

UNIVERSITY *of* WASHINGTON



VICE PRESIDENT  
FOR FINANCIAL  
OPERATIONS

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**BE BOUNDLESS**

FOR WASHINGTON

FOR THE WORLD



## **The University of Washington-Finance, Planning & Budgeting is seeking applications for a Vice President for Financial Operations**

### **ABOUT THE POSITION**

Reporting to the Senior Vice President for Finance, Planning & Budgeting/Chief Financial Officer, the VPFO is a senior leader responsible for overseeing the University's core financial operations and ensuring the integrity, effectiveness, and continuous improvement of enterprise financial services.

The VPFO provides leadership for the University Controller's Office, Treasury, Research Compliance & Operations (post-award sponsored programs), and Management Accounting & Analysis. This role partners closely with executive leadership to support institutional strategy, financial sustainability, and operational excellence across a complex, decentralized environment. This is an exceptional opportunity to contribute to the financial stewardship and strategic direction of a leading public research university.

### **ABOUT THE UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON**

**Founded in 1861**, the University of Washington (UW) is a leading public research university located in Seattle, Washington, with additional campuses in Bothell and Tacoma, as well as a world-class medical center serving the state and the region. Each year, the UW inspires more than 60,000 students to learn from renowned experts in their fields. As a "best buy" public university, our goal is to make higher education accessible for all.

### **Mission and Vision**

UW is dedicated to the advancement of knowledge and the betterment of society. Its mission focuses on fostering discovery, enhancing lives, and cultivating leaders equipped to address the challenges of a complex, interconnected world.

### **Endowment & Financial Health**

UW's endowment totals nearly \$6 billion, supporting extensive research, student aid, and strategic initiatives.

### **Academic Excellence**

UW offers over 480 degree programs spread across 16 colleges and schools, covering areas such as computer science, engineering, business, medicine, law, public health, data science, and more. Its rigorous academic standards and innovative learning environment attract top students globally.

### **Research Leadership**

UW has been recognized as the #1 most innovative public university in the world and is consistently ranked among the top public universities in the world. The UW receives more federal research dollars than any other U.S. public university and has been home to 8 Nobel Prize winners; 17 MacArthur Fellows; 189 members of the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine; and 193 fellows in the American Association for the Advancement of Science.

### **UW Medicine**

UW Medicine provides comprehensive, state-of-the-art, compassionate care by bringing together a top-rated medical school, an internationally recognized research organization and a large network of medical providers and facilities across the region.

We're committed to excellence in training the next generation of health professionals and researchers. And with over 1.6 million patient visits and \$729 million in uncompensated care for low-income patients in need in 2021, we are dedicated to the health and well-being of Washingtonians statewide.

### **National & Global Rankings (2025-2026)**

- #25 Times Higher Education World University Rankings 2026
- #76 QS World University Rankings 2025
- #42 U.S. News National Universities 2026
- #7 U.S. News Best Global Universities
- #10 for research output worldwide (EduRank)



## **MAJOR AREAS OF RESPONSIBILITY**

The Vice President for Financial Operations (VPFO) provides senior leadership for approximately 150 staff across a range of roles responsible for highly regulated, high-volume financial activities in an evolving environment. The VPFO is accountable for the effectiveness, integrity, and continuous improvement of the University's core financial operations and partners closely with the SVP/CFO to shape and execute institution-wide financial strategy with operational discipline. The role oversees financial functions that have significant impacts across the University through the following units:

### **University Controller's Office**

Responsible Provides accurate financial reporting, internal controls accounting support and sound stewardship of University assets.

### **Treasury Office**

Responsible for the accounting and administration of the University of Washington's assets including the Consolidated

Endowment Fund, Invested Funds (operating funds), life income and non-consolidated endowed gifts.

### **Research Compliance & Operations (Sponsored Programs Post Award Management)**

Provides post-award financial services, rate development, and compliance guidance and oversight for the research enterprise to safeguard sponsor funding in support of UW's research mission.

### **Management Accounting & Analysis**

Provides subject-matter expertise for federal compliance regarding F&A Rates, BLR (Benefit Load Rate), and Service and Recharge Centers

## **KEY RESPONSIBILITIES**

### **Program Operations and Administration**

Ensures financial compliance and forecasts potential risks. Responsible for the operations of accounting, treasury, sponsored programs finance, budget planning and operations analytics, and forecasting.

- Advise the SVP in the development of financial plans, analyzing data, and making informed decisions based on market trends and economic forecasts; provide financial analysis, modeling, and advice to inform decision-making and resource allocation across the University
- Oversee the development and implementation of the fiscal control environment to safeguard the University's assets
- Manage the University's financial operations and ensure compliance with federal, state, and local laws and regulations, accreditation standards, and best practices related to financial management and reporting
- Oversee the preparation of annual financial statements and ensure accurate and timely financial reporting; provide regular financial reports and forecasts to the University's executive leadership
- Oversee the management of accounting and audit activities for the University
- Oversee management of the University's cash flow, debt, and endowment funds and optimize the use of financial resources
- Represent the University in external forums and committees and maintain positive relationships with financial institutions, auditors, regulators, and other relevant parties
- Stay abreast of emerging trends and developments in higher education finance and adopt best practices and innovations
- Other duties as assigned

### Strategy Development

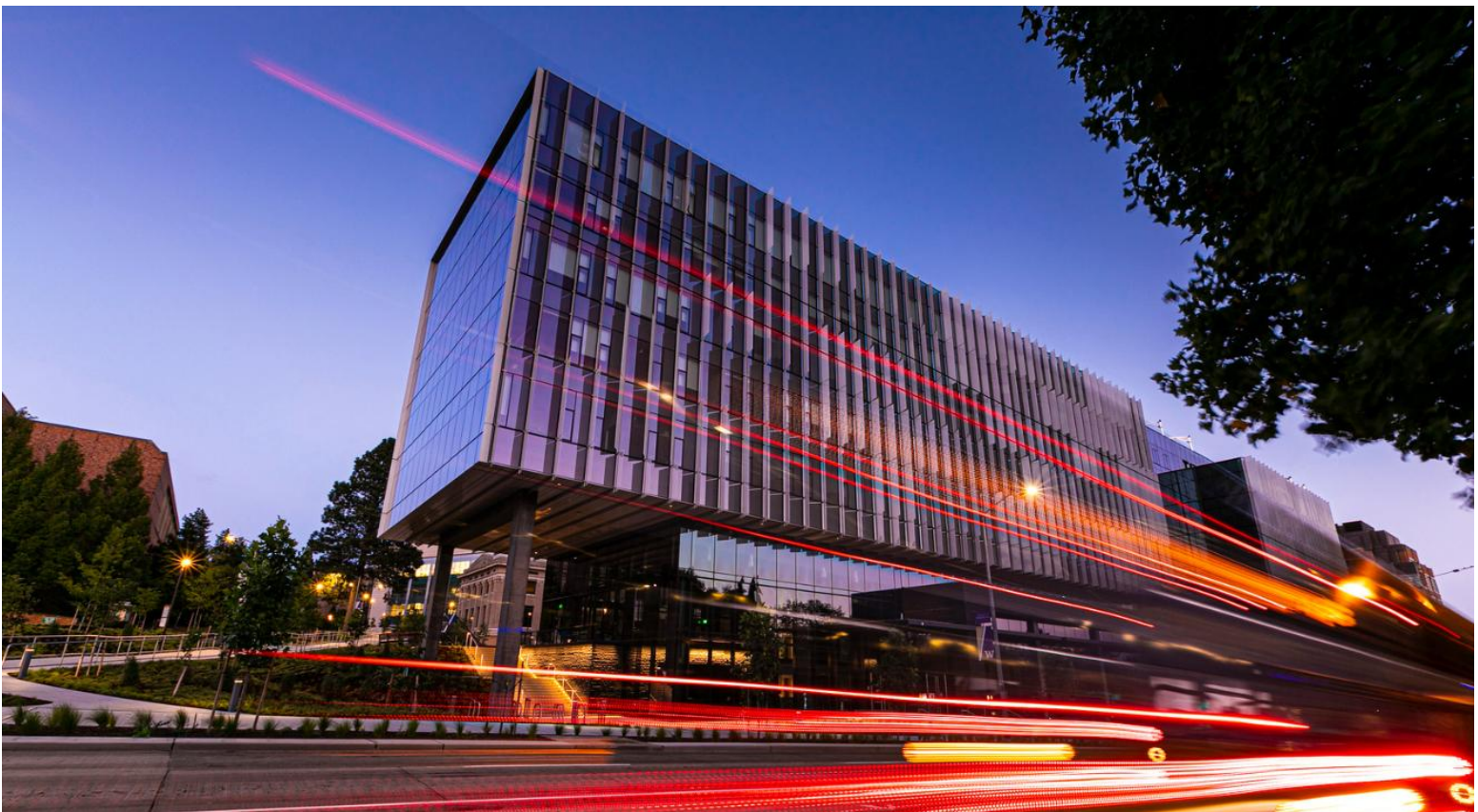
Provides strategic guidance and advice to the SVP, overseeing day-to-day financial operations to ensure fiscal practices that comply with legal requirements. Develops and communicates vision and programmatic direction, advising and collaborating with senior university leadership on strategic growth. Optimizes programs using central and division resources and provides counsel on outreach and implementation, while leveraging engagement opportunities.

- Advises the SVP to manage risk effectively by detecting possible threats to the financial or business outcomes; develop strategies to mitigate risks or loss
- Develop, or recommend, policies and procedures that safeguard university assets and compliance in collaboration with the SVP
- Develop, provide, or interpret reports, analyses, or forecasts that enable the SVP and university senior leadership to make data-based decisions
- Develop and implement financial strategies and initiatives to support the university's mission and align with the strategic plan and priorities
- Advise the SVP on market and industry trends

### Leadership and Team Management

Provide strategic leadership and coordination across the university and FPB, effectively navigating complex systems, integrating priorities, resolving conflicts, advancing projects, and building trusted relationships with internal and external partners.

- Provide leadership and manage Financial Stewardship & Operations teams;
- Develop and maintain performance management metrics and systems aligned with FPB
- Responsible for staff development and personnel management
- Maintain, develop, and actively cultivate an inclusive, diverse work environment



## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE AND QUALIFICATIONS

- > Degree in Business Administration, Accounting, Finance or related field or equivalent combination of education and experience AND 10 years of progressive experience in finance, budgeting, enterprise operations, state operations, or related field.
- > OR Master's Degree AND 8 years of progressive experience in Business Administration, Accounting, Finance, or related field. An equivalent combination of education and experience from which comparable knowledge and skills have been acquired may substitute for a degree.
- > 5 years of progressively responsible leadership/management experience; demonstrated commitment to developing others to become leaders.
- > Collaborative, inclusive, and service-oriented leadership style and the ability to foster a culture of excellence, accountability, and teamwork and commitment to the values and vision of the university, and the ability to foster a culture of collaboration, innovation, and excellence.
- > Strategic vision, innovation, creativity, and the

ability to align financial operations and strategy to meet the University mission.

- > Expert knowledge of financial regulations and compliance requirements in higher education.
- > Deep analytical, problem-solving, and decision-making skills and the ability to present complex financial information clearly and concisely.
- > Excellent analytical, strategic planning, and communication skills
- > Excellent communication, presentation, interpersonal, and negotiation skills and the ability to work effectively with diverse stakeholders and audiences.
- > High ethical standards, integrity, and professionalism, and the ability to exercise sound judgment and discretion in handling confidential and sensitive information.

## DESIRED EXPERIENCE

- > Advanced knowledge of the University of Washington's operations, finance process, organizational structure, data sets, and activities.
- > Certified Public Accountant (CPA)
- > Certified Management Accountant (CMA)
- > Chartered Financial Analyst (CFA)

For more information on how to apply or to express personal interest in this position, please see the section entitled "**Procedure for Candidacy**" near the end of this document



# WHY THE UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON?

As one of the world’s leading public research universities, the University of Washington is driven by a determination to serve the greater good.

Our students, faculty and staff are united by a steadfast belief in the power of possibility. With multiple campuses, a world-class medical school and statewide health care system, Big 10 athletics and extensive continuing education programs, the University of Washington provides boundless opportunities for students while having a profound impact on people in the Puget Sound region, across the state of Washington and around the globe.



**PRIDE POINT**

The UW is renowned as one of the most accomplished universities in the world, the nation by ranked the No. 8 global university by U.S. News & World Report.

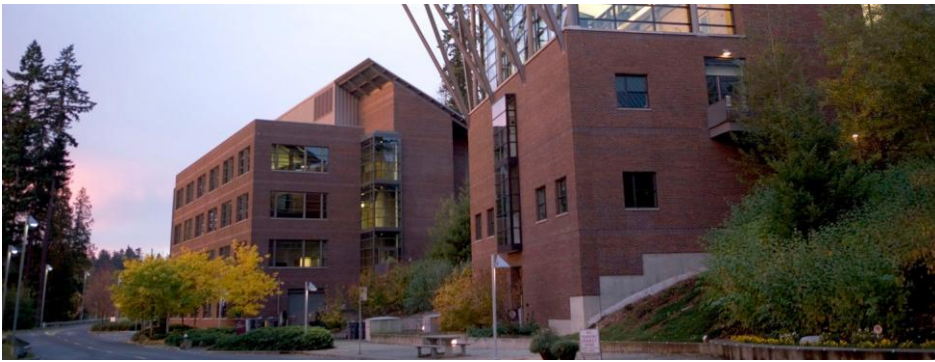
## AT A GLANCE

### The University of Washington:

- > Enrolls more than **63,727** students annually at its three campuses (Seattle, Bothell, and Tacoma).
- > Educates an additional **54,311** students annually through UW Continuum College, which includes certificate programs, graduate degrees, Massive Open Online Courses and more.
- > **74.1** percent of UW undergraduate students are Washington residents.
- > Offers more than **865** degree options across **499** programs.

**PRIDE POINT**

The University of Washington ranked **No. 3** all-time volunteer producing in the U.S. Peace Corps in 2026.



## UW BOTHELL

As the fastest growing and most diverse university campus in the state, UW Bothell offers high-demand degree programs with an emphasis on student-faculty interaction and critical thinking. Hosting more than 5,735 students, Bothell's breathtaking campus includes the state's most successful wetlands restoration site, providing unique educational and research opportunities.

### UW Bothell's schools include:

- > School of Business
- > School of Educational Studies
- > School of Interdisciplinary Arts and Sciences (IAS)
- > School of Nursing and Health Studies
- > School of Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM)

## SNAPSHOT

- > **90 percent** of UW Bothell students are from the state of Washington.
- > **37 percent** of incoming first-year students at UW Bothell are first-generation college students.



## UW TACOMA

At UW Tacoma, students become engines of change for themselves, their families and their communities — and this urban-serving university has become an engine for the revitalization of historic downtown Tacoma. Of UW Tacoma's approximately 5,000 students, 10 percent receive veterans' benefits, and the university is recognized as a "vet-friendly campus" and a "military-friendly school."

### UW Tacoma's schools and programs include:

- > Education Program
- > Institute of Technology
- > School of Interdisciplinary Arts & Sciences
- > Milgard School of Business
- > Nursing & Healthcare
- > Leadership
- > Program
- > Social Work & Criminal Justice Program
- > Urban Studies Program

## SNAPSHOT

- > **52 percent** of incoming first-year students at UW Tacoma are first-generation college students.
- > **33,555** degrees and certificates have been awarded from UW Tacoma since it was founded in 1990.



# PROCEDURE FOR CANDIDACY

## How to apply

Greenwood Asher & Associates (GA&A) is assisting the University of Washington with this search. Initial screening of applications will begin immediately and will continue until an appointment is made. For best consideration, application materials should be submitted by May 1st, 2026. All applications will be handled with the utmost confidentiality.

Applications should be in PDF format and submitted through the GA&A portal at: [UW VPFO](#)

**Compensation:** The salary range for this position is \$275,000 - \$340,000, commensurate with experience and qualifications.

Please direct inquiries and nominations to:

Marion Frenche, Associate Vice President of Executive Search  
[marionfrenche@greenwoodsearch.com](mailto:marionfrenche@greenwoodsearch.com)

Gordon Winsor, Executive Director of Search Operations  
[gordonwinsor@greenwoodsearch.com](mailto:gordonwinsor@greenwoodsearch.com)

*Equal Employment Opportunity Statement*

*The University of Washington is an affirmative action and equal opportunity employer. All qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to race, color, creed, religion, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, age, marital status, disability, genetic information, veteran status, or any other basis protected by applicable federal, state, or local law.*

*The University of Washington is committed to providing access, equal opportunity, and reasonable accommodation for individuals with disabilities in employment, its services, programs, and activities. To request disability accommodation in the application process, contact the Disability Services Office at 206-543-6450 or [dso@uw.edu](mailto:dso@uw.edu).*