

VICE PRESIDENT FOR FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION

RESPONSIBILITIES AND QUALIFICATIONS

The University of the Ozarks invites nominations, inquiries, and applications for the position of Vice President for Finance and Administration (VPFA).

The next VPFA will build upon the sound financial foundation of the University as reflected in its endowment and solid financial standing, focusing on the financial management and operations of the institution to ensure fiscal stability and vitality. Reporting directly to President Richard Dunsworth, the VPFA oversees the Office of Finance, Financial Services, Financial Aid, Human Resources, Physical Plant, Endowment Funds, and other duties as assigned by the President. The next VPFA will join a strong executive leadership team devoted to serving the academic, spiritual, social, physical, and emotional needs of students while remaining firm in its commitment to exceptionally high academic standards. The successful candidate is expected to begin no later than July 1, 2027.

ABOUT UNIVERSITY OF THE OZARKS

The University of the Ozarks is a student-centered university that values honesty, service, Sabbath, hospitality, growth, and justice. The institution believes that neither financial circumstances nor diverse background should be a barrier to an Ozarks education. The University promotes vigorous teaching and learning in keeping with its mission of preparing students for life beyond Ozarks, and it emphasizes a student experience that is academically rewarding, strengthens vocational discernment, builds personal integrity, and encourages spiritual growth.

Ranked among the top comprehensive baccalaureate institutions in the Southern region by U.S. News & World Report, University of the Ozarks blends the liberal arts and professional preparation in a student-centered environment emphasizing quality teaching and student learning. The University serves approximately 800 undergraduate students on a campus in Clarksville, Arkansas, located along Interstate 40 approximately 90 miles northwest of Little Rock and nestled between the Arkansas River and the Ozark Mountains. Students come from diverse religious, cultural, educational, and economic backgrounds, representing communities throughout the United States and more than 20 countries around the world. Recent campaigns have enhanced facilities, academic programs, and other campus initiatives. For more information, visit www.ozarks.edu.

QUALIFICATIONS

To perform successfully as the Vice President for Finance and Administration, the University seeks an individual able to perform each essential duty at a high professional level.

The requirements listed below are representative of the knowledge, skills, and abilities required:

- A bachelor's degree in a related field is required; a master's degree in business (MBA) is preferred, and CPA licensure will receive strong consideration
- Understanding of and support for the University's historic position as a faith-based institution aligned with the Presbyterian Church.
- Previous experience in a higher education setting is preferred.
- Experience with public or private endowments is preferred.
- Experience leading areas of finance with oversight of financial and accounting software, preferably including knowledge of Ellucian Colleague.
- Strong management, organizational, and analytical skills.
- A track record of collegiality and a demonstrated commitment to the University's mission.

- An understanding of the philosophical importance of an institutional budget that focuses directly on the success of each student.
- Evidence of strong financial leadership while building consensus and securing support from key stakeholders.
- The ability to articulate an understanding of the University's unique campus culture and to ensure a high degree of inclusivity and transparency.
- Strong communication skills, with the ability to translate complex financial issues into understandable language.

APPLICATION & NOMINATION PROCESS

Academic Search is assisting The University of the Ozarks in this search. Conversations are encouraged as our consultants want to get to know you, to share information that might be helpful in discerning your interest and preparing application materials, and to assist as you navigate every step of the application and interview process. Inquiries, nominations, and applications are invited. Nominations should be sent electronically to OzarksVPFA@academicsearch.org.

Please arrange a confidential discussion by contacting:

Dr. Alan Cureton
Senior Consultant

alan.cureton@academicsearch.org

Direct booking link: [Book here](#)
612-281-0094

Ms. Disa Mason
Consultant

disa.mason@academicsearch.org

This position is open until filled, but only applications received by January 4, 2027, can be assured full consideration. Early application submission is recommended, as the screening committee will review materials as they are received and utilize an accelerated interview process for candidates of interest. Applications should be submitted to Academic Search using this link: . Applications should consist of 1) a detailed letter of interest that describes the candidate's interest and alignment with the leadership agenda, 2) a current curriculum vitae, and 3) a list of five professional references with current email contact information. References will not be contacted without the permission of the candidate, and only for those invited to interview. All documents should be uploaded to the Application Portal via the link above in PDF format. Knowing that diversity contributes to academic excellence and rich and rewarding communities, Ozarks is committed to recruiting and retaining a diverse faculty, staff and student body. The University is especially interested in applicants with diverse backgrounds and experiences and those with a successful record of teaching and working with diverse students, including historically underrepresented minority students and other underserved populations. For additional information about The University of the Ozarks, please visit <https://ozarks.edu/>

