



LOYOLA
UNIVERSITY CHICAGO

**PARKINSON SCHOOL
OF HEALTH SCIENCES
AND PUBLIC HEALTH**

Opportunity and Challenge Profile

Dean, Parkinson School of Health Sciences and Public Health
Loyola University Chicago
Chicago, IL

THE SEARCH

Loyola University Chicago (Loyola) seeks an innovative leader to serve as the Dean of the Parkinson School of Health Sciences and Public Health. The School is one of 14 Schools, Colleges, and degree-granting Institutes at one of the largest Jesuit universities in the country. Loyola has experienced tremendous growth in multiple domains, including undergraduate enrollment, student success, healthcare innovation, research activity, physical footprint, and academic programs. Motivated by its Jesuit commitment to social justice and formative education, Loyola has earned recognition on the national higher education landscape for its mission-centered educational experience, rising research profile, healthcare programs, and engagement with the Chicago community and beyond. In 2025, Loyola attained the highest research classification, Research 1 (R1) by The American Council on Education (ACE) and the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching (Carnegie Foundation).

The Parkinson School is uniquely positioned, through its partnership with Loyola Medicine and Trinity Health, to develop academic and research programs that meet the needs of an expanding healthcare environment. The Parkinson School is well-positioned to grow academic programs in health-related fields alongside the Stritch School of Medicine and the Marcella Niehoff School of Nursing. The new dean will be expected to continue developing new academic programs to meet the future needs of healthcare. Graduates of these programs will be well-prepared to tackle dynamic health-related needs and public policy issues, particularly as they pertain to the underserved and those living on the margins. They will not only bring practical expertise grounded in academic rigor but also display compassionate and holistic care of the person, as articulated in Jesuit principles and traditions.

The Loyola Health Sciences campus in Maywood, Illinois (west of Chicago) includes the Loyola University Medical Center, owned and operated by Trinity Health. This provides exciting and distinct opportunities for collaboration across the University and with clinical partners to reimagine the possibilities for interdisciplinary and inter-professional teaching, research, and service, and leverage the expansive clinical resources of the Trinity Health system.

The dean must have a strong track record of building successful and innovative academic programs, be committed to solving healthcare inequities with compassion consistent with Loyola's Jesuit mission and ideals. Significant experience in academic leadership, education, and research or scholarship is expected. A full list of the desired qualifications and characteristics of the dean is listed at the conclusion of this document. All confidential applications, inquiries, and nominations should be directed to the parties listed at the conclusion of this document.

ABOUT LOYOLA UNIVERSITY CHICAGO AND THE HEALTH SCIENCES

Loyola enrolls more than 16,000 students across four campuses: Lake Shore, Water Tower, Health Sciences, and Loyola Rome in Italy, and is home to 14 schools, colleges, and degree-granting institutes: the Parkinson School of Health Sciences and Public Health, the Marcella Niehoff School of Nursing, and the Stritch School of Medicine; and the College of Arts and Sciences, the Quinlan School of Business, the School of Communication, the School of Continuing and Professional Studies, the School of Education, the School of Law, the School of Social Work, the Graduate School, Arrupe College, the School of Environmental Sustainability, and the Institute of Pastoral Studies. Loyola's footprint also includes a Retreat and Ecology Campus in Woodstock, Illinois. The University offers more than 80 undergraduate majors and 80 undergraduate minors, as well as more than 140 graduate and professional degree programs.

Recognizing Loyola's excellence, U.S. News and World Report consistently ranks it among the top "national universities" (#121 in the 2027 edition). Loyola is also among a select group of universities recognized for community service and engagement by prestigious national organizations like the Carnegie Foundation and the Corporation for National and Community Service. Loyola operates three major campuses in the Chicago metropolitan area:

The Lake Shore Campus is in Chicago's Rogers Park and Edgewater communities. Lake Shore Campus is the primary residential campus and academic home to the College of Arts and Sciences, the School of Environmental Sustainability, and graduate studies in arts, social sciences, and sciences. In addition, the Lake Shore Campus serves as the academic campus for the undergraduate programs in the Marcella Niehoff School of Nursing and Parkinson School of Health Sciences and Public Health.

The downtown campus, known as the Water Tower Campus, is the primary home for the Administrative Offices of the University; the professional schools of Business, Communication, Education, Law, Social Work, and Continuing and Professional Studies; the Institute of Pastoral Studies, and Arrupe College. Approximately 400 students reside in Baumhart Hall at the Water Tower location.

The Health Sciences Campus is in the Chicago suburb of Maywood and is home to the university's health sciences research enterprise. It includes the Parkinson School of Health Sciences and Public Health, the Stritch School of Medicine, the Marcella Niehoff School of Nursing, and the Loyola University Medical

Center. The Health Sciences Campus also comprises the biomedical programs of the Graduate School. All three Schools located on the Health Sciences campus share a common mission to advance the University's commitment to a socially just world by developing healthcare leaders and improving human health through education and research, all grounded in Jesuit, Catholic values. Built in 2016, the Center for Translational Research and Education, a state-of-the-art 225,000-square-foot building, is also co-located on the Health Sciences campus.

Through agreements with the University, Loyola Medicine provides clinical and teaching facilities for the University's health sciences programs. The future of Loyola includes a deepening partnership with Trinity Health and growing the breadth and depth of academic programs in the Health Sciences. In addition, the Edward Hines, Jr. VA hospital, whose grounds are adjacent to the Health Sciences Campus, also provides students and faculty with substantial cross-collaboration opportunities.

Loyola University Health System is also a member of the Chicago Area Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Network (CAPriCORN), which brings together research institutions, clinicians, patients, and patient advocates to implement policies and programs to improve healthcare quality and health outcomes for the region. Other exciting research collaborations include the Institute for Translational Medicine, funded by the National Center for Advancing Translational Sciences (NCATS) of the National Institutes of Health (NIH).

ABOUT THE PARKINSON SCHOOL OF HEALTH SCIENCES AND PUBLIC HEALTH

The Parkinson School of Health Sciences and Public Health opened in the fall of 2019 and delivers education that stresses the importance of knowledge, curiosity, global perspectives, and offers an opportunity for *cura personalis*, or "care for the whole person." The Parkinson School offers degree programs within four disciplines of study:

- Applied Health Sciences
- Health Informatics and Data Sciences
- Healthcare Operations/Administration
- Public Health

The Parkinson School at Loyola offers undergraduate programs in: Exercise Science (BS), Healthcare Administration (BS), Health Science (BS), Public Health (BS and BA). At the graduate level, Parkinson offers: Dietetics/Nutrition (MS), Exercise Science (MS), Healthcare Administration (MHA), Medical Laboratory Science (MS), and Public Health (MPH). The school also offers dual degree programs: Public Health and Medicine (MD/MPH) and Social Work/Public Health (MSW/MPH). In addition, the school offers non-degree programs in: Clinical Certificate in Blood Banking, Clinical Certificate in Hematology, and Clinical Certificate in Microbiology.

There are currently 508 undergraduate students and 168 graduate students enrolled in existing programs, with strong projected enrollment growth in the next few years. Future students at the Parkinson School will be a combination of undergraduate, graduate, and professionals who seek additional knowledge within their careers or seek a new career in healthcare and/or public health.

Loyola is in a unique position to be a transformative force in the changing healthcare landscape. Loyola's distinctive market advantage is enhanced by its affiliation with a national health system, Trinity Health, which provides numerous clinical experience sites, a vast collection of electronic clinical data spanning its entire network, a geographically dispersed applicant pool, and employment opportunities for future graduates. Furthermore, the School's close proximity to the SSOM, MNSON, and the Edward Hines, Jr. VA Hospital offers opportunities for collaboration, interprofessional education, and innovation in teaching and research.

The Parkinson School also houses a new Center for Health Innovation and Entrepreneurship, a creative and dedicated space for collaborative education that will incubate health sciences innovation and business development among local and national health sciences entrepreneurs, faculty, students, business leaders, and members of industry.

The school currently is home to 39 full-time faculty members, of which 22 are tenured or tenure-track.

ROLE OF THE DEAN OF THE PARKINSON SCHOOL OF HEALTH SCIENCE AND PUBLIC HEALTH

The dean serves as the chief academic and administrative officer of the Parkinson School of Health Sciences and Public Health and reports to the University Provost. The current Provost is Douglas W. Woods, Ph.D. The dean serves on the Provost's Deans' Council.

The Parkinson School's annual operating budget is developed through the University's annual budget building process and is supported by tuition and fee revenues, contributions, and grants and contracts revenue. The school's launch was bolstered by a \$20 million lead gift from alumni Robert L. and Elizabeth M. Parkinson, with funds allocated to the dean's endowment for strategic initiatives, student scholarships, and the creation of the Center for Health Innovation and Entrepreneurship. The Center for Health Outcomes and Informatics Research is also supported by an endowment.

The dean will channel this substantial and exciting support from the University and its partners to empower and embolden the Parkinson School's dedicated faculty, students, and staff to answer society's most pressing healthcare challenges.

KEY OPPORTUNITIES AND CHALLENGES FOR THE DEAN

The dean will address the following opportunities and challenges:

Develop and implement a strategic vision for the Parkinson School

The Dean of Parkinson School of Health Sciences and Public Health will arrive amid dynamic national changes in healthcare. As such, the dean will provide bold vision and leadership to guide the Parkinson School to meet the needs of an evolving healthcare landscape and workforce. Consistent with the University strategic plan, the dean will deftly translate vision into action, identifying potential innovations and collaborations, while also creating an entrepreneurial environment that will encourage and support constant knowledge, discovery, and growth.

In keeping with Loyola's Jesuit mission, the dean will foster a culture and community rooted in learning and justice. By leveraging the Parkinson School's existing programs, identifying current trends in healthcare, and partnering across a co-located Health Sciences Campus, the dean will inspire inter-professional and interdisciplinary approaches to health education to better serve society, respond to our most vulnerable populations, and maximize health equity. Critical to those efforts will be sustainable, community-based programs and interventions with lasting impact on Loyola's neighbors in Maywood, the greater Chicago area, and around the world.

Expand and diversify the Parkinson School's academic offerings and student body

The dean will identify community needs and market opportunities to significantly increase student enrollment. In addition to attracting new students to the Loyola community, programs will entice current Loyola undergraduates and alumni to further their education at Loyola. Flexible credentialing, desirable program formats and modalities, and close coordination with industry partners will attract lifelong learners seeking to further their education.

The dean will expand the repertoire of the Parkinson School's academic disciplines, introducing inter-professional and innovative programs to equip students with the skills necessary to respond to today's rapidly changing healthcare environment and pressing policy questions. The Parkinson School's students will graduate ready to address complex patient needs, as well as fulfill critically needed roles in industry, government, and academia.

The dean will approach recruitment and enrollment management with a dedicated commitment to inclusive excellence and equitable opportunities.

Further develop the identity and internal culture of the Parkinson School

For the School to reach its tremendous potential, the dean must work collaboratively to maintain and further develop a sustainable culture that values innovation, collaboration, shared governance, transparency, and respect for the wide range of disciplines housed within the Parkinson School. The dean will facilitate an environment and organizational structure across campuses that inspire faculty to engage in cross-disciplinary research, expand program development, and seek external funding opportunities. The dean will need to understand and support the diverse accreditation standards and programs of each department and/or discipline. This will require the development and empowerment of a strong leadership team, the ability and willingness to travel across the three campuses, and strong communication skills and abilities to employ technology to create a sense of community.

The dean will also work closely with administration and other departments across the Health Sciences and the University to find creative ways to advance the Parkinson School, other schools and colleges, and the University as a whole. In advancing the Parkinson School's identity, the dean will look not only to its faculty, students, and staff, but also to the graduates of its programs, to build an alumni base that identifies with the Parkinson School and remains invested in its success.

Foster faculty and staff development and a successful research enterprise

As student enrollment grows and educational offerings expand, the Parkinson School Dean will work to recruit and retain faculty dedicated to the inclusive, Jesuit Catholic Mission and to excellence in teaching, research, and clinical operations, diligently working to ensure implementation of an inclusive recruitment and retention strategy. The dean will ensure that all faculty and staff members are provided opportunities for development and advancement and will be treated as valued members of the Parkinson School community, rewarded and recognized for their contributions and achievements.

This individual will implement new initiatives to nurture the growth and development of junior faculty members, particularly those on the tenure track, providing mentorship and the tools required to advance through tenure and promotion processes.

Manage and grow resources to bolster the Parkinson School's future

The realization of the Parkinson School's goals will require an ability to identify opportunities for revenue generation and astute operational oversight. The dean must actualize new programs in a sustainable manner and proactively pursue extramural funding partnerships with government, corporations, and foundations, among others. This individual will also engage alumni and donors to buoy philanthropic support for teaching, research, financial aid, and capital construction. Keen attention toward stewardship will be crucial for the new dean to guide transformational gifts toward effective and efficient use.

Forge external partnerships and broaden the Parkinson School's visibility and reach

The Parkinson School will require support from, and partnerships with, a variety of constituents. The dean will serve as an ambassador for the school, establishing enduring relationships throughout Chicagoland and beyond, and positioning the Parkinson School to best serve our community.

Building upon the groundwork of Loyola's current strengths and relationships, the dean must continue to build and nurture collaborative partnerships with Trinity Health, other academic partners and hospitals, social services, community organizations, and health and governmental agencies to strengthen Loyola's contribution to the health of the region, as well as ensuring ample clinical placement and career opportunities for its students and graduates.

QUALIFICATIONS AND CHARACTERISTICS

The successful candidate will hold a terminal degree in a field relevant to health sciences and/or public health. Significant experience in academic leadership, program development, education, and research or scholarship is expected.

In addition, the successful candidate will meet most, if not all, of the following criteria:

- Distinguished record of academic and/or professional achievement
- Strong record of accomplishment in educational program development
- Evidence of national or international recognition in area of expertise
- A record of actions that align with Loyola's Catholic, Jesuit traditions, and values
- Commitment to and a track record of supporting excellence in teaching, research and scholarship, and service
- Demonstrated commitment to creating and fostering an inclusive environment
- Experience working at an academic health sciences center
- Belief in shared governance; faculty, staff, and student engagement; commitment to transparent communication at all levels; and the recognition of the value of others' experience and insights
- Proven ability to engage students, faculty, staff, alumni, university administration, external funding agencies, accrediting bodies, clinical and community partners, and other stakeholders
- Broad vision of the healthcare system and workforce needs
- Demonstrated commitment to inter-professional learning and practice
- Significant administrative and leadership experience, including evidence of highly effective strategic and financial management, planning, decision-making, change management, and implementation
- Experience in the recruitment and development of excellent faculty, staff, and students
- Demonstrated knowledge of accreditation and credentialing processes
- Proven ability to build effective partnerships within a school and across a diverse university and broader community
- An entrepreneurial, collaborative, creative, and driven spirit
- Exceptional interpersonal skills, including collegiality and collaboration

- Interest in and capacity for achieving success in fundraising and philanthropy
- High standard of professional integrity and strong sense of professional ethics

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/loyola-university-chicago-parkinson-school-health-sciences-and-public-health/dean>.

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As a Jesuit, Catholic institution of higher education, we seek candidates who will contribute to our strategic plan to deliver a Transformative Education in the Jesuit tradition. To learn more about Loyola University Chicago's mission, candidates should consult our website at www.luc.edu/mission/. For information about the university's focus on transformative education, they should consult our website at www.luc.edu/transformativeed.

Loyola University Chicago strives to be an employer of choice by offering its staff and faculty a wide array of affordable, comprehensive, and competitive benefits. To view our benefits in detail, [click here](#). Loyola adheres to all applicable federal, state, and/or local civil rights laws and regulations prohibiting discrimination in private institutions of higher education. Please see the University's [Nondiscrimination Policy](#).

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