



**Reno-Tahoe  
International  
Airport**

Reno-Tahoe Airport Authority invites applications for  
**President & CEO**

Reno-Tahoe International Airport (RNO) and Reno-Tahoe Stead (RTS)  
Reno, NV

*EXECUTIVE SEARCH SERVICES PROVIDED BY ADK CONSULTING & EXECUTIVE SEARCH*



## The Organization

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### **About the Reno-Tahoe Airport Authority**

The Reno-Tahoe Airport Authority (RTAA) operates at the intersection of commerce, community, and connectivity, managing two vital aviation facilities that serve as powerful economic engines for northern Nevada. As owner and operator of both Reno-Tahoe International Airport (RNO) and Reno-Stead Airport (RTS), the RTAA connects a dynamic region to the world.

### **Governance and Financial Independence**

The RTAA operates as a quasi-municipal corporation that is financially self-sufficient and independent from local government structures. The Authority maintains strong credit ratings of A3 (Moody's), A with stable outlook (S&P), and A+ with stable outlook (Kroll), reflecting its sound fiscal management.

Governed by a nine-member Board of Trustees appointed by the City of Reno (four members), City of Sparks (two members), Washoe County (two members), and the Reno-Sparks Convention and Visitors Authority (one member), the Authority represents the diverse voices of the region it serves. Board members serve staggered four-year terms, ensuring continuity and institutional knowledge. Critically, the RTAA receives no state or local tax revenue – operations are funded entirely through airport revenues, including tenant fees, concessions, parking, and rental car operations.

### **Reno-Tahoe International Airport (RNO): A Regional Powerhouse**

RNO stands as one of the region's most significant economic assets, generating an estimated \$3.6 billion in annual economic impact. The airport served 4.9 million passengers in 2025 (the busiest year since 2008). As the 67th busiest commercial passenger airport in the nation, RNO functions like a small city, with approximately 3,000 employees (approximately 300 of whom work directly for the RTAA) working across various companies and operations.

Located just four miles southeast of Reno's central business district and less than an hour from world-class ski resorts and Lake Tahoe, RNO serves as the ultimate gateway to the region. The airport provides service through eleven commercial airlines, three cargo carriers, and offers 20+ nonstop destinations throughout the United States and Mexico (including a brand new nonstop to Nashville starting Oct. 1), with convenient one-stop connections to virtually anywhere in the world.

## The Airport *(continued)*

The airport's cargo operations occupy approximately 25 acres and transported more than 102 million pounds of air cargo in 2024. This robust cargo infrastructure supports the region's thriving distribution and e-commerce sectors, including major operations from companies like Amazon, Walmart, and Tesla.

### **Reno-Stead Airport (RTS):**

#### **Aviation Innovation and Community Service**

RTS encompasses over 5,000 acres and serves as a critical general aviation facility and reliever airport for RNO, hosting approximately 200 based aircraft. The airport supports military operations including the Nevada Army National Guard, and an FAA-designated UAS test range. From 1966-2023, RTS was home to the legendary Reno National Championship Air Races. The facility has also evolved to support emergency services, partnering with the Bureau of Land Management to develop air tanker firefighting capabilities – adding more than 9,000 feet of new runways and upgraded lighting systems.

#### **Building for the Future**

The RTAA is currently undertaking MoreRNO, a transformative billion-dollar infrastructure program – the largest in the airport's history – that includes two new concourses that are roughly double the size of the existing concourses, 100% gate replacement, a ground transportation center, and an expanded Ticketing Hall designed to support decades of regional growth. These investments, coupled with expanding air service and strategic partnerships with tourism and economic development organizations, position the RTAA as a forward-thinking authority ready to meet the evolving needs of one of America's fastest-growing regions.

The RTS Master Plan update is actively underway, with a completion date of late 2027. This comprehensive update will evaluate the evolving aviation needs, including general aviation, cargo, FBO and other aeronautical uses. The update will also address future opportunities for potential aeronautical and non-aeronautical development.

RTS offers transformative development potential with over 3,000 acres of developable land, including a master-planned airport-centric business park partnering with Dermody Properties for industrial and commercial development. RTAA owns approximately 37% of vacant industrial land in Washoe County and 60% of Reno's industrial/mixed-use-zoned land, positioning RTS as a premier economic development opportunity generating high-wage jobs while supporting regional growth.

The next President & CEO will lead an organization committed to safety, operational excellence, community engagement, and sustainable growth – an opportunity to shape the future of aviation in one of the nation's most dynamic markets.





## The Community

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### **Reno-Tahoe and northern Nevada: A Region Experiencing Sustained Growth**

Situated along the eastern slope of the Sierra Nevada and anchored by the Lake Tahoe Basin, Reno-Tahoe serves as the economic center of northern Nevada. The region combines steady population growth, economic diversification, and access to outdoor recreation, making it an increasingly attractive place to live and work.

### **Quality of Life and Environment**

Reno-Tahoe is widely recognized for its access to outdoor recreation. The region averages approximately 300 days of sunshine per year, and residents are within an hour's drive of Lake Tahoe, which supports year-round recreation including skiing, hiking, boating, and cycling.

The Truckee River runs directly through downtown Reno, linking vibrant urban amenities with outdoor access. Multiple ski resorts, trail systems, and public lands are located within short driving distance, contributing to a lifestyle that balances professional commitments with recreation.

The thriving region's cultural offerings continue to expand, including the Nevada Museum of Art, performing arts venues, and annual events such as the Great Reno Balloon Race and the Reno Rodeo. The region's dining and hospitality sectors have grown alongside its population, reflecting broader demographic and economic shifts.

### **Population and Demographics**

Reno is the largest city in northern Nevada, with an estimated population of approximately 280,000 residents as of 2024. The Reno-Sparks metropolitan statistical area exceeds 575,000 residents, placing it among the 100 largest metro areas in the United States.

Population growth in northern Nevada has been driven largely by domestic migration, particularly from neighboring Western states. The region's workforce reflects a mix of established industries and emerging sectors, supported by a growing base of skilled professionals and entrepreneurs.



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## The Community *(continued)*

### **Economic Diversification**

Over the past two decades, the region has fundamentally transformed its economic base beyond gaming and tourism, with major corporations including Tesla, Panasonic, Google, Switch, Microsoft, Apple, Amazon, and UPS establishing substantial operations. The Tahoe Reno Industrial Center (TRIC) – one of the largest industrial parks in the world – anchors this transformation. Tesla’s \$5 billion Gigafactory is projected to generate 6,500 direct jobs and 10,700 indirect jobs. Switch’s \$4 billion SUPERNAP Data Center spans up to 6.49 million square feet, serving clients including eBay, DreamWorks, and Boeing. Apple’s \$1 billion data center comprises 14 buildings totaling 412,000 square feet.

Nevada’s tax structure delivers substantial financial advantages that attract both corporations and talent. With no state personal income tax (making Nevada one of only seven such states) and no corporate income tax, inheritance tax, or estate and gift tax, the state offers one of the nation’s lightest tax burdens. This means employees keep significantly more of their compensation compared to high-tax states.

### **Education, Workforce and Aviation Pathways**

The region’s workforce development is supported by the University of Nevada, Reno, a Carnegie R1 research institution, and Nevada’s flagship university. The university contributes research capacity in engineering, environmental science, mining, business, and health sciences, and provides a steady pipeline of graduates to regional employers.

Truckee Meadows Community College and Western Nevada College further expand technical and vocational training opportunities across northern Nevada.

Complementing these efforts, organizations such as the George W. Gillemot Foundation are expanding access to aviation education, mentorship, and flight training for northern Nevada students. These initiatives are designed to reduce financial and informational barriers to entry and offer early exposure to aviation fundamentals in order to create clearer pathways from classroom to cockpit, maintenance hangar, air traffic control, or airport management.

For the airport’s next President & CEO, these developments reflect a regional commitment to building a sustainable aviation talent pipeline. Leadership engagement with educational institutions, nonprofit partners, airlines, and industry stakeholders will be essential to aligning workforce development with future operational needs. The presence of emerging aviation education infrastructure offers a platform for strategic collaboration and long-term industry resilience within Reno-Tahoe and northern Nevada.





## The Community *(continued)*

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### **Regional Investment and Infrastructure Growth**

Northern Nevada is currently experiencing significant public and private investment across multiple sectors.

The airport is undertaking its MoreRNO capital improvement program, a billion-dollar phased redevelopment initiative focused on modernizing facilities, replacing aging concourses, upgrading infrastructure, and improving passenger experience.

This airport modernization effort is occurring alongside major private-sector expansions. The Grand Sierra Resort has announced a substantial multi-phase redevelopment project that includes hotel tower renovations, arena improvements, and expanded entertainment amenities. Additional mixed-use and residential developments are underway throughout Reno and Sparks, reflecting continued demand for housing and commercial space.

Industrial expansion at TRIC and other employment centers in Storey and Washoe counties remains active, with ongoing facility construction and planned capacity increases from several major employers.

Collectively, these investments indicate sustained confidence in the region's economic trajectory and infrastructure needs.

### **Strategic Location and Connectivity**

Reno-Tahoe's geographic position between northern California and the Intermountain West provides logistical advantages for both commerce and travel. Interstate 80, Union Pacific rail lines, and regional highways connect northern Nevada to West Coast ports and inland markets.

As the primary commercial airport serving the region, the airport plays a central role in supporting tourism, business travel, advanced manufacturing supply chains, and regional mobility.

Thank you for your interest in leading our airport into its next chapter of growth and service. We are seeking a visionary leader who can balance operational excellence with community partnership and strategic innovation. We look forward to welcoming candidates whose vision aligns with our commitment to excellence and community impact.

Additional information can be found at [www.livability.com/nv/reno](http://www.livability.com/nv/reno).





## Position Overview

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The Reno-Tahoe Airport Authority seeks an innovative, forward-thinking President & CEO who will be a champion for growth and development of the region, Reno-Tahoe International Airport and Reno-Stead Airport.

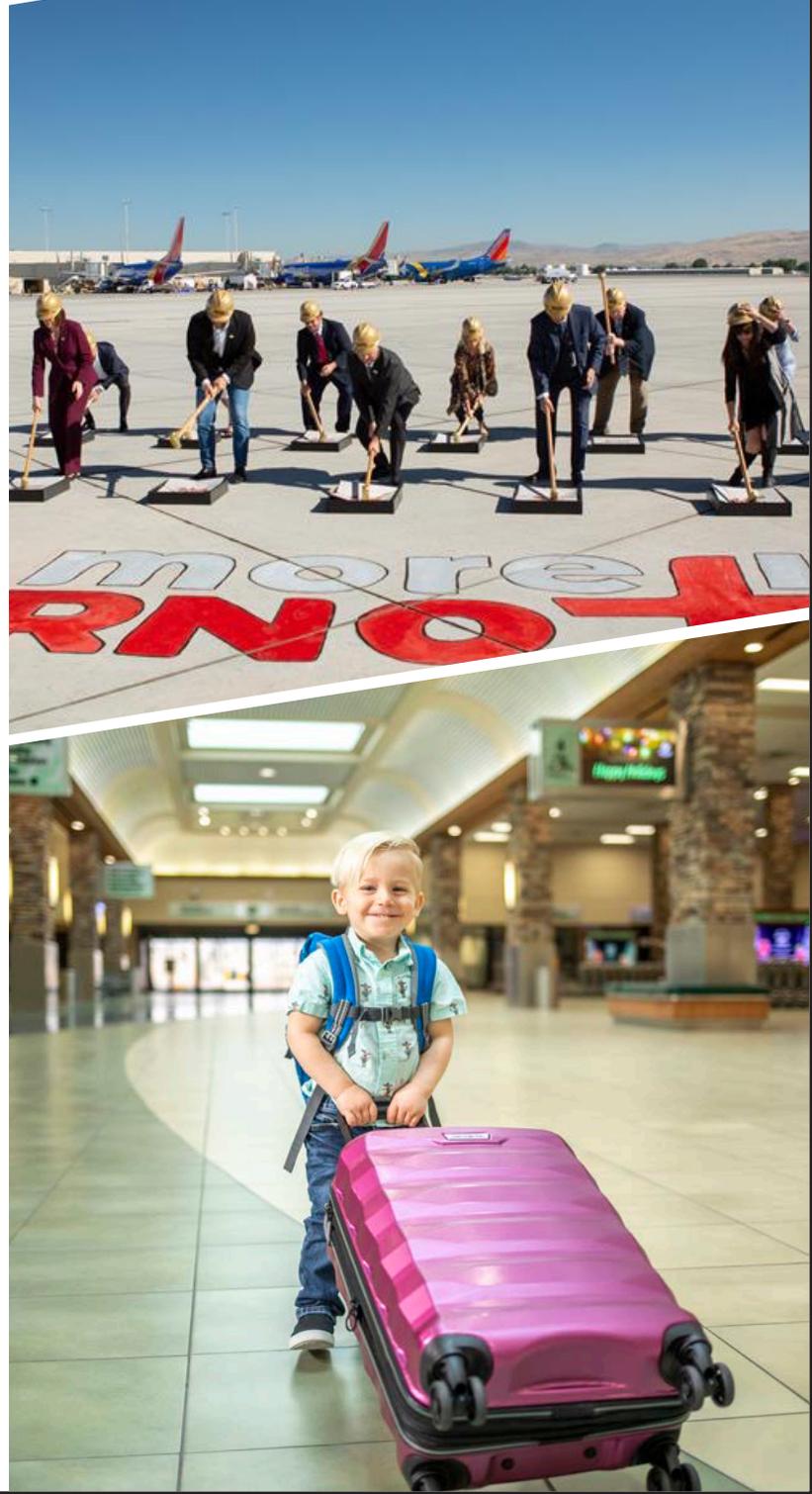
The President & CEO will be someone who embraces the value of collaboration, is transparent, values multi-dimensional perspectives, inspires, and empowers others. This leader will take initiative in identifying opportunities, finding solutions, and executing on programs that improve the quality of service, financial stability and sustainability, and the organization's benefit to the region.

The President & CEO provides strategic leadership and oversight of all airport operations, including aeronautical activities and the commercial and industrial development of non-aeronautical properties. Reporting to the RTAA Board, the President & CEO ensures the airport's regulatory compliance, while advancing economic growth and operational excellence.

## About the Role

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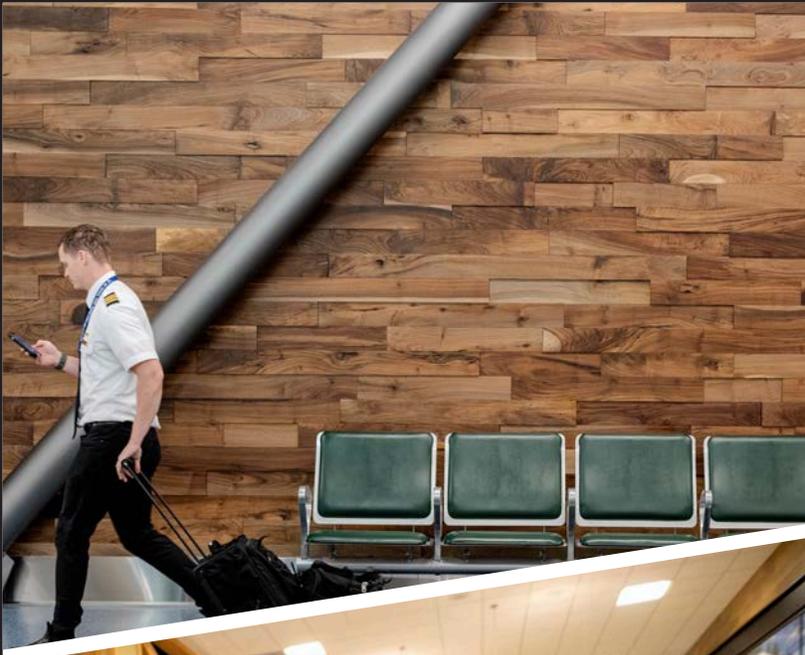
The President & CEO serves as the primary executive responsible for implementing Trustee/Board policies, overseeing financial and business management, ensuring safety, security, regulatory compliance, operational efficiency, and leading a high-performing workforce. The role requires a visionary leader who can balance regulatory compliance with strategic initiatives to enhance airport operational effectiveness, foster business development, and improve the overall passenger and tenant experience.



## Key Responsibilities

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- Oversee all administrative, operational, and financial affairs of the Authority in alignment with the Trustee's directives.
- Develop a strong collaborative working relationship with the Trustees, assist the Trustees in their policy-making duties and enable the Board of Trustees and its committees to make well-informed decisions by providing relevant information, share activities, opportunities, and risks to include options and potential consequences.
- Lead the development and implementation of both long- and short-term strategic initiatives and provide clear direction to the airport's staff, integrating and coordinating with all departments, to optimize tangible and intangible assets and assure the Board achieves its strategic vision and mission.
- Establish financial philosophies and strategies for responsible planning, operation, and sustainment of programs, facilities, and services to include securing financial resources and grants to meet demands.
- Continually, creatively, and persuasively work to attract new air service at Reno-Tahoe International Airport and ensure new and existing airline relationships and partnerships are well-maintained.
- Be a catalyst for economic development in the region and build partnerships that enhance awareness and support business recruitment and retention activities.
- Develop and implement policies, procedures, and strategic initiatives that ensure regulatory compliance, enhance operational efficiency, improve customer satisfaction, and strengthen economic sustainability.
- Proactively identify regulatory and legislative impacts to the airport system and educate and advocate for appropriate consideration and positive solutions.
- Nurture community relationships including with elected officials, business leaders, business partners, tenants, and neighbors of the airport including organizations that play vital roles in promoting and sustaining air service to the region.
- Negotiate agreements with airlines, tenants, vendors, service providers, consultants, concessionaires, and/or other businesses that operate at the Board's facilities or provide professional or other services.
- Foster a positive work culture, build and inspire high-performing team, champion professional growth and organizational excellence.



## Leadership Qualities and Style

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- Visionary leadership with the ability to be forward-thinking, drive strategic initiatives and long-term growth.
- Strong financial acumen and experience in budgeting, capital planning, and revenue generation.
- Excellent communication skills with the ability to engage internal and external stakeholders at all levels.
- Conscious leader, ethical character, collaborative, inspirational and empowering.
- Commitment to operational excellence, safety, and regulatory compliance.

## Preferred Qualifications

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- Bachelor's degree in aviation management, business administration, public administration, or a related field (advanced degree preferred).
- Extensive executive-level experience in airport management, transportation, or economic development.
- Deep understanding of FAA regulations, commercial aviation, and public-sector administration.
- Proven track record in business and economic development, strategic planning, and stakeholder engagement.
- Proven abilities in leadership demonstrating effective collaboration, empowerment of others, and building trust among the team.
- Industry certifications and contributions are a plus.

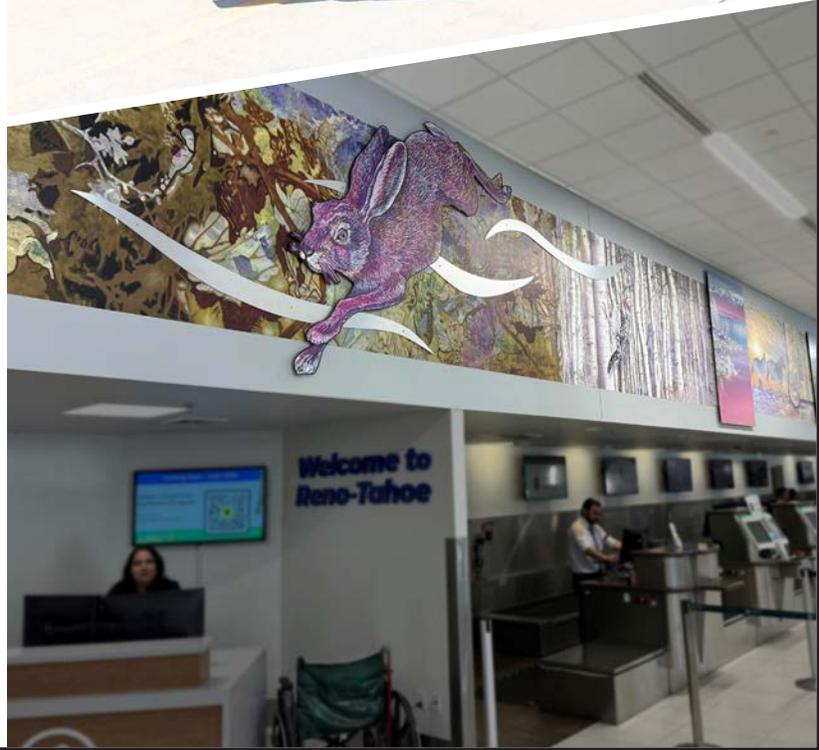
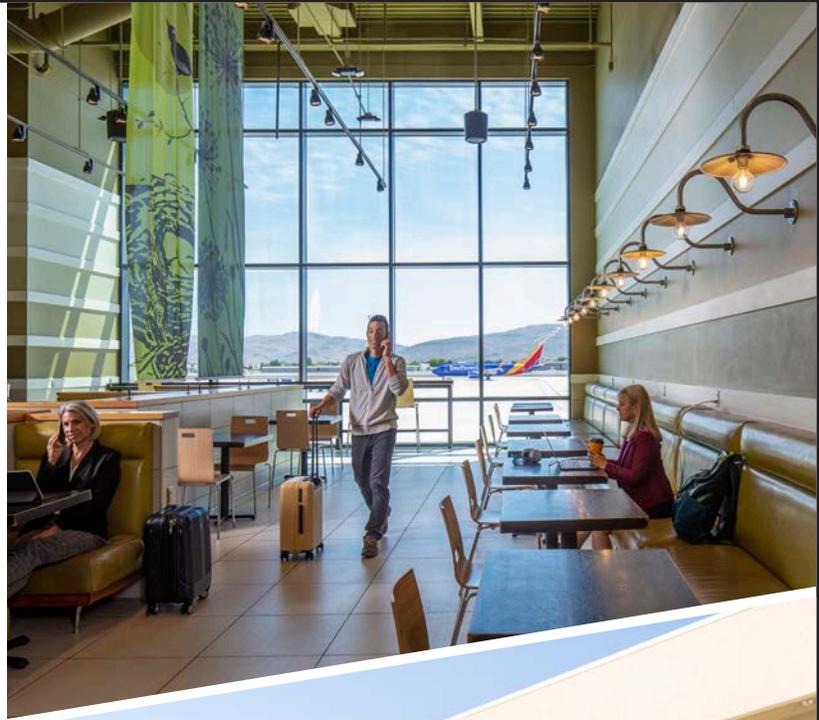
## Salary and Benefits

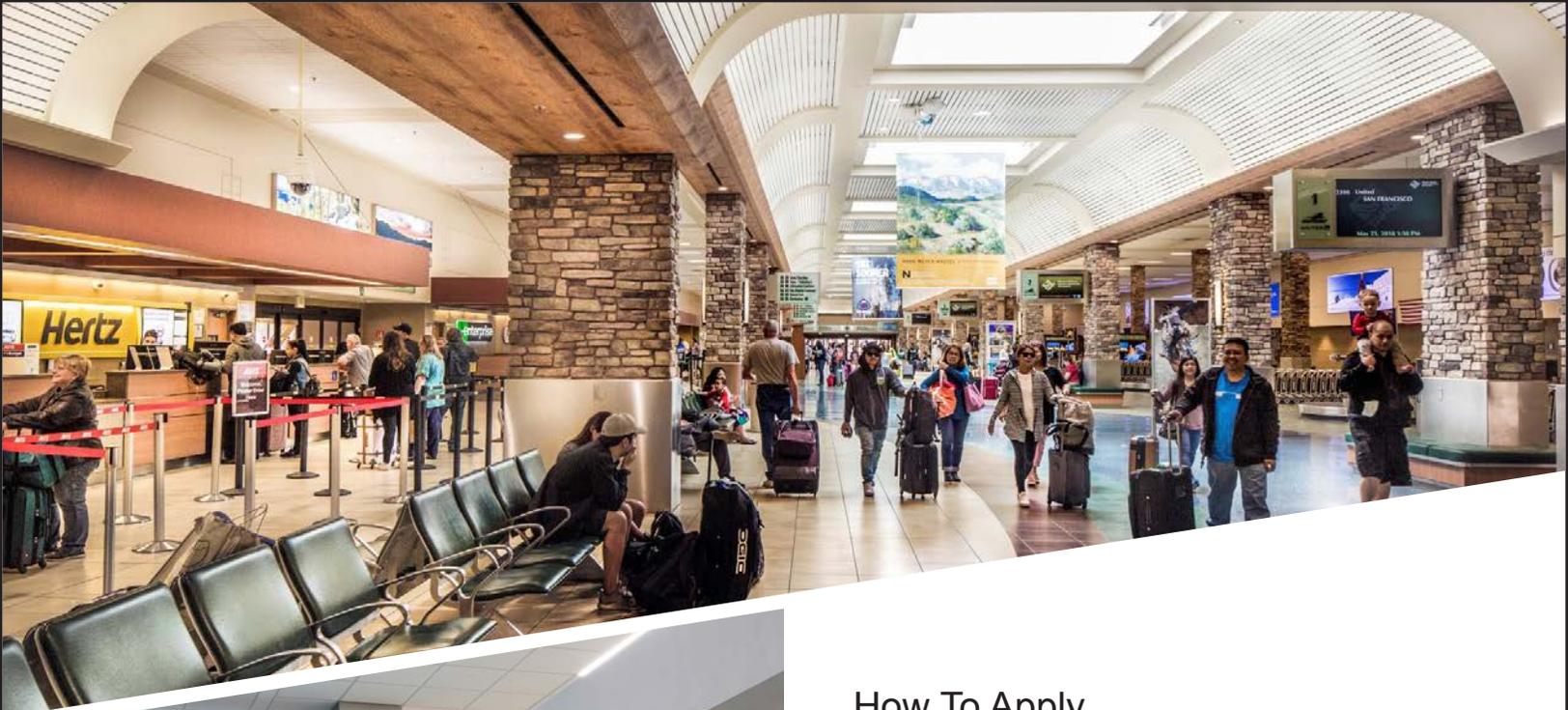
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The salary range is \$392,098 - \$450,913. The starting salary will be dependent upon qualifications. A possible annual performance bonus may be included.



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## How To Apply

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

**Deadline for applications: April 26, 2026**

The contact for this search is:

**Rod Dinger, A.A.E.**  
[rod@adkexecutivesearch.com](mailto:rod@adkexecutivesearch.com)

*The RTAA is an organization that THRIVES by living our core values and by honoring the dignity of all individuals. With teamwork, respect, versatility and a focus on excellence, we serve our employees and our community with pride and passion. We are a drug-free workplace, and an equal opportunity employer committed to providing a healthy work environment.*

