



UNIVERSITY OF UTAH HEALTH

Dean, College of Pharmacy
University of Utah
Salt Lake City, Utah

THE SEARCH

The University of Utah seeks a strategic, innovative, and creative leader to serve as the Dean of the [College of Pharmacy](#) (COP). The COP is dedicated to its mission of advancing health care through education and training; discovering, developing, and disseminating new biomedical knowledge and technology; and providing pharmacy-based services and outreach activities to the community. The Dean will join a dynamic and collaborative health science center leadership team, advocating for interdisciplinary opportunities and leading the state's only public college of pharmacy.

The COP is consistently ranked among the top colleges of pharmacy in the country, with a research program supported by more than \$29 million in grants and contracts, a PharmD program that enrolls approximately 240 students across the P1-P4 years, and PhD programs with more than 70 trainees. The College employs 71 faculty and almost 250 staff across departments of [medicinal chemistry](#), [molecular pharmaceutics](#), [pharmacology and toxicology](#), and [pharmacotherapy](#). The College maintains strong relationships with University of Utah Health Hospitals and Clinics, which serves as a major site for PharmD training and is where faculty practice clinically.

The next dean will join a thriving college and health science center, seizing the opportunity to help lead the evolution of healthcare and pharmacy practice. The dean will develop a strategic plan that builds on the College's strengths and maintains its recognition for excellence and innovation. This includes ensuring the curricula are responsive to the needs of learners and pharmacy practice, continuing to invest in cutting-edge research, partnering with other colleges in the university on interdisciplinary programs, and integrating the College of Pharmacy with the communities served by the College and its alumni. The dean is a key member of [University of Utah Health](#), the academic medical center, and plays an important advisory role for the entire health enterprise. The dean will have a PharmD, PhD, or equivalent degree, a record of exceptional leadership success, and evidence of distinguished scholarly and professional achievement.

The University of Utah has retained Isaacson, Miller to assist with this important recruitment. Inquiries and nominations should be directed confidentially to Isaacson, Miller, as indicated at the end of this document.

THE COLLEGE OF PHARMACY

The University of Utah College of Pharmacy is a leader in education and research in the field of pharmacy and pharmaceutical sciences. The COP traces its roots to 1917, when the medical school launched the Department of Pharmacy, and was officially established as the College of Pharmacy in 1946, initially offering a baccalaureate degree in pharmacy before beginning to award PhD degrees shortly thereafter. In 2002, the COP launched the current PharmD program, which includes a pathway for students seeking a dual PharmD/PhD degree, making it one of the few colleges of pharmacy to offer this option. The College is anchored on its vision to be recognized globally as the premier college of pharmacy through interprofessional collaboration and interdisciplinary-based lifelong learning, research, and patient care. The sustaining principles of the College are:

- Be at the forefront of education, research, and patient care.
- Employ interdisciplinary approaches in education, research, and patient care.
- Promote and model lifelong learning, professionalism, and community service.
- Establish and implement an evaluation plan that will assess achievement of the mission and goals.

The COP now maintains a budget of approximately \$40 million, with state support, grants and contracts, and tuition serving as the bulk of revenue. In FY25, the College received over \$29 million in grants and contracts, including more than \$10 million in NIH funding. These resources support the faculty, staff, and learners as they serve the state, training and providing care for patients, and conducting research that advances therapeutics. The College contains four departments and several research programs and centers, spanning drug design and discovery, drug delivery, optimization, and outcomes. The College is a national leader in anti-convulsant drug research, next-generation therapeutics, and pharmacotherapy outcomes and health policy research.

The COP is the primary trainer of pharmacists for the state and recently launched the First Year Free initiative for the PharmD program, providing every first-year student in the program with full tuition coverage. The four-year program combines foundational didactic and experiential learning with an intentional design towards lifelong learning techniques. The program utilizes ability-based outcomes to ensure all graduates are able to succeed in the expanding pharmacy landscape. The College also offers PhD programs aligned with each department, as well as an MS degree in pharmacology and toxicology, with other degree opportunities under evaluation.

ROLE OF THE DEAN

Reporting to the Executive Vice President of Health Sciences, Bob Carter, MD, PhD, the dean is the COP's Chief Executive and Academic Officer and provides academic, intellectual, and administrative leadership to the College. The dean leads the effort in creating a vision and advancing the missions of the College, with responsibility for the academic and research enterprise, advancement and development functions, personnel, general administration and management, compliance and risk management, and budget. The dean serves on the Health Sciences Deans Council, serving as a key advisor to the Executive Vice President of Health Sciences.

KEY OPPORTUNITIES AND CHALLENGES FOR THE DEAN

To promote a successful future for the University of Utah College of Pharmacy, the next dean will address the following key opportunities and challenges:

Set and execute a strategic vision for the College

The next dean will work with COP and University leadership to set a strategic vision for the College. The vision will consider the needs of learners, the evolution of practice, the impact of new technologies on teaching and research, and opportunities to impact the campus, the community, and society at large. Following the success of the First Year Free program, the dean will define and execute a strategic plan that keeps the University of Utah College of Pharmacy at the forefront of educational excellence, innovation in research, and advancing the practice of pharmacy.

Support innovation in education and the development of learners in the College

The education and training mission is paramount to the COP, as it is the primary source of the pharmacy workforce for the state. In 2024, almost 70% of PharmD graduates went on to residencies or fellowships, while 25% took positions in community pharmacies. As career opportunities for pharmacists diversify and expand, the training program must continue to advance to meet the needs of the next generation of pharmacists. The dean will be cognizant of these changes and active in supporting curriculum development, including the PharmD program, PhD programs, and Master's program, and in assessing opportunities for other degree and certificate programs.

Continue the growth of groundbreaking research

The College is consistently ranked in the top 10 in the United States for NIH-funded research, and COP's broad expertise across therapeutic discovery and development, drug delivery technologies, pharmacology and toxicology, and outcomes research allows the COP to lead innovation across the spectrum of pharmaceutical research. This innovation creates significant commercialization and licensing opportunities, and the COP maintains strong relationships with the Technology Licensing Office. As a founding partner and the home of the University of Utah Therapeutics Accelerator Hub (U2TAH), the COP serves as a key source of expertise and resources for supporting therapeutic development across the

university. The next dean will continue this trajectory, investing in research and supporting the recruitment and development of research-focused faculty and leaders. The dean will need to be creative in seeking funding to support research growth, leveraging federal sources, foundations, private philanthropy, and industry partnerships to diversify funding sources.

Build interdisciplinary programs across University of Utah Health and the University

The Health Sciences at the University of Utah are highly collaborative, with leaders meeting regularly to identify interdisciplinary opportunities across research, education and training, and clinical care. The next dean will join a cohort that strives to balance advocacy for their units with opportunities to advance the university and the health of the state. Health sciences leaders describe themselves as colleagues rather than competitors and view the College of Pharmacy as an integral part of an interconnected leadership team focused on whole-person health. There are promising opportunities to build across colleges in areas such as responsible AI, research, interprofessional education, collaborative clinical care, and novel educational programs, among others. The institution's entrepreneurial culture, including support for start-ups, venture funding, and corporate relationships, offers additional avenues for translating interdisciplinary ideas into impact. The next dean will be expected to embrace this integrated environment, bring forward creative ideas, and develop partnerships that advance student success, research, and service to the community.

Engage with partners across the state to grow the field

The College of Pharmacy serves the entire state, and maintaining strong relationships with other universities, health systems, pharmacies, and other community stakeholders is vital to the COP's mission. The next dean will serve as a spokesperson and advocate for the College, building and nurturing relationships with leaders in pharmacy practice and industry, educational partners, and the College's supporters. Given the importance of the College to the state of Utah, the dean will work closely with lawmakers and health systems to identify opportunities to grow the profession, defining a path for greater awareness and possibilities for pharmacists. This advocacy work will extend to philanthropy, where the next dean will engage with potential donors and alumni who are interested in supporting the mission of the College. The dean will be a willing partner for the advancement team, identifying opportunities that align with donor goals and serving as a good steward of relationships with donors.

Maintain a culture of curiosity, collegiality, and collaboration

The COP is nationally recognized for its strong collaborative research and education programs. The next dean will continue to support a culture that values intellectual curiosity and interdisciplinary research, reinforcing the drive for impact and excellence across all mission areas.

QUALIFICATIONS AND CHARACTERISTICS

The successful candidate will have a PharmD, PhD, or equivalent degree, a record of exceptional leadership success, and evidence of distinguished scholarly and professional achievement. Progressive

academic leadership experience, a strong track record of independently-funded scholarship, and a demonstrated record of fostering excellence in research, teaching, and service are required. Other preferred qualifications, competencies, and experiences include:

- Experience in a pharmacy school administrative role;
- A track record of fostering interdisciplinary partnerships;
- Demonstrated administrative experience, a high standard of professional integrity, and strong team-building skills;
- A dedication to the College's vision and missions and the ability to inspire its students, faculty, alumni, practitioners, and partners;
- Outstanding communication and interpersonal skills, with the ability to engage learners, faculty, staff, partners, donors, and community members.

APPLICATIONS, INQUIRIES, AND NOMINATIONS

Screening of applications (CV and cover letter) will begin immediately and continue until the completion of the search process. For best consideration, please submit materials by January 4, 2027. Inquiries, nominations, and referrals should be sent via the Isaacson, Miller website: <https://www.imsearch.com/open-searches/university-utah-college-pharmacy/dean>

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The University is a participating employer with Utah Retirement Systems ("URS"). Eligible new hires with prior URS service, may elect to enroll in URS if they make the election before they become eligible for retirement (usually the first day of work). Contact Human Resources at (801) 581-7447 for information. Individuals who previously retired and are receiving monthly retirement benefits from URS are subject to URS' post-retirement rules and restrictions. Please contact Utah Retirement Systems at (801) 366-7770 or (800) 695-4877 or University Human Resource Management at (801) 581-7447 if you have questions regarding the post-retirement rules.

This position may require the successful completion of a criminal background check and/or drug screen.

The University of Utah values candidates who have experience working in settings with students and possess a strong commitment to improving access to higher education.

Veterans' preference is extended to qualified applicants, upon request and consistent with University policy and Utah state law. Upon request, reasonable accommodations in the application process will be provided to individuals with disabilities.

Consistent with state and federal law, the University of Utah does not discriminate based upon race, ethnicity, color, religion, national origin, age, disability, sex, sexual orientation, gender, gender identity, gender expression, pregnancy, pregnancy-related conditions, genetic information, or protected veteran's status. The University does not discriminate on the basis of sex in the education program or activity that it operates, as required by Title IX and 34 CFR part 106. The requirement not to discriminate in education programs or activities extends to admission and employment. Inquiries about the application of Title IX and its regulations may be referred to the Title IX Coordinator, to the Department of Education, Office for Civil Rights, or both.

To request a reasonable accommodation for a disability or if you or someone you know has experienced discrimination or sexual misconduct including sexual harassment, you may contact the Director/Title IX Coordinator in the Office of Equal Opportunity and Title IX (OEO). More information, including the Director/Title IX Coordinator's office address, electronic mail address, and telephone number can be located at the: [University of Utah Non-Discrimination page](#).

This document has been prepared based on the information provided by the University of Utah College of Pharmacy. 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 the University of Utah College of Pharmacy would supersede any conflicting information in this document.

APPENDIX

ABOUT THE UNIVERSITY OF UTAH

Founded in 1850 and located in the bustling urban landscape of Salt Lake City, the University of Utah stands as the state's flagship institution and the region's hub of higher education. Also known as "the U," the University of Utah is a Tier 1 research university and a member of the exclusive Association of American Universities. Home to the state's only academic medical center, the University of Utah offers world-class patient care, education, and biomedical research to the communities it serves. Driven by the goal to become a top 10 public university with unsurpassed societal impact, the University of Utah is committed to making social, economic, and cultural contributions that improve the quality of life throughout the state, the nation, and the world. The University of Utah is one of the state's largest employers with over 4,400 faculty members and over 36,000 full-time and part-time employees. The university educates more than 35,000 graduate, undergraduate, and professional students and generated \$691M in research funding in fiscal year 2024.

The University of Utah offers over 100 undergraduate majors at the undergraduate level and more than 90 major fields of study at the graduate level. Its academic divisions include: the College of Architecture and Planning, the David Eccles School of Business, the School of Dentistry, the College of Education, the John and Marcia Price College of Engineering, the College of Fine Arts, the College of Health, the Honors College, the College of Humanities, the S.J. Quinney College of Law, the Spencer Fox Eccles School of Medicine, the College of Nursing, the College of Pharmacy, the College of Science, the College of Social and Behavioral Science, and the College of Social Work.

The University of Utah faces an unprecedented era of opportunity. Located in the middle of the nation's most vibrant economic region—Mountain West—in the fastest-growing state in the U.S., with the nation's fastest-growing economy, in a community increasing in cultural diversity, the University of Utah is at the very center of innovation and discovery. Since 2000, the U has launched 330+ companies and more than 750 products, generating 37,000+ life science jobs. The co-location of a comprehensive research university and an academic medical center makes the U one of just 12 equivalent institutions in the country.

UNIVERSITY OF UTAH HEALTH

University of Utah Health (U of U Health) is the only academic medical center in the state of Utah and provides patient care for the people of Utah, Idaho, Wyoming, Montana, western Colorado, and much of Nevada. It also serves as the training ground for scientists and the majority of the state's physicians, nurses, pharmacists, dentists, therapists, and other health care professionals. With an annual budget of \$6.2 billion (FY24), U of U Health comprises five hospitals and twelve community health care centers, five schools and colleges (the Spencer Fox Eccles School of Medicine, School of Dentistry, College of Health, College of Nursing, and College of Pharmacy) and a library, a highly ranked \$567M (FY26) research enterprise, the University of Utah Medical Group, a health plan, and one of the nation's largest reference laboratories. U of U Health is also home to numerous institutes and 19 academic centers reflecting the

health system's strengths in oncology, cardiology, metabolic health, genetics, ophthalmology, orthopedics, neuroscience, psychiatry, precision medicine, population health, and global health. Staffed by more than 27,000 employees, U of U Health is recognized nationally as a transformative health care system and regionally as a provider of world-class care.

Bob Carter, MD, PhD, FAANS, serves as Executive Vice President for Health Sciences and CEO for University of Utah Health. Prior to joining the University of Utah in 2025, he served as the William and Elizabeth Sweet Endowed Professor in Neuroscience at Harvard Medical School and Neurosurgeon-In-Chief at Mass General Brigham, Massachusetts General Hospital and Brigham and Women's Hospital.

A neurosurgical oncologist and prolific researcher, Carter was elected to the National Academy of Medicine in 2024. He is widely recognized for his contributions to brain tumor genetics, gene and cell therapy for neurological disorders, and the development of liquid biopsy techniques for glioblastoma.

University of Utah Health Hospitals and Clinics

University of Utah Health Hospitals and Clinics is staffed by more than 16,000 clinical and support services team members, 5,000 practicing clinicians, including more than 2,000 physicians who support five hospitals (University of Utah Hospital, Huntsman Cancer Institute, Huntsman Mental Health Institute, University Orthopaedic Center, and the Craig H. Neilsen Rehabilitation Hospital); 12 community health centers; 9 urgent care locations; and numerous specialty centers for cardiology, gastroenterology, men's and women's health, fertility services, surgery, neurologic conditions, and more. U of U Health physicians also provide all pediatric care through a formal affiliation agreement with Intermountain Health-operated Primary Children's Hospital.

Covering approximately 10 percent of the continental United States, U of U Health's clinical footprint includes a Level 1 trauma center and the region's only comprehensive burn center. Eight AirMed bases offer air transportation to care facilities within a 1,700-mile radius. A growing network of 22 affiliate hospitals and 53 telehealth partner sites further extends that reach through urban, rural, and frontier populations of the six-state Mountain West.

U of U Health Hospitals and Clinics is a comprehensive health system with 2.5 million annual patient visits. It is one of the state's largest providers of ambulatory care services, with more than 50 general and specialty clinics for outpatients across the region. Providers and staff deliver care in nearly 300 specialties and are market leaders in bone marrow transplants, burn care, dermatology, HIV, solid-organ transplants, oncology, neurology, neurosurgery, ophthalmology, orthopedics, otolaryngology, plastics, psychiatry, and physical medicine and rehabilitation.

The hospitals and clinics serve as the training grounds for health care providers from physical therapy to dentistry, pharmacy, occupational health, and all specialties in medicine and nursing. They are also the clinical training nexus for programs in physician assistant studies, genetic counseling, cardiovascular perfusion, public health, and medical laboratory science.