

DAVIDSON



POSITION PROFILE SYSTEMS ENGINEER AUGUST 2019

In partnership with Summit Search Solutions, Inc.



ABOUT DAVIDSON COLLEGE

Established in 1837 by Presbyterians of North Carolina, Davidson is a liberal arts college with a rich history and heritage that takes an innovative approach to liberal arts education. Students create new knowledge alongside faculty who are experts in their disciplines and develop relationships with faculty, staff, and peers that last a lifetime. At Davidson, students realize their talents and passions through the traditional liberal arts curriculum—literature and languages, philosophy and religion, music, drama and the visual arts, the natural and social sciences, and mathematics—and myriad experiences provided outside of the classroom. The college encourages student engagement with other cultures through study abroad and unique domestic travel and educational opportunities. The college also supports Division 1 athletics, including 21 sports, and offers a variety of social, cultural, and service activities. Davidson prepares students to think critically, make relevant and valid judgments, discriminate among values, and communicate freely with others in the realm of ideas.

As a college that welcomes students, faculty, and staff from a variety of nationalities, ethnic groups, and traditions, Davidson values every kind of diversity, recognizing the dignity and worth of every person while providing a range of opportunities for worship, civil debate, and teaching that enrich mind and spirit. Davidson challenges students to engage in service to prepare themselves for lives of growth and service.

Fast Facts

History: Founded in 1837

Location: Davidson, North Carolina, 19 miles north of Charlotte

Located amidst beautiful greenery, towering trees, and a vibrant downtown, Davidson provides an intimate setting just a short 20-minute drive from Charlotte, North Carolina's largest city.

Campus: 665-acre main campus; 110-acre lake campus

Brick walkways line the campus, classified as a national arboretum, and the Lake Campus, located on the largest man-made lake in North Carolina, offers recreational activities for the entire college community.

Endowment: \$796.9 million as of December 31, 2018

Motto: *Alenda Lux Ubi Orta Libertas*. Translates to "Let Learning Be Cherished Where Liberty Has Arisen"

Majors Offered: 29 majors plus the Center for Interdisciplinary Studies

Minors Offered: 40 minors, including 14 interdisciplinary minors

Preprofessional Programs: 5 preprofessional programs including Prelaw and Premedicine

Number of Students: enrolls over 1800 students

Distinctly Davidson

"We don't just prepare students for the world, we prepare them to make it better."

Davidson's primary purpose is to help students develop humane instincts and disciplined, creative minds for lives of leadership and service in an interconnected and rapidly changing world.



THE OPPORTUNITY

ABOUT THE TECHNOLOGY AND INNOVATION DEPARTMENT

Technology & Innovation (T&I) aims to drive digital transformation that advances Davidson's primary purpose. The division is responsible for facilitating college-wide technology strategy and planning, leading technology-driven innovations, managing the college's technology systems and services, and partnering with students, faculty and staff members to use and apply existing and emerging technologies that support, enrich and transform teaching, learning, research, and administrative processes.

T&I's vision is for Davidson to serve as a model for higher education, with a digitally-savvy student body and workforce that can thrive in an increasingly complex and digital world. Institutionally, automation and data are leveraged to promote efficiency and effectiveness. Technologically, the open, interoperable, and inspired technology ecosystem connects people, information, ideas, and tools – both inside and outside of the college – to enable and drive personal and institutional agency, agility, and adaptability.

SYSTEMS ENGINEER

As part of a converged Infrastructure team, the Systems Engineer works together with the other network and system administrators to support the College's IT infrastructure -- including servers, storage/virtualization, middleware, disaster recovery/backup services, network, and security elements. The Systems Engineer is specifically responsible for installation, monitoring, maintenance, upgrade, and support of the campus systems infrastructure, including server/storage infrastructure (production and failover VM environments and storage arrays), backup systems and processes, and server builds/maintenance on Linux and Windows. This position is responsible for providing system/application administration for certain campus services, middleware tiers (including load balancing and web servers), and other infrastructure.

The Systems Engineer will architect and lead the Infrastructure team's use of public cloud services such as Azure and AWS, including leveraging APIs and similar capabilities to improve provisioning, deployment, and maintenance of servers across on-premises and cloud tiers. The position will also serve as the lead administrator for Linux and will maintain Davidson's Ansible and Satellite infrastructure services for automated build of Linux and Windows servers, and for patching Linux systems.

As a member of the T&I team, the Systems Engineer is expected to uphold the department's mission to "drive digital transformation that advances Davidson's primary purpose" and contribute positively to a culture of collaboration, transparency, empathy, innovation, and accountability within T&I.

The Systems Engineer will be expected to:

- Lead projects and operational activities to modernize T&I infrastructure through automation and orchestration.
- Build, maintain, patch, and update servers and systems applications on Linux and Windows, including zero-day/time sensitive response to security vulnerabilities.

- Lead infrastructure engineering efforts to leverage APIs, public cloud, and open architectures to make T&I infrastructure and systems highly available, flexible, and frictionless. Implement solutions to migrate DR/failover and production infrastructure to IaaS (AWS, Azure, etc.) where appropriate.
- Maintain and improve Davidson's automation/orchestration environment (Ansible and Satellite) for automated build of Linux and Windows servers.
- Assist in supporting server infrastructure including hypervisors, storage arrays, backup clients/targets, and other infrastructure required to support T&I services.
- Support middleware services including web application tiers, load balancing/reverse proxy technologies, web application firewall, VPN/secure application access, and identity/access management.
- Provide support for applications, systems, and services (including application and file servers, Active Directory, DNS/DHCP, etc.) printing and information security, including SSO technologies.
- Maintain current knowledge of best practices and future trends in enterprise applications and participate in user communities, professional associations, and conferences to share expertise and learn from others.
- Prepare and provide status, activity, project updates and reports, and other communications to T&I leadership and campus constituents, as needed or requested.

QUALIFICATIONS:

- Associate's degree in Information Technology; bachelor's degree preferred.
- Four to five years (or more) of relevant work experience in system administration/programming.
- Experience managing and supporting Linux operating systems including Red Hat Enterprise Linux, CentOS, Ubuntu or their derivatives, including developing system and configuration baselines, maintaining secure patch levels, and working with application teams to diagnose server problems.
- Experience managing and supporting Windows Server operating systems in a virtualized environment including developing system and configuration baselines, maintaining secure patch levels, and working with application teams to diagnose server related issues.
- Knowledge of one or more scripting technologies (PowerShell, Python, Bash, etc.) and demonstrated ability to use these for automation, orchestration, or DevOps environment support.
- Experience using or supporting public cloud (AWS or Azure) infrastructure, technologies, and capabilities.
- Work experience supporting middleware technologies such as load balancers and web servers.
- Strong project management skills, with documented experience conceiving/proposing, championing, and leading significant technology projects that advance the state of infrastructure or architecture within an organization.
- Ability to troubleshoot and interact effectively with vendor support offerings.
- Ability to balance system security with the needs of a variety of stakeholder needs.
- A 'can-do' attitude to challenges; energized by change and thriving in team-based work.
- Excellent verbal, written, interpersonal, and customer service skills and ability to establish good working relationships with a wide range of people.

PREFERRED SKILLS AND ABILITIES:

- Master's or advanced degree in computer engineering or computer science, and/or additional years' relevant work experience beyond the minimum level.
- Experience working with Ansible or Ansible Tower, or an equivalent platform (such as Chef or Puppet).
- Experience working with Red Hat Satellite patch/configuration management.
- Understanding of storage area networks and replication/backup solutions. Experience with file operations and file storage.
- Knowledge of VMWare ESX (preferred) or other virtual server environments.
- Familiarity with Microsoft Windows Server 2012/2016 including core system administration capabilities.



PROCEDURE FOR CANDIDACY

Confidential review of applications will begin immediately and continue until the position is filled; parties who apply by **September 8, 2019** will be given first consideration. Please submit your resume and cover letter outlining your interest in and suitability for this position. To apply online, go to: <https://theapplicantmanager.com/jobs?pos=su171>

FOR NOMINATIONS OR FURTHER INFORMATION:

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Davidson College believes the college grows stronger by recruiting and retaining a diverse faculty and staff committed to building an inclusive community. In order to achieve and sustain educational excellence, Davidson seeks to hire talented faculty and staff across the intersections of diverse races, ethnicities, religions, sexual orientations, gender identities, ages, socio-economic backgrounds, political perspectives, abilities, cultures, and national origins.



Summit Search Solutions, Inc. is a boutique executive search firm dedicated to serving education and nonprofit communities nationwide. Based in Asheville, NC, Summit has a team of experienced recruiting consultants in strategic locations across the country including California, Kansas, New York, North Carolina, and Oregon.



DAVIDSON AND CHARLOTTE, NORTH CAROLINA

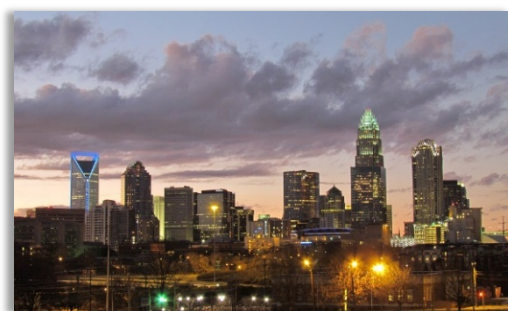
Davidson truly has it all. Located just 20 miles north from the thriving metropolitan city of Charlotte, Davidson offers safe, small-town charm along with a close-knit community. With easy access to breathtaking Lake Norman and all the activities and excitement that come from being a college town, Davidson is a place you can call home.

No matter your tastes, Davidson is sure to provide all of one's favorites within a reasonable walking distance. In fact, the town is known as pedestrian-friendly which makes walking down Main Street and exploring even more attractive. You can take in the variety of shops, award-winning restaurants, as well as multiple art galleries. Aside from Main Street, you can explore the more than 12-miles of greenway and cycling lanes for a casual stroll or afternoon bike ride. On Saturday's, locals enjoy the Farmer's Market full of fresh local produce and cooking tips from visiting chefs.

Living in Davidson opens even more possibilities thanks to its convenient distance from **Charlotte**. If you love cheering on your home team, then Charlotte offers professional NFL and NBA teams, along with minor league hockey and baseball teams. You can even take in a staple of the south: A Nascar race at the famed Charlotte Motor Speedway. For the finer things of life, Charlotte hosts more than 65,000 performances and events annually. This includes fine art exhibits, cultural festivals, Broadway theatre performances, live music events, and more.

U.S. News & World Report's 2019 Best Places to Live ranks Charlotte at #20 out of 125 of the most populous metro areas based on good value, a desirable place to live, a strong job market, and a high quality of life.

When you're ready to relax and unwind, the beautiful **Lake Norman** can be your vacation destination that's practically in your own backyard. This area offers a mild, four-season climate making it perfect for year-round adventures! Lake Norman is 34 miles long with 520 miles of shoreline and offers numerous attractions to explore as well as rich cultural and community events. With all it has to offer, Lake Norman is certainly the optimal destination for all watersports, dining, or other outdoor activities.



Click the following to learn more about Davidson and surrounding areas:

Town of Davidson: <http://www.townofdavidson.org/> Chamber of Commerce: <https://www.lakenormanchamber.org/>
Davidson Campus and Surroundings: <https://www.davidson.edu/about/campus-and-surroundings>
Explore Charlotte: <https://www.charlottesgot alot.com/> City of Charlotte: <https://charlottenc.gov/>