



UNIVERSITY  
OF WYOMING

## POSITION PROFILE

### Wyoming Excellence Chair in Mathematics Education Full Professor

2025



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 10,800 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 online and classroom-based programs within its 11 colleges and schools. 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, and 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 School of Computing, Center for Entrepreneurship & Innovation, and Governor Gordon's Wyoming Innovation Partnership. UW has played an important role in the lives of students and Wyoming residents for 138 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 moderate cost of living with no state income tax, incredible outdoor recreational opportunities, an eclectic downtown, and a great public school system.





## COLLEGE OF EDUCATION

The **College of Education** shares in the land grant mission of the University of Wyoming and maintains an abiding commitment to the ongoing growth and vitality of educators and counselors across Wyoming. In this context, the College provides outstanding research-based programs leading to initial licensure and certification for the teachers, counselors, and leaders in Wyoming's schools, and mental health counselors in Wyoming's rural communities. As importantly, the College's programs provide essential support for teachers and counselors across the arc of their careers.

The College of Education develops and delivers cutting-edge instruction and professional support across Wyoming's expansive geography, which presents unique opportunities for innovation in teaching and learning. The College's work reflects this by incorporating globally innovative forms of competency-based learning, mentoring through communities of practice, and college and career readiness pathways that prepare educators for all settings and environments.

The College's role in the state presents a singular opportunity for scholars committed to the large-scale impact of their scholarship while also providing a significant responsibility to be knowledgeable, engaged actors through their work and programs. As the only four-year, public institution in the state, members of the College of Education community bear the substantial weight of connecting research to practice, informing policy and action directly. No university in the country enjoys such immediate access to the state-level policy environment.

The College has over 1,100 students studying across four baccalaureate program areas and eight graduate programs offering MS, PhD, and EdD degrees, along with a range of post-graduate certificates in Counseling and Education. More than 50 full-time faculty, 20 professional staff, and 15 graduate assistants bring these programs to life. The College is home to the **Wellspring Counseling Clinic**, the **Science & Mathematics Teaching Center**, the **Literacy Research Center and Clinic**, the UW **Early Care and Education Center**, the **Trustees Education Initiative**, the **Wyoming Early Childhood Outreach Network**, and the **Wyoming School-University Partnership**. The College has more than 24,000 living alumni. More than 3,300 alumni currently work in **Wyoming's public schools**.

The College of Education is currently led by the John P. Ellbogen Dean, **Jenna Shim**. Shim, a professor in the School of Teacher Education, has served as the associate dean for academic affairs and graduate studies for the past three years. She joined the UW faculty in 2009 and has also served as associate director in the School of Education; program coordinator for the English as a Second Language (ESL) graduate program in the School of Teacher Education; and founder of the annual Wyoming ESL and DLI (dual language immersion) Conference.





## THE OPPORTUNITY

### Wyoming Excellence Chair in Mathematics Education, Full Professor

The University of Wyoming (UW) invites applications and nominations for candidates to serve as the Wyoming Excellence Chair in Mathematics Education. The University is seeking a dynamic, collaborative, creative, and established scholar with a background in and commitment to mathematics education. The ideal candidate will possess a strong scholarship record, extensive professional accomplishments, a history of successful extramural funding, and solid leadership skills.

The Wyoming Excellence Chair in Mathematics Education is a 9-month, full-time, tenured position that reports to the Dean of the College of Education. In addition to a salary commensurate with the status of a high-profile, established scholar, this position provides access to discretionary funds to promote a robust research, teaching, and service agenda in mathematics education.

As a land-grant institution with a strong commitment to serving the state, UW employs Excellence Chairs charged with providing impactful leadership in research, teaching, and statewide engagement. This role is grounded in the mission of the Wyoming Excellence in Higher Education Endowment: to strengthen education across Wyoming through meaningful scholarship, high-quality instruction, and dedicated service.

This professorship supports the College of Education's two doctoral degrees:

- **The PhD in Mathematics Education:** Students complete this online degree (with one semester on campus), in preparation for pursuing a career as a professor or researcher.
- **The EdD with concentrations in Curriculum and Instruction and Mathematics Education** are applied programs that offer training and experience in problem-based research, curriculum, and field experience for leaders in school districts or related organizations.

The College of Education also offers a Secondary Education Mathematics Education B.A., which is nationally recognized by the Association for Advancing Quality in Educator Preparation (AAQEP).

The Wyoming Excellence Chair in Mathematics Education serves as part of a vibrant, growing faculty that engages in developing high-quality math educators. The Excellence Chair collaborates across disciplines and with the **Science and Mathematics Teaching Center**, advancing best practices in mathematics education and striving for national prominence in the field. The Chair works as part of a team contributing to collective goals. As such, the Chair is expected to participate in regular College meetings, shared planning, and team-based projects.

As a state-funded position, the role includes expectations for ongoing service in response to Wyoming's needs. The work of the Excellence Chair will directly benefit Wyoming educators, students, and educational systems. This is an outward-facing position charged with contributing to initiatives that directly support educational development, including teacher professional development, curriculum design, and research dissemination with practical application in Wyoming's K-12 classrooms. This position requires a committed and advanced scholar, invested in forging multi-disciplinary partnerships, and available to work on campus and actively engage in outreach with local school districts throughout the state.

## **KEY RESPONSIBILITIES:**

### **Research, Scholarship & State Impact**

- Lead a nationally recognized and externally funded research agenda that addresses critical challenges in mathematics education, with particular attention to the needs of Wyoming's rural, remote, and underserved communities/districts.
- Produce high-impact scholarship that informs policy and practice, strengthens mathematics education systems statewide, and advances the field at large.
- Disseminate research findings through peer-reviewed publications, national conferences, and practitioner-focused outlets.
- Establish and sustain research-practice partnerships with school districts, education agencies, and community stakeholders across Wyoming.
- Submit annual impact reports in alignment with the Wyoming Excellence in Higher Education Endowment's statutory requirements, documenting progress in research, teaching, and service to the state.

### **Instruction & Mentorship**

- Unless otherwise arranged with the Dean of the College of Education, teach a 2-1 or 1-2 annual course load, with a reduced 1-1 load during the first year to support the successful launch of a research and outreach agenda.
- Deliver high-quality instruction in mathematics education at both the undergraduate and graduate levels, in formats responsive to Wyoming's geographic and workforce needs.
- Recruit, mentor, and advise graduate students, supporting the preparation of the next generation of mathematics education professionals and scholars.

### **Outreach, Statewide Service, and Policy Engagement**

- Actively engage in outreach aligned with UW's land-grant mission, including:
  - Providing professional development for Wyoming educators,
  - Offering technical assistance to school districts,
  - Collaborating with state agencies to inform policy and practice,
  - Prioritizing service to rural and underrepresented communities across the state,
  - Serving as a public scholar representing UW in statewide forums, advisory groups, and educational collaboratives,
  - Representing the College of Education's mathematics education program when information, presentations, or engagement is requested by key external stakeholders.

### **Leadership & College Engagement**

- Contribute to academic leadership within the College of Education, supporting program development and interdisciplinary initiatives.
- Serve as a mentor and resource for faculty and graduate students in mathematics education in related areas.
- Help enhance the visibility and impact of the College's mathematics education programs, especially across the state.

### **Grants, Funding & Innovation**

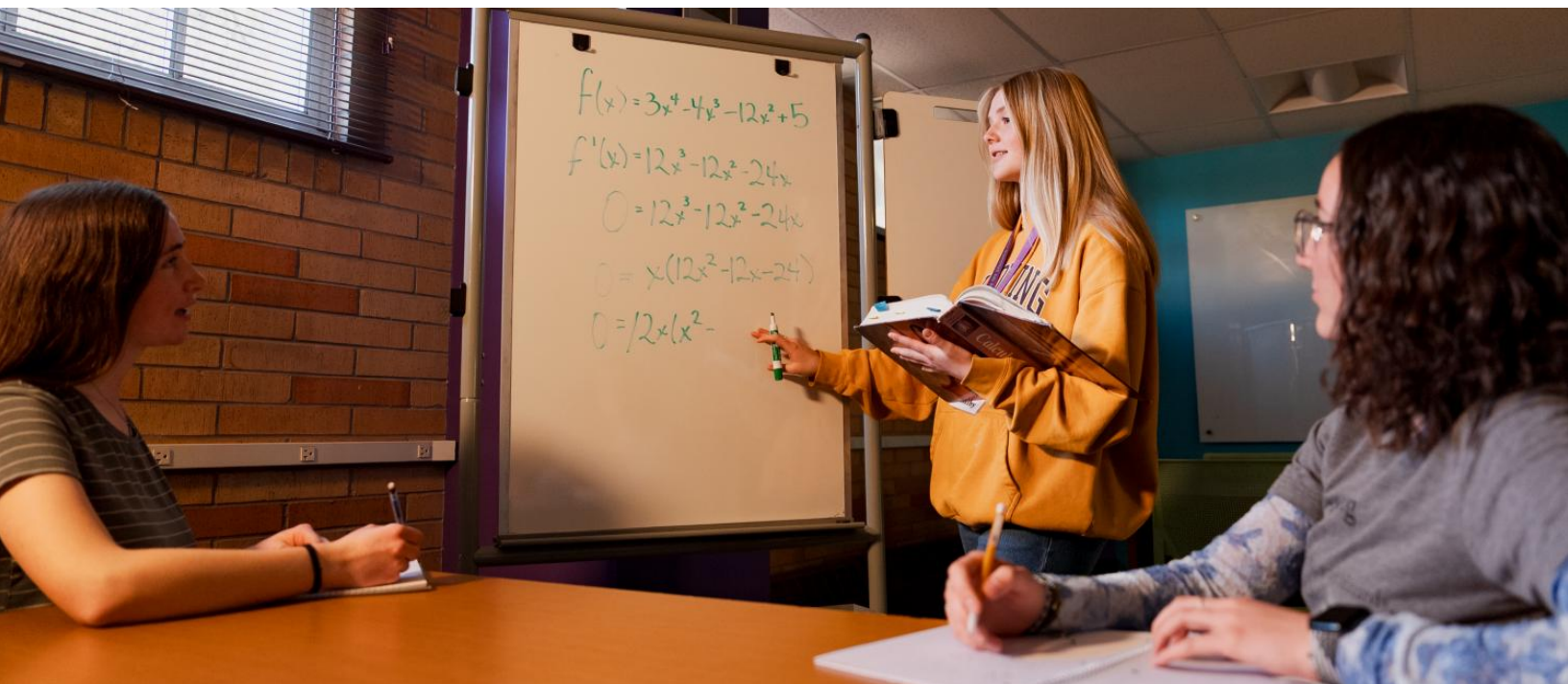
- Secure competitive external funding from federal agencies, foundations, and other relevant sources to support research, program development, and outreach.
- Leverage endowed resources to launch innovative programming, develop technology-enhanced instruction, and build sustainable statewide partnerships.

## MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS:

- A terminal degree in mathematics education or a related field.
- Earned rank of tenured full professor at an accredited university or advanced associate rank with accomplishments sufficient for promotion to the rank of professor upon hire at the University of Wyoming.
- Evidence of an established line of exemplary empirical research and active publishing in math education that reflects a unique and timely line of inquiry.
- Demonstrated expertise in teaching at both graduate and undergraduate levels, across multiple instructional modalities, with significant online teaching experience.
- A commitment to teaching practices that address all student needs, and a record of excellence in teaching employing innovative approaches, as well as faculty and student mentorship.
- Experience with developing course materials and syllabi as well as assisting with faculty development.
- Demonstrated ability to effectively engage with diverse stakeholders, including K-12 schools, community organizations, and academic institutions, and a record of engaging with professional organizations in the field.
- Willingness to travel across the state in the capacity of serving as a mathematics education advocate, connecting with local school districts throughout Wyoming, as well as state and local government entities.
- Valid driver's license with a motor vehicle record (MVR) that is compliant with the University Vehicle Use Policy.

## THE SUCCESSFUL CANDIDATE WILL HAVE SOME OR ALL OF THIS EXPERIENCE, AS WELL:

- Experience with evaluation and reporting on mathematics education programs aligned to accreditation standards.
- Leadership experience in academic administration, including fiscal management, faculty evaluation, and program management.
- A demonstrated track record of successful grant writing and securing extramural funding in support of academic scholarship.
- Demonstrated experience engaging external constituents in professional development.
- Experience working with rural populations.
- Successful experience recruiting students and maximizing enrollment.
- Experience collaborating with stakeholders in school districts and at the state level.
- Experience teaching in K-12 math education settings.







## 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 6, 2025**, will be given first consideration. Please submit a CV/resume and a letter that explains your interest and related experience/qualifications upon application. All applications and nominations will be held in confidence.

To apply online, go to: <https://theapplicantmanager.com/jobs?pos=su466>

### For more information or to offer recommendations or nominations:

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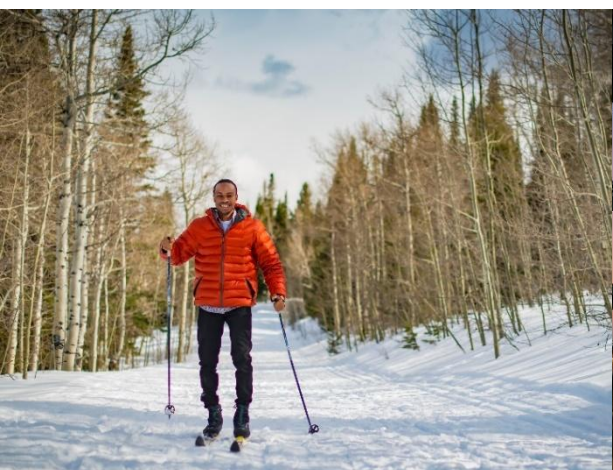
*The University of Wyoming is an Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Educator and Employer (UW Reg 4-1). The University does not discriminate in employment or personnel practices on the basis of race, gender, religion, color, national origin, disability, age, protected veteran status, sexual orientation, gender identity, genetic information, creed, ancestry, political belief, pregnancy, or any other protected category or participation in any protected activity. In compliance with the ADA Amendments Act (ADAAA), if you have a disability and would like to request an accommodation to apply for a position, please call 307-766-2377 or email [jobapps@uwyo.edu](mailto:jobapps@uwyo.edu). Review the **Know Your Rights** poster.*

*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 time of application as outlined in the application process. No preference will be given to a veteran currently employed by a public department.*

*We conduct 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/>