



The University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign invites applications for

Executive Director

University of Illinois Willard Airport (CMI)

Savoy, Illinois

Executive Search Services Provided by ADK Consulting & Executive Search

The Airport

The University of Illinois owns and operates Willard Airport. The airport is a key component to the transportation infrastructure of the greater Champaign-Urbana region and provides access to all parts of the world. Serviced by American Airlines with direct daily flights to Chicago, Dallas Fort-Worth, and Charlotte, NC, travelers have access to more than 230 cities with a single stop. Willard Airport is vital to the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign's success in global education and research.

In 2017, Willard enplanements hit a 10-year high with 104,596 total enplanements. Currently, Willard employs 22 employees, 17 of which are members of a union. The airport generates 560 full-time equivalent positions for the area with 233 of those jobs based at the airport.

Willard Airport is committed to making improvements to support air service. In 2018, with the help of an FAA Airport Improvement Program, the airport completed the removals and renovations of runways and constructed a perimeter road. The airport has many projects planned for 2019, including rehabilitating the airport entrance road, reconstructing taxiways and rehabilitating the taxiway lighting circuits.

Willard has several partners with operations at the airport. Parkland College operates their Aviation Institute with a student population of approximately 80 students. Flightstar provides Flight Based Operations at Willard. They handle the flight operations, maintenance and pilots for many corporate jets and clients. They also provide the maintenance for the American Airline jets overnight at Willard.

The airport has an operating budget of close to \$3 million and contributes to the economic structure of Champaign County by providing more than \$74 million in economic impact to the region. Willard Airport is a major part of the University's ability to attract and retain faculty, staff, researchers, and students, as well as business for the community.

Champaign County is home to the University of Illinois, Parkland College, and top employers such as Carle, OSF HealthCare, Kraft Heinz, and Busey Bank. Coined as an "Outside of Ordinary" community, Champaign is very diverse, has a reasonable cost of living, plenty of parks and outdoor recreation, and was named the Midwest's Best Food Town in 2017.



Welcome to the University of Illinois at Urbana - Champaign





The University

Founded in 1867, the **University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign** has earned a reputation as a world-class leader in research, teaching and public engagement. From the development of the modern web browser to the discovery of the Archaea, Illinois has a long-standing history of creating life-changing innovations that impact the world. Among the nation's most prominent research institutions, researchers at Illinois continually make foundational discoveries that transform the way we tackle global problems, develop technology and expand the human experience.

The University of Illinois System has campuses in Urbana-Champaign, Chicago and Springfield. The flagship campus in Urbana-Champaign is the largest of the three, situated on 1,783 acres. The twin cities' combined population is more than 180,000, with nearby villages of Mahomet and Savoy having some of the fastest growing populations in the state.

Vision - The University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign will be the pre-eminent public research university with a land grant mission and global impact.

The campus community includes:

- 33,000+ undergraduate students
- 14,000+ graduate and professional students
- 1,900 tenured/tenure-track faculty members
- 4,000 academic professionals
- 4,100 staff members

Collaboration and innovation are hallmarks of the Illinois research enterprise—researchers are accustomed to working across disciplines, institutions and international boundaries. In the last three years, the university has attracted more awards from the National Endowment for Humanities and received more awards from the National Science Foundation than any other institution in the United States. The university's powerful reputation attracts extensive international partnerships that create opportunities for Illinois students and faculty to work with colleagues around the world.

The University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign is a charter member of the Big Ten Conference, where the Fighting Illini compete in NCAA Division I. The Division of Intercollegiate Athletics supports nine intercollegiate sports for men and 10 for women. Facilities include the multipurpose State Farm Center, which hosts concerts, convocations and theater productions in addition to sporting events. Memorial Stadium is the site of Big Ten Conference football games. The Activities and Recreation Center is among the largest recreational facilities of its kind on a university campus.



The Community

While Champaign-Urbana is home to one of the world's great public research universities, the vibrant arts and culture scene, internationally diverse population, strong technology base and commitment to societal issues make the area a destination for professionals of all kinds. A leading example of a "micro-urban" community, the twin cities feature highly desirable attributes—top-notch restaurants, concert arenas and parks and recreation facilities—commonly found in larger cities.

Champaign-Urbana is consistently ranked as a great place to live and work with an average commute time of just eight minutes. Combining natural Midwestern beauty with cultural resources typically found in larger metropolitan areas, the twin cities retain the charm, friendliness, safety and affordability of smaller communities. Housing, entertainment and living expenses are comparatively low. Easy commutes, a designated bike-friendly community and an award-winning mass transit system (free with campus ID) make it quick and simple to get from here to there.

Outdoor enthusiasts can enjoy 80 parks spanning nearly 1,000 acres in Champaign-Urbana alone. A wide variety of outdoor sports and activities such as swimming, boating, fishing, hiking, camping, biking and cross-country skiing at one of three major forest preserves in Champaign County are just minutes away from virtually any address in the community. Golfers enjoy nine public golf courses within 15 miles of Champaign, and three private clubs. The annual Illinois Marathon is a national highlight and brings thousands of athletes, spectators and volunteers together for a weekend of races and activities.

Within a three-hour car or train ride to Chicago, St. Louis or Indianapolis, individuals in the community can enjoy sporting events, world-class museums or dinner at renowned restaurants. Amtrak, United and American Airlines offer daily transportation from Champaign allowing ready access to almost anywhere in the world. As a community, that makes it easy to balance work with family and leisure. It doesn't take long for newcomers to realize that this community is a wonderful place to call home.

Champaign-Urbana
Illinois





The Position

The Executive Director of the Airport has direct operational and administrative responsibility for supporting and achieving growth and economic sustainability of the University of Illinois Willard Airport for the benefit of the University of Illinois and Champaign County citizens. This will include recruitment and improvement of sustainable air service development, negotiating and administering leases and contracts with airport tenants, promoting and marketing the use of the airport, financial forecasting and revenue enhancement as well as identifying land use opportunities. In addition to coordinating short- and long-term planning for future development of the airport, the Executive Director will organize and direct the overall operations of the airport including airport administration, airport security, fire and crash rescue operations, part 139 compliance, airport improvement and maintenance planning and operations, ground traffic and safety policies. The successful candidate will have the ability to effectively communicate and take a highly visible leadership role in working with elected and appointed officials, various government agencies including the FAA, University leaders and the general public in implementing the airport's Strategic Plan. The Executive Director will develop and administer the budget, personnel management, grant and financial management and all other financial operations as well as supervise a staff of more than 20 employees, manage consultants, oversee airport maintenance and facility planning while adhering to all University policies, procedures and audit guidelines. The successful candidate will have a proven track record in airport management and air service development.

For a complete job description, [click here](#).



Position Qualifications

Candidates should possess a minimum of a bachelor's degree. A master's degree in finance, business administration, public administration, engineering, or aviation management or a related field is desired. The candidate should have 7 years of progressively responsible experience in the aviation management field at a commercial airport of similar or larger size. An Accredited Airport Executive (AAE) designation is preferred. The candidate should have experience in air service development and the funding and implementation of airport capital improvement plans, capital improvement planning with the FAA, and the preparation of federal grant requests for airport capital improvements. The candidate should be able to communicate effectively both orally and in writing, have the ability to work with and supervise people of varying backgrounds and educational levels and have a thorough knowledge of State and Federal regulations and procedures. A valid driver's license is required.

Salary & Compensation

Salary is open and is dependent on qualifications and experience and there is an attractive benefits package.

How to Apply

The position is available as soon as possible after the closing date. In order to ensure full consideration, application materials (including cover letter, resume, and contact information for at least three professional references) should be received by April 1, 2019. Interviews may take place before closing date, but a final decision will not be made until after April 1, 2019.

To apply online, [click here](#).

Deadline for applications: Monday, April 1, 2019

The University of Illinois is an Equal Opportunity, Affirmative Action employer. Minorities, women, veterans and individuals with disabilities are encouraged to apply.

For more information, visit <http://go.illinois.edu/EEO>.

To learn more about the University's commitment to diversity, please visit <http://www.inclusiveillinois.illinois.edu>

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