



**EKU**



**Eastern Kentucky University**

Invites Applications and Nominations for the

**PROVOST AND SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT  
FOR ACADEMIC AFFAIRS**

# PROVOST AND SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT FOR ACADEMIC AFFAIRS at Eastern Kentucky University



**Eastern Kentucky University**, a regional, multi-campus, coeducational, public institution of higher education, has launched a national search for the **Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs**. The university invites applications, nominations, and expressions of interest for this executive academic officer who will continue to advance the institution to its full potential.

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## The Leadership Opportunity

The Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs (Provost) serves as the chief academic officer for the university. Reporting to the President, the Provost provides visionary leadership, promotes academic excellence for the institution, and ensures that the university offers an inclusive environment that celebrates and promotes understanding and respect within a diverse community of faculty, students, and staff.

The Provost works collaboratively with the President and members of the President's Council. This administrator leads and collaborates with the Council of Deans, as well as department chairs, faculty, academic staff, and students.

Positions reporting to the Provost are the Vice Provost, Vice Provost for Diversity and Chief Diversity Officer, Deans of the six colleges, Dean of the Graduate School and Associate VP for Research, Dean of Libraries and CIO, Assistant Vice President for Institutional Effectiveness

and Research, Registrar, Executive Director of ECU Online, Superintendent of Model Laboratory School, Director of Academic Readiness and Testing, and Academic Affairs Business Officer.

This executive officer provides leadership and counsel to the dean of each college and directs the development and implementation of ECU's academic plans and policies. The Provost ensures the academic integrity of the university and supports innovations in academic programs and methods of instruction and delivery that respond to a rapidly changing higher education environment and landscape. This administrator supports enrollment management and student retention initiatives, as well as supports and promotes collaborative and effective interrelationships between instructional services, student success, and academic initiatives.

## Scope of Responsibility

The Provost provides the academic vision and leadership to advance and support excellence in teaching and learning, research and scholarship, and engagement and stewardship for the institution. This administrator sets the overall academic priorities and allocates funds to move priorities forward.

While providing leadership for matters

## Eastern Kentucky University President Michael T. Benson

Dr. Benson became the 13th President of Eastern Kentucky University on August 1, 2013. Described as ECU's "next great, visionary leader," he maintains a distinguished record of success as an innovative executive who is well-recognized and respected among peers and colleagues. Throughout his nearly twenty-five year career in public higher education, Dr. Benson has devoted himself to students and their academic success. He is an accomplished communicator and scholar committed to diversity and expanding global academic opportunities and is a proven financial manager who is focused on developing and sustaining political and external support for ECU.



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that impact academic programs and research, the Provost also ensures that the activities of Academic Affairs meet the requirements of the university's accrediting and licensing agencies.

The Provost is actively involved with legislative relations and development activities, and communicates regularly with the EKU Board of Regents. Additionally, the Provost provides leadership and guidance for the Council of Deans and works closely with the President to serve as chief advisor on all issues concerning academics and/or faculty.

## Decision Making

Decisions by the Provost may be related to the implementation of new methods, procedures, and programs within broad objectives and accountability for the outcome. The Provost will be involved with the systematic and routine assessment of academic programs and initiatives to measure and plan for continuous improvement, and will review and propose changes to programs, systems, procedures, services, or policies. The Provost's decisions will affect and impact the work of all employees within academic departments,

other departments, students, and the entire university. The Provost actively communicates issues and decisions concerning academics and/or faculty to the faculty.

## Essential Responsibilities

### Setting Academic Priorities

- Ensure that the university's programs and faculty are of the highest quality
- Provide progressive academic and co-curricular leadership, vision, and direction
- Develop, review, and evaluate curricula; and recommend curricula revisions, additions, and suspensions in concert with appropriate committees
- Analyze registration statistics, program enrollments/course completion, and degrees awarded; and use the data to develop academic policies and initiatives
- Provide oversight of course caps, course scheduling, and teaching assignments to maximize efficiency in course offerings
- Plan, evaluate, and implement academic programs

## Eastern Kentucky University

### 2015 - 2020 Strategic Plan - Make No Little Plans

#### Major initiatives for the Office of Academic Affairs:

- Focus on high-impact learning strategies as established in our ACCT (Applied Critical and Creative Thinking) plan to enhance students' success
- Oversee innovative changes in academic affairs focused on preparing students for life after graduation and engagement as productive citizens
- Build on EKU's STEM-H "gold-standard" success
- Implement EKU's Quality Enhancement Plan Read With Purpose
- Increase access to higher education for the adult population in our region and in Kentucky who desire to complete their degrees
- Support the Council on Post-Secondary Education's Strategic Agenda for student success and enhancing cultural competency
- Focus on innovative ways in which EKU can lead in producing graduates who meet industry needs in terms of critical thinking, problem solving, communication skills, empathy, adaptability, and life-long learning

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and a strong record of progressively responsible higher education administrative experience in senior academic leadership roles at regionally accredited institutions are required. The candidate must have a distinguished record of teaching, research and scholarship, service, and student engagement.

Extensive expertise in program and curriculum development, program review and enhancement, continuous quality improvement processes, and budget and fiscal management is required.

Administrative experience within a broad multi-campus institution is preferred.

The successful candidate must provide evidence of the following qualities:

- Knowledge and experience in an academic setting, including curriculum and instruction, research and scholarly activity, accreditation, admissions and financial aid, and academic support services
- Demonstrated ability to manage a complex academic organization and to work effectively with colleagues across divisions and campuses and have proven effectiveness in leading and supporting a strong administrative team
- Effective administrative experience in higher education that includes

## **University Budgeting and Planning**

- Work in collaboration with the President's Council to establish budget priorities for the university
- Develop, plan, administer, and monitor budgets for units within Academic Affairs
- Allocate funds for academic programs

## **University Policies and Procedures**

- Create, implement, analyze, and evaluate operational policies and procedures
- Make any necessary modifications based on analysis of operations, demographics, and other research information

## **Personnel, Faculty, and Staff Direction**

- Appoint individuals to faculty positions (including academic administrative positions) and evaluate their performance
- Provide support to faculty and staff in duties, such as teaching classes, conducting orientation programs, advising, scheduling events, professionally relevant service activities and promoting professional development
- Recruit, hire, mentor, train, evaluate, and terminate departmental personnel

- Recommend and approve all promotions, retentions, special hires, tenure decisions, and new appointments to the faculty

## **Other University Involvement**

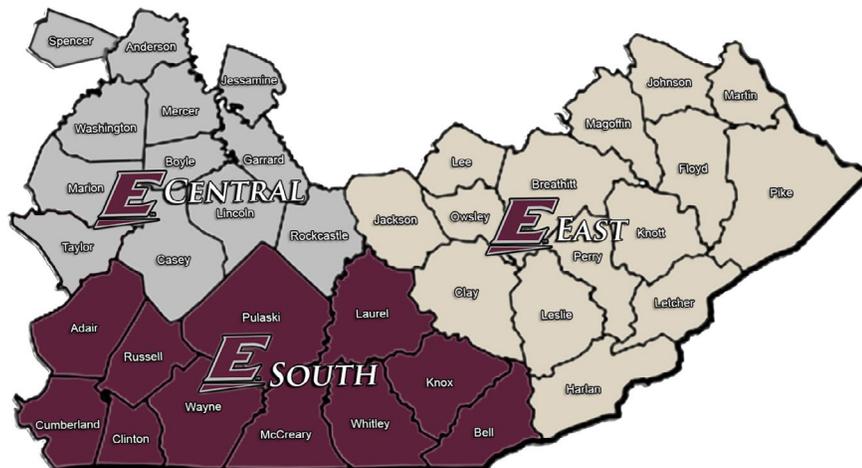
- Represent the institution at community and campus events, in meetings with other institution personnel, and during accreditation processes
- Direct and participate in institutional fundraising activities, and encourage alumni participation in such activities

## **Qualifications**

A Ph.D. or other terminal degree from a regionally accredited college or university



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## EKU's Regional Campus and Center Locations

Central Region - Lancaster  
East Region - Manchester and Hazard  
South Region - Corbin

## Mission Statement

As a school of opportunity, Eastern Kentucky University fosters personal growth and prepares students to contribute to the success and vitality of their communities, the Commonwealth, and the world. Eastern Kentucky University is committed to access, equal opportunity, dignity, respect, and inclusion for all people, as integral to a learning environment in which intellectual creativity and diversity thrives.

planning, faculty development, communication with faculty, budgeting, and resource development

- Strong interpersonal communication and decision-making abilities that enable effective interaction with the various constituencies
- Demonstrated commitment to promoting excellence and diversity in the recruitment, retention, and development of students, faculty, and staff

- Demonstrated knowledge of trends in higher education and a vision for how EKU's leadership will navigate those trends and emerge even stronger and better equipped for the future
- Demonstrated commitment to strengthening and growing the educational opportunities for post-traditional or non-traditional adult learners via online and other distance learning methods
- Demonstrated ability to develop,

maintain, and manage a quality faculty and rigorous academic programs and policies, with a commitment to professional development

- Demonstrated experience in academic program assessment and the development and implementation of continuous improvement strategies
- Demonstrated knowledge of regional accreditation standards and successful experience working with accrediting organizations
- Demonstrated commitment to student-centered programming, academic excellence, and integrity at all levels
- Strong commitment to collegial, consultative processes and to shared governance

## Eastern Kentucky University Points of Pride

- Five consecutive years ranked in Top Tier of Regional Universities in the South — *U.S. News & World Report*
- National magazine touts EKU GURUs as "Model of Excellence" in Student Success — *University Business*
- Named "Military Friendly School®" — *Victory Media*
- Ranked among top institutions for financial return on investment — *The College Database*
- Honored for the fourth consecutive year with national diversity award — *Minority Access Inc.*
- Named to "America's Best Colleges" for sixth consecutive year — *Forbes*
- Ranked No. 2 nationally in 2015 "Best for Vets" survey — *Military Times*

## Eastern Kentucky University

Founded in 1874, Eastern Kentucky University offers general and liberal arts programs and pre-professional and professional training in education and various other fields at both the undergraduate and graduate levels. Approximately 17,000 students are enrolled

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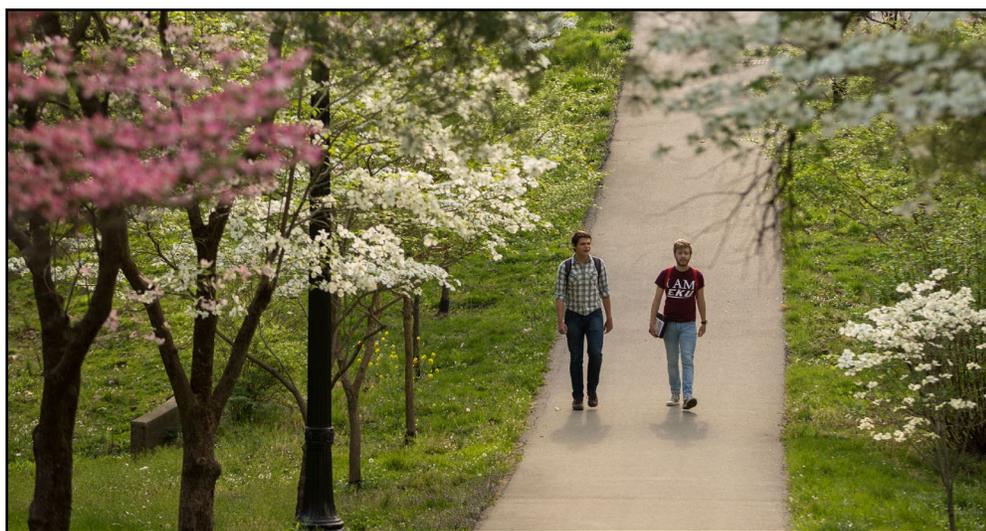
in more than 160 academic programs across EKU's six colleges: Business and Technology; Education; Health Sciences; Justice and Safety; Letters, Arts and Social Sciences; and Science.

In addition to the main campus in Richmond, EKU has four regional campuses and centers that increase the opportunity for students to obtain selected baccalaureate and master's degrees while remaining in the area to better serve the needs of their families and their communities. EKU programs are offered in multiple sites across Central and Eastern Kentucky.

The university has a highly qualified faculty committed to excellence in teaching, scholarship, and service. These scholars have chosen to pursue their careers at EKU because they love to teach and to engage students in the learning process. There are 649 full-time faculty members, of which 303 are tenured and 207 are on a tenure track. There are 517 part-time faculty members.

EKU is committed to graduating students with the skills to succeed in their chosen fields and lead satisfying and productive lives. As a result of this integrated approach across all academic programs, EKU has received the Council on Higher Education Accreditation's (CHEA) Award for Outstanding Institutional Practice in Student Learning Outcomes.

According to the 2016 National Survey of Student Engagement (NSSE), EKU seniors ranked the university especially high in effective teaching practices, quality of interactions, higher-order learning, and quantitative reasoning. Eastern Kentucky University's applied programs strike an effective balance between theory and practice in their discipline; and EKU students can select from more than 100 programs, each with an applied component.



More than 69 percent of the students attend full-time. Within the student body, more than 59 percent of the students are women and nearly 11.5 percent are minorities. Approximately 85 percent of the students are from Kentucky. The Fall 2016 freshman class was the second largest in EKU's history, behind only the Fall 2015 class, and the best ever academically prepared class.

Eastern Kentucky University's four- and five-year graduation rates continue to climb. The four-year graduation rate has nearly doubled over the past seven years, and the five-year rate has increased approximately 47 percent over the same period. EKU has increased its 6-year graduation rate from 38.4 percent to 49.27 percent during the same time frame.

EKU Online degree programs continue to grow steadily with more than 3,000 students enrolled as of Fall 2017 and is up more than 15 percent in the last five years.

In 2016, *U.S. News & World Report* included EKU on its list of Best Online Degree Programs. The university's online degrees also have been recognized for quality, value, and military friendliness by organizations, such as SR Education Group, Affordable Colleges Online, and Best Value Schools.

In 2016-2017, the university awarded 3,803 degrees and certificates, including 842 master's and 97 doctoral/specialists degrees.

In 2018, *U.S. News & World Report* included EKU on its list of Best Online Degree Programs. The university's online degrees also have been recognized for quality, value, and military friendliness by organizations, such as SR Education Group, Affordable Colleges Online, and Best Value Schools. The EKU Honors Program leads the nation in the number of student presentations at the annual meeting of the National Collegiate Honors Council (NCHC), with more than 1,000 EKU honors students having presented at NCHC since 1990.

Eastern Kentucky University students benefit from numerous organizations, services, activities, recreational opportunities, and sports. EKU's Colonels compete in the NCAA's Division I (Football Championship Subdivision in football) in the Ohio Valley Conference. The university fields 16 varsity teams. Men's teams include baseball, basketball, cross country, football, golf, and indoor & outdoor track and field. Women's teams are basketball, cross country, golf, soccer, softball, indoor & outdoor track and field, and volleyball & beach volleyball.

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For more information, visit [www.eku.edu](http://www.eku.edu).

## Richmond, Kentucky

EKU is located in the city of Richmond, the county seat of Madison County. Richmond is an expanding community of approximately 33,500 residents. In and around Richmond are many areas of historic and scenic interest.

The city offers arts and entertainment, recreation, shopping, and fine and casual dining. With more than 100 buildings on the National Register of Historic Places and three areas on the National Register of Historic Districts, Richmond is one of Kentucky's finest restored 19th Century commercial districts.

Richmond has well-established neighborhoods and affordable housing. The area offers both public and private elementary, middle, and high schools.

Situated near the heart of the Bluegrass region and 26 miles southeast of Lexington, Kentucky, Richmond is served by a network of major highways making the area easily accessible from all parts of Kentucky and surrounding states. Interstate highways 1-75 (north-south) and I-64 (east-west) make the metropolitan areas of Cincinnati, 112 miles to the north, and Louisville, 110 miles to the west, within convenient distance by automobile.



## Application and Nomination Process

Confidential inquiries are welcomed and nominations are invited.

### Applications must include:

- Letter of interest
- Current curriculum vitae
- At least five references with full contact information, including e-mail addresses (References will not be contacted without consent from applicant.)

**Submit application materials to [EKU@myersmcrac.com](mailto:EKU@myersmcrac.com) by September 4, 2018, for best consideration.** The search will remain open until the position is filled.

**Submit nominations to [EKU-nominate@myersmcrac.com](mailto:EKU-nominate@myersmcrac.com)** with full contact and e-mail information for the individual being nominated.

**Kenny Daugherty, President of Myers McRae Executive Search and Consulting,** is assisting Eastern Kentucky University with this search.



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