Search for the Treasurer
Oregon State University
Oregon, Corvallis

THE SEARCH

Oregon State University (OSU) seeks a strategic, collaborative, and forward-thinking financial leader to serve as its next Treasurer. Reporting to the Assistant Vice President and Controller and working closely with colleagues across the Budget and Finance unit, the Treasurer will serve as a trusted advisor to University leadership and the Board, overseeing the University's debt and treasury management to align resources and long-range strategies in support of OSU's current financial strength and institutional priorities.

It's an exciting time to join OSU. Under the leadership of President Jayathi Murthy, the University launched its boldest strategic plan ever: Prosperity Widely Shared: The Oregon State Plan. OSU is poised to take a transformational leap forward in amplifying and catalyzing excellence in meeting the targets set in this strategic plan.

As a key financial leader at OSU, the Treasurer will bring a balance of strategic vision and operational expertise, strengthening liquidity management, managing the University's debt capacity and financing strategies, and maintaining strong relationships internal to OSU and with banking partners, investors, and rating agencies. The Treasurer will lead efforts to refine forecasting capabilities and leverage modern financial systems and data tools to support timely, evidence-based decisions in support of the University's continued growth and expansion, which includes many large-scale capital projects underway. The Treasurer will work effectively with a highly collaborative Budget and Finance team focused on achieving common goals in support of OSU's mission and ambitions for even greater impact.

A complete list of the desired qualifications may be found at the conclusion of this document. Oregon State University has prepared this document in partnership with Isaacson, Miller, a national executive search firm. All confidential applications, inquiries, and nominations should be directed to the parties listed at the end of this document.

ABOUT OREGON STATE UNIVERSITY

As Oregon's land-grant university, OSU is recognized for its impactful research, innovative spirit, and statewide reach. With campuses in Corvallis and Bend, 11 academic colleges, 14 agricultural experiment stations, and Extension programs serving all 36 Oregon counties, OSU plays an essential role in Oregon's educational, economic, and community vitality. The University's impact extends across the state, generating more than $3.5 billion annually in economic activity and supporting more than 22,000 jobs. Its research enterprise alone contributes nearly $800 million in economic value each year.

The OSU Foundation, which celebrated its 75th anniversary in 2023, is a nonprofit organization that partners with OSU to engage the OSU community, inspire philanthropy, and steward resources that advance the University's mission and impact. The Foundation's endowment surpassed $1 billion in 2025 and is governed by an independent Board of Trustees operating separately from the University. The Foundation also includes the OSU Alumni Association, connecting a global network of more than 230,000 alumni and supporters worldwide.

In 2022, the Foundation and the University publicly launched OSU's second comprehensive campaign, Believe It: The Campaign for Oregon State University, a $1.75 billion comprehensive campaign focused on student success, research and innovation, community impact, and institutional excellence. The campaign also seeks to achieve one million meaningful engagement opportunities across the OSU community. As of May 2026, donors have contributed $400 million toward the $500 million goal for student success: the largest goal of the Believe It campaign.

Leadership and Governance

Jayathi Y. Murthy, a national leader in higher education engineering teaching, research, and service, began her service as Oregon State University's 16th president on September 9, 2022. As OSU's president, Murthy is committed to improving access to college for all learners; advancing student success, undergraduate graduation rates and inclusive excellence throughout the University; expanding OSU's strong research portfolio by investing in research infrastructure; and supporting faculty excellence in teaching, scholarship, research, and Extension and engagement programs.

Prior to joining Oregon State, Murthy served as the first woman dean of the UCLA Henry Samueli School of Engineering and Applied Science since January 2016. Murthy has held academic appointments at a number of leading US universities. From 1988 to 1998, Murthy worked at New Hampshire-based Fluent, Inc., a developer and vendor of the world's most widely used computational fluid dynamics software. President Murthy is a recipient of numerous awards and recognitions and is a member of the National Academy of Engineering.

The 17-member Oregon State University Board of Trustees governs the University, exercising the rights and duties that are conferred upon it by law. The Governor appoints members of the Board and the Senate confirms those appointments.

Strategic Plan

OSU enjoys a long history of strategic planning, with each plan building upon the last to increase the University's impact and achieve its goals. Following the successful implementation of the 2019-23 strategic plan (SP4.0): Transformation, Excellence, and Impact, the University launched Prosperity Widely Shared, The Oregon State Plan. This ambitious plan outlined OSU's top priorities, including aspirational and measurable outcomes at the highest level in areas such as research expenditures, graduation rates, and enrollment for both in-person and online programs.

FINANCES

OSU operates from a position of considerable financial strength and institutional momentum. At the end of FY25, the University reported approximately $3.0 billion in total assets and $1.38 billion in net position, reflecting a $109 million increase in net position during the fiscal year. Total liabilities declined by $65 million, underscoring a disciplined approach to financial stewardship as OSU continues to advance its ambitious strategic vision and statewide mission.

The University has established a thoughtful and strategic framework for capital investment, debt management, and long-term financial planning. With approximately $899 million in external debt, OSU aligns its borrowing strategy with institutional priorities, major capital projects, and future growth opportunities while maintaining careful oversight of financial risk and sustainability. The University's strong fiscal profile is reflected in Moody's reaffirmation of its Aa3 credit rating, recognizing OSU's sound financial management and market position.

A robust culture of philanthropy and investment further enhances OSU's capacity to pursue transformational goals. The $1.75 billion Believe It campaign has fueled unprecedented fundraising success, helping propel the University's endowment beyond $1 billion in market value for the first time in its history. Combined with substantial operating and investment assets, this growing philanthropic foundation strengthens OSU's ability to invest in student success, research excellence, faculty distinction, and strategic initiatives that will shape the University's future impact across Oregon and beyond.

BUDGET AND FINANCE UNIT

The Budget and Finance unit provides strategic leadership and financial stewardship in support of Oregon State University's mission, academic excellence, and long-term institutional success. Under the leadership of the Associate Vice President and Deputy Chief Financial Officer, Jen Steele, who joined the OSU community in July 2026, the division oversees the university's core financial functions and advances a culture of accountability, transparency, and data-informed decision making. Through thoughtful stewardship of institutional resources, the unit helps position OSU to invest in student success, research excellence, capital infrastructure, and the statewide engagement and service mission that distinguishes the university. As a trusted strategic partner across the institution, Budget and Finance plays a critical role

in ensuring OSU's financial strength, resilience, and capacity to thrive in a rapidly evolving higher education landscape.

ROLE OF THE TREASURER

Reporting to the Assistant Vice President and Controller, the Treasurer serves as a trusted financial strategist and steward for OSU. Working collaboratively with the Deputy CFO, Controller, University Shared Services Enterprise, and partners across finance and capital planning units, the Treasurer maintains appropriate liquidity, fulfills its debt obligations, and manages institutional resources with discipline and sound judgment. The Treasurer serves as a resource to academic and administrative units, offering insight and guidance on a range of financial matters in close collaboration with Business and Finance colleagues. They will help ensure a collaborative, forward-looking financial culture that supports both strategic growth and operational excellence. The Treasurer is expected to build strong relationships across the institution and with external financial partners to optimize capital resources, ensure support for major strategic initiatives, and maintain OSU's outstanding short-and long-term financial position.

The Treasurer leads all aspects of treasury operations, including cash and liquidity management, debt management, capital-market financing, banking relationships, merchant services, and investment management. They guide cash-flow forecasting and investment strategy, oversee the internal bank and central loan program, lead long- and short-term debt issuances, and strengthen risk management and compliance.

The Treasurer's office includes a Treasury Analyst. The role requires a leader who can work effectively across a matrixed organization.

KEY OPPORTUNITIES AND CHALLENGES

The Treasurer will play a critical role in shaping the future direction of the treasury function at OSU by addressing the following opportunities and challenges:

Drive the University's outstanding long-term financial position

- Serve as a strategic advisor to executive leadership and the Board on debt, liquidity, investment, and internal banking strategies that advance the University's long-term financial sustainability.
- Navigate and influence a large, complex university environment by fostering strong corss-functional partnerships that are central to the success of OSU's financial management.
- Lead the development of enterprise-wide treasury, liquidity, and capital strategies that align financial resources with institutional priorities and growth objectives.

- Cultivate and manage strategic relationships with banking partners, advisors, University Shared Services Enterprise, and key institutional stakeholders.
- Guide long-range cash, debt, and risk management planning, ensuring appropriate financial flexibility and resilience.

Shape the University's strategic debt management and forecasting capabilites

- Direct the University's debt portfolio and internal bank, ensuring effective stewardship of capital resources and financing programs.
- Lead the issuance, structuring, and management of short- and long-term debt obligations in support of institutional priorities, capital investments, and changing market conditions.
- Oversee relationships with underwriters, advisors, bond counsel, and other financing partners to optimize market access and financing outcomes.
- Ensure compliance with debt policies, regulatory requirements, and best practices while advancing sustainable borrowing strategies.

Ensure operational excellence and a highly effective treasury organization

- Provide strategic leadership, direction, and oversight for the Treasury function, fostering a culture of accountability, collaboration, and continuous improvement.
- Leverage WorkDay to ensure a modern treasury management system to drive operational efficiency, improve decision-making, and generate strategic insights across cash and debt functions.
- Lead treasury operations, ensuring effective management of cash, liquidity, banking services, merchant services, and related financial systems.
- Recruit, develop, and retain staff through effective talent management, succession planning, and professional development.
- Establish performance expectations and operational priorities that align individual and team contributions with institutional goals.
- Champion a values-driven culture rooted in transparency and service excellence.

Optimize liquidity, investment performance, and risk management

- Oversee investment strategies and operating fund management to balance liquidity needs, risk exposure, and long-term returns.

- Guide relationships with investment advisors and consultants, evaluating performance, fees, and market opportunities.
- Ensure compliance with investment policies, fiduciary obligations, and governance requirements while strengthening investment oversight.
- Oversee treasury reporting, compliance, controls, and performance metrics to support informed decision-making and risk management.
- Present investment performance, liquidity analyses, and key financial metrics to executive leadership and the Board of Trustees.

QUALIFICATIONS

Minimum Requirements

- Bachelor's degree in finance, accounting, business administration, or a related field.
- Ten (10) years of progressively responsible experience and leadership, including areas such as debt management, cash flow forecasting and analysis, liquidity management, and/or investment management.
- Five (5) years of leadership experience with responsibility for staff supervision, including personnel management, performance evaluation, coaching, and employee development.
- Demonstrated commitment to fostering an inclusive and collaborative work environment.
- This position is designated as a critical or security-sensitive position. The successful candidate must complete a criminal history check and be determined position-qualified in accordance with University Standard 05-010 et seq. Incumbents are required to self-report convictions, and positions supporting youth programs may be subject to additional criminal history checks every 24 months.

Preferred Qualifications

- Advanced degree from an accredited institution of higher education in finance, accounting, business administration, or a related field.
- Experience working in or with a public higher education institution, governmental entity, or similarly complex organization.
- Experience supporting and engaging with a Board of Trustees, Board of Regents, Board of Governors, or comparable governing body.
- Professional certification such as Certified Treasury Professional (CTP), Chartered Financial Analyst (CFA), or a related credential.
- Knowledge of the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission (COSO) Internal Control Framework and its application to financial governance and risk management.

LOCATION

There is a strong preference for the Treasurer to be on campus several days a week.

OSU's main campus is in Corvallis, a community of approximately 60,000 located in the heart of western Oregon's Willamette Valley. A vibrant college town, Corvallis is 90 miles south of Portland and 36 miles south of Salem, the state capital. The Pacific Coast and the Cascade Mountains are nearby. The Imagine Corvallis 2040 campaign demonstrates Corvallis's commitment to making itself a livable, diverse community. Known for prioritizing environmental responsibility, Corvallis sits within easy access to Oregon's finest natural recreational and scenic areas: ocean beaches, lakes, rivers, forests, high desert, wine country, and the rugged Cascade Mountain and Coast ranges. The University's branch campus, OSU-Cascades, is located in Bend, which is world-famous for both its outdoor pursuits and pristine beauty. Today, Bend and Central Oregon represent Oregon's fastest-growing region and one of its most dynamic economies.

APPLICATIONS, INQUIRIES, AND NOMINATIONS

Screening of complete applications will begin immediately and continue until the completion of the search process. Inquiries, nominations, referrals, and resumes with cover letters should be sent via the Isaacson, Miller website:

Lindsay Gold, Partner
Lehman Robinson, Senior Associate
Julia Hochner, Managing Search Coordinator
Isaacson, Miller

OSU is an Equal Opportunity Employer, including disability, protected veteran, and other protected status. OSU is a fair chance employer committed to inclusive hiring. This job has "critical or security-sensitive" responsibilities. If you are selected as a finalist, your initial job offer will be contingent upon the results of a job-related pre-employment check (such as a background check, motor vehicle history check, sexual misconduct reference check, etc.). Background check results do not automatically disqualify a candidate.

This position is designated as a critical or security-sensitive position; therefore, the incumbent must successfully complete a criminal history check and be determined to be position qualified as per University Standard: 05-010 et seq. Incumbents are required to self-report convictions and those in youth programs may have additional criminal history checks every 24 months.

Final candidates for this position must complete a sexual misconduct reference check, per University Policy 05-010. An offer of employment will be contingent upon satisfactory results from the sexual misconduct reference check.

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