



# NEVADA SYSTEM OF HIGHER EDUCATION

## CHANCELLOR



# The Opportunity

The Board of Regents of the Nevada System of Higher Education seeks nominations and applications for Chancellor of the Nevada System of Higher Education (NSHE) to lead a growing, dynamic system of eight institutions committed to serving the needs of the citizens of the State of Nevada. Reporting to the Board of Regents, the Chancellor provides strategic leadership to ensure the System's institutions align with state priorities, enhance student success, and promote economic development in Nevada. The Chancellor plays a critical role in shaping Nevada's future by ensuring its higher education system remains innovative, inclusive, and aligned with the state's economic and social needs.

The Regents seek a new leader to build upon the stability and momentum the NSHE System has gained in recent years. Nevada is a growing state with an economic outlook that is among the brightest in the United States. The demands of a changing economy which also bring increased expectations for higher education, together with initiatives of the Governor and State Legislature, spurred on by a forward-leaning business community throughout the state, offers exceptional opportunities for the right leader to help shape the future direction and momentum of Nevada.

# The Position

The Chancellor is the chief executive officer and ex-officio treasurer of the Nevada System of Higher Education (NSHE) and is responsible to the Board for the implementation of Board policies and directives, and the administration and financial management of the System.

## Essential Duties and Responsibilities

- › Establish a productive working relationship with the Board of Regents, to be responsive to, and responsible for implementation of the directives of the Board of Regents.
- › Promote a sound plan of organization in concert with the institution presidents to ensure administrative efficiency, maximum utilization of resources, and to facilitate cooperation among the member institutions in service to the state's higher education needs.
- › Lead, with the full cooperation and input of the presidents, the planning processes of the NSHE, including establishing metrics to measure progress towards the achievement of Board approved strategic goals.
- › Develop a strategic plan for System Administration that establishes the role of the office in supporting the Board and the institutions.
- › Present all required NSHE matters to the Governor's Office and the State Legislature.
- › Collaborate with the Board Chair for official communication on behalf of the Board of Regents and NSHE.
- › Establish the practices under which the financial administration of the NSHE will be conducted, including the coordination, development, and presentation of the NSHE budget to the Legislature.
- › Actively work to ensure that the system acquires the necessary public and private resources for successful achievement of its goals and objectives; engage in fundraising activities for resources that meet the needs of all the System's universities, community colleges, and the Desert Research Institute.

- › Build strong and credible relationships across the NSHE, the Board of Regents, and state and national leadership. Serve as a trusted and respected leader with the public and press in the communities the NSHE System serves.
- › Assure that all budgets are executed in accordance with the intent of the Board of Regents and the Legislature.
- › Serve as contracting officer for the NSHE and execute all contracts and other instruments on behalf of NSHE unless authority has been expressly retained by the Board of Regents or delegated elsewhere.
- › Plan and approve processes related to academic programs and student services that require Board approval.
- › Appoint outside counsel for System Administration.
- › Serve as the appointing authority of all professional personnel not assigned to a member institution.
- › Evaluate the annual performance of each president of the member institutions in accordance with procedures established by the Board of Regents.
- › Participate in the periodic performance evaluation of each president in accordance with procedures established by the Board of Regents.
- › Supervise presidents in accordance with provisions established by the Board of Regents.
- › Plan and approve processes related to research programming and activities that require Board approval.
- › Lead NSHE community engagement and coordination of workforce and economic development efforts involving the Legislature and multiple institutions.
- › Oversee administration of the Established Program to Stimulate Competitive Research (EPSCoR) and sponsored programs involving multiple NSHE institutions.

## Minimum/Basic Required Qualifications

- › Bachelor's degree or higher from an institution recognized as equal in rank to those having a membership in the Association of American Universities.
- › Ten years as a senior executive in higher education, business, or government.

## Desired Experience

- › Deep appreciation for the state of Nevada and NSHE's unique role within the state; genuine and active interest in becoming a member of the NSHE community.
- › Ph.D. or other terminal degree. Candidates without a terminal degree should have credentials and/or experience sufficient to warrant the respect and confidence of the broad constituencies of NSHE.
- › A demonstrated commitment to student success, research and scholarship, and community outreach and service.
- › Previous experience leading a large, multi-site, complex organization.
- › Advocating and leading legislative agendas and familiarity with state budgets.
- › A strong understanding of financial management principles that ensure decisions are fiscally sound and responsible and demonstrated financial acumen with an understanding of the broader impact of decisions on the fiscal health of the entire organization.
- › Developing key relationships, characterized by dignity and respect, with politicians, business leaders, key community members, members of elected bodies, government entities, and a governing board.
- › Achieving legislative support for appropriate levels of operational funding, to include faculty and administrator salaries.
- › Political acumen with proven advocacy skills and solid understanding of recent local, state, and national legislation that impacts institutions of higher learning.

- › Seizing opportunities for economic growth through investments in innovative programs and partnerships with business and government.
- › Championing equity, diversity, inclusion, and belonging efforts.
- › Maintaining or improving student enrollment, retention, and completion, particularly for disadvantaged populations.
- › Demonstrated understanding of the changing nature of higher education and the ability to pivot to meet the new challenges and opportunities the NSHE will face.
- › Understanding and appreciation for the unique dimensions of academic medical centers and their beneficial impact on the state's overall health and well-being.
- › Actively working to ensure that the System acquires the necessary public and private resources for successful achievement of its goals and objectives; engage in fundraising activities that address the needs of all the System's universities, community colleges and the Desert Research Institute.
- › Casting a compelling vision for the future of higher education and effectively leading constituents in achieving that vision.
- › Demonstrated integrity and ethics; a consensus builder; and a highly effective communicator and listener.
- › Ability to enhance the economic impact of the NSHE and its constituent institutions.
- › Building consensus among diverse stakeholders and navigating complex political environments.
- › Developing effective community partnerships to include those engaged in workforce development.
- › Collaborating with businesses resulting in commercial innovation.
- › Building capacity at individual, team, and organization levels.

About the  
Nevada System of Higher  
Education

## The Setting

Nevada's fast-growing population— full of energy, intelligence, and spirit—is increasingly initiating and sustaining new examples of business, entrepreneurship, and manufacturing for the 21st century. Nevada is currently ranked sixth among states in overall best growth, based on GDP growth, growth of young population, and overall net migration.



Nevada's economy, originally founded on mining but shifting to tourism by the mid-20<sup>th</sup> century, complements its world-renowned tourist-centric economy with an emerging highly skilled technological base. This is a product of its own policy investments and as a natural outgrowth of its proximity to its Pacific Rim neighbor, California. As the new economy emerges and matures, so must Nevada's educational system at all levels, led by its colleges and universities, in a coordinated focus on the future. The opportunity for contribution and impact offered by the Chancellor is marked by the Chancellor's role as the leading voice for the myriad contributions of higher education for Nevada.





## Las Vegas Strip Nighttime Scenic Byway

Las Vegas Boulevard, designated as America's only "nighttime scenic byway" and a highly sought-after vacation destination for more than 40 million people annually, features luxury resorts, top restaurants, and the world-famous Sphere, a music and entertainment arena, known for its unique architecture and multi-sensory immersive experiences. Las Vegas is also home to numerous professional sports franchises including the Las Vegas Raiders, Vegas Golden Knights, Las Vegas Aces, and a Major League Baseball team expected in the near future.



## Beyond Las Vegas Boulevard



If you need a break from the glitz, the [Las Vegas Arts District](#), has 18 blocks of art galleries, antique stores, chic boutiques, and cafés. Not much further afield, you can escape the full-on sensory experience and get up close with nature at [Lake Mead National Recreation Area](#) in [Boulder City](#), along with striking low-desert rock formations in [Black Canyon](#), the [Spring Mountains National Recreation Area](#), [Seven Magic Mountains](#), the picturesque [Red Rock Canyon](#)– Nevada's first National Conservation Area with more than 30 miles of hiking trails and a 13-mile scenic drive– a



popular destination among visitors and locals, attracting over 3 million outdoor enthusiasts annually, and much more.

## Reno

With a population of over 260,000, Reno is the largest city in Northern Nevada. It is in the southern part of Washoe County, nestled on the eastern slope of the Sierra Nevada Mountains in an area called the Truckee Meadows.



Reno and the surrounding area provide unlimited indoor and outdoor recreational activities. Lake Tahoe and the largest concentration of ski facilities in the world are all within a fifty-mile radius. Biking, camping, hunting, fishing and mountain climbing are all activities Reno residents and visitors enjoy.

## Elko

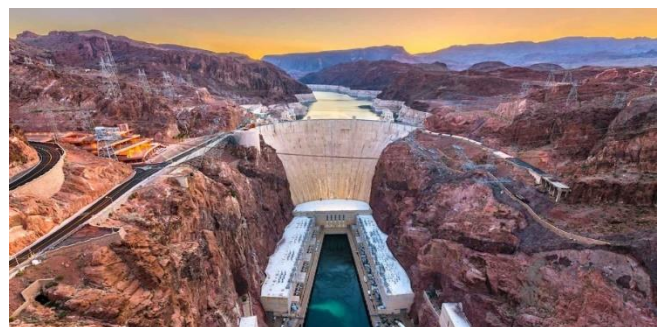


Elko is the perfect merger of small-town charm coupled with a business-friendly environment. Laying along the Humboldt River, the Transcontinental Railway, and eventually Interstate-80, Elko naturally became a hub for economic activity in Northeastern Nevada; first in agriculture but eventually mining, gaming, and tourism.

As the largest city within Northeastern Nevada, Elko continues to be the nucleus of economic activity within the region. One of the world's most prominent producers of gold, Nevada Gold Mines, have their corporate offices right here in Elko. Further, several other mineral producers and mine support companies also call Elko home.

## Hoover Dam

Keeping watch over the Colorado River, Hoover Dam draws more than seven million annual visitors and remains one of the West's most visited attractions. This modern marvel lies at the intersection of the southeast corner of Nevada and the northwest corner of Arizona and



forms Lake Mead, the largest reservoir by volume in the U. S. when full. Impressive in size, scope, and scale.

Hoover Dam is the second-tallest dam in the U.S., standing 726 feet high and 1,244 feet across. The dam's intake towers regulate southern Nevada's water supply, providing hydroelectric power and flood control/irrigation to 1.3 million residents of Nevada, Arizona, and southern California.

Hoover Dam construction began amidst the Great Depression in 1931 and wrapped up with the dam's opening in 1936. Originally called Boulder Dam and renamed for President Herbert Hoover.

## **Nevada State Parks at Lake Tahoe**

As the largest alpine lake in North America, Lake Tahoe is stunningly scenic—not just because of its sheer size, but also for its renowned clarity and deep blue hues (after all, the lake is locally known as “Big Blue”). Straddling the state line between California and Nevada, Lake Tahoe has no shortage of outdoor recreation opportunities, including four Nevada State Parks along the eastern shoreline. [Sand Harbor](#), [Spoooner Lake & Backcountry](#), [Van Sickle](#), and [Cave Rock](#) each offer up a different—and easily accessible—way to experience the Nevada side of one of the largest, most beautiful lakes in the world.

### **Sand Harbor**

While there are dozens of public-access beaches on the Nevada side of Lake Tahoe, [Sand Harbor State Park](#) is a show-stopper with gently sloping sandy beaches, crystal-clear water, and striking granite boulders that promise unforgettable swimming, kayaking, and paddle boarding.

Because Lake Tahoe is the deepest lake in both California and Nevada, with its deepest point clocking in at 1,645 feet, you can also go scuba diving at Sand Harbor and explore Tahoe's cobalt depths.



## Spooner Lake & Backcountry

If one is looking to do some camping in Lake Tahoe, put [Spooner Lake & Backcountry State Park](#) on your radar. Almost hidden in plain sight, this amazing area is a haven for recreation with more than 12,000 acres of forested mountain terrain. High above the shoreline, views of Lake Tahoe abound on more than 50 miles of trails for hiking, legendary mountain biking, and even horseback riding. The world-famous, 4.4-mile, cliff-clinging Marlette Flume Trail can be accessed from the park, along with a section of the 165-mile [Tahoe Rim Trail](#).



## Van Sickle

Named for and donated by the Van Sickle family, long-time Tahoe landowners and stable operators, this 542-acre state park invites hikers, cyclists, and equestrians to partake in adventure.



Not only is Van Sickle easy to get to, it also serves up some of the most awe-inspiring scenery the region has to offer. With dozens of miles of hiking and mountain biking trails, Van Sickle Bi-State Park is minutes away from the main strip in [South Lake Tahoe](#), making it one of the lake's most accessible parks for visitors of all ages and skill levels. Pack a picnic and make a day of it under the natural shade of the forest.

## Cave Rock

Towering over Highway 50 on the Nevada side of Lake Tahoe, the landmark that gives [Cave Rock State Park](#) its name is too majestic to miss. The Washoe Tribe considers Cave Rock a sacred place, and the surrounding lands are also spiritually important.



## Governance

The NSHE is governed by the Nevada Board of Regents, a 13-member body that is elected by popular vote from districts across the state to serve four-year terms. The Chancellor is responsible to the Board of Regents as a whole and works closely with the Board Chair and Vice Chair. As NSHE's chief executive officer, the Chancellor supervises the eight NSHE

presidents, ensures the Board of Regents' policies are implemented throughout the system, and serves as the System liaison with the governor, state legislators, and other public officials and community leaders.

## **System Administration**

The Chancellor is appointed by the Board of Regents to serve as chief executive officer for the Nevada System of Higher Education (NSHE). The Chancellor supervises the eight NSHE presidents and ensures the Board of Regents policies are implemented throughout the System.

NSHE provides educational opportunities to more than 106,000 students.

## **Commitment to Equity**

NSHE is proud to serve as a majority–minority system that values an educational, working, and collegial environment that fosters inclusion, diversity, equity, and access for all students, faculty, staff, and the public served by our institutions. NSHE is committed to intentional engagement and affirmation of groups with diverse backgrounds through an equitable opportunity for all to fully participate in, and contribute to, programs, services, activities, environments, and decision/policy making. Each institution strives to deliver an inclusive and accessible higher education platform through equitable treatment and advancement opportunities by ensuring that all have what they need to be successful within our System.

NSHE actively encourages applications for both student admission and system workplace opportunities from members of groups with historical and/or current barriers to inclusion, diversity, equity, and access including, but not limited to:

- The sovereign tribal nations of the United States, and especially those of Nevada, who originate from the ancestral lands on which we reside, learn, teach, work, and recreate, including the Wa She Shu – Washoe, Numu – Northern Paiute, Nuwe – Western Shoshone, and Nuwu – Southern Paiute;
- Members of groups that commonly experience discrimination due to race, ethnicity, ancestry, skin color, age, sex, sexuality, genetic information, military status or military obligations, class, language, religion and/or spiritual beliefs, or place of origin;

- Persons with visible and/or invisible (physical and/or mental) disabilities;
- Persons who identify as women or men; and
- Persons of marginalized sexual orientations, gender identities, and gender expressions.

## NSHE Institutions

The Nevada System of Higher Education comprises two doctoral-granting research universities (University of Nevada, Las Vegas and University of Nevada, Reno); one state university (Nevada State University); one environmental research institute (Desert Research Institute); and four comprehensive community colleges (College of Southern Nevada, Great Basin College, Truckee Meadows Community College, and Western Nevada College). In addition, there are System Administration offices in Las Vegas and Reno.

### University of Nevada, Las Vegas



University of Nevada, Las Vegas (UNLV) is an urban public university with rigorous educational programs that is immersed in innovative research, scholarship, and creative activities. With nearly 33,000 students and more than 4,000 full-time employees, UNLV holds the nation's highest recognition for both research and community

engagement from Carnegie – distinctions which underscore its vision to become a premier university in service of one of the nation's fastest-growing and most enterprising regions. Every day — in its labs and classrooms, in neighborhoods, and out in the field — UNLV is working to fuel Nevada's economic engine. The university is proud of its home within the heart of a global destination, where UNLV's students, employees, and alumni build community, create partnerships, advance healthcare, and spark innovation that move the region forward.



## University of Nevada, Reno



Since its founding in 1874 as Nevada's land-grant university, the University of Nevada, Reno (UNR) has been committed to providing a brighter future for the citizens of Nevada, the nation, and the world. As a top-tier research university, the institution holds the prestigious "R1" designation from the Carnegie Classification of Institutions of Higher Education, signifying exceptional research activity at the doctoral level. The University has also earned the distinguished "Carnegie Engaged" classification, recognizing its significant contributions to civic engagement and community service through statewide and local partnerships. With more than 60 research centers and facilities, the University contributed more than \$188.5 million to research-based advancements in fiscal year 2023, generating jobs and infrastructure for Nevada.



## Nevada State University



Nevada State University (NSU) is a comprehensive four-year teaching institution, serving approximately 7,500 students, with a strong focus on career preparation for real-world success. Nevada State offers bachelor's and master's degrees in a variety of fields, including nursing, business, education, speech-language pathology, data analytics, and psychology. At Nevada State University, excellence fosters opportunity. Excellence in teaching leads to innovative, technology-rich learning opportunities that promote the acquisition of interdisciplinary knowledge and skills. Quality, affordable degree programs open doors to career success and an enhanced quality of life for a diverse population of students.



## Desert Research Institute



Desert Research Institute (DRI) is Nevada's non-profit research institute, founded in 1959 to empower experts to focus on science that matters. DRI works with communities across the state –and the world– to address their most pressing scientific questions. DRI scientists continuously produce solutions that better human and environmental health, following their research interests across the traditional boundaries of scientific fields, and collaborating across DRI and with scientists worldwide. Unique to DRI, all faculty support their own research through grants, bringing in nearly \$5 to the Nevada economy for every \$1 of state funds received. With more than 600 scientists, engineers, students, and staff across our Reno and Las Vegas campuses, DRI conducts more than \$52 million annually in sponsored research focused on improving peoples' lives. At DRI, science isn't merely academic – it's the key to future-proofing our communities and building a better world.



## College of Southern Nevada



College of Southern Nevada (CSN), the largest community college in the Nevada System of Higher Education, is Southern Nevada's sole community college and enrolls approximately 30,000 students each semester on three main campuses in Henderson, Las Vegas, and North Las Vegas. The college offers more than 200 degrees and certificates — including more than 50 available entirely online.





## Great Basin College



Great Basin College (GBC) serves 3,600 students annually both online and from four rural Nevada campus locations in, Elko, Ely, Pahrump, Winnemucca

The college is an Emerging Hispanic Serving Institution and a leader in rural higher education, offering 75+ degree and certificate programs. Great Basin College takes pride in developing students who are well-prepared to meet the demands of industry and who contribute to the success and prosperity of the local economy.



## Truckee Meadows Community College



Truckee Meadows Community College's (TMCC) mission is to create a future you will love with accessible, innovative educational opportunities. Together we can make it happen. The college places a strong emphasis on training for the clean energy economy, partnering with industry leaders like Tesla, Panasonic, and others, while also prioritizing

sustainable campus operations. TMCC strives to cultivate a healthy environment and vibrant community where all students are collaborative and engaged, nurtured through our commitment to excellence in teaching and learning. TMCC is a comprehensive community college serving over 20,000 students at four campus centers and more than 20 community



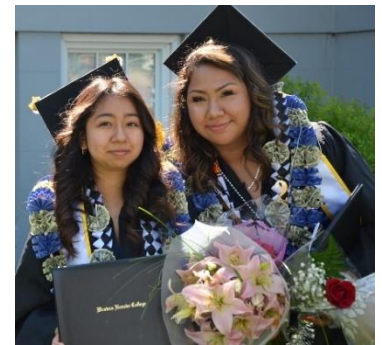
locations in the greater Reno area. The college offers over 70 programs of study that lead to more than 160-degree, certificate, and university transfer programs. TMCC also offers occupational training, career enhancement workshops, and non-degree learning opportunities.

## Western Nevada College



Western Nevada College (WNC) is a comprehensive community college serving more than 4,000 students across a rural, five-county area. Based in Nevada's capital, and just 12 miles from beautiful Lake Tahoe, WNC reaches diverse communities with campuses in Carson City, Fallon, and Minden, as well as instructional centers in

Fernley and Yerington. Degrees and certificates are available in a wide range of fields, including Nursing, Early Childhood Education, Construction Management, Deaf Studies, Manufacturing, Welding, Automotive, Graphic Design, Automation & Industrial Technology, Criminal Justice, Computer Programming, and many more, ensuring students have pathways to both transfer education and workforce-ready skills.



# Nomination & Application Process

# How to Apply

Greenwood Asher & Associates is assisting Nevada System of Higher Education (NSHE) with this search. Nominations and applications will be held in confidence except for finalists. Candidates should include with their curriculum vitae, a letter of application describing their relevant experiences and interest in the position.

We strongly encourage submitting application materials as PDF attachments. The search will be conducted with a commitment to confidentiality for candidates until finalists are selected.

## Please direct inquiries and nominations to:

Jim Johnsen, Vice President of Executive Search

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Itza Walters, Senior Executive Search Consultant

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*The Nevada System of Higher Education hires only United States citizens and aliens lawfully authorized to work in the U.S. The NSHE is an affirmative action, equal opportunity employer and does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, age, creed, national origin, veteran status, physical or mental disability, genetic information, sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression.*

*NSHE recognizes that here in Nevada we stand on the land of the Wa She Shu – Washoe; Numu – Northern Paiute; Nuwe – Western Shoshone; and Nuwu – Southern Paiute. We take a moment to recognize and honor their stewardship that continues into today. With this recognition, we state an intention to rightfully include their voice and respect them as the 27 sovereign tribal nations of Nevada.*

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