the first time in decades, and new businesses are being attracted. Rockford

combines the energy of a major city with the agility of a close-knit community. Its size allows for rapid collaboration across sectors, making it a place where community leaders can drive meaningful change.

Families enjoy a nationally recognized park district, a revitalized riverfront, and year-round cultural and recreational activities—from live music and festivals to hiking, biking, and off-road vehicle trails. The city's civic and business leaders are deeply engaged in advancing health equity, mental health access, and neighborhood revitalization through innovative public-private partnerships. Rockford is conveniently located within driving distance of several major cities—approximately 90 minutes to Chicago, 75 minutes to Madison, and just under 2 hours to the Quad Cities area of Illinois and Iowa.

## APPLICATIONS, INQUIRIES, AND NOMINATIONS

Screening of complete applications will begin immediately and continue until the completion of the search process. Inquiries, nominations, referrals, and CVs with cover letters should be sent via the Isaacson, Miller website: <https://www.imsearch.com/open-searches/university-illinois-college-medicine/regional-dean-rockford-campus>. Electronic submission of materials is required.

Jay Torio, Evan Layne, Katheryne Martínez, and Maria Peña  
Isaacson, Miller

*As an EOE/AA employer, the University of Illinois encourages applications from individuals regardless of an applicant's race, color, religion, sex, gender identity, sexual orientation, national origin, and Veteran or disability status.*

*This document has been prepared based on the information provided by University of Illinois College of Medicine. The material presented in this leadership profile should be relied on for informational purposes only. While every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of this information, the original source documents and information provided by University of Illinois College of Medicine would supersede any conflicting information in this document.*

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## Appendix I

### UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS CHICAGO

The University of Illinois Chicago (UIC) is among the nation's preeminent urban public research universities, a Carnegie RU/VH research institution, and the largest university in Chicago. UIC serves over 34,000 students, comprising one of the most diverse student bodies in the nation, and is designated as a Minority Serving Institution (MSI), an Asian American and Native American Pacific Islander Serving Institution (AANAPSI), and a Hispanic Serving Institution (HSI). Through its 16 colleges, UIC produces nationally and internationally recognized multidisciplinary academic programs in concert with civic, corporate, and community partners worldwide, including a full complement of health sciences colleges. By emphasizing cutting-edge and transformational research along with a commitment to the success of all students, UIC embodies the dynamic, vibrant, and engaged urban university. Recent "Best Colleges" rankings published by U.S. News & World Report found that UIC climbed up in its rankings among top public schools in the nation and among all national universities. UIC has over 300,000 alumni and is one of the largest employers in the city of Chicago.

UIC is nationally and internationally recognized for its multidisciplinary academic programs as well as its engagement with civic, corporate, and community partners worldwide. Located in downtown Chicago and within a few miles of the city's vibrant African American, Asian, Eastern European, Middle-Eastern, and Latinx communities, UIC is one of the most diverse universities in the nation.

With a mission to provide the broadest access to the highest levels of educational, research, and clinical excellence, UIC has grown to be the largest university in the Chicago area, enjoys the strongest enrollment growth in Illinois with a student body of nearly 34,000 enrolled in its 16 colleges and more than 2,600 faculty. Its commitment to its mission is further reflected in articulation agreements with the Chicago City Colleges. UIC is also the recipient of a \$40 million donation from philanthropist and novelist MacKenzie Scott, which was used to create a Student Success Fund, reinforcing UIC's aim to support student experience and success, the university's top strategic priority.

In parallel with its mission to provide "access to excellence," UIC is also committed to innovative and impactful research. With a research budget of \$509 million in fiscal year 2023, UIC researchers improve the health and well-being of communities. UIC has, over the years, developed strong research programs in urban education, urban planning and public affairs, computer science, public health and health policy, pharmacy, sustainability, dentistry, and bioengineering. UIC's excellence in research is made possible by the active encouragement of cross-disciplinary collaboration. In fiscal year 2022, the most recent statistics available, UIC added \$9 billion to the Illinois economy. While most of the impact is due to increased educational attainment by alumni, UIC also leaves its mark on the city and state as a top employer in Chicago by providing health care to underserved populations and by increasing the amount of royalties earned on UIC-created inventions.

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UIC is a partner of the Discovery Partners Institute (DPI), a collaborative education and research institute located in Chicago led by the University of Illinois System. UIC faculty are working collaboratively with faculty from across the system and other stakeholders to develop a vision for research and teaching activities at the DPI.

UIC currently has 16 schools and colleges that include the College of Applied Health Sciences; College of Architecture, Design, and the Arts; College of Business Administration; College of Dentistry; College of Education; College of Engineering; Graduate College; Honors College; School of Law; College of Liberal Arts and Sciences; College of Medicine; College of Nursing; College of Pharmacy; School of Public Health; College of Social Work; and the College of Urban Planning and Public Affairs.

In 2023, the University undertook a campus-wide effort to evaluate and develop goals to move the university forward collectively. To date, UIC remains focused on:

- *Student success* focusing on recruitment, retention, and graduation while fostering a sense of belonging and connection among all students—undergraduate, professional, and graduate.
- *Research infrastructure*, positioning UIC at the forefront of knowledge and discovery.
- *Community engagement* to improve access to educational opportunities and clinical care in underserved communities, making our world more equitable, efficient, and sustainable.
- *Partnership with businesses and nonprofits* to enhance faculty opportunities and strengthen student engagement and employment opportunities.
- *Faculty and staff recruitment and retention*, reinforcing that the people who make UIC excel feel seen, valued, and motivated.

More information about UIC's strategic priorities can be found [here](#).

### **Leadership at the University of Illinois Chicago**

[Marie Lynn Miranda](#), PhD, was appointed chancellor of UIC in July 2023, having previously served as provost of the University of Notre Dame through 2021 and as a faculty member in its applied and computational mathematics and statistics department. She brings a wide range of other leadership experiences from Rice University, the University of Michigan, and Duke University. She is also director of the Children's Environmental Health Initiative, a research, education, and outreach organization committed to fostering environments where all people can prosper. She is a Phi Beta Kappa, summa cum laude graduate of Duke University, where she earned a bachelor's in mathematics and economics and was named a Truman Scholar. She has a PhD and master's from Harvard University, where she held a National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship. Dr. Miranda is a fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science. As UIC's chancellor, Dr. Miranda heads Chicago's largest university with 16 academic colleges and one of the nation's largest medical schools.

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[Mark Rosenblatt](#), MD, PhD, MBA, MHA, has been the Executive Dean of the University of Illinois College of Medicine since 2019 and was appointed as the G. Stephen Irwin Executive Dean in 2023. He has also served as Chief Executive Officer of the University of Illinois Hospital and Clinics since 2024 and previously as Interim CEO since 2023. Dr. Rosenblatt was appointed Distinguished Professor of Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences in 2023 and previously served as the Illinois Lions/Charles I. Young Chair and Professor of Ophthalmology since 2014.

Prior to becoming Executive Dean, Dr. Rosenblatt served as Head of the Department of Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences at the University of Illinois College of Medicine. In addition, he served as Director of the Medical Scientist Training Program from 2019 to 2022. Before joining the University of Illinois College of Medicine, Dr. Rosenblatt was a faculty member at Weill Cornell Medical College from 2008 to 2014, including serving a term as Vice Chair of the Department of Ophthalmology.

Dr. Rosenblatt is an internationally recognized clinician-scientist. As Director of the Corneal Regenerative Medicine Laboratory, he leads groups of scientists investigating the mechanism of corneal peripheral nerve regeneration following injury, and the use of nanoengineered biomaterials for use in stem cell delivery to the ocular surface. His work in regenerative medicine has been funded by the National Institutes of Health, the Department of Defense, Research to Prevent Blindness, the Falk Family Foundation, and the Tri-Institutional Stem Cell Initiative. Dr. Rosenblatt has published widely, including over 150 original manuscripts, review articles, book chapters, and abstracts.

Dr. Rosenblatt is a graduate of the University of Miami Miller School of Medicine's Honors Program in Medical Education and the Combined MD/PhD program, receiving his PhD in Biochemistry, Cell, and Molecular Biology. He also completed his MBA at New York University and his MHA at the University of Illinois Chicago School of Public Health. Dr. Rosenblatt completed his ophthalmology residency and combined clinical/research fellowship in corneal disease at the Massachusetts Eye and Ear Infirmary/Harvard Medical School. He is a member of the Alpha Omega Alpha and Omicron Delta Kappa honor societies.