



# DARTMOUTH

Vice President and Chief Information Officer  
Dartmouth College  
Hanover, New Hampshire

## THE SEARCH

Dartmouth College seeks an ambitious, collaborative, and strategic leader to serve as its next Vice President and Chief Information Officer (CIO). Reporting to [Provost Santiago Schnell](#), the CIO will lead Dartmouth's Information, Technology & Consulting (ITC) organization and serve as the institution's senior technology strategist, aligning technology investments, operations, and innovation with Dartmouth's academic, research, and administrative priorities. The CIO will oversee enterprise technology, cybersecurity, research computing, enterprise systems, and business transformation while providing strategic guidance on technology governance, resource allocation, operational resilience, and emerging technologies. As a trusted advisor to senior leadership, the CIO will build partnerships across the institution and help position technology as a catalyst for institutional success.

The CIO will join Dartmouth at a defining moment under the leadership of [President Sian Leah Beilock](#), as the institution advances ambitious goals around innovation, research excellence, student well-being, sustainability, and community engagement. With approximately \$200 million in annual research funding and a growing emphasis on artificial intelligence, data-enabled discovery, and interdisciplinary collaboration, Dartmouth offers an exceptional opportunity for a leader who can leverage technology to amplify the institution's impact and advance its distinctive mission.

The successful candidate will be a relationship-oriented leader who thrives in a decentralized environment. They will bring the ability to align diverse stakeholders around shared priorities, communicate effectively across technical and non-technical audiences, and build trust through collaboration, transparency, and sound judgment. In collaboration with the Dartmouth community, the CIO will establish a clear technology vision, guide organizational change, and foster a culture of innovation,

service, and continuous improvement while ensuring that technology decisions remain firmly grounded in Dartmouth's priorities.

The next CIO will bring significant experience leading complex technology organizations, ideally within an academic or research environment. They will have a demonstrated record of technology strategy, organizational transformation, financial stewardship, and talent development, coupled with the executive presence and collaborative leadership style necessary to advance Dartmouth's technology needs in partnership with faculty, staff, students, and trustees.

Dartmouth College has retained the national search firm Isaacson, Miller to assist in recruiting its next Vice President and Chief Information Officer. Please direct all inquiries, nominations, and applications to Isaacson, Miller as indicated at the end of this document.

## ABOUT DARTMOUTH

Founded in 1769, Dartmouth is a Carnegie-classified R1 research university defined by a comprehensive liberal arts education combined with focused graduate programs in medicine, business, the sciences, and engineering. A founding member of the Ivy League, Dartmouth is consistently ranked among the country's best research institutions. It educates 4,500 undergraduates and 2,300 graduate students across its five schools: the [School of Arts and Sciences](#), the [Geisel School of Medicine](#), the [Guarini School of Graduate and Advanced Studies](#), the [Thayer School of Engineering](#), and the [Tuck School of Business](#). A member of the Association of American Universities, Dartmouth has forged a singular identity, combining its deep commitment to preeminent undergraduate liberal arts and graduate education with distinguished research and scholarship.

Dartmouth attracts faculty from around the world and ranks among the highest universities in the country in per capita research funding. There are over 1,000 faculty members across the institution, over 600 of whom are tenured or on the tenure track. Dartmouth provides a high-intensity research environment with world-class facilities and outstanding extramural support for scholarly activities for faculty and students. Dartmouth ranks second in the Ivy League and 23<sup>rd</sup> globally in the *Nature Innovation Index* for the long-term, real-world impact of its scholarly output, and Dartmouth researchers receive approximately \$200 million in external [research funding](#) annually. For FY25, Dartmouth forecasts a \$1.5 billion baseline in operating expenses, and the endowment stands at more than \$8 billion.

Dartmouth's talented and devoted staff provide business continuity and expertise to the ongoing operations of the institution. Higher education professionals contribute to the overall mission through strategic leadership in their respective areas. Dartmouth currently employs 3,128 full-time and 251 part-time staff members.

## OFFICE OF INFORMATION, TECHNOLOGY & CONSULTING

Information, Technology & Consulting is Dartmouth College's central IT organization, dedicated to delivering leadership, support, and consulting services across all campus communities. ITC's mission is to provide exceptional assistance to meet its clients' needs. ITC works to empower Dartmouth's faculty, students, and staff through innovative information and technology solutions. Within the office of ITC sit web services, research computing, enterprise systems, IT security, and business transformation. The Council on Computing, part of the Council of General Faculty, is also within ITC and serves as a mechanism to engage with faculty and staff about technology issues.

ITC Support includes technical assistance via chat, phone, email, and in-person services as well as specialized support. The individual schools (Arts and Sciences, Geisel, Guarini, Thayer, Tuck) all have dedicated contacts for convenience and expertise. Recent models of innovation developed within ITC include the Dartmouth Chat (AI Sandbox), which launched in May 2024. This initiative provides six large language model servers for the Dartmouth community, designed to democratize access to AI tools. ITC, through its research computing leadership, played a pivotal role in shaping this infrastructure.

## ROLE OF THE CIO

Reporting to the Provost, the Vice President and Chief Information Officer serves as the institution's senior advisor on technology, innovation, and digital strategy. Operating within a highly collaborative and decentralized environment, the CIO will align technology investments with institutional priorities, drive innovation, strengthen cybersecurity and operational resilience, and oversee the development of a modern, service-oriented IT operating model. The CIO will have six direct reports and lead a total staff of over 120.

As Dartmouth's senior technology leader, the CIO will be responsible for strengthening partnerships across the institution, bringing greater coherence to a distributed technology landscape, and ensuring that technology resources are leveraged effectively to advance teaching, learning, research, and operational excellence. The CIO will also represent Dartmouth within higher education and industry networks, cultivating external partnerships and monitoring emerging technologies and trends that can create value for the institution. Through thoughtful leadership, strong relationship-building, and sound stewardship of resources, the CIO will help position Dartmouth to navigate an increasingly complex technology environment while enabling innovation and long-term institutional success.

## OPPORTUNITIES AND CHALLENGES

***Establish a cohesive, institution-wide technology strategy.***

The next CIO will have a significant opportunity to create a deliberate, forward-looking enterprise strategy for Dartmouth's technology posture. The CIO will align ITC investments with Dartmouth's goals, determine

where resources will have the greatest impact, and provide a clear framework for evaluating new technologies. This will require assessing systems, storage platforms, processes, and contracts, balancing immediate operational needs with Dartmouth's longer-term ambitions. The CIO will have the opportunity to create greater strategic coordination at an institution where schools and units have historically exercised considerable independence.

***Build trust and partnership across a highly decentralized institution.***

The CIO will serve as a trusted adviser to senior leaders, academic deans, faculty, researchers, staff, and students while developing productive partnerships with technology teams embedded in the schools and other decentralized units. The CIO will lead decisively while also listening carefully, finding common ground, and helping colleagues accomplish their respective initiatives. The CIO will need to build influence through credibility, responsiveness, communication, and demonstrated results. The opportunity is to position ITC not simply as a central provider, but as an indispensable institutional partner.

***Align technology investments with institutional priorities and financial realities.***

Dartmouth is operating in a budget-conscious environment while making substantial investments in technology, creating an important opportunity for the CIO to bring transparency, discipline, and strategic focus to ITC's budget. The next leader will be expected to connect the ITC budget to institutional priorities, develop sustainable long-term financial strategies, strengthen vendor negotiations, and identify opportunities to consolidate systems or redirect resources. The CIO will also need to establish thoughtful service and funding models, including determining when centrally supported services should be provided broadly and when specialized, resource-intensive offerings may require cost-sharing or other support. An essential part of this work will be communicating financial choices clearly, explaining not only what Dartmouth is investing in, but why those investments matter.

***Continue ITC's service culture and responsible risk management.***

The CIO will continue to reinforce a client-focused service culture that is responsive to Dartmouth's varied academic, research, and business needs. This is an opportunity to build on existing strengths, ensure that teams are aligned, and create an operating model that can support sustained institutional change. Additionally, the CIO will need to communicate risk with precision and credibility, avoiding either understatement or unnecessary alarm, while helping the community make informed decisions about security and institutional exposure.

***Advance teaching, learning, research, and administrative innovation.***

The CIO will help shape how technology enables Dartmouth's core mission. This includes digitizing and improving institutional processes, supporting research technologies, advancing teaching and learning, contributing to online and graduate program technologies, and identifying emerging tools that can deliver

meaningful academic or operational value. The central challenge will be balancing two distinct but equally important dimensions of the portfolio: enterprise systems and administrative technologies, and the specialized computing and technology needs of faculty, researchers, and academic programs. The next leader will need to ensure that innovation is driven by institutional need, with solutions designed in close partnership with the communities that will use them.

***Develop talent and model inclusive, change-positive leadership.***

The next CIO will have an opportunity to invest deeply in the people of ITC by strengthening leadership development, mentorship, career pathways, recruitment, retention, and succession planning. The role calls for a leader who can unify a seasoned and high-functioning team, support senior directors, encourage collaboration across organizational levels, and cultivate an environment in which employees can grow and contribute to a shared vision. The CIO will model inclusive leadership through organizational decisions, communications, development opportunities, and day-to-day interactions, while fostering a culture that embraces thoughtful change and continuous improvement.

## QUALIFICATIONS AND CHARACTERISTICS

The successful candidate will have a bachelor's degree (advanced degree preferred) in Computer Science, Information Technology, Business Administration, or a related field. They will also have many, if not all, of the following characteristics and qualifications:

- Substantial experience in managing large-scale IT organizations in higher education;
- Minimum of ten years leading IT teams or organizations, including IT operations management, IT strategy development, and driving large-scale transformational change;
- Proven ability to build, lead, and inspire high-performing teams, fostering collaboration and motivation across diverse groups;
- Strong interpersonal and communication skills, with the ability to engage effectively with community stakeholders and senior leadership;
- Extensive experience in budgeting, financial forecasting, and managing IT-related financial strategies;
- In-depth knowledge of IT governance frameworks, such as COBIT, ITIL, and ISO 27001;
- Comprehensive understanding of current and emerging technologies, including the ability to prototype and implement innovative solutions;
- Strong decision-making abilities, particularly in risk management and strategic planning;
- Ability to anticipate and capitalize on future trends and opportunities to advance the organization's goals;
- Active participation in professional organizations and industry networks, staying connected with the latest developments;
- Demonstrated integrity, ethical behavior, and a commitment to diversity and inclusion in both professional and organizational settings;

- Positive attitude towards change, with the ability to lead and embrace innovation.

### **Location**

*This position is an on-site role with the CIO located in the greater Hanover, NH region.*

Dartmouth is known for its profound sense of place. Frequently ranked one of the most beautiful colleges in America, the Dartmouth campus offers mountain vistas, towering pines, and a pastoral setting in the deep green Upper Valley. The natural beauty of the campus is just one aspect of what gives Dartmouth's campus its vivid color and energy. Members of the Dartmouth community have access to unparalleled opportunities, through all four seasons, to explore the outdoors. Just steps away, the sophisticated college [town of Hanover](#) offers restaurants, shops, and a wide array of services. At the edge of campus, the renowned [Hopkins Center for the Arts](#), named by the National Endowment for the Arts as one of the nation's exemplary performing arts centers, integrates the Dartmouth community into downtown life.

## **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 for the search: <https://www.imsearch.com/open-searches/dartmouth-college/vice-president-and-chief-information-officer>

Becca Kennedy, Managing Partner  
Kristen Andersen, Senior Associate  
Ryan Smillie, Managing Search Coordinator  
Isaacson, Miller

*Dartmouth College is an equal opportunity employer under federal law. We prohibit discrimination on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, age, national origin, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, disability, veteran status, marital status, or any other legally protected status. Applications are welcome from all.*

*Dartmouth is committed to accessibility for its community. If you are an applicant with a disability and would like to request a reasonable accommodation to aid in the job application and/or interview process, please email: [ADA.Institutional.Diversity.and.Equity@Dartmouth.edu](mailto:ADA.Institutional.Diversity.and.Equity@Dartmouth.edu). In the subject line, please state application accommodations and include the job number or title. Someone from the ADA/504 Office will be in touch within 2 business days.*

*This document has been prepared based on the information provided by Dartmouth College. 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*

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