

The Little Rock Municipal Airport Commission invites applications for Executive Director

> Bill and Hillary Clinton National Airport (LIT) Little Rock, AR

EXECUTIVE SEARCH SERVICES PROVIDED BY ADK CONSULTING & EXECUTIVE SEARCH

### The Airport

Located three miles from Downtown Little Rock, Bill and Hillary Clinton National Airport (LIT) is Arkansas's largest. It is the 97th busiest in the country in both enplanements and operations. Clinton National, also known as Adams Field, had more than 2.2 million passengers in 2023. Six airlines provide approximately 90 daily flights to/from 16 cities.

#### Airlines serving LIT:

Allegiant American Delta Frontier Southwest United

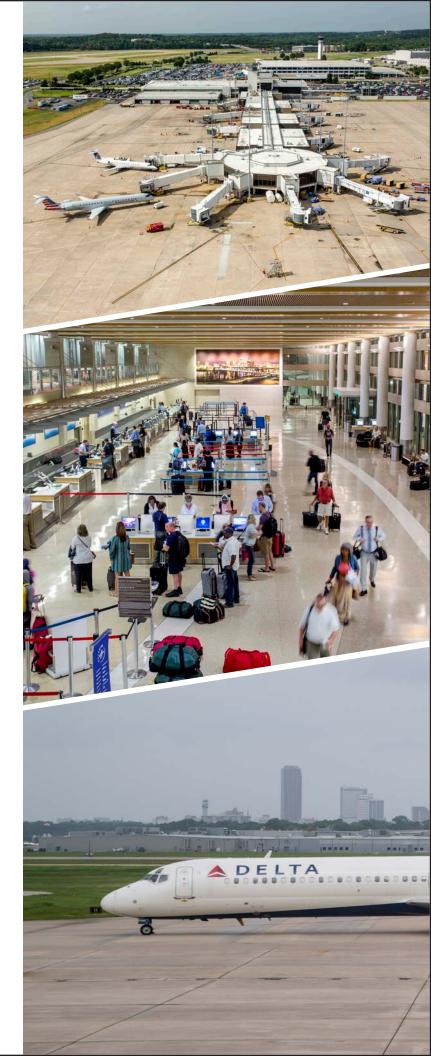
Clinton National Airport strives to provide passengers with the best travel experience. Our mission is "To pursue all opportunities in flight, to safely and efficiently connect our customers with the world, and to promote economic development for all aeronautical activities."

The Little Rock Municipal Airport Commission governs Clinton National. As a policy-setting board, the Commission's duties are to manage, operate, extend, and maintain the airport, related properties, and facilities and adopt such rules and regulations as deemed necessary. Commissioners are appointed by the Mayor of Little Rock and confirmed by the Little Rock Board of Directors. Its seven members serve five-year terms.

Clinton National Airport occupies over 2,000 acres of prime real estate in the heart of the city and boasts three runways. Runway 4L-22R is the primary runway, measuring 8,273 feet. Runway 4R-22L is the parallel runway, measuring 8,251 feet. Both contain ILS approaches. Runway 18-36 is a crosswind runway, measuring 6,224 feet. All have GPS approaches.

The airport serves 62 of the state's 75 counties and has a primary catchment of 1.4 million. For the year ending 2023, passenger traffic had recovered to pre-pandemic levels, with over two million passengers and 81,954 operations. The airport directly employs nearly 160 non-union employees, and nearly 3,000 employees call Clinton National home. The airport has an operations budget of approximately \$43 million and capital improvement plans totaling nearly \$180 million.

The State of Arkansas estimates the airport's annual economic impact at \$1.7 billion. Clinton National is self-supporting, using no local, state, or federal tax dollars for operations. The airport is debt-free.



# The Airport (continued)

#### **Significant Tenants**

Dassault Falcon Jet's worldwide completion center is located at Clinton National Airport. Dassault leases five million square feet at the airport, making it the largest of the company's facilities. Widely viewed as the world's most technologically advanced aerospace company, Dassault is the only aviation company primarily owned and operated by its founding family—it employs 1,500 people at Clinton National.

Envoy, a subsidiary of American Airlines Group, operates a maintenance base for Embraer 175 aircraft at the airport.

General aviation has always been significant at Clinton National, starting with the 83-year-old Central Flying Service, historically known as the world's largest fixedbase operator (FBO). Today, the tradition continues as the world's largest FBOs, Signature Aviation and Atlantic Aviation, are on the field. In addition, Little Rock's largest privately held and publicly traded companies house flight operations at Clinton National.

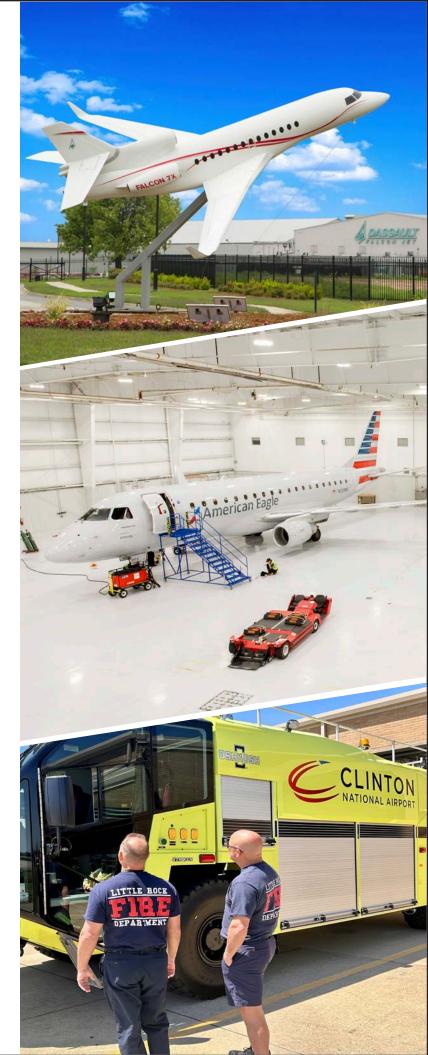
#### **Our Future**

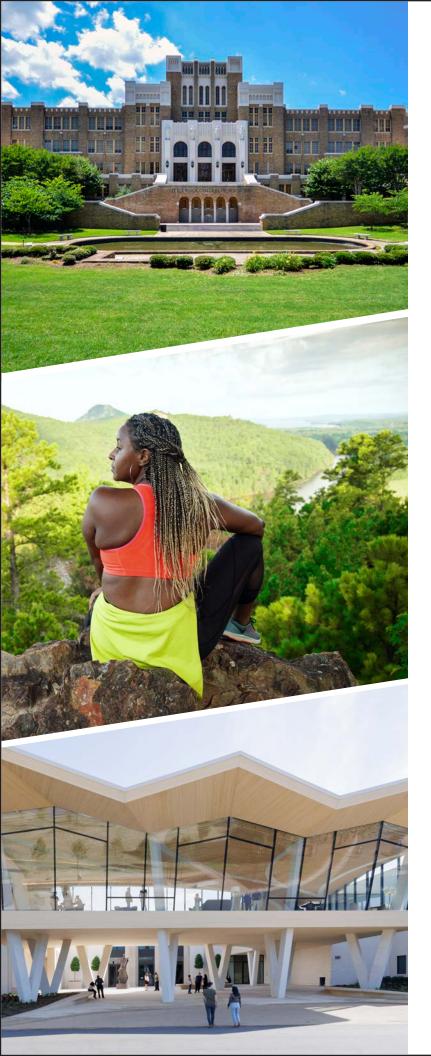
Clinton National Airport strives to be a positive part of the community. To that end, our goals are:

- To construct a state-of-the-art terminal to meet future demand
- To become one of the most eco-friendly airports in America
- To minimize our impact on the environment
- To attract all levels of corporate aviation
- To locate additional sources of funding
- To remain an employer of choice in the community
- To promote industrial development
- To grow air service
- To continue promoting and enhancing disadvantaged business enterprises' participation (DBE)

Currently, Clinton National Airport is designing a central utility plant, an enabling project to continue our airport's terminal redevelopment program. This longrange initiative will add a new baggage claim and a more expansive security screening area. In addition, a new state-of-the-art Hampton Inn is currently under construction on airport property. In addition, the airport opened a neighborhood park last year.







# The Community

Little Rock is the capital of Arkansas and the most populous and diverse city in the state. It's a place where opportunity meets community. It's where everyone is welcomed and empowered. Civil Rights pioneers, world leaders, and explorers have left their mark on Little Rock, and it's where you can leave your mark, too.

Little Rock is a place to be inspired. Explore our deep connection to the Civil Rights movement at sites like the historic Central High School National Historic Site, the Mosaic Templars Cultural Center, and the Little Rock Civil Rights tour. Modern history comes alive at the Clinton Presidential Library, the Museum of Discovery, a nationally ranked children's science museum, and the Little Rock Zoo, where learning is fun.

Big and small galleries showcase art from around the world and just around the corner, and Arkansas's theater scene is constantly raising the curtain on electrifying performances. The new Arkansas Museum of Fine Arts is an architectural landmark named by Forbes as America's most inviting art museum. Little Rock's performing arts scene is one of the best in the South. Take in a show at the Arkansas Repertory Theatre or enjoy the renowned Arkansas Symphony Orchestra.

Easily qualifying as Little Rock's most significant artwork, River Lights in the Rock includes three bridges spanning the Arkansas River that light up in dazzling colors that change nightly and shimmer in a glittering spectacle. Enjoy the city's self-guided mural tour or explore the downtown sculpture garden, a 33-acre green space in the heart of the city with more than 90 sculptures on the bank of the Arkansas River.

Little Rock balances urban and natural beauty. You'll find more than 1,200 miles of trails, from heart-pounding hills to freerides to scenic routes from the delta to the mountains to even a route beside the airport. Explore the longest pedestrian and bicycle bridge in North America that connects the scenic trails of Little Rock and North Little Rock. You'll also love our parks. Just west of Little Rock stands Pinnacle Mountain, which rises more than 1,100 feet and is a favorite for hiking. There are more than 100 parks and gardens in Central Arkansas and nearly 500 sporting fields. We're also a big draw for fishing and hunting.

Beauty, location, amenities, affordability, and warm southern hospitality make Little Rock an enticing place to live and work. Your cost of living is among the most affordable in the country, and Yahoo Finance ranks us as one of the cheapest places to buy a home.

## The Community (continued)

Little Rock promotes and provides a lifetime of learning opportunities. From innovative public pre-K programs to unique graduate offerings, the region prioritizes education as essential for a high quality of life. The region is home to four public school districts with a student-teacher ratio of 15:1, 23 open-enrollment charter schools, 38 private schools, and 19 public and private institutions of higher education.

Nothing defines a city like its food, and Little Rock's expansive menu of southern cuisine, restaurants, craft breweries, and cafes makes us Arkansas's dining capital. Little Rock has iconic establishments and contemporary favorites serving memorable meals in unique settings. Ride a streetcar trolley and explore the restaurants and nightlife of the River Market District. And you can always count on fun at Little Rock's festival scene. Our favorites include the 501 Fest, the World Cheese Dip Championship, the Main Street Food Truck Fest, Pops on the River, the Arkansas State Fair, and the Arkansas Cinema Society-Filmland.

Over one million people live within 60 minutes of downtown Little Rock and Clinton National Airport. Little Rock is poised for growth, as the region's population has increased by 2.9% since 2018, growing by 21,802.

The Little Rock region is home to nearly 70 international businesses, including global powerhouses Dassault Falcon and L'Oreal. Little Rock is home to the headquarters of Dillard's, Stephens, Bank OZK, Simmons Bank, and Westrock Coffee, as well as facilities operated by Caterpillar, FIS Global, Hormel Foods, Hostess, Kimberly Clark, Remington, Tyson Foods, Walmart, and Welspun Tubular. State government is also a large employer. Since 2020, the Little Rock region has attracted 10,752 new jobs, representing over \$427 million in new payroll and \$1.8 billion in capital investment, attracting world-class companies such as Amazon, Elopak, and Trex.

Little Rock has a significant healthcare presence as the primary location of the state's academic health center, the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences (UAMS). The UAMS Myeloma Center is world-renowned, as is the Arkansas Neuroscience Institute at CHI St. Vincent. Our pediatric hospital, Arkansas Children's, is nationally ranked in seven specialties.

Where miles equal minutes, our top-notch infrastructure and central location make working and living easy. The average commute is 23 minutes. Two major Interstate highways, Interstates 30 and 40, meet in Little Rock, with the Port of Little Rock as a central shipping hub.



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### The State

Arkansas lives up to its nickname, The Natural State, and offers adventure for everyone. From majestic mountains to winding rivers and pristine lakes, Arkansas is a place to relax and connect with nature. Enjoy fishing in our clear waters, explore our state parks where you can even dig for diamonds, and you'll find the duck hunting capital of the world here. It's also where you'll find southern charm and some of the friendliest communities in the country.

## The Position

Under the general oversight of the Little Rock Municipal Airport Commission, with direction provided by the Commission Chair, the Executive Director provides leadership, supervision, coordination, and direction of all activities and staff.

Further, the Executive Director is responsible for the overall business operations, administration, human resources, financial administration, public affairs, marketing, business and air service development, planning, engineering, construction, maintenance, safety, and security relating to airport property and facilities. This position develops, oversees, and participates in planning goals and objectives for all departments of the Commission, including the development and implementation of the strategic vision and initiatives of the Commission. The Executive Director works to maximize the benefits of the airport by driving economic growth and continually pursuing air service opportunities that meet the community's demands. The Executive Director proactively initiates plans and programs that ensure safe, secure, efficient, environmentally responsible, and customer- and community-focused business practices and facilities for the region.

For a complete job description, click here.





## **Desired Qualifications**

A bachelor's degree in business administration, airport management, public administration, engineering, or a related field is required; a graduate degree in a related discipline is a plus. At least six years of experience as a senior executive at a commercial service airport is needed. Must possess an extensive knowledge of principles and practices of modern airport administration, which have been acquired through verifiable work experience. A proven track record of success in economic development initiatives is also preferred. Candidate must have demonstrated strategy development, planning, business negotiations, community relations, and financial administration skills. The ability to communicate and negotiate effectively is essential. Strong knowledge of business practices and principles, along with a broad understanding of industry-related trends, is also desirable. Professional certification as an Accredited Airport Executive (A.A.E.) from the American Association of Airport Executives (AAAE) or International Airport Professional (IAP) from Airports Council International (ACI) and a pilot's license are desired.

## Salary and Compensation

The salary range for this position is \$225,000 - \$275,000 with an excellent benefit package. Salary is negotiable for exceptional candidates.

The Little Rock Municipal Airport Commission is an equal-opportunity employer. We support diversity and are committed to creating an inclusive environment for employees.







## How To Apply

To apply online, <u>click here</u>.

#### Deadline for applications: May 26, 2024

The contact for this search is: **Kenneth Gwyn, A.A.E.** kenneth@adkexecutivesearch.com

**Please note:** After your application is complete, you will receive an important email from us. Please check your inbox and your junk/spam folder, and if you have not received our email, please notify us at: <u>admin@adkexecutivesearch.com</u>.

Under the Arkansas Freedom of Information Act, most written communications to/from Little Rock Municipal Airport Commission officials and staff regarding Commission business are publicly available, including to the media, upon request. Your email communications and candidate materials may be subject to public disclosure.

To learn more about the Little Rock Municipal Airport Commission and Clinton National Airport, <u>click here</u>.

Photos are courtesy of the Little Rock Convention & Visitors Bureau.

