

National Louis University
Chicago, Illinois

Position Profile

Executive Director

McCormick Center for Early Childhood Leadership

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Prepared by:

Summit Search Solutions, Inc.



NATIONAL LOUIS UNIVERSITY



THE INSTITUTION

National Louis University (NLU) is looking to honor its past while defining a bold new future as a university focused on professional pathways, preparing students to be leaders ready to address tomorrow's challenges in the context of increasing global urbanization.

NLU is a private, non-profit, independent institution serving a diverse multicultural population of approximately 8,500 students enrolled in two Colleges, the National College of Education and the College of Professional Studies and Advancement. Founded in 1886 as a school to prepare teachers, today the University is a multi-disciplinary and diverse private university with programs from the bachelor's to the doctoral level. NLU has an enduring commitment to the founding values of innovation, access, and excellence with a focus on the professional preparation of students who seek to inspire and change their lives and their communities. To learn more about National Louis University: <http://www.nl.edu>

The **McCormick Center for Early Childhood Leadership**, which resides in the National College of Education, is dedicated to enhancing the professional orientation, management skills, and leadership capacity of early childhood administrators. The activities of the Center encompass four areas:

- Training and technical assistance to improve the knowledge base, skills, and competencies of early childhood program administrators.
- Program evaluation to improve the quality of early childhood services.
- Research on important workforce and professional development issues.
- Public awareness of the critical role that early childhood leaders play in the provision of quality programs for children and families.

As the premier institution in the country providing leadership and management training for early childhood administrators, the Center has received national recognition for its work in defining the competencies needed for effective early childhood program administration and delivering high-quality management training and technical assistance.

The Center is funded through endowments, grants, and contracts from philanthropic foundations, government agencies, and private corporations. Through its innovative work with early childhood leaders, the Center builds on National Louis University's history of accomplishments in the field of early childhood education. From its' founding as a vital force in the kindergarten movement in the 1880's National Louis University (NLU) has remained rooted in educational progressivism and dedicated to advocacy for children and social change. To learn more about the McCormick Center for Early Childhood Leadership: <http://cecl.nl.edu>



The McCormick Center serves as a voice for the early childhood workforce by advocating for better working conditions and compensation, supporting emerging leaders from under-represented groups, and strengthening professional standards.

Location: The McCormick Center is located on the Wheeling campus of NLU located in a suburb of Chicago, Illinois.

THE OPPORTUNITY

This is an exceptional opportunity for an innovative, forward thinking individual to provide vision and leadership for the McCormick Center. The **Executive Director (ED)** will be responsible for creating a shared vision and common purpose for the Center while providing executive oversight of operations in an effort to strengthen their position as a leader in early childhood.

The Executive Director reports to the Dean of the National College of Education and will be a highly visible representative of NLU's McCormick Center and the University to a wide array of audiences. The ED will work closely with six direct reports, and an overall staff of 40. The ED will oversee the day-to-day operations of the Center, identify and recruit new talent as needed, oversee staff development activities to enhance organizational performance, and help the Center to achieve its vision. The specific responsibilities of the ED include nourishing existing and developing new partnerships, promoting effective collaboration amongst the University faculty, staff, and stakeholders, developing and implementing strategy, managing day-to-day operations including financial management, grant writing and fundraising, and building public and board relations.

Qualifications:

The successful candidate will be a broadly experienced professional with superior interpersonal skills, who can passionately and articulately espouse the mission of the McCormick Center. The position requirements include:

- Solid understanding of external trends, issues and forces that shape early childhood leadership.
- A history of success in securing funding, broadening the donor base and cultivating relationships.
- Demonstrated leadership skills with a collaborative and “information sharing” orientation.
- An advanced degree in early childhood, developmental psychology, educational administration, or related field, with a minimum of five years of relevant experience.

To learn more, click here to view a video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WZqPGovPOdA>



PROCEDURE FOR CANDIDACY

Confidential review of applications will begin immediately and preference will be given to applications received by **September 6, 2016**. Click the following to apply and submit your CV/resume, cover letter and references. [Apply Now](#)

Or copy and paste the following link into your browser:

<https://summitsearchsolutions.catsone.com/careers/index.php?m=portal&a=apply&jobOrderID=7813384&portalID=5652>

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National Louis University is an Equal Opportunity/ Affirmative Action Employer and encourages applications from women, people of color, individuals with disabilities, and veterans.



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CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

Few cities in the world can match the character and culture of Chicago. Visitors and residents alike find world-class dining, museums, entertainment, and striking architecture in the largest and most visited city in the Midwest.



Chicago is the third most populous city in the United States with approximately 2.7 million residents. The city is traversed by the Chicago and Calumet rivers, and with many parks and green spaces the city offers stunning natural beauty along with an urban landscape. Lake Michigan offers a wonderful escape, and Chicagoans can stroll the shoreline, play volleyball, bike, or jog along the lakefront. The Chicago Park District consists of 552 parks with over 7,300 acres of municipal parkland. There are thirty-three sand beaches, two world-class conservatories, sixteen historic lagoons, and ten bird and wildlife gardens.

As a multicultural city that thrives on the harmony and diversity of its neighborhoods, Chicago today embodies the values of America's heartland – integrity, hard work, and community and reflects the ideals in the social fabric of its 77 distinct neighborhoods. Some favorite ethnic communities to explore in Chicago include Greektown, Chinatown, Ukrainian Village, and Little Italy.

Chicago is recognized across the United States as a very passionate sports town. With professional teams such as the: the Chicago Bears, Blackhawks, Bulls, Fire, Cubs, and White Sox.

The dining choices in Chicago area are as diverse as the people are, and everything from ethnic food to contemporary and innovative dining can be found. The city is home to twenty-three Michelin-starred restaurants, with one three-star restaurant, Alinea. Saveur Magazine even dubbed Chicago “America’s new culinary star.”

Chicago has long been known for theatre, from big productions at landmark venues in Chicago’s downtown Theatre District to experimental works at small storefront theaters in outlying neighborhoods. In addition, Chicago's theatre community spawned modern improvisational theatre. When it comes to music, there are live performances of every kind every night of the week, although jazz and blues have a special place in the city’s cultural history.

Chicago is a travel hub, which means it’s easy to get to and from anywhere in the country or the world. Chicago is served by Midway International Airport on the South Side and O’Hare International Airport, the world's third busiest airport, on the far Northwest Side. Once one is in Chicago, there are many convenient options for getting around, from bike paths and L trains to buses and cabs.

For additional information on Chicago, please visit:

<http://www.cityofchicago.org/city/en.html>

<http://www.choosechicago.com/neighborhoods-and-communities/>