



UNIVERSITY
OF WYOMING

POSITION PROFILE

**Program Director for Graduate Nursing (MS/DNP)
Associate or Full Professor**

September 2024



This search is managed in partnership with Summit Search Solutions, Inc.



UNIVERSITY OF WYOMING

Nestled amid the beauty of two mountain ranges in southeastern Wyoming, you will find the nationally recognized teaching and research institution, the **University of Wyoming (UW)**. Established as a land-grant institution in 1886 when Wyoming was still a territory, UW has since grown to nearly 200 areas of study, drawing approximately 12,000 students from all 50 states and 83 countries. UW is known for its accomplished faculty and world-class facilities, its low student/faculty ratio, and quality undergraduate and graduate programs within its colleges of Agriculture, Life Sciences and Natural Resources, Arts & Sciences, Business, Education, Engineering & Physical Sciences, Health Sciences, Law, and the Honors College, as well as the School of Energy Resources, School of Computing, and the Haub School of Environment and Natural Resources. To learn more, please visit <http://www.uwyo.edu>.

Throughout its existence, UW has been the only four-year public university in the state of Wyoming, though it maintains close relationships with the state's eight community colleges. UW's global impact begins with innovative undergraduate and graduate research opportunities and extends through state and federal partnerships and recent initiatives such as the Wyoming Institute for Humanities Research, the School of Energy Resources, and the School of Computing. UW has played important roles in the lives of students and Wyoming residents for 137 years. *Outside Magazine* identified Laramie as "the perfect affordable mountain town," noting the cost of living; access to outdoor activities; food, art and culture; and the influence of UW, including its academic and other offerings. Furthermore, Wyoming ranked #5 in the *U.S. News and World Report's* "Best States for Higher Education". In the area of tuition and fees, Wyoming ranks No. 2 in part because of its low cost for University of Wyoming students. UW's tuition and fees for resident undergraduates are the lowest in the nation among doctoral degree-granting institutions. The University community is working collaboratively to help the University reinforce and strengthen its reputation as it adapts to changing economic factors in the state and beyond. The University's strategic roadmap, "[Forward for Wyoming 2023+: A Strategic Plan for the University of Wyoming](#)," demonstrates that it is an exciting time to be a part of UW as the institution embarks on ambitious and impactful initiatives.

Location: Laramie, Wyoming, a town with approximately 31,000 people, has a unique blend of sophistication and Western hospitality. UW not only provides an environment for success but also offers varied academic and lifestyle opportunities. Named the "#1 Small College Town in America" by *College Value Online*, Laramie boasts a low cost of living with no state income tax, incredible outdoor recreational opportunities, an eclectic downtown, and a great public school system.





ABOUT THE COLLEGE OF HEALTH SCIENCES

The College of Health Sciences (CHS) is the University of Wyoming's youngest and one of its largest colleges. The College offers degree programs in five divisions and two schools: Nursing (BSN, MS, and DNP), Pharmacy (PharmD), Communication Disorders (BS and MS), Kinesiology and Health Promotion (BS and MS), and Social Work (BSW and MSW). Other degrees offered include an MS in Health Service Administration, as well as cooperative programs for Medical Laboratory Science (BS) and Dental Hygiene (BSDH). Faculty members also participate in inter-disciplinary doctoral programs including Biomedical Science, Neurosciences, and Molecular, Cellular Life Sciences. The Wyoming Institute for Disabilities (WIND) is part of the College and the only University Center for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities Education in the state. In addition, the College has two family medicine residency centers in Cheyenne and Casper, a federally qualified health center and a family medicine clinic and delivers the pre-clinical phase of medical education through a cooperative arrangement with the University of Washington School of Medicine (WWAMI). Among the College's assets are a strong tradition of interprofessional education, a research-active faculty committed to teaching excellence at all levels, and facilities that promote interdisciplinary education and research opportunities.

With more than 1,600 undergraduate, graduate and professional students, the College is dedicated to training the health and wellness workforce of Wyoming and conducting high-quality research and community engagement, with a particular focus on rural and frontier populations. Addressing a rapidly changing healthcare environment and the looming healthcare-provider crisis facing the state and nation, the CHS is committed to and works to achieve its mission of "promoting excellence in health and human services through university teaching, research, and service with special emphasis on rural populations." For more information about the CHS, please visit <http://www.uwyo.edu/hs/>.

ABOUT THE FAY W. WHITNEY SCHOOL OF NURSING:

The Fay W. Whitney School of Nursing (FWWSON) aims to improve, promote and protect health for Wyoming and beyond through scholarly inquiry and the education of nurses as innovators and leaders in healthcare. The School's commitment to innovation is an integral part of its history. Establishing a baccalaureate program of nursing in 1950 was considered visionary, as most nurses were being trained in hospitals at that time. The School now offers a BSN program, an online Master of Science program with both nurse educator and nurse leader concentrations, and a distance-accessible doctoral program with FNP and PMHNP concentrations. All nursing programs at the University of Wyoming are accredited by the [Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education](#) and approved by the Wyoming State Board of Nursing. The highly qualified faculty at FWWSON value compassion and human dignity while training nurses with an emphasis on rural healthcare.

To learn more please visit <https://www.uwyo.edu/nursing/index.html>.

THE OPPORTUNITY

Graduate Program Director/Associate or Full Professor

The Graduate Program Director will assume a faculty position as well as internal leadership position in the Fay W. Whitney School of Nursing (FWWSON). Specifically, the purpose of the position is to provide oversight to the School's two graduate programs, including the Master of Science program (nurse leader and nurse educator concentrations) and the Doctor of Nursing Practice program (Family Nurse Practitioner and Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner concentrations). The University of Wyoming's School of Nursing offers the only 4-year and graduate programs in the state of Wyoming. Their work is critical in supplying the nursing workforce in the state and places a large emphasis on rural health. This is an opportunity to guide the continued development and elevation of nursing education in a region where the impact is immediately apparent.

RESPONSIBILITIES:

The Graduate Program Director is responsible for internal leadership and administration, curriculum development especially in the graduate nursing programs, accreditation, student recruitment for graduate nursing programs, admissions and progression in the graduate nursing programs, graduate program evaluation, and faculty development. Moreover, the Director will teach in the graduate program, have an active program of research, offer career advising to graduate students, and provide service to the School, College, University, and profession. The successful candidate will assume a leadership position within the Fay W. Whitney School of Nursing by serving on important School, College, and University committees including the Leadership Council in the FWWSN. The Director must demonstrate experience and competency to assume an important teaching, research, service, management, and leadership position in the FWWSN and possess a deep understanding of the nuances of rural healthcare and teaching in a rural environment. Because this position provides vital support to campus stakeholders, it requires the Director to work on-site at the University of Wyoming's campus.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS:

- Doctoral degree in nursing from an accredited institution or Master's degree in nursing from an accredited institution with doctoral degree in related field.
- Eligible for unencumbered RN licensure in Wyoming.
- At least 5 years of experience practicing in nursing.
- History of experience in curriculum development, accreditation, and program evaluation.
- Record of teaching and scholarship to warrant tenure and appointment to Associate Professor/Professor rank.
- Evidence of excellent leadership experience and management skills.
- Excellent written and oral communication skills.
- Experience with the accreditation and credentialing of nursing MS/DNP/NP programs in the United States.
- Commitment to working in a culturally diverse environment and the ability to effectively work with students, employees, vendors and community members from diverse backgrounds.
- Valid driver's license with a motor vehicle record (MVR) that is compliant with the [University Vehicle Use Policy](#).

PREFERRED QUALIFICATIONS:

- Experience working with students from diverse backgrounds in academic and clinical settings.
- Experience in rural healthcare education and practice.
- Understanding of principles related to adult learning.

WHY CONSIDER THE OPPORTUNITY

- **Deep Community Relationships.** The School of Nursing has a tight-knit, supportive and connected faculty with strong leadership at its helm. As the only 4-year comprehensive university in the state, the faculty not only have well-developed scholarship agendas, but are also skilled educators who mentor closely tied cohorts of students. Ongoing personal relationships are maintained long after graduation because of a shared vision of serving the population of Wyoming.
- **Program Growth and Development.** The successful candidate has a unique opportunity to guide the evolution and expansion of the only graduate nursing program in the state of Wyoming, elevating nursing education in a region where the impact is immediately apparent.
- **Land Grant Mission and Impact.** The Director will strengthen the position of the College of Health Sciences and the University of Wyoming in having positive impacts on rural health care and overcoming disparities of access to quality health care.
- **High-Performing College.** The College's people display positive morale and a passion for excellence. The faculty are collegial and collaborative. Strong enrollment, rooted in superior post-graduation career outcomes, highlights the excellence of the College of Health Sciences and its engaged students, faculty, and staff.
- **Dynamic University.** The University of Wyoming has energetic and visionary leadership that is moving the institution toward R1 distinction, focused on increasing the level of both research activity and community engagement.
- **Low Cost of Living and Work-Life Balance.** Laramie is a great place to find work-life balance. Laramie boasts a low cost of living, low property taxes, and no personal state income tax. This growing and dynamic area offers incredible outdoor recreational opportunities, an eclectic downtown area, and a great public school system.





PROCEDURE FOR CANDIDACY

The University of Wyoming, in consultation with Summit Search Solutions, Inc., will begin a confidential review of application materials immediately and continue until the position is filled; **parties who apply by October 14, 2024 will be given first consideration.** Required application materials include: a CV/resume that includes teaching experience, and a letter of interest that addresses qualifications relevant to the position's minimum qualifications, responsibilities, and preferred qualifications. All applications and nominations will be held in confidence.

To apply online, go to: <https://theapplicantmanager.com/jobs?pos=su425>

For more information or to offer recommendations or nominations:

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[Summit Search Solutions, Inc.](#) is a boutique executive search firm dedicated to serving the education and nonprofit sectors nationwide. Summit has a team of experienced recruiting consultants in strategic locations across the country including California, Colorado, Kansas, Maryland, New York, and North Carolina.

Members of under-represented groups are encouraged to apply. The University's policy has been and will continue to be, one of nondiscrimination, offering equal opportunity to all employees and applicants for employment without regard to race, gender, religion, color, national origin, disability, age, protected veteran status, sexual orientation, gender identity, genetic information, creed, ancestry, political belief, pregnancy, or other status protected by state and federal statutes or University regulations. The University's nondiscrimination policy applies to all matters relating to its education programs and activities including recruiting, hiring, training, compensation, benefits, promotions, demotions, transfers, and all other terms and conditions of employment. To review the [EEO is the Law Poster](#) and its [Supplement](#), please see [The Diversity & Fairness page](#).

*Pursuant to Wyoming State law, W.S. 19-14-102, as amended, an honorably discharged veteran who has been a resident of the state of Wyoming for one (1) year or more at any time prior to the date when the veteran applies for employment, or any surviving spouse who was married to such veteran at the time of the veteran's death, who is receiving federal survivor benefits based on the veteran's military service and is applying for employment, shall receive an interview preference during the applicant screening process with the University of Wyoming. At the time of application, the applicant must possess the business capacity, competency, education or other qualifications required for the position. If disabilities do not materially interfere with performance of job duties, disabled veterans will be given preference over able-bodied veterans. **Appropriate documentation of veteran status must be provided at the time of application as outlined in the application process.** No preference will be given to a veteran currently employed by a public department.*

The University of Wyoming conducts background investigations for all final candidates being considered for employment. Offers of employment are contingent upon the completion of the background check.

Applicants with disabilities may request accommodation to complete the application and selection process. Please notify Human Resources at least three (3) working days prior to the date of need.



LARAMIE, WYOMING

Laramie is filled with hospitality, entertainment, and excitement while providing a neighborly atmosphere and warm small-town feel with a multitude of amenities and entertainment. The name “Wyoming” conjures up visions of the Old West as few others can. Laramie features a historic downtown, prairie and mountain vistas, rodeos, guest ranches, and more. Surrounded by the great outdoors, Laramie is also southeastern Wyoming’s center for arts events, with a lively music and theater scene, art exhibitions, festivals, and a variety of other entertainment. And don’t forget all the sports activities at the university and K-12 levels. In September 2023, *Outside* magazine named Laramie, Wyoming “The Most Affordable Mountain Town in the West,” referring to it as “the sweet spot where high adventure meets a low cost of living.”

Interesting Facts:

- Also known as the “Gem City of the Plains,” Laramie is located in the southeastern part of Wyoming approximately 45 miles from the state capital, Cheyenne, and 130 miles from Denver, Colorado.
- Laramie sits at 7,200 feet above sea level in the Laramie River Valley surrounded by the Medicine Bow National Forest, the Laramie Mountains, and the Snowy Range.
- Laramie has a 6% sales tax, but does not have a state income tax or state inheritance tax.
- Laramie offers a variety of outdoor adventures with more than 250 days of sunshine per year.
- The quality of life and amenities Laramie has to offer brings several types of industries to the area including technology companies and academia.



About 20 minutes east of Laramie, the Vedauwoo Recreation Area boasts some of the best rock-climbing in the country. You can photograph abundant wildlife, dramatic mountain scenes, and jumbled rock formations. And with more than a hundred mountain biking trails, the Laramie area provides a paradise for exploration on two wheels. Whether you prefer walking or hiking; camping or day trips; fishing or hunting; mountains, lakes, rivers, or trails – Laramie offers something for everyone. Families will find fun and exploration close to town, while backpackers and sportsmen can spend a week in the high country of the Medicine Bow Mountains. And as a winter snow enthusiast, you can escape the crowds by exploring the hills, forested glens, and rolling meadows of the Snowy Range from the back of a snowmobile or on downhill or cross-country skis. Laramie is one of Wyoming’s favorite playgrounds!

For more information on Laramie please visit:

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- Visit Laramie, <http://visitolaramie.org/>
 - Laramie Chamber Business Alliance, <http://laramie.org/>
 - Laramie Main Street <https://laramiemainstreet.org/>