The University of Texas at Dallas

Vice President for Industry Engagement



Isaacson, Miller

The Search

Under the dynamic leadership of President Prabhas V. Moghe, The University of Texas at Dallas (UT Dallas) — one of the nation's fastest-rising research institutions — seeks a visionary Vice President for Industry Engagement. This is a pivotal opportunity for a bold leader to help shape the University's future at a transformative juncture, marked by entrepreneurial ambition and boundless innovation.

UT Dallas is poised to embark on an exciting new chapter of accelerated growth, enabling it to deepen its roots within the community and redefine the very essence of a 21st-century public research university. UT Dallas traces its origins to the founders of Texas Instruments—Eugene McDermott, Erik Jonsson, and Cecil Green—who established the Graduate Research Center of the Southwest in 1961 to help meet the region's need for advanced technical talent. The University's forthcoming strategic plan, Roadmap 2030 – The Power of Convergence, will ask the University to reclaim that origin deliberately, becoming an Innovation Destination where talent, technology, and industry converge to produce consequences that neither a company nor a university could produce alone. Through the plan's External Impact pillar, "UT Dallas will serve as a premier partner for industry and the public, aligning research, talent and innovation to drive shared prosperity and global impact."

The Vice President for Industry Engagement is the University's Cabinet-level commitment to that ambition: an inaugural, highly visible leadership appointment charged with making UT Dallas the region's most trusted and capable industry partner. This is a foundational role, and a statement of institutional priority. Reporting directly to the President as a full member of the President's Cabinet, the Vice President will build a centralized function, essentially from the ground up, that serves as UT Dallas's strategic "front door" to industry: the connective tissue, called for explicitly in Roadmap 2030, that enables a consequential opportunity arriving from outside the university finds the people and capabilities it needs inside, and ensures the university carry what emerges back into the world with equal effectiveness. The Vice President will design and operationalize a coordinated, hybrid operating model that elevates and connects existing activity across the seven schools, research centers, and administrative units rather than replacing it.

The successful candidate will bring 15 or more years of progressively responsible experience in corporate or industry engagement, economic development, or a comparable external-facing

leadership role, with demonstrated experience operating at an executive level within a research university or a comparable complex organization, and demonstrated success building, launching, or substantially growing a centralized relationship-management or partnership function. The Vice President will also need the ability to build trust and drive coordination across autonomous academic units without formal authority over them, strong executive presence, and an authentic enthusiasm for UT Dallas's origin story, with the ability to translate that story into a compelling case for partners, faculty, and staff alike.

The University of Texas at Dallas has retained Isaacson, Miller, a national executive search firm, to assist in conducting this important search. Confidential inquiries, nominations, and applications may be directed to the search firm as indicated at the end of this document.



An Extraordinary Region
An Institution Built for Innovation

Few regions in the United States are undergoing an economic transformation of the scale and breadth now visible in Dallas–Fort Worth. With more than 8.3 million residents and an economy exceeding $800 billion, North Texas has attracted more than 280 corporate headquarters relocations

since 2010. Its 24 Fortune 500 companies, spanning industries from semiconductors and telecommunications to healthcare, financial services, and transportation, generate nearly $1.1 trillion in combined annual revenue. As the northern anchor of the Texas Triangle, connecting Dallas–Fort Worth with Austin, San Antonio, and Houston, the region occupies an increasingly influential position in the movement of talent, investment, technology, and commerce across the national and global economy.

This transformation is occurring across several industries simultaneously. Dallas's emerging financial district, popularly known as “Y’all Street,” now includes NYSE Texas, Nasdaq Texas, and the Texas Stock Exchange, alongside major investments by global financial institutions such as Goldman Sachs. To the west, the 27,000-acre AllianceTexas development integrates air cargo, rail, and highway infrastructure into a major hub for national and international supply chains. To the north, the U.S. 75 corridor extending from Richardson toward Sherman is emerging as a significant center of semiconductor manufacturing. Texas Instruments has begun production at the first of up to four wafer fabrication plants representing a potential $40 billion investment, while GlobalWafers and Coherent are making complementary investments in semiconductor materials and manufacturing. Together, these developments are reshaping not merely where companies locate, but where corporate decisions are made, advanced technologies are produced, and the next generation of industries takes shape.

UT Dallas was born from precisely this kind of economic imperative. Founded in 1961 by the leaders of Texas Instruments to expand the region's capacity for advanced research and technical talent, the University is now positioned to fulfill that purpose on an entirely new scale. In Richardson's Innovation Quarter, UT Dallas has established applied research centers and extended its venture-development capabilities to work alongside technology companies and entrepreneurs. Its longstanding relationship with Texas Instruments has generated more than $22 million in research funding and faculty-development support over the past decade, while UTDesign has connected engineering and computer science students with hundreds of corporate sponsors on real-world challenges. Two-thirds of the University's alumni remain in North Texas, providing an enduring source of technical, entrepreneurial, and business talent for the region.

The University's engagement increasingly extends into the industries driving the region's next phase of growth. The UT Dallas-led North Texas Semiconductor Institute brings academic and industry partners together to advance semiconductor research and workforce development. The University's BEACONS initiative, supported by a $30 million Department of Defense award, is helping develop and commercialize advanced battery technologies while strengthening domestic manufacturing and supply chains. A collaboration with Tech Mahindra advances applied artificial intelligence and the commercialization of new technologies, while the Institute for Innovation and Entrepreneurship

provides pathways for university discoveries to become ventures. Together with ambitious plans for the Convergence Accelerator, these activities reflect a growing institutional capacity to connect research, education, industry, and enterprise.

Roadmap 2030: The Power of Convergence is UT Dallas's strategic response to this extraordinary moment. The plan calls on the University to bring talent, knowledge, technology, industry, entrepreneurship, capital, and policy together around consequential frontiers, advancing education and research through relationships and capabilities that strengthen and compound over time. The ambition is not simply to participate in the region's economic growth, but to become an Innovation Destination where the University and its partners generate outcomes neither could achieve alone.

The inaugural Vice President for Industry Engagement will be instrumental in translating that ambition into institutional capability. Working across the University's schools, research enterprise, and innovation infrastructure, the Vice President will transform a strong but distributed collection of industry relationships into a coordinated portfolio of enduring, enterprise-level partnerships. The opportunity is not simply to open more doors to industry, but to position UT Dallas as an indispensable collaborator in the work that matters most to the region's leading enterprises. At a moment when North Texas is helping redefine the geography of American industry and innovation, this executive will help ensure that UT Dallas is not merely a participant in that transformation, but a force shaping what comes next.

The University of Texas at Dallas

The University of Texas at Dallas, created in 1961 by the founders of Texas Instruments and incorporated into The University of Texas System in 1969, is a Carnegie R1 institution and one of the fastest-growing public universities in the U.S. The University offers 160 academic programs across seven schools, with a strong emphasis on STEM disciplines intertwined with the arts and humanities, as well as a highly ranked business school. UT Dallas is a national leader in cybersecurity, artificial intelligence, bioengineering, and nanotechnology, among others. Its research centers and interdisciplinary collaborations — including an expanded partnership with UT Southwestern Medical Center and the $120 million, 150,000-square-foot Texas Instruments Biomedical Engineering and Sciences Building — attract significant federal funding and bolster the University's national and global influence. The University is widely regarded as a destination institution and an emerging leader in innovation, and it was ranked 54th among public universities and 110th among all universities by U.S. News & World Report.

Graduate programs at The University of Texas at Dallas have also continued to make significant strides. A few examples are listed here for the 2026 rankings. The Doctor of Audiology program was tied for Number 1 among public universities. The School of Behavioral and Brain Sciences (BBS) ranks Number 1 for NIH-funded allied health schools across the U.S. The Naveen Jindal School of Management rose into the top 10 public universities and top 25 business schools overall in the country, the largest gain among the top 30 schools for full-time MBA programs. Rankings for the department of Bioengineering in the Jonsson School of Engineering and Computer Science (JECS) also rose to 35th among public universities, extending the momentum displayed by the burgeoning program.

150,000	$187.6M	56	28
UT Dallas has a loyal alumni base of over 150,000.	2025 Research Expenditures.	Patents issued in 2025.	Active Startups.

UT Dallas enrolls nearly 31,000 students, including international students from over 110 countries, and supports a vibrant residential community with roughly 8,000 students living on or near campus. Students engage through more than 400 student organizations, extensive service-learning opportunities, and a wide array of intramural and club sports. UT Dallas is committed to expanding access to higher education with programs supporting first-generation students and first-year students of all majors. Notable student access initiatives include the Eugene McDermott Scholars Program — a full-ride undergraduate scholarship for top incoming students — and the Comet Promise program, which covers tuition and mandatory fees, up to demonstrated financial need, for Texas resident undergraduate students with family incomes of $100,000 or less.

The dynamic 645-acre campus in Richardson, Texas — less than 17 miles from downtown Dallas — has seen more than 2.5 million square feet of new construction in the last eight years, including the Student Success Center/Student Union and a third building for the Naveen Jindal School of Management (both expected in late 2026). The Edith and Peter O'Donnell Jr. Athenaeum, a new 12-acre campus cultural district that opened in Fall 2024, includes a second Dallas location for the Crow Museum of Asian Art. Recent expansions also include the Callier Center for Communication Disorders, Engineering & Computer Science West, the Sciences Building, the Student Services Building Addition, the Davidson-Gundy Alumni Center, the Brain Performance Institute, and two new student housing complexes. UT Dallas has a loyal alumni base of over 150,000, two-thirds of whom remain in the Dallas–Fort Worth area after graduation; an expanding NCAA Division II athletics

program in the Lone Star Conference; a new world-class esports facility; and a nationally recognized chess team that consistently wins national and international titles.



University of Texas System

For more than 140 years, The University of Texas System has improved the lives of Texans — and people all over the world — through education, health care, and research. With an enrollment of more than 270,000 students at academic and health institutions across the state, as well as an operating budget of $36.6 billion, the UT System is one of the largest public university systems in the nation and the world.

UT institutions are powerful drivers of economic and social mobility in Texas, producing more than 66,000 graduates annually, including more than one-third of the state's undergraduate degrees and about 56 percent of the state's medical degrees. Almost half of all undergraduate degrees are awarded to students who qualified for a Pell grant based on financial need while enrolled at a UT institution. The UT System is also one of the largest employers in Texas, with more than 160,000 faculty, health care professionals, researchers, support staff, and student workers.

The UT System is governed by a board of nine regents appointed by the Governor for overlapping six-year terms and one nonvoting student regent selected annually by the Governor. Chancellor John M. Zerwas is the chief executive officer of the UT System and reports to the Board of Regents. Institutional presidents report to the Chancellor.

Dr. Prabhas V. Moghe, President



This pivotal moment for UT Dallas is marked by dynamic leadership and a unified commitment to progress. The University's strategic trajectory and culture of sustained momentum are driven by the vision of Dr. Prabhas V. Moghe, the institution's sixth president. President Moghe's leadership is distinguished by a dedication to innovation, interdisciplinary collaboration, and an unwavering pursuit of real-world impact. He works in close partnership with the University of Texas System, ensuring that UT Dallas serves the System's mission to drive prosperity, innovation, and health for the people of the Lone Star State. President Moghe is engaged in actively transforming the leadership of UT Dallas, with several new appointments made at the cabinet level.

From 2020 to 2025, his stewardship was instrumental in increasing Rutgers' research funding by 40 percent — from $689 million to nearly $1 billion — as Rutgers rose to be recognized among the nation's top 15 public universities.

Previously, Moghe served as executive vice president for academic affairs at Rutgers University, New Jersey's flagship public institution, where he provided visionary leadership across four chancellor-led campuses and 29 academic units. From 2020 to 2025, his stewardship was instrumental in increasing Rutgers' research funding by 40 percent — from $689 million to nearly $1 billion — as Rutgers rose to be recognized among the nation's top 15 public universities.

Moghe earned a degree in chemical engineering from the University of Bombay, followed by a PhD in chemical engineering (bioengineering) from the University of Minnesota, and completed postdoctoral training at Harvard Medical School/Massachusetts General Hospital. He joined the Rutgers faculty in 1995 and became a distinguished professor in the School of Engineering. His research has led to innovations in cancer detection and potential nanotechnology therapies for brain

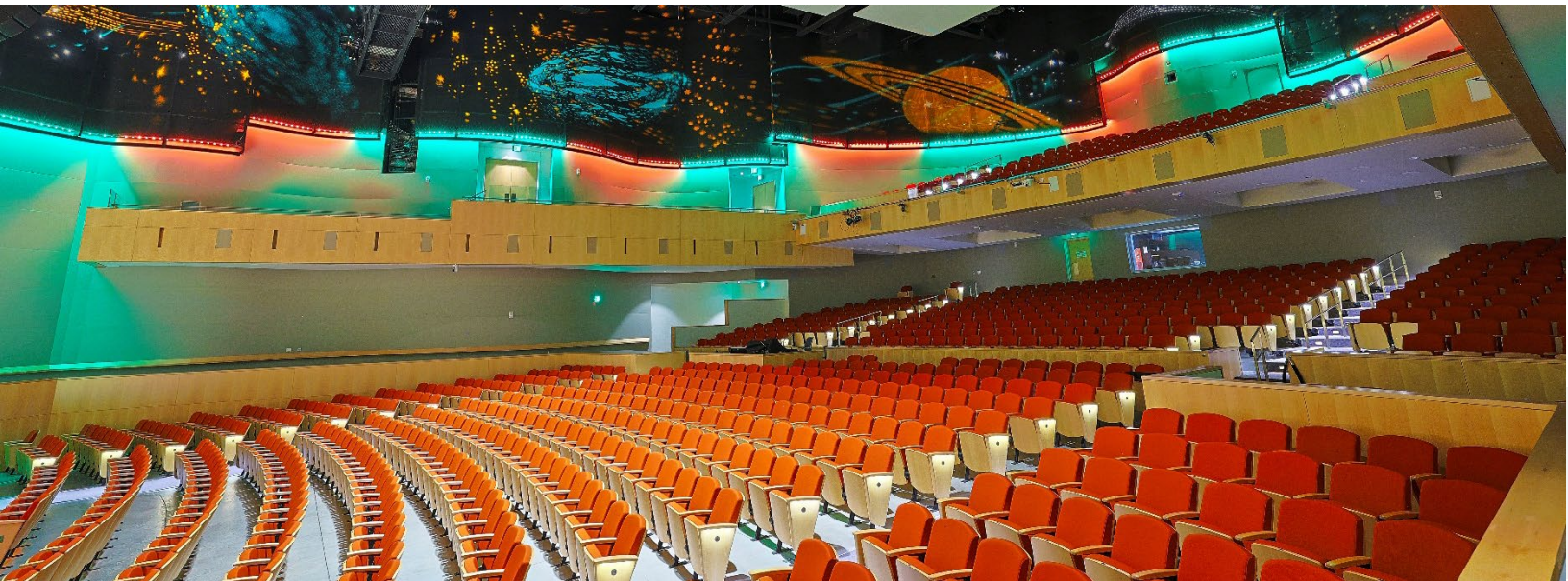
degenerative disorders like Parkinson's and Alzheimer's diseases, and his laboratory at Rutgers secured more than $30 million in research funding and mentored 29 PhD graduates.

The Vice President for Industry Engagement

Reporting to President Moghe and serving as a full member of the President's Cabinet, the Vice President for Industry Engagement will serve as the University's senior institutional lead for corporate and industry engagement, with clear accountability for enterprise-level partnerships and for the industry dimension of the *Roadmap 2030* External Impact pillar.

To this end, the Vice President will build and lead the Office of Industry Alliances, including recruiting and managing relationship managers, data and research analysts, and communications and events staff, each with a designated functional lead reporting to the Vice President, with dotted-line coordination with school-based liaisons.

The role is scoped deliberately alongside two closely related offices, so that responsibility for the region's most important relationships is clear rather than duplicated. The Chief Partnerships Officer, within University Advancement, leads philanthropic solicitation, principal and major gifts, and executive relationship cultivation in service of fundraising; the Vice President engages the Chief Partnerships Officer whenever a relationship's fundraising dimension moves to the center of the conversation. The Assistant Vice President for Innovation and Commercialization, within the Office of Research and Innovation, leads technology transfer, intellectual property licensing, and venture development; the Vice President refers relationships with a licensing or commercialization dimension to that office and coordinates with it on the entrepreneurial pipeline the Foundry and the Convergence Accelerator will bring into being. Within that scope, the Vice President owns the University's strategic industry-partnership portfolio.



> The Vice President will be an active supporter of the University's academic and research convergence hubs. *Roadmap 2030* points to four themes where UT Dallas will place big multidisciplinary bets: Brain, health and human flourishing, AI in the physical world, Resilient systems for a growing region, and Security and trust in a digital economy.

The Vice President will also be an active supporter of the University's two flagship regional presence initiatives named in *Roadmap 2030*, particularly the Sherman Education Center in the semiconductor corridor, and, as appropriate, the Health Innovations Campus in the Dallas Medical District, working alongside the schools and units that lead those efforts.

Following are the responsibilities and duties of the Vice President for Industry Engagement:

Strategy and Institutional Leadership

The VP will be tasked with defining and communicating a clear institutional vision and value proposition for industry engagement, aligned with UT Dallas's research strengths, priority sectors (healthcare, technology, financial services, and national security), and its trajectory as a fast-rising R1 university. The successful candidate will also be expected to chair or co-chair a Strategic Industry Partnership Council convening academic and administrative leadership to identify opportunities, share best practices, and resolve cross-unit coordination issues.

Partnership Portfolio Management

The Vice President will develop and maintain a tiered framework for classifying corporate partnerships based on strategic alignment, breadth, and growth potential, and personally own and manage the university's Tier 1 enterprise relationships, assembling cross-campus account teams and establishing structured partnership plans with shared objectives across research, talent, and innovation. In doing so they will maintain a comprehensive, 360-degree view of the university's most significant industry relationships and their status across schools and functions, so that institutional ownership of a partnership survives any single person's departure. They will also create clear pathways for partnerships to deepen over time, from a single-unit relationship toward a broader, university-wide strategic engagement.

Organizational Building and Staffing

Beyond the central office, the VP will establish a network of designated liaisons within each of the seven schools and key research centers and institutes to ensure consistent two-way communication and coordination on specific partnership opportunities. They will also define staffing standards and provide guidance to schools on appropriate levels of dedicated industry-relations capacity.

Infrastructure, Data, and Systems

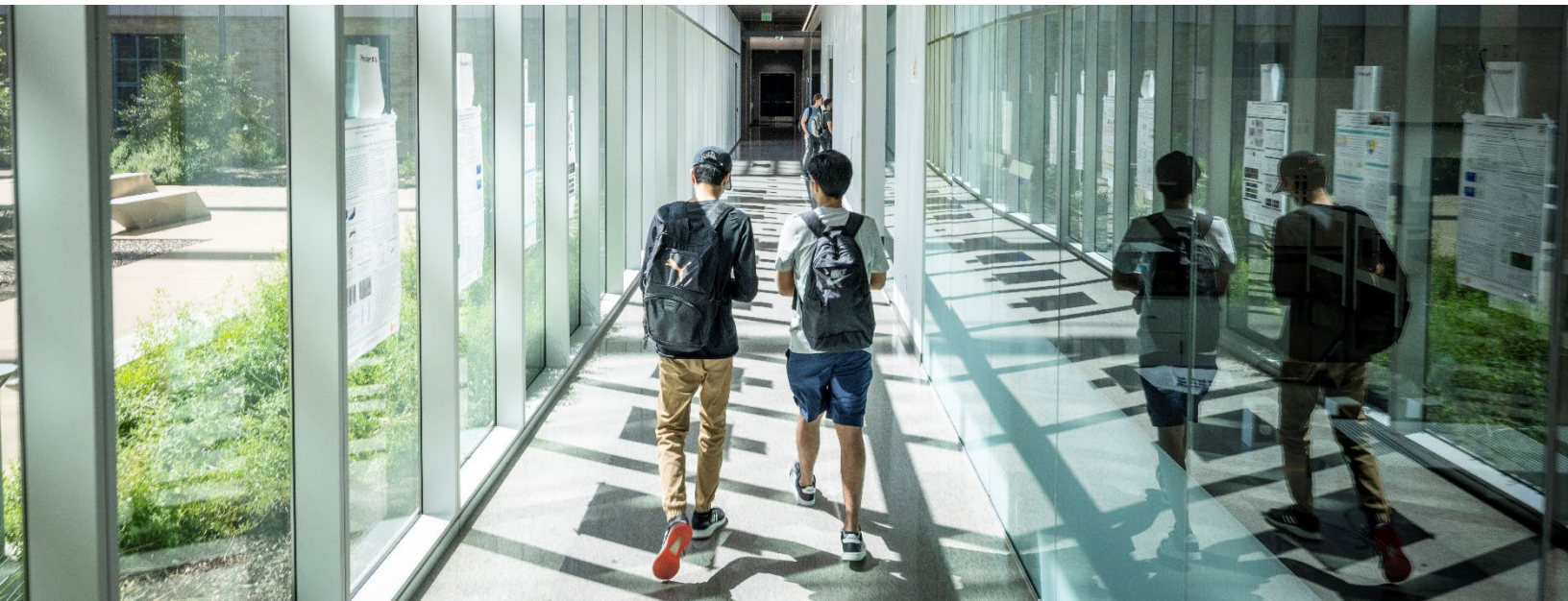
In partnership with IT, the VP will own selection, implementation, and governance of a university-wide CRM and shared industry-engagement data platform, ensuring the CRM integrates with, rather than duplicates, other existing systems of record.

Faculty and Staff Enablement

The faculty development program and related guidance materials will be developed by the Vice President. The VP will help faculty and staff initiate, shape, and sustain industry partnerships, and partner with academic leadership and faculty governance on incentive and recognition structures that support industry-engaged scholarship. They will also be tasked with coordinating with the Assistant Vice President for Innovation and Commercialization and with entrepreneurship programs, including the Foundry, to connect corporate partners with interdisciplinary student and faculty work and to route commercialization and translational-research opportunities appropriately.

External Representation and Communications

As a primary external-facing representative of UT Dallas to corporate executives, economic development organizations, and industry associations, the Vice President will own the “digital front door,” a centralized industry-engagement web presence, along with core institutional messaging and collateral describing UT Dallas’s research strengths and partnership pathways.



Governance and Reporting

Finally, the Vice President will report regularly to the President and the President's Cabinet on portfolio performance, partnership pipeline, and progress against the office's strategic goals, and is expected to establish metrics for success centered on the depth, quality, and value of industry relationships, not solely the number of partners engaged.

Qualifications and Characteristics

The Vice President for Industry Engagement will bring many of the following professional qualities and experiences:

- At least 15 or more years of progressively responsible experience in corporate or industry engagement, economic development, or a comparable external-facing leadership role, with demonstrated experience operating at an executive or Cabinet level within a research university or a comparable complex organization.
- Demonstrated success building, launching, or substantially growing a centralized relationship-management or partnership function, including managing complex, multi-stakeholder, enterprise-level relationships.
- Prior experience founding or standing up a new corporate or industry engagement office or function within a decentralized, multi-school university environment.
- Track record of generating new value for a university through corporate and industry partnerships (e.g., sponsored research, talent-pipeline agreements, or applied research collaborations).
- Experience serving as a highly visible institutional ambassador, comfortable representing an organization's strategic priorities to external audiences at the most senior level.
- Experience partnering with technology transfer, licensing, or research commercialization functions, without direct responsibility for licensing or intellectual property.
- Experience partnering with university advancement or development offices on corporate relationships, without direct responsibility for solicitation.
- Experience in one or more of UT Dallas's priority sectors: healthcare, technology, financial services, or national security and defense.

- Familiarity with CRM platform selection, implementation, and governance in a higher education or research setting.
- Active engagement with national professional associations relevant to university-industry partnerships (e.g., AUTM, LES, NACRO), ideally including service in a leadership capacity such as a board or governance role.
- Ability to build trust and drive coordination across autonomous academic units without formal authority over them.
- Strong executive presence and external representation skills, with demonstrated comfort operating at a Cabinet or senior-leadership level and serving as the public face of a major institutional priority.
- Data-driven approach to portfolio and relationship management.
- Change-management skills suited to standing up a new institutional function and shifting culture toward shared ownership of partnerships.
- An authentic enthusiasm for UT Dallas's origin story and its ambition to become an Innovation Destination, and the ability to translate that story into a compelling case for partners, faculty, and staff alike.
- Bachelor's degree required; advanced degree (e.g., Ph.D., M.B.A., M.S., or a related field) preferred.

Location

UT Dallas is located in Richardson, Texas, approximately 17 miles north of downtown Dallas and 25 minutes from Dallas–Fort Worth International Airport. Richardson offers convenient access to the employment centers, residential communities, and amenities of the broader Dallas–Fort Worth region, combining the advantages of a suburban setting with proximity to a major metropolitan center.

The Dallas area offers a rich array of cultural, recreational, and entertainment opportunities. Its downtown Arts District is home to the Dallas Museum of Art, Morton H. Meyerson Symphony Center, Winspear Opera House, Dee and Charles Wyly Theatre, Nasher Sculpture Center, and Crow Museum of Asian Art, which also maintains a location on the UT Dallas campus. Nearby Deep Ellum is known for its longstanding music heritage, vibrant arts scene, restaurants, and entertainment

venues. Together with the region's diverse neighborhoods and communities, these amenities offer an appealing environment in which to live and work.

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.

> *Andy Lee, Managing Partner*
> *Ibaad Nazeer, Senior Associate*
> *Madeline Fitzpatrick, Managing Search Coordinator*
> *Isaacson, Miller*

This document has been prepared based on the information provided by The University of Texas at Dallas. 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 would supersede any conflicting information in this document.

