

Associate Vice President & Chief Facilities Officer

Position Prospectus

UAB The University of
Alabama at Birmingham.

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The Opportunity

The [University of Alabama at Birmingham](#) (UAB) seeks a dynamic and strategic leader to serve as its next Associate Vice President & Chief Facilities Officer. As a world-class research university and academic health system, UAB is committed to advancing discovery, education, and patient care within a complex, integrated campus environment. This leader will play a critical role in guiding the long-term development and stewardship of the University's physical assets in alignment with its academic, research, and healthcare missions.

The successful candidate will orchestrate the strategic development, implementation, and continuous evolution of the University's master plan and physical plant. This includes ensuring that campus infrastructure supports current needs while positioning the institution for future growth. The role requires a comprehensive, forward-thinking approach to planning and development within a complex, multi-faceted organizational environment.

The Associate Vice President & Chief Facilities Officer has oversight of all aspects of facilities operations, including campus planning, facility design, new construction, and the renovation and renewal of existing facilities, as well as architecture and engineering functions and energy management initiatives. Working in close coordination with the UAB Medicine Chief Facilities Officer, this position oversees the full spectrum of facilities operations and maintenance across academic, research, and clinical environments.

In addition to core facilities responsibilities, the position oversees institutional real estate activities and utility management, supports initiatives for innovative campus-wide sustainability, and serves as the institution's primary liaison with affiliated entities, including the UAB Health System and UAB Medicine, particularly in matters related to capital planning and the provision of centralized services. Through these partnerships, the role ensures coordinated decision-making, shared strategic vision, and the successful execution of major capital and infrastructure initiatives.



The University

Since becoming an autonomous campus of the University of Alabama System in 1969, the University of Alabama at Birmingham (UAB) has grown into a world-renowned research university and academic medical center, occupying more than 100 city blocks in Alabama's largest metropolitan area. With its culture of intense collaboration and longtime partnership with its community and state, UAB continues to impact lives locally and globally in all four pillars of its mission: Education; Research, Innovation & Economic Development; Patient Care; and Community Engagement.

The total operating budget for UAB and UAB Hospital in FY26 is \$6B, and the state appropriations budget for FY26 is \$421M. The university has an Aa2 rating from Moody's and an AA+ rating from S&P. Research expenditures for UAB in FY24 exceeded \$866M.

Vision, Mission & Values

UAB continues building an even bolder future through its strategic plan, [Forging Ahead](#) (2024-2028), which outlines the university's vision, mission, values, institutional goals and objectives, and metrics for gauging progress towards those goals.

VISION

UAB is a world-class research university and academic health system committed to understanding and improving the human experience.

MISSION

UAB enriches society and improves health and well-being through transformational educational experiences, groundbreaking research, innovation and entrepreneurship, community engagement, and world-class patient care while serving our UAB, local and global communities.

VALUES: We CARE

- **Collaborate:** Work as a team for the greater good.
- **Act with integrity:** Be accountable and always do the right thing.
- **Respect all:** Champion diversity and opportunities for all, with civility.
- **Excel:** Innovate and strive for excellence in everything we do.



Academics and Enrollment

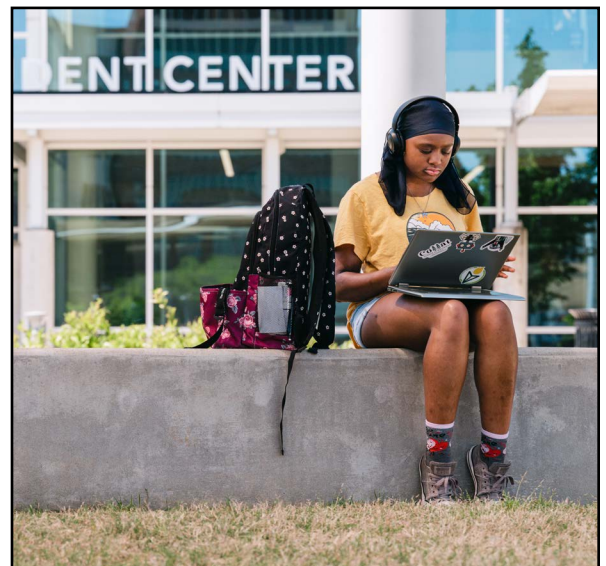
The university comprises 12 academic units (Schools of Business, Dentistry, Education, Engineering, Graduate School, Health Professions, Medicine, Nursing, Optometry, and Public Health; Honors College; and the College of Arts and Sciences). In fall 2025, UAB welcomed a record freshman class of 2,526, with an overall enrollment of 20,868. UAB was the first academic partner to support the Birmingham Promise scholarship in providing Birmingham City Schools graduates an opportunity to attend the university with a tuition scholarship match and additional academic support.

Academic programs at all levels are nationally and globally recognized for exceptional research, scholarship, and service-learning opportunities. In U.S. News & World Report rankings, UAB is among the top 7 percent of global universities with 21 graduate programs in the top 25 and 11 in the top 10, including a Master's in Health Administration that has been No. 1 nationally since 2019.

In recent years, UAB has launched a host of novel, interdisciplinary programs, including BS degrees in Cancer Biology (first in the U.S.), Immunology (first in the Southeast), and Bioinformatics (first in Alabama); a MS in AI in Medicine (first in the Southeast); and PhDs in Biotechnology and Neuro-engineering (both are first in the U.S.).

UAB undergraduate and graduate students continue to earn highly competitive national and international honors. Over the past seven years, for instance, 17 UAB students have been awarded the Goldwater Scholarship, one of the oldest and most prestigious scholarships in the natural sciences, engineering and mathematics.

In fall 2025, UAB was named an Honor Roll university through the [Great Colleges to Work For](#)® program, placing the institution among the nation's best in employee engagement and satisfaction. The Honor Roll designation reflects UAB's exceptional workplace culture and commitment to employee engagement and satisfaction.



Research and Innovation

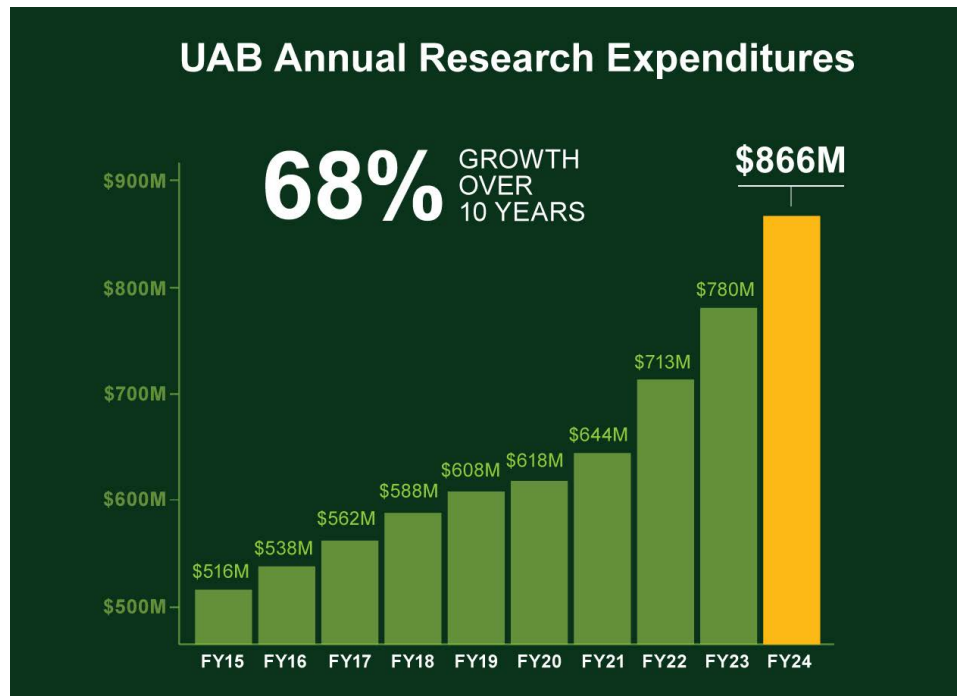
UAB's robust, interdisciplinary research enterprise remains highly competitive among its peers and has an impact on health and quality of life that reaches across Alabama, the U.S., and the globe.

Annual research expenditures totaled \$866 million in FY24, a 68 percent increase over 10 years. UAB ranks 13th (top 4 percent) among public universities in funding from the National Institutes of Health (NIH), and all six UAB health-related schools are top 15 among publics in NIH funding.

An array of other funding sources — including the National Science Foundation (NSF), the U.S. Department of Defense, and NASA as well as private industry and philanthropy — fuel the university's life-changing research.

UAB conducts hundreds of clinical trials across many medical specialties at any given time, promoting innovation, improving patient care, and offering hope to patients whose conditions have no treatment or haven't responded to standard treatments. UAB clinical trial expenditures have more than tripled over the past decade, reaching \$140M in FY24.

UAB continues growing its research infrastructure with key renovations and state-of-the-art new facilities. These include, the Altec/Styslinger Genomic Medicine & Data Sciences Building (below left, opened fall 2025); Gorrie Hall (below center, opened summer 2025), new home of the School of Engineering and final phase of a new Science & Engineering Complex; and a future Interdisciplinary Biomedical Research & Psychology Building (bottom right, projected completion in early 2027).



Commercialization and Economic Impact

The UAB Harbert Institute for Innovation and Entrepreneurship (HIIIE) is accelerating commercialization and training tomorrow's entrepreneurs. In FY24, HIIIE generated \$6.5 million in revenues, 124 Intellectual Property Disclosures, 17 U.S. patents, and five startup companies.

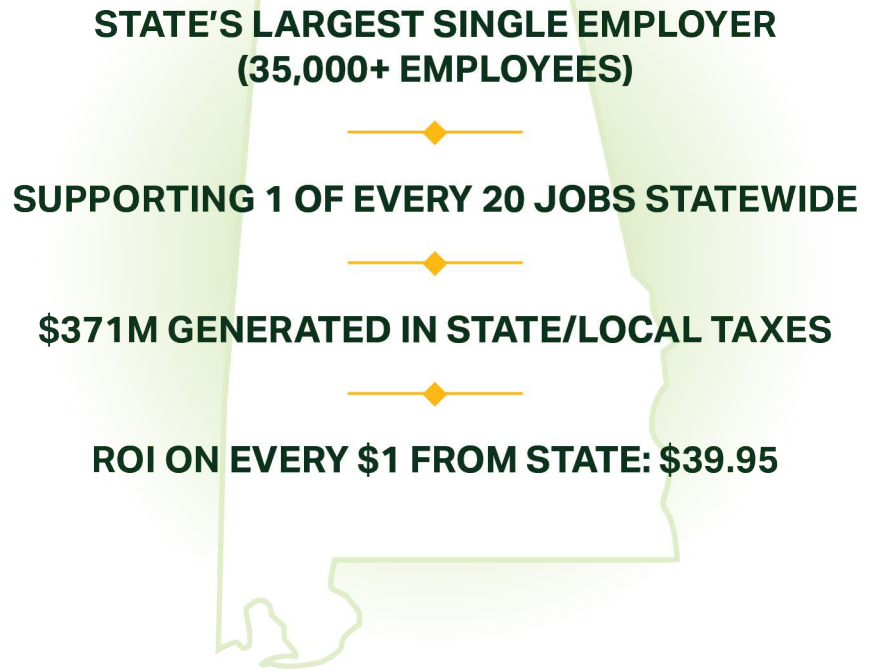
UAB continues collaborating with Southern Research, Innovation Depot, the City of Birmingham, Birmingham Business Alliance (BBA), the corporate community, and other partners to foster a robust technology-based economy for the region and state.

As the single largest employer in Alabama, UAB has a profound economic impact, annually exceeding \$8.3 billion in Birmingham and \$12.1 billion statewide.

\$12.1 BILLION+

ECONOMIC IMPACT

ANNUALLY ON ALABAMA



CITY OF BIRMINGHAM



\$8.3 billion
generated in
economic impact



73,595 jobs
supported and
sustained



\$256.2 million
generated in state
and local taxes

World-Class Patient Care

The UAB Health System (UABHS) sees roughly two million patient visits annually in a system of 15 owned, affiliate and network entities across the state (a total of 3,100 beds). The flagship UAB Hospital is the 8th largest in the nation (1,207 beds), consistently ranked in U.S. News & World Report as the top hospital in Alabama (with seven specialties currently in the top 50), and among only 19 hospitals worldwide to receive the coveted Magnet Designation for Nursing Excellence six straight times.

UAB Hospital is home to the state's only Level I Adult Trauma Center, which is roughly the length of a football field and is currently undergoing a \$73 million expansion that will double its space. The O'Neal Comprehensive Cancer Center was among the original eight centers designated by the National Cancer Institute (NCI) in 1971 and remains the only such center in Alabama and among 15 in the Southeast. UAB also houses the State's only Level IV Regional Newborn Intensive Care Unit and the only 24-hour freestanding Level I Ocular Trauma Center in the U.S.

In November 2024, UABHS acquired Ascension St. Vincent's Health System — now UAB St. Vincent's — adding five hospitals and 19 ambulatory facilities to UABHS and further enhancing patient access to an even larger network of care.



Community Engagement

UAB'S longtime partnership with its community and state continues to impact education, health, arts and culture, and economic development.

LIVE HEALTHSMART ALABAMA

Live HealthSmart Alabama (LHSA), UAB's Grand Challenge launched in 2020, aims to raise Alabama from the bottom 10 percent nationally in key health metrics (e.g., incidence of diabetes, cardiovascular disease, obesity) by the year 2030. Begun in initial demonstration communities around Birmingham, LHSA has now extended its successful community-based model statewide to Selma, Demopolis, Dothan, and other communities. To date, LHSA has provided 4,200+ comprehensive health screenings, Community Coaches have connected 900+ residents with primary care, and the LHSA Mobile Market has delivered healthy foods to 11,900+ customers in 40 communities.

BIRMINGHAM PROMISE

Birmingham Promise, a partnership with the City of Birmingham, is widening access to higher education and economic opportunity. UAB provides full tuition to qualifying Birmingham City Schools graduates, intensive mentoring and resources, and internship opportunities with local businesses. More than 300 "Promise Scholars" have enrolled at UAB since 2020.

UAB ARTS

UAB Arts continues to promote the arts and arts education throughout campus and the community, with the Alys Stephens Center for the Performing Arts reaching record attendance in FY24, including seven sold-out performances.

INNOVATION & ECONOMIC PROSPERITY UNIVERSITY

UAB is among less than 100 universities designated by the Association of Public & Land-grant Universities (APLU) an Innovation & Economic Prosperity University for institution-wide commitment and strategy to achieve regional economic engagement, growth and economic opportunity.



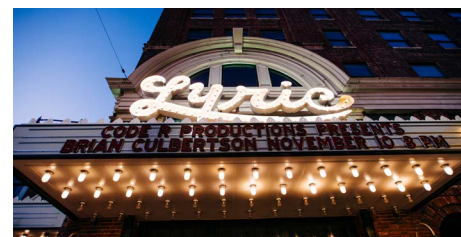
The Community

Birmingham, Alabama

Located in the heart of the Southeast, Birmingham is a short drive from Atlanta, Nashville, New Orleans, Memphis, the Blue Ridge Mountains, and Gulf Coast beaches. Birmingham has been recognized as an “All-American City” by the National Civic League, as one of the top 10 American cities to live and work, one of the top 10 entrepreneurial and job growth hot spots in America and Conde Nast Traveler’s pick for one of 22 Best Places to Go in 2022.

Downtown Birmingham has enjoyed a revitalization in recent years, with the development of Railroad Park, an award-winning urban park, and its adjacent Regions Field, home to the minor league Birmingham Barons. The park and stadium projects have kickstarted major growth in surrounding districts, including craft breweries, boutique shops, restaurants, loft and apartment buildings, innovative workspaces, and hotels. Birmingham was selected to serve as the host city of the 2022 World Games. [UAB played a major role](#) in coordinating the spectacular event, providing athletic venues and hosting 3,600 athletes from more than 100 countries.

Birmingham is also a renowned culinary destination, with one of its signature restaurants recently winning two James Beard Foundation awards and many other restaurants named as finalists. There are a host of attractions only a short walk from UAB’s campus. The Birmingham Civil Rights District National Monument, composed of sites such as Sixteenth Street Baptist Church, Kelly Ingram Park, and the Civil Rights Institute, is a major destination for visitors from around the world. Birmingham’s cultural scene is thriving, with museums, galleries, music and arts festivals, theaters and live music venues, a professional ballet company, a professional opera company, a School of Fine Arts, the Jazz Hall of Fame, the recently restored historic Lyric and Alabama theaters, and UAB’s Alys Stephens Performing Arts Center, home of the Alabama Symphony Orchestra. Birmingham is in proximity to many state and national parks, lakes, urban greenspaces, and hiking and biking trails. The city has more green space per capita than any other major city in the United States. [Explore Birmingham online](#).



The Role

Position Summary

As the University of Alabama at Birmingham's key facilities leader, the next Associate Vice President & Chief Facilities Officer has a unique opportunity to guide the long-term planning, development, and stewardship of the university's physical environment. The role oversees all facilities operations, real estate, and capital planning while partnering across UAB and its health system to support growth, sustainability, and mission-driven excellence.

KEY DUTIES & RESPONSIBILITIES

- Assesses and improves utilization of existing resources, the development of a strategic plan for updating and renovating plant infrastructure, the improvement of overall standards of custodial care and grounds upkeep, and strengthening the general facilities safety and maintenance programs.
- Responsible for the project bidding, contract award and/or negotiation process, as well as compliance with all local, state and federal laws pertaining thereto. Collaborates successfully with contracted architectural and engineering firms. Demonstrates commitment to the development and maintenance of an aggressive program to encourage supply, construction and service contracts from MBE/WBE firms wherever practical. Responsible for the communication and coordination of UAB capital construction projects, equipment purchases and real estate transactions with the University of Alabama System Office and the Board of Trustees. Ensures the project delivery process complies with the requirements of Title 39 (Alabama Code of 1975) and the University of Alabama System board rules.
- Uses leadership acumen to interface with compliance agencies, planning commissions, including but not limited to, the State of Alabama, Jefferson County and the City of Birmingham for the purposes of long-range planning, obtaining building approval and building permits, passing inspections and meeting construction and renovation.
- Oversees the operations of the chilled water and steam enterprises to include reliability of service and financial plans for efficient operations. Provides leadership in the development and implementation of an innovative campus-wide sustainability program, which will be recognized locally, and nationally as a leader in sustainable practices and programs.
- Oversees the UAB Office of Real Estate, which serves as a partner to Facilities Planning in the acquisition and divestiture of real property as part of the campus master planning process. Manages the University's property leasing program, in regard to leasing of appropriate University property to tenants and the securing of short-term leased property for University schools/divisions.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS

- Bachelor's degree in Architecture, Engineering or a related field and ten (10) years of related experience required. Work experience may NOT substitute for education requirement.
- Facilities-related professional registrations are preferred.

Procedure for Candidacy

ZRG Partners is partnering with The University of Alabama at Birmingham in this national search. For inquiries, nominations, applications, and confidential conversations, please contact:

uabfacilities@zrgpartners.com

Applications should include a detailed letter of interest and a current curriculum vitae/resume.

ZRG is a global talent partner built for speed, scale, and outcomes that matter. We help leaders move faster, think smarter, and hire like it counts. Because it does.



UAB is an Equal Employment/Equal Educational Opportunity Institution dedicated to providing equal opportunities and equal access to all individuals regardless of race, color, religion, ethnic or national origin, sex (including pregnancy), genetic information, age, disability, religion, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, and veteran's status. As required by Title IX, UAB prohibits sex discrimination in any education program or activity that it operates. Individuals may report concerns or questions to UAB's Assistant Vice President and Senior Title IX Coordinator. The Title IX notice of nondiscrimination is located at uab.edu/titleix.

UAB also encourages applications from individuals with disabilities and veterans. A pre-employment background check is performed on candidates selected for employment. In addition, physicians and other clinical faculty candidates who will be employed by the University of Alabama Health Services Foundation (UAHSF) or other UAB Medicine entities must successfully complete a pre-employment drug and nicotine screen to be hired.