The County of Dane Invites Applications for
Airport Director
Dane County Regional Airport (MSN)
Madison, Wisconsin

Executive Search Services Provided by ADK Consulting & Executive Search
The Airport

The Dane County Regional Airport is owned and operated by the County of Dane in Madison, WI. The Airport encompasses approximately 3000 acres of land located adjacent to U.S. Highway 51 and near Interstates I-90 and I-94. In addition to operating a thriving community airport, the Airport is a County Department that provides property management services for buildings, Business Park, a foreign trade zone, and a limited amount of undeveloped land.

With renovations completed in 2006, the Dane County Regional Airport features an expansive and tranquil terminal, quality food and shopping locations, and ample, affordable parking adjacent to the terminal. In addition, the airport has 13 gates, with 12 modern jet-bridge gate hold configurations.

The Dane County Regional Airport employs 76.0 FTE – which does not include employees of airlines, vendors, or federal agencies. The Airport’s 2018 annual budget is $24,744,700.

The Dane County Regional airport offers non-stop passenger service to Minneapolis/St. Paul, Chicago, Detroit, New York, Newark, Philadelphia, Washington D.C., Charlotte, Atlanta, Orlando, Dallas/Fort Worth, Denver, Fort Myers, Salt Lake City, Las Vegas, San Francisco, and Tampa, provided by Delta, United, American Airlines, Frontier, and Sun Country.

In 2017, the airport provided service to a total of 1.9 million passengers and that number is expected to rise to more than 2 million passengers in 2018. Total operations were over 81,000 – of which 30,000 were air carrier operations. In addition to commercial passenger airlines, the Dane County Regional Airport also serves general aviation service, service to the military, and air cargo carriers.
The Airport (continued...)

As the urban center of the region, Dane County is home to the state’s capital in the City of Madison, the University of Wisconsin flagship campus, the world-class Overture Center for the Arts, and an abundance of parks, lakes, and unique neighborhoods. Home to the fastest growing population of any county in Wisconsin, Dane County boasts a highly educated workforce to power its diverse and innovative industries. With assets in information technology, life sciences, and agriculture, Madison and Dane County consistently rank among the top communities for work and play.

Top private-sector employers in Dane County include Epic Systems Corp, American Family Insurance, Covance Laboratories, CUNA Mutual, Exact Sciences, ZenDesk, and Sub-Zero Inc.

In December, the Air Force announced that the Wisconsin Air National Guard’s 115th Fighter Wing based at Truax Field and directly adjacent to the airport, would be one of two bases to receive new F-35 fighter jets; this is subject to final review.

The airport has recently proposed a terminal modernization project which would install additional new jet bridges, add more seating space to the gate areas, renovate the restrooms and select dining areas, and provide updates to the heating and cooling systems. Further the airport is currently in the process of evaluating proposals to lease airport property to solar developers. Dane County desires to purchase the energy produced from this development to supply the airport and Dane County government with renewable energy.
The Community

The City of Madison is the Wisconsin state capital, the second largest city in the state, and home to the University of Wisconsin – Madison. Madison has a small, college town feel with big city amenities. Identified by Money magazine as the best place to live in the United States, Madison is routinely ranked at the top of many “best of” polls including: Top 25 Most Uniquely American Cities and Towns, number one college sports town by Sports Illustrated, healthiest city in the United States by Men's Journal magazine, best places to Retire, and best places for businesses and careers.

Madison, nestled in the center of Dane County is located in south-central Wisconsin near the Illinois border, conveniently located 77 miles west of Milwaukee and 122 miles northwest of Chicago. The city is known as “The City of Four Lakes,” comprised of Lake Mendota, Lake Monona, Lake Waubesa, and Lake Kegonsa that surround the area.

State Street joins the University of Wisconsin with the Capitol Square and comprises the downtown area. This bustling one-mile street is burgeoning with restaurants, cafes, shops, and food carts. Only pedestrians, buses, and bikes are allowed on this thoroughfare.

In addition to this pedestrian and bike friendly corridor, most streets in Madison and surrounding communities have designated bike lanes and Dane County has one of the most wide-spread, well-maintained, bike trail systems in the nation. Madison is one of only five cities nationwide to reach platinum-level status as a Bicycle Friendly Community, according to the League of American Bicyclists. In addition to an extensive bicycling infrastructure, an extensive bus system covers the region and provides ample routes and buses from most of the heavily traveled areas of the city.

The Dane County region is home to 12 state parks and the Ice Age National Scenic Trail, a thousand-mile footpath that winds throughout Madison and Wisconsin, providing access to some of the state's most scenic natural areas. With 282 parks across Madison, the city’s park system was rated among the top 10 in nation by the Trust for Public Lands. Further, Dane County Government maintains 39 parks, forests, natural areas, and cultural areas. Surrounding communities also feature excellent parks.
Besides boasting natural beauty and outdoor recreation, Madison and Dane County plays host to cultural offerings, distinctive and unique restaurants, exceptional music venues, and diverse and eclectic shopping. As a true Midwest college town, the University of Wisconsin-Madison, Edgewood College, and Madison College attract scholars from around the world. These educational institutions enrich the Madison Metro area with a vast array of cultural and intellectual events.

One common summer tradition is the Dane County Farmers’ Market which is held around the Capitol Square. This market, the largest in the country, attracts vendors from across Wisconsin who sell fresh-grown produce, meats, and a variety of well-known Wisconsin cheeses. On Wednesday evenings throughout the summer, the Wisconsin Chamber Orchestra performs free concerts on the capitol's lawn.

Art museums include the UW–Madison's Chazen Museum of Art, and the Madison Museum of Contemporary Art, and numerous independent studios, galleries, and independent arts organizations, with events, presentations, and gallery nights throughout the year.

The Madison Opera, Symphony Orchestra, Wisconsin Chamber Orchestra, and the Madison Ballet are some of the resident companies of the Overture Center for the Arts. Situated in the State Street corridor, the Overture Center is known for notable performances from across the world.

During the winter, outdoor enthusiasts enjoy a variety of activities on the four lakes and open countryside including ice skating, ice hockey, ice fishing, and cross-country skiing. During the rest of the year, outdoor recreation includes sailing, boating, or kayaking, bicycling, hiking, fishing, and camping.

Madison has variable weather patterns and large seasonal temperature changes. Winter temperatures can be below freezing, with moderate to occasionally heavy snowfall and temperatures reaching 0 °F several days throughout the winter. High temperatures in summer average in the lower 80s with a greater proportion of precipitation and a large increase in humidity.

K-12 education is important throughout Dane County and south-central Wisconsin. With more than 64 school districts and a high school graduation rate of over 90 percent across the Dane County.
The Community (continued…)

Public post-secondary education in Wisconsin includes both the 26-campus University of Wisconsin System and the 16-campus Wisconsin Technical College System. More than 20 private colleges and universities offering a range of educational specialties including: nursing, engineering, biotechnology, software engineering, electronic game design, theater, and music.

Dane County has several top hospitals in the state – UW Hospitals & Clinics, Mercy Health Hospital, SSM Health St. Mary’s Hospital, and UnityPoint Health – Meriter all ranked among the top hospitals in U.S. News & World Report. In addition, American Family Children’s Hospital is a world-class children’s medical and surgical center, also named a Best by U.S. News & World Report. The University of Wisconsin Hospital and Clinics, is a world-renowned teaching hospital and regional trauma center, with extensive specialties and significant research in oncology, digestive disorders, and endocrinology.

Madison is among the more affordable living regions in the Midwest. Mortgages in the Madison metropolitan statistical area are comparable with the national average. In addition, residents in Dane County enjoy rents below the national gross median. Madison and surrounding communities offer a variety of housing options, including new and existing neighborhoods, as well as luxury condominiums in downtown Madison areas.

Wisconsin state government and the University of Wisconsin–Madison are the two largest Madison public employers, with a recent shift to consumer services and a high-tech base in the health, software, biotech, and advertising sectors. The rapid launch of high-tech companies has been significant, fueled by UW–Madison incubators which transfer the results of academic research into real-world opportunities and options, especially bio and health-tech applications. Companies in the Madison area include Epic Systems (the world’s largest healthcare software company), Google, Microsoft, Broadjam, CDW, Full Compass Systems, Raven Software, TDS Telecom, Exact Sciences, Covance, US Cellular, and Promega.

In addition to health-tech related organizations, Madison is home to many national and international companies such as Spectrum Brands, Alliant Energy, the Credit Union National Association (CUNA), MG&E, Aprilaire, Sub-Zero & Wolf Appliance, Fiskars Brands, and Trek as well as several large insurance companies like American Family Insurance, CUNA Mutual Group, and National Guardian Life.
The Position

Under the general direction of the County Executive, the Airport Director leads, directs, and is responsible for the overall management of the Dane County Regional Airport. This includes leadership and oversight of the business operations, administration, staffing, financial administration, community relations, government relations, marketing, air service planning and development, construction and maintenance for the airport facilities, and the safety and security of the Dane County Regional Airport.

This position is the primary liaison with other governmental agencies, community members, and business leaders. As a County Department, the Airport operates under the general direction of the Dane County Executive, receives policy direction from the Dane County Board of Supervisors, and receives advice from the Dane County Airport Commission. As necessary, this position makes recommendations to the County Executive, County Board, and Airport Commission. The Airport Director attends appropriate meetings of the County Board, meetings of the Airport Commission, and other meetings as requested by the County Executive.

For a full job description, click here.

Position Qualifications

Any combination of training and experience equivalent to a bachelor’s degree in business administration, airport management, public administration, aeronautical engineering, or a related field is required.

A minimum of five years of increasingly responsible experience in airport management, airport business management, or airport operations at a FAR Part 139 commercial service airport. Accredited Airport Executive Certification (A.A.E.) or International Airport Professional designation (IAP) is desirable but not required.

Salary & Compensation

The starting salary for this position will be between $180,000 and $220,000 with an attractive range of benefits.

How to Apply

To apply online, please click here.

After you upload your resume and create your profile on our website, please ensure that your email address and phone number are correct. Our system takes this information directly from your resume, so please confirm its accuracy before submitting.

Filing Deadline: Friday, August 10, 2018

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