



**Tulsa**

International Airport

The Tulsa Airports Improvement Trust Invites Applications for  
**Airports Director**

Tulsa International Airport (TUL)

Tulsa, Oklahoma

*Executive Search Services Provided by ADK Consulting & Executive Search*



## The Airport

**Tulsa International Airport (TUL)** is a city-owned civil-military airport five miles northeast of downtown Tulsa, in Tulsa County, Oklahoma. It was named **Tulsa Municipal Airport** when the city acquired it in 1929. It got its present name in 1963. On January 21, 1928, 47 local business men signed the Stud Horse Note, agreeing to finance the construction of Tulsa's first airport, and support its operation thereafter. These civic minded leaders comprised the airport's first executive committee.

Today, Tulsa Airports Improvement Trust (TAIT) administers, manages and operates Tulsa International Airport, R.L. Jones, Jr. Airport, and Okmulgee Regional Airport. TAIT's mission is to provide a safe, efficient, self-supporting airport system for the citizens of the Tulsa metropolitan area and surrounding region. In January 2014, the Tulsa Airports Improvement Trust transitioned the operation of the city's airports from a city department to an independent authority structured operation. This move resulted in cost savings for TAIT but also provided streamlined operations enabling the airports to respond quickly to market changes and improve service.

Tulsa International Airport covers 4,711 acres and has three paved runways:

- Runway 18L/36R: 9,999 x 150 ft. Concrete
- Runway 18R/36L: 6,101 x 150 ft. Asphalt
- Runway 8/26: 7,376 x 150 ft. Concrete





## The Airport *(continued...)*

In 2010 the airport embarked on a major renovation of the 1960s era terminal. Both of the airport's concourses underwent an extensive \$50+million renovation, including major HVAC replacement along with more noticeable design changes. These changes included adding sky lights and raising the low ceilings in the concourse areas, improved passenger waiting areas and gate redesigns.

R.L. Jones, Jr. Airport (RVS) is the busiest airport in the State of Oklahoma with six flight schools, 186 private and commercial hangars, and over 500 based aircraft. The airport offers precision and non-precision approaches with two parallel runways and one cross-wind runway, providing pilots with the ultimate flexibility when weather conditions change. The 700-acre facility is home to over 300 employees and generates an economic output of over \$36.5 million.

Okmulgee Regional Airport serves as a general aviation airport located three miles north of downtown Okmulgee. The 5100' x 100' concrete runway can accommodate dual tandem aircraft up to 300,000 pounds. The airport is home to 22 hangars and provides 24 hour self service fueling with ample room for additional hangar development.

TAIT's ten year Strategic Business Plan was recently updated to reflect the most pressing issues impacting the regional airport system. The Plan was developed in collaboration with TAIT board members and management staff to highlight recent industry trends and factors that continue to influence airport operations and growth.



## The Airport *(continued...)*

The Plan identifies development and financial goals, and measurement criteria that help to refine the capital development program, and the annual operating and maintenance expenses to meet those goals. Based on forecasted activity, the Strategic Business Plan identifies future development opportunities and the financial requirements needed to complete those projects, while maintaining the goals of the plan.

The current TAIT Operating Budget is \$23 million (includes \$1.2 million in operating capital) and the TAIT Total Annual Budget is \$45 million. For calendar year ending 2015, there were a total of 1,374,586 enplanements and 90,526 operations at TUL, and 189,150 operations at RVS (the busiest airport in the State of Oklahoma). TAIT has approximately 150 employees.

As a hub of aerospace activity for the region, Tulsa International Airport is looking to support the growth of the industry by developing the Airport's 700+ acres of real estate. Aerospace is one of the state's largest industry clusters with 400 companies that directly or indirectly employ more than 143,000 people with a payroll of \$4.7 billion and an industrial output of \$11.7 billion. Tulsa is ranked 8th nationally for the size of its aerospace engines manufacturing cluster and 20th for its defense-related cluster.

TUL's central location in the Midwest is easily accessible by a multi-modal transportation network. With a total of 4,711 acres and 13,000 on-airport employees, TUL is the region's core of aerospace activity, and an ideal location for future business operations. Industrial land located around Tulsa International Airport falls within a subzone of **Foreign Trade Zone (FTZ) #53** allowing companies FTZ economic advantages. To support the airport's development efforts, a Tax Increment Financing District was recently created that will provide funding for projects on airport property. It is the first multi-jurisdictional district in the State of Oklahoma.

Tulsa International Airport is home to the following FBOs that provide aircraft fuel, maintenance, hangar and charter services to the general aviation community: Atlantic Aviation, BizJet, Legacy Jet Center, Sparks Aviation, Tulsair, and United States Aviation. R.L. Jones, Jr. Airport is home to six flight schools and two FBO's: Christiansen Aviation and Riverside Jet Center. Okmulgee Regional Airport provides fueling service and offers a self-service fueling option.





## The Community

Tulsa, Oklahoma maintains a very unique identity - a historic city with a wholly modern vibe, boasting a culturally and artistically diverse population and lifestyle. Tulsans have an undeniable respect for the rich history upon which this city was built, and like those who built the former “Oil Capital of the World,” today they are transforming the city’s landscape with a desire for improvement and a constant eye toward preservation.

A rebirth of Tulsa’s downtown was spurred in 2008 by the construction of the BOK Center, which has since received the prestigious Venue Excellence Award from the International Association of Venue Managers. Today, downtown’s landscape is undergoing a transformation with more than 20 projects currently under way to revitalize the urban city center. Abandoned buildings have been reclaimed, new restaurateurs have emerged and lifelong citizens are reinvesting in their beloved city to revive the thriving metropolitan, which still houses one of the country’s greatest architectural collections. Downtown Tulsa is offering a completely new experience for residents and visitors, making this an even more exciting time to reside in this midwest city.



Oklahoma

The vision many residents and city leaders share for a progressive and flourishing city coupled with the amenities, opportunities and low cost of living in Tulsa, are reasons why Tulsa will continue to garner accolades as one of the country’s most affordable cities, most livable cities and one with the greatest quality of life. What more could one want?

### Five facts every Tulsan (or Tulsa transplant) should know:

1. Tulsa has one of the largest concentrations of art deco architecture in the United States, behind only New York and Miami.
2. The Golden Driller, located at Expo Square, is one of the largest free-standing statues in the world.
3. The Cyrus Avery Centennial Plaza, named after the Tulsa businessman and commissioner known as the “Father of Route 66,” celebrates the miles of historic Route 66 that run through Tulsa and the state of Oklahoma.
4. Tulsa was originally named Tulasi, meaning “old town” in Creek by the Lochapoka Creek Indians.
5. The historic Cain’s Ballroom in the Brady District is known as the “Carnegie Hall of Western Swing” and is the home of Bob Wills and His Texas Playboys.



## The Community *(continued)*

### Life is Good in Tulsa

- No. 1 affordable city in the U.S.
- No. 1 metro for cost of living
- No. 1 fastest-growing state by GDP
- No. 4 metro for quality of life
- No. 6 place to live in the U.S.
- No. 8 U.S. city for young adults
- No. 9 venue in the U.S. and No. 27 worldwide, BOK Center
- Top 10 cities in which to retire

### Housing is Stable

- No. 2 housing market
- Top 5 real estate market for value gain
- No. 5 place to buy a home

## Arts & Culture

Before Tulsa had roads, it had an opera house. A flourishing arts community is one of the many treasures Tulsa retained as a result of the oil boom. From performance to visual and classical to modern, Tulsa can be interpreted as an artist's paradise. Designed by World Trade Center architect Minoru Yamasaki, the **Tulsa Performing Arts Center** houses four theaters, 13 resident performing arts organizations, a touring Broadway series, an extensive international collection of art and welcomes headlining talent from around the world. The **Tulsa Opera** is the 18th oldest opera company in North America. The company presents three grand opera productions each season and is ranked among the 10 favorite regional opera companies in the United States.

Two symphonies join the opera in filling Tulsa with the sounds of incredible talent. **The Tulsa Symphony** is a renowned musician-run orchestra and the **Signature Symphony** is Tulsa's professional orchestra in residence at Tulsa Community College. The **Tulsa Ballet** is one of the top ballet companies in North America and exposes America's heartland to the finest works in classical and contemporary dance. Former home of oil baron and philanthropist Waite Phillips and his wife Genevieve, **Philbrook Museum of Art** was donated to the city of Tulsa in 1938. The beautiful, Renaissance-style villa, with its 72 rooms on 23 acres of elaborate gardens, now exhibits more than 8,500 works of art and is listed as one of America's Top 65 art museums. The **Sherwin Miller Museum of Jewish Art** contains the Southwest's finest collection of Judaica, including priceless items nearly 4,000 years old.





## Sports & Recreation

For the sports enthusiast, Tulsa has it all. With three minor league teams, premier golf courses and a collegiate sports program, there is always a game to catch in Tulsa.

Baseball is America's favorite pastime and that holds true in Tulsa. The Double A minor league **Drillers** baseball team has been swinging bats in Tulsa for more than 30 years. In 2010, the Drillers made its season debut in the new downtown ballpark, ONEOK Field. Additionally, Tulsa is home to the **Tulsa Oilers**, a minor league hockey team, and the **Tulsa Roughnecks FC**, a professional soccer team in the United Soccer League. Tulsa enjoys an above-par reputation when it comes to golf. One reason is because the city is home to the premier **Southern Hills Country Golf Club**, which served as host for the 2007 PGA Championship, making it the first course to host this major championship for a fourth time.

Without a doubt, one of Tulsa's outdoor highlights is **RiverParks**, a strip of unspoiled land along the Arkansas River and a testament to visionary urban planning. Stretching southward from downtown, RiverParks offers more than 25 miles of asphalt surfaced trails, several recreation areas, scenic overlooks, and excellent catfish and striped bass fishing. For cyclists, Tulsa certainly doesn't disappoint. RiverParks offers miles of riding options including mountain biking trails at **Turkey Mountain**. The nationally recognized cycling event, **Tulsa Tough**, offers the chance to put your cycling skills to the test during the three days of riding, racing and recreational biking opportunities.

## Entertain The Family

Tulsa offers a plethora of opportunities that the entire family will enjoy, including the Tulsa Zoo and Living Museum, the Oklahoma Aquarium, the Kaleidoscope Children's Museum and the Tulsa Air and Space Museum and Planetarium.

## Helpful Links:

- [Tulsa Relocation Guide](#)
- [Tulsa Chamber of Commerce](#)
- [Tulsa Convention & Visitors Bureau](#)
- [Visit Tulsa, Oklahoma](#)
- [Tulsa International Airport](#)

## The Position

Under the general supervision and direction of Tulsa Airports Improvement Trust (TAIT) Board of Trustees, the Airports Director is responsible for all functions related to the operation and management of Tulsa International Airport, R. L. Jones, Jr. Airport and Okmulgee Regional Airport. As the senior leader, this individual must model and maintain the airport's customer service focus.

This position's primary accountabilities include developing and implementing both short- and long-term plans to assure growth and retention of commercial air service, as well as related economic development activities. The Airports Director ensures compliance with local, state, and federal regulations, including the FAA and TSA.

TAIT employs approximately 150 employees and has annual budget of \$45 million. This includes an operating budget of \$23.4 million and Capital Improvement Program totaling \$4 million. TAIT's senior management team reports to the Airports Director and is comprised of director-level department heads of Operations, Engineering & Maintenance, Finance & Administration, Marketing & Communications, IT & Telecommunications, Legal and Human Resources.

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

## Position Preferences

Candidates must have a bachelor's degree in airport management, business management, public administration or a related field from an accredited college or university. A master's degree is preferred. The ideal candidate will have a minimum of 10 years of progressive management experience as an executive at an airport or in an aviation-related field, with at least 5 years in the number one and/or number two position.





## Salary & Benefits

The salary range for this position is \$165,000 - \$190,000 with an attractive range of benefits.



## How to Apply:

**A.** Please submit, both a **cover letter and resumé. We require your files to be submitted as PDF documents.** We prefer that you send both your cover letter and resume as one combined document. *Please do not send your cover letter in the body of an email.* Send your PDF files to ADK Executive Search at:

**[TUL@adkexecutivesearch.com](mailto:TUL@adkexecutivesearch.com)**

**B.** Please complete the ADK employment application form at: **[ADK Application Form](#)** (*this is a secure link*)

**Filing Deadline:** Sunday, December 4, 2016

Only complete electronic submissions will be considered.

Email questions to:

**[TUL@adkexecutivesearch.com](mailto:TUL@adkexecutivesearch.com)**

