COLLEGE OF HEALTH
AND HUMAN SCIENCES
COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY

POSITION DESCRIPTION, DEAN, COLLEGE OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SCIENCES

Colorado State University invites applications and nominations for the Dean of the College of Health and Human Sciences. The Dean reports to the Provost and Executive Vice President, serving as the chief academic and spokesperson for the College on curriculum, personnel, and resource advocacy issues.

We seek a dynamic, passionate, and caring leader with a strong scholarly record, deep academic values, excellent leadership skills, a proven track record in external relations and development, and a proven ability to manage in a way that can be leveraged to lead a world class College of Health and Human Sciences.

Colorado State University is a Research 1 Carnegie Research Institution (R1 – very high research) with a land grant mission serving approximately 33,000 graduate and undergraduate students. CSU has been recognized as a premier research university, with world-class research in lifespan physical, mental, and behavioral health, microbiomes, community-based engagement, infectious disease, atmospheric science, clean energy technologies, and environmental science. CSU also offers the very best professional programs in the country in business, veterinary medicine, occupational therapy, agriculture, and construction management. CSU's STARS (Sustainability Tracking, Assessment & Rating System) platinum rating reflects the University's commitment to sustainability. In the most recent STARS evaluation, CSU was ranked #2 in the U.S., and #3 in the world.

CSU's Strategic Roadmap 2035: A National Model for the Modern Land-Grant University highlights how our current University priorities align with the CSU System's Strategic Priorities, the University's current strategic plan, and the Academic Master Plan, CSU's Land-Grant Mission, and Principles of Community. The Roadmap operationalizes how we will strive to become a National Model for the Modern Land-Grant University.

As a National Model for the Modern Land-Grant University, CSU will:

- Strengthen our role and reputation as an innovative, engaged, research-intensive institution that offers a world-class education and prioritizes learners, employees, and community
- Expand interdisciplinarity and collaboration across academic programs, research, creative artistry, and community engagement throughout the University
- Infuse education with more opportunities for research, creative artistry, experiential learning, and community engagement in all programs and for all learners
- Attract the best learners, educators, and employees to CSU while supporting a climate in which everyone is welcomed and able to thrive
- Enrich CSU's excellence and global leadership in seven interrelated academic themes: Arts and Cultures; Public Discourse and Democracy; Data and Information Science; Inclusive Excellence; Human, Animal, and Environmental Health; Science, Technology, and Innovation; and Sustainability, Climate, and Resilience

Colorado State University is located 60 miles north of Denver in the city of Fort Collins. It is situated on the Front Range of the Rocky Mountains with the foothills and 14,000-foot peaks visible to residents. Fort Collins is an active community with a vibrant cityscape. Easy access to hiking, skiing, rafting, and other outdoor sports is a great advantage to CSU students, faculty, and staff. With an average of 300 days of sunshine per year and low humidity, Fort Collins residents enjoy pleasant weather year-round. Indoor and outdoor activities are enjoyable in every season. Colorado has earned a worldwide reputation as an area that offers an unparalleled lifestyle, and Fort Collins represents the very best of Colorado with several top rankings in quality of life reviews.

The **College of Health and Human Sciences** is known for:

- Advancing human health and well-being across the lifespan through multidisciplinary research and creativity.
- Preventing disease and optimizing human performance through exercise, nutrition, and positive mental health.

- Advocating for sustainable apparel and product development, building practices, infrastructure, design, and communities.
- Promoting quality education and inclusive participation for people of all ages.
- Optimizing design and construction for healthy living.

The College's Strategic Plan 2023-2027 identifies key initiatives including:

- CHHS is developing educational pathways to address critical workforce needs, including:
    - A recently launched nursing program in collaboration with CSU Pueblo.
    - A physical therapy doctorate program.
    - Enhanced public health, mental health, and behavioral health curricula.
    - Elementary and secondary teacher education programs.
- Leading interdisciplinary innovation through human-centered design and leadership in research, education, and human health.

Additional information about CHHS' progress toward these priorities can be found here.

Minimum Qualifications

- A terminal doctoral degree (e.g. Ph.D., Ed.D., M.D., etc.) in a discipline relevant to the college.
- A record of success in academia commensurate with appointment that meets the qualification of a tenured full professor at Colorado State University in a discipline relevant to the college.
- Strong academic administrative experience, supported by experience in personnel and fiscal management at the level of the dean, department head, program director, or equivalent.
- Demonstrated commitment to academic excellence and leadership in education, research, and scholarly activities.
- Proven ability to effectively lead through a collaborative and accessible leadership style, with strong interpersonal and effective communication skills to work collegially with staff, faculty, and stakeholders within and beyond the university.

- Demonstrated ability to provide nimble, forward-thinking leadership that anticipates change and shapes strategic and innovative responses to emerging challenges and opportunities.
- A commitment to high standards and professional integrity.

Preferred Qualifications

- Proven track record in fundraising and securing extramural funding.
- Demonstrated success in implementation of strategic initiatives across organizational levels, with a collaborative change management style that preserves culture while driving inclusive transformation.
- Personal qualities that will facilitate open and collaborative relationships with University stakeholders, leadership, peers, and external constituencies, with a strategic vision aligned to diverse mission areas of the college.
- Excellent organizational, planning, supervisory, decision-making, and problem-solving skills, with the leadership capacity to navigate challenges and advance long-term goals.
- Familiarity with accreditation requirements for academic programs within the college.

Applications will be accepted until the position is filled. However, for full consideration applications should be submitted electronically no later than 11:59pm MST November 27, 2026 through the Careers at CSU posting for Dean, College of Health and Human Sciences.

For full consideration, applications should include 1) a letter expressing their interest, experience, and vision for the position, specifically providing evidence of required and preferred qualifications listed above, 2) a current Curriculum Vitae, and 3) statement of leadership philosophy.

Inquiries and applications will be kept confidential until finalists are named for on-campus interviews. Names and contact information for references will be requested and contacted at advanced stages of screening. Candidates will be notified prior to contacting named or other referees. Preferred start is July 1, 2027.

Questions regarding the search may be directed to Dr. Sue VandeWoude Dean, College of Veterinary Medicine and Biomedical Science. Nominations are encouraged and should be sent by November 20, 2026, at csu_chhsdeansearch@colostate.edu. Please include the name, email address, and phone number of the nominee.