Columbia University

Executive Vice President for Health and Biomedical Sciences, Chief Executive Officer of Columbia University Irving Medical Center, and Dean of the Vagelos College of Physicians and Surgeons

NEW YORK CITY, NEW YORK

The Search

Columbia University seeks an exceptional, nationally recognized academic medicine leader to serve as the next Executive Vice President for Health and Biomedical Sciences, Chief Executive Officer of the Columbia University Irving Medical Center, and Dean of the Vagelos College of Physicians and Surgeons (EVP/Dean). This is an extraordinary opportunity to lead Columbia University Irving Medical Center (CUIMC) at a consequential moment for academic medicine and to shape the future of one of the world's most distinguished academic health sciences enterprises. The EVP/Dean will provide leadership across CUIMC and the Vagelos College of Physicians and Surgeons (VP&S), advancing excellence across research, education, clinical care, and community health while bringing together the extraordinary intellectual and clinical strengths of Columbia University and its longstanding clinical partner, NewYork-Presbyterian (NYP). This next leader will be called upon to articulate a bold, collaborative vision for CUIMC's future and strengthen connections across its missions, schools, and the larger university. They will also cultivate the trust, partnerships, and resources necessary to translate Columbia's scientific excellence into meaningful advances in human health.

CUIMC enters this search from a position of strength. This leader will oversee an institution that is poised to lead development of the clinical care model of the future, continue pioneering breakthrough research, elevate education in response to a rapidly changing profession, and advance community health through partnership. Its clinical enterprise reaches patients at more than 100 sites across the tri-state area with $1.9 billion in patient care revenue in FY25, accounting for 26 percent of the University's operating budget. Columbia's provider workforce has grown 50 percent since 2010 to support this clinical growth. The educational mission similarly is on a strong path: the VP&S MD

program recently received full LCME accreditation for the maximum eight-year term, and its 2026 graduating class achieved a 100 percent match rate.

Discovery is central to Columbia's identity, and VP&S is the recipient of more than $500 million in external funding in FY2025, representing an increase of $223 million, or 79 percent, from FY2015. The institution is advancing cutting-edge work spanning gene and cell therapies, artificial intelligence, cancer, rare diseases, translational science, among other areas of biomedical discovery. The Irving Institute's $75 million CTSA grant was renewed in June 2026, while new investments include the Vagelos Innovation Laboratories, described as New York City's first all-electric biomedical research building, with state-of-the-art laboratories and spaces designed to encourage collaboration.

The next EVP/Dean also arrives at a significant moment in the evolution of Columbia's clinical enterprise and its relationship with NYP. This partnership, which shares a history stretching back more than a century, is the essential clinical platform for Columbia’s patient care, research, and educational missions. Columbia, NYP, and Weill Cornell Medicine are engaged in a combined strategic planning process focused on patient-centered, sustainable growth.

Reporting to the President and working collaboratively with the University’s senior leadership, CUIMC’s other deans and department chairs, trustees, NYP leadership, faculty, donors, and community partners, the EVP/Dean will be charged with articulating a bold vision for the future of CUIMC. The EVP/Dean will have the opportunity to extend and strengthen Columbia’s leadership by recruiting and developing exceptional talent; investing strategically in research, clinical programs, and infrastructure; expanding ambulatory care and Columbia’s reach across the broader New York market; sustaining excellence in education; leveraging the Columbia-NYP partnership; building greater integration across CUIMC and the University; and expanding philanthropy and investment capacity. Central to this mandate will be identifying the areas in which Columbia can invest to achieve international distinction while preserving the integration of science and clinical medicine that is fundamental to its identity. Candidates must have an MD, MD/PhD, or equivalent clinical doctoral degree, be board-certified in their specialty, have a record commensurate with appointment at the rank of Professor with tenure, and be eligible for licensure as a physician in the State of New York.

Columbia University

Founded in 1754, Columbia University in the City of New York encompasses 17 graduate and professional schools and enrolls over 9,700 undergraduates and more than 26,100 graduate and professional students. The University extends across three campuses in upper Manhattan in the Morningside Heights neighborhood, Manhattanville, and the Medical Center in Washington Heights. Called “the quintessential great urban university,” like the City of New York, it is diverse in every way: students come from all 50 states and over 90 other countries.

Dr. Jennifer Mnookin became the 21st President of Columbia University on July 1, 2026, following four years as Chancellor of the University of Wisconsin-Madison, where she led an institution of more than 50,000 students and 25,000 faculty and staff. A nationally recognized legal scholar whose work focuses on the intersection of law and science, she previously served for seven years as Dean of the UCLA School of Law. An elected member of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, she holds an AB from Harvard University, a JD from Yale Law School, and a PhD from MIT.

Columbia University Irving Medical Center

Rooted in its storied history as the world’s first academic medical center, Columbia University Irving Medical Center (CUIMC) provides international leadership in basic, preclinical, and clinical research; medical and health sciences education; and patient care. It is the largest medical research enterprise in New York City and State and one of the largest faculty medical practices in the Northeast. The medical center trains future leaders and draws on the dedicated work of many physicians, scientists, public health professionals, dentists, and nurses across four schools and colleges: the Vagelos College of Physicians and Surgeons, the Mailman School of Public Health, the College of Dental Medicine, and the School of Nursing. The biomedical departments of the Graduate School of Arts and Sciences as well as numerous allied research centers and institutions collaborate closely with CUIMC.

CUIMC is situated on a 20-acre campus in Northern Manhattan and accounts for roughly half of Columbia University’s nearly $5 billion annual budget. The Medical Center includes approximately 3,018 full-time faculty, more than 4,700 enrolled students, and over 40 centers and institutes. For more information about the four schools and colleges, please see the appendix.

Clinical Affiliations

CUIMC's major teaching hospital affiliates are NewYork-Presbyterian Hospital (NYP) and the New York State Psychiatric Institute (NYSPI), both of which share the CUIMC campus. The affiliation relationship between Columbia and NYP dates back 115 years. In 1928, the joint Columbia-Presbyterian Medical Center officially opened as the world's first integrated center for clinical care, research, and teaching. Today, NYP is one of the nation's largest and most comprehensive academic healthcare systems and is uniquely affiliated with two Ivy League medical schools: Columbia University Vagelos College of Physicians and Surgeons and Weill Cornell Medicine. For 22 years running, NYP has been recognized as one of the best hospitals in the nation by *U.S. News & World Report* and is the nation's only hospital ranked in the top 15 in 14 of 15 specialties, including 8 specialties in the top 5.

NYP encompasses 10 campuses, more than 450 primary and specialty care clinics and medical practices, 4,000+ beds, 45,000 employees, 10,000 affiliated physicians, 14,000 nurses, and 2,500 residents and fellows. Annually, the system records approximately 205,000 discharges and 2.5 million outpatient visits, in addition to 2.7 million medical group visits and 836,000 telehealth visits. NYP/CUIMC is a 738-bed academic medical center providing emergency, primary, and specialty care across virtually every field of medicine, with particular distinction in areas including cancer and cardiovascular care.

NYSPI is home to internationally recognized programs in neuroscience, psychiatry, mental health, addiction, and brain research, while supporting the education and training of future clinicians and scientists. Through its close integration with Columbia, NYSPI advances groundbreaking discoveries and translates them into innovative approaches to prevention, diagnosis, and treatment for individuals living with mental illness.

Faculty Practice Plan

ColumbiaDoctors is the faculty practice of CUIMC, bringing together more than 1,800 specialists, dentists, and nurses and providing patients access to expertise across a broad range of adult and pediatric specialties. Working in partnership with NYP, ColumbiaDoctors provides care throughout Columbia's clinical network and offers virtual visits and other digital health services that expand patient access to Columbia clinicians. As the clinical practice supporting CUIMC's faculty, ColumbiaDoctors is an important connection between Columbia's academic medical enterprise and the delivery of patient care.

Role of the EVP for Health and Biomedical Sciences, CEO of Columbia University Irving Medical Center, and Dean of the Vagelos College of Physicians and Surgeons

The next CUIMC EVP/Dean will inherit an extraordinary academic health sciences enterprise distinguished by exceptional faculty and students, world-class science and clinical care, and tremendous opportunity to leverage even further the collective strengths of CUIMC, the broader University, and NYP. The EVP/Dean must be a seasoned, inspirational, and highly collaborative leader who can articulate a compelling vision for CUIMC's future while bringing the judgment, resilience, and operational sophistication required to navigate a complex and rapidly evolving environment. They will listen deeply, build trust, create greater alignment across the four schools and broader University, and forge productive partnerships that strengthen the academic, research, clinical, and educational missions. The next leader will embrace CUIMC's remarkable history and culture while bringing ambition, agility, and openness necessary to position the institution for its next era of excellence.

The EVP/Dean oversees a large team, and direct reports include:

- Deans of Dental Medicine, Nursing, and the Mailman School of Public Health
- Chief Executive Officer of ColumbiaDoctors
- Chief Operating Officer, Senior Vice President, and Chief Financial Officer
- Chief Well-Being Officer
- Senior Vice President and Vice Dean of Faculty Affairs
- Senior Vice President of Development; the Vice President of Strategic Initiatives and Organization Development
- Vice Deans for Basic Science Research, Clinical and Translational Research, Clinical Trials, Education, Community Health, Finance and Administration, and Artificial Intelligence Initiatives
- Department Chairs and Center and Institute Directors

The EVP/Dean reports to the Columbia University president and works in close collaboration with the Board of Trustees and other executive leaders of Columbia University. The EVP/Dean also serves as a principal liaison to senior leaders at NYP. This individual will also be a key ambassador to a wide range of constituent groups from department leaders and faculty to donors, patients, and community members.

Key Opportunities and Challenges for the EVP/Dean

CUIMC is poised to extend its leadership and preeminence, and among top priorities, the EVP/Dean will focus their attention on the following:

Develop a clear vision for CUIMC's future

In collaboration with Columbia University leadership, CUIMC's deans, faculty, and staff, and key clinical partners, the next EVP/Dean will develop a bold, comprehensive, and ambitious vision for CUIMC over the next decade, building upon extraordinary strengths in science, education, and clinical care while positioning CUIMC to lead in New York's highly competitive healthcare market and on the national stage. As academic healthcare continues to experience disruptive forces, the EVP/Dean must be thoughtful about the future and the forces impacting the tripartite mission and develop creative strategies for sustaining CUIMC's powerful mission. The EVP/Dean will lead a deliberative and transparent planning effort, guide choices about where CUIMC can achieve true preeminence, and execute against plans effectively. As a broad health sciences enterprise, the EVP/Dean will champion all schools and develop an inclusive plan in which all health sciences at Columbia thrive and strengthen the institution's overall impact.

Strengthen the Columbia-NYP relationship

The EVP/Dean, in concert with NYP leadership, will work to establish clear alignment around strategy and goals across the research, education, and clinical missions. The EVP/Dean will foster trust and transparency with NYP and communicate clearly Columbia's academic and research goals, needs, and accomplishments. This individual will build strong and productive relationships and navigate sophisticated negotiations related to clinical governance, funds flow, infrastructure and investment, and shared decision-making to sustain its historic excellence. Columbia must also be a nimble partner to help NYP expand its ambulatory footprint and grow together across the broader New York healthcare market.

Continue excellence across the clinical, research, and academic missions

CUIMC's distinction is grounded in the strength and interdependence of its clinical, research, and academic missions. Its extraordinary research faculty continue to push the frontiers of science, creating the discoveries, cures, and treatments that will define the future of medicine, while its clinical enterprise provides an essential platform for translating discovery into better care. At the same time, CUIMC has a broad education mission spanning medicine, nursing, dental medicine, public health, and basic biomedical sciences. Recent stresses in the research environment, a dynamic funding climate, and the fundamental economics of healthcare reimbursements will continue to create

headwinds for academic medicine. Maintaining excellence across these missions will require thoughtful choices about investments in people, programs, research, and infrastructure, particularly as financial and clinical pressures intensify. The EVP/Dean must bring a deep understanding of the clinical enterprise while ensuring that near-term clinical and financial demands do not overshadow Columbia's enduring commitment to research and education. Central to this work will be recruiting, retaining, mentoring, and developing exceptional faculty and leaders to create an environment where great talent can thrive, and each mission strengthens the others.

Drive financial sustainability, operational discipline, and organizational alignment

Financial sustainability and operational discipline will be essential to protecting CUIMC's excellence and enabling continued investment across its missions. CUIMC is a highly complex enterprise facing significant financial pressures, including declining margins, substantial capital needs, uncertainty surrounding research funding, and departments with varying levels of financial performance. Navigating this environment will require greater alignment of resources with institutional priorities and a strong culture of accountability, transparency, and disciplined financial stewardship. The EVP/Dean will need to establish strong operating structures, clarify accountability and decision-making, support areas facing financial challenges, and ensure that resources are deployed strategically to sustain excellence and enable future growth. Equally important will be building an effective leadership structure and delegating responsibility appropriately while creating greater alignment among the medical school, the other CUIMC schools, departments, and centralized functions. Through thoughtful financial management and organizational alignment, the EVP/Dean can create a more sustainable operating model that preserves CUIMC's ability to invest in outstanding people, research, education, clinical programs, and infrastructure for the future.

Integrate and build relationships across CUIMC, Columbia, and the city

Columbia University is one of the world's leading research universities in one of the world's greatest cities. Significant opportunity exists to strengthen connections within and between the CUIMC schools, build greater collaboration with other units across Columbia, and organically connect with the community CUIMC serves in the City of New York. Fostering collaborative efforts across these dimensions and with other institutions and partners is critical for the future of CUIMC and Columbia. The EVP/Dean must be an exceptional relationship builder, institutional partner, and collaborator who can bring these constituencies together, create greater synergy, and pursue interdisciplinary partnerships that extend Columbia's impact locally and nationwide.

Expand philanthropy and investment capacity

Philanthropy will be critical to realizing CUIMC's ambitions. CUIMC raises approximately $250 million annually, with significant room to grow. The extraordinary generosity of Roy and Diana Vagelos has demonstrated the transformative impact that philanthropy can have on the biomedical enterprise. CUIMC's location and scale of impact provide considerable untapped opportunity for further engagement with donors and alumni. The EVP/Dean will be a compelling ambassador for CUIMC, eager to deepen relationships with alumni, patients, donors, and partners; inspire transformational giving; and build philanthropic support for major strategic priorities, research, programs, facilities, and other capital needs.

Qualifications and Characteristics

The successful candidate must have an MD, MD/PhD, or equivalent clinical doctoral degree, a sustained and outstanding record of scholarly accomplishment, considerable strategic healthcare experience, and demonstrated executive management capability. As a leader of a world-class medical enterprise, the EVP/Dean will bring an international reputation and stature for their contributions in research and education. The candidate must have a record commensurate with appointment at the rank of Professor with tenure and be eligible for licensure as a physician in the State of New York. The ideal EVP/Dean will exemplify the following qualities and characteristics:

- Seasoned, tested, and talented academic medicine executive who possesses exceptional leadership skills and the proven ability to foster innovation;
- Outstanding relationship builder and sophisticated partner; solution-oriented leader who negotiates toward mutual gain;
- Compelling experience in strategic planning and collaborative visioning; an effective manager who can hold people accountable for the implementation of a vision;
- Builder and supporter of talent and effective delegator; experience developing a strong team and enabling others to succeed;
- Comfortable with organizational complexity and ambiguity in a dynamic environment; ability to operate effectively while seeking resolutions with a diverse group of stakeholders;
- A deep understanding of both academic medical centers and universities and the broad threats and opportunities facing both;

- Ability and commitment to engage the broad university community, to collaborate with deans and schools, and to function as a key member of the university's senior leadership team;
- Business acumen necessary to lead a complex medical enterprise; strong financial, operational, and personnel management skills; exceptional planning and organizational skills and demonstrated ability to make effective, timely, and clear decisions;
- Potent fundraiser and external ambassador; demonstrated success with and enthusiasm for securing philanthropic support;
- Strong communication skills to engage with learners, faculty, staff, other healthcare and university leaders, and government and community representatives;
- Politically astute and externally sophisticated; proven ability to negotiate successfully with external stakeholders;
- High emotional intelligence and exceptional judgment; patience and self-confidence;
- Personal qualities that include the highest level of integrity and moral standards as well as trustworthiness, empathy, reflectiveness, flexibility, gravitas, and approachability.

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. View the position and submit materials here.

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This document has been prepared based on the information provided by Columbia University. 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 Columbia University would supersede any conflicting information in this document.

Appendix

Vagelos College of Physicians and Surgeons

Founded in 1767, Columbia's Vagelos College of Physicians and Surgeons was the first school in the United States to award the MD degree in 1770, and its legacy of innovation continues. Seminal advances include cardiac catheterization, the Apgar Score, blood banking, bone marrow transplantation, identification of the genes associated with Huntington disease and cystic fibrosis, and advances in minimally invasive aortic valve replacement. VP&S encompasses 27 academic departments and more than 20 centers and institutes. VP&S currently has 2,636 full-time faculty, reflecting the extraordinary scale of its clinical, research, and educational enterprise. Its faculty includes two Nobel laureates, 20 members of the National Academy of Sciences, 45 members of the National Academy of Medicine, 24 members of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, and five Howard Hughes Medical Institute investigators.

The research enterprise spans basic discovery through clinical translation, with recent advances in gene and cell therapy, cancer, rare diseases, artificial intelligence, and other areas. NIH awards increased by $223 million (79%) between federal FY2015 and FY2025, reaching $503 million. The Irving Institute for Clinical and Translational Research recently received a renewed $75 million CTSA grant. The new Vagelos Innovation Laboratories provides state-of-the-art laboratories and collaborative research spaces in New York City's first all-electric biomedical research building. VP&S is also strengthening the resilience of its research portfolio in response to federal funding trends, with non-NIH proposals increasing from 39% to 45% of submissions between FY2025 and FY2026, including 18% growth in foundation submissions and 39% growth in industry submissions.

Furthermore, CUIMC science is fueled through transformative philanthropy. Established through a landmark $400 million gift in 2024 from Roy and Diana Vagelos, the Vagelos Institute for Basic Biomedical Science brings together VP&S's basic science departments, research, graduate and medical education, and physician-scientist development in a unified, interdisciplinary model. Building on their $175 million commitment in 2023, the Institute is designed to break down silos, accelerate scientific discovery, and attract exceptional scientists and trainees.

In addition to the MD program, which currently has 529 medical students, VP&S educates physician-scientists and other health and biomedical professionals through combined-degree and graduate programs, including MD/PhD, MD/MBA, and MD/MPH pathways and programs in biomedical sciences, genetic counseling, physical therapy, occupational therapy, and related disciplines. In 2018, it became the first medical school in the nation to replace student loans with scholarships for all students who qualify for financial aid. VP&S is also expanding graduate biomedical education through

the new Vagelos Institute for Biomedical Research Education (VIBRE), which welcomed its first cohort of 62 students in September 2026 across Biomedical Life Sciences, Biomedical Informatics, and Neurobiology and Behavior.

College of Dental Medicine

Founded in 1916, Columbia's College of Dental Medicine (CDM) is a leader in applying clinical, research, and public policy approaches to oral health issues. CDM enrolls 381 predoctoral students, with 84 students in each entering DDS class and 15 internationally trained dentists admitted annually to its Advanced Standing Program. The College also admits 82 postdoctoral students annually across five tuition-based programs and supports 38 residents across five programs affiliated with NYP. CDM has 86 full-time faculty, 10 part-time faculty, and more than 100 volunteer faculty.

CDM combines its educational mission with a substantial clinical and research enterprise. Its 200-chair teaching clinic serves more than 23,000 patients through approximately 100,000 visits annually, with 88 percent of patients eligible for New York State Medicaid or Medicaid Managed Care. Its faculty practices additionally serve approximately 15,000 patients through 35,000 visits annually. Its Center for Precision Dental Medicine is at the forefront of providing personalized dental services. Research strengths include biomaterials, stem cells and regenerative medicine, cancer biology, the microbiome, and systemic-oral disease interactions. Over the past five years, CDM received $18 million in NIH grant awards, filed 17 patent applications, and published 289 peer-reviewed papers. The College operates with an approximately $89 million annual budget and $50 million endowment, underscoring the breadth of its academic, research, and patient-care missions.

School of Nursing

Founded in 1892, the Columbia University School of Nursing is one of the nation's leading nursing schools, with a history of innovation in education, research, and clinical practice. Located within CUIMC, the School enrolls 756 students in MS, DNP, and PhD programs, supported by 73 full-time faculty, and has graduated nearly 15,000 alumni. Its clinical education extends across 178 partnership practice sites throughout New York City, complemented by global clinical opportunities.

Research is a defining strength of Columbia Nursing. The School ranked #2 among U.S. schools of nursing in NIH funding in FY2025 and received more than $27 million in federal and nonfederal research funding in FY2026, supporting more than 60 active grants. Its research spans artificial intelligence, informatics, healthcare delivery, patient safety and quality, primary care, symptom science, and urban and global health. The School's accomplished faculty includes 26 Fellows of the

American Academy of Nursing, 21 Fellows of the New York Academy of Medicine, and three members of the National Academy of Medicine.

Mailman School of Public Health

Founded in 1922, Columbia's Mailman School of Public Health is one of the nation's oldest and most highly regarded schools of public health, with a global reputation for research, education, policy, practice, and community engagement. The School comprises six academic departments, approximately 1,369 master's students, 147 doctoral students, and 604 faculty, including 179 full-time faculty. Its alumni community includes nearly 20,000 graduates worldwide, and 95% of students are employed or continuing their studies after graduation. Nearly 40 percent of full-time Columbia Mailman faculty hold joint or interdisciplinary appointments in 34 Columbia departments, schools, and centers.

Among schools of public health, Columbia Mailman is the third-largest recipient of grant funding from the NIH, with an annual grant portfolio exceeding $300 million. Its faculty conduct research in more than 100 countries, with major strengths in climate and health, data science, global health, healthy longevity, infectious diseases, mental health, and health equity. The School's faculty includes more than a dozen elected members of the National Academy of Medicine, a Fellow of the UK Royal Society, and two Lasker Award winners, while one-third of its publications rank among the world's most highly cited and more than half appear in the world's leading journals.