Founded in 1769, Dartmouth is at once a vibrant liberal arts college and a pre-eminent R1 research university where faculty and students partner to take on the world’s greatest challenges. A member of the Ivy League and the Association of American Universities, Dartmouth is both rooted in its distinctive heritage and ready to help shape the future of higher education through creativity and innovation. It now seeks its next president, the 19th, in a distinguished line known as the Wheelock Succession.
Our Next President

Dartmouth’s next president will possess the academic stature needed to inspire our community and a demonstrated history of impactful leadership. The new leader will have the opportunity to imagine, articulate, and implement a bold, aspirational vision for Dartmouth that respects its traditions and history while leading the institution forward.

The successful candidate will be a systems-level, strategic thinker with a sophisticated understanding of the evolving global ecosystem of higher education. The president will have a clear view about how Dartmouth can play a distinctive role in this evolution and assume leadership in critical endeavors.

The president will have exceptional team leadership skills and the ability to drive change and implement strategic priorities in a multi-stakeholder environment. Supporting this ability will be strong communications, problem-solving, and decision-making skills coupled with emotional intelligence. The president must be able to create and inspire a highly inclusive culture, where all voices and perspectives are not just embraced but seen as essential to Dartmouth’s vitality, performance, and relevance.

To advance Dartmouth’s ambition to broaden its impact and influence, not just on higher education but also on the most pressing issues facing the world, the president must have an unwavering commitment to knowledge creation and dissemination as well as the conditions that make both possible—namely, diversity of background, thought, and perspective coupled with rigorous inquiry and debate. The president must have the skills to “tell the Dartmouth story” to a wide range of external and internal audiences, represent the institution with passion and enthusiasm, and make a compelling case for why institutional funders, individual donors, and the best student, faculty, and staff talent should contribute their energy and resources to advancing Dartmouth and its institutional purpose.

Dartmouth is seeking a leader to guide the institution through a truly transformational moment in higher education and seize the opportunity to expand Dartmouth’s global impact and influence. The university is ready and eager to pursue a dynamic new vision under the leadership of its next president. A strong foundation for this aspiration has been established, with significant research prowess, record enrollment, and an engaged campus culture, underpinned by sustained fundraising success and financial stability.

Who We Are

Dartmouth is an intimate and inclusive community that serves as a hub of intellectual and personal growth and a gateway to worldwide study and research from a spectacular natural setting. The 4,500 undergraduates and 2,200 graduate and professional students are guided by more than 900 faculty who are both leading researchers and scholars who love to teach.

At Dartmouth, education happens not only within traditional academic departments, but also where they intersect. The Faculty of Arts & Sciences brings together more than 40 departments and programs
Dartmouth attracts those with an adventurous spirit, who embrace opportunities and challenges with courage and tenacity, willing to be bold in their pursuits. Dartmouth shapes future leaders who are not only innovative and entrepreneurial but also more socially conscious and thoughtful, equipped with a deeper understanding of humanity and a broader view of what is at stake in the world. Its student body is remarkably well rounded. Students pursue excellence in their academic work and engage in their personal passions through volunteer and social organizations, and in athletics ranging from NCAA Division I to club and intramural teams.

Dartmouth’s financial strength will enable it to continue its mission well into the future. The institution has an operating budget of $1.3 billion for fiscal year 2023, and an $8.5 billion endowment that it uses to pursue investment and spending initiatives designed to balance current needs with those of future generations. In fewer than 10 years, Dartmouth has increased annual research spending by more than 50% to $326 million, making it one of the foremost American universities in per capita research activity.

The Call to Lead campaign has surpassed its $3 billion fundraising goal 18 months ahead of schedule, thanks to the generosity of more than 90,000 members of the Dartmouth community. While the original goal has been met, the campaign continues in order to achieve specific targets for remaining priorities. These funds are helping Dartmouth to expand the faculty, academic facilities, undergraduate financial aid, and need-blind admissions; enhance the health and wellbeing of its community; invest in new, multidisciplinary technologies; and further support the arts by fostering creativity with intent.

Dartmouth is governed by an engaged, diverse board of trustees composed of the president, the Governor of New Hampshire (ex-officio), and 24 trustees, of whom 16 are elected by the board and eight are nominated by alumni and elected by the board.

Where We Are Today

Academic excellence: Dartmouth has a long and rich history of attracting world-class scholars. Dartmouth’s faculty is in the top half of the Association of American Universities (AAU) with respect to prestigious faculty awards and National Academy memberships. To continue to recruit top faculty, Dartmouth has made a significant investment in compensation to ensure it remains competitive with the most outstanding institutions in the world, including doubling its faculty diversity recruitment fund. People of color represent 23% of tenure and tenure-track faculty. In addition to scholarship, Dartmouth faculty are deeply committed to teaching and mentoring—in the classroom, the laboratory, and the studio, and through all forms of experiential learning.

Student body: Dartmouth attracts the most outstanding and diverse undergraduate, graduate, and professional students from around the world to learn and grow alongside faculty who are leaders in their field. Dartmouth is not only highly selective, but also has an undergraduate yield that is one of the highest in the U.S. at 70% for the Class of 2025—one of the most diverse in its history with almost half identifying as people of color. Dartmouth is one of only six institutions that offers need-blind admissions and meets 100% of required financial support for both domestic and
international undergraduate students. Guarini draws graduate students from more than 50 countries to engage in research across 18 doctoral and 11 masters’ programs, and Dartmouth’s professional schools produce graduates in business, engineering, and medicine who go on to achieve exceptional career success.

Elevating impact on the world: Consistent with its heritage of impact, Dartmouth has set forth ambitions to help solve some of the world’s greatest problems, from addressing threats to global security, to advancing the fight against cancer, and understanding the effects of climate change. These efforts include the creation of the Academic Clusters hiring initiative, the Initiative for Global Security, the Susan and James Wright Center for the Study of Computation and Just Communities, and in partnership with Dartmouth-Hitchcock Health, the Byrne Family Cancer Research Institute at the Norris Cotton Cancer Center. To help address the climate crisis and sustainable energy demands, Dartmouth has invested $400 million to fund programs, centers, and institutes such as the Arthur L. Irving Institute for Energy in Society. The Dartmouth Institute for Health Policy and Clinical Practice is home to a multidisciplinary research program which spans multiple departments and schools across the institution.

Campus culture and student experience: Over the past several years, Dartmouth has transformed every facet of community life to deepen academic engagement, social connection, and inclusion. These initiatives include establishing a house community system, setting guidelines for hiring broader pools of talent, and creating uniform policies and procedures to address challenges on campus. It has implemented three self-reinforcing initiatives that have helped to ensure Dartmouth’s campus is diverse, welcoming, and equitable for all. As part of an effort to address mental health needs on campus, Dartmouth in 2021 launched a partnership with the Jed Foundation, which has engaged an interdisciplinary campus team of students, faculty, and staff.

Campus renewal: Dartmouth has made significant investments to ensure its historic campus evolves to serve the needs of the community and meet its sustainability goals. It dedicates a percentage of the endowment to a fund for campus housing and infrastructure improvements. This fund invested last year in housing and a green energy system, and it will allow for more than $500 million of renewal projects in the coming decade. Dartmouth has completed or begun upgrading five critical structures: the Hopkins Center for the Arts, the Hood Museum of Art, Tuck’s Murdough
DARTMOUTH

Hall, Anonymous Hall, and Dartmouth Hall, the renovations for which are made possible by a historic fundraising campaign among Dartmouth alumnae. In 2018, Dartmouth broke ground on the West End, an area of the campus which will integrate experiential learning in engineering, computer science, and entrepreneurship. The West End has already completed two major anchor buildings: the Irving Institute and the Center for Engineering and Computer Science.

The Road Ahead

The next president will have the support and resources necessary to craft and pursue an aspirational strategy for Dartmouth. The opportunities available to the institution in the years ahead include:

Building the research enterprise: An R1 university and a member of the AAU, Dartmouth is recognized as a leading research institution. Dartmouth has made historic investments in its research enterprise including new centers of excellence, development of the West End of campus, expanded biomedical research, and access to extramural funding. The president will build on this strength to create an even more robust enterprise that encompasses both undergraduate and graduate research opportunities, with high-caliber students and accomplished faculty whose work will continue to advance Dartmouth’s global impact and pedagogy.

Increasing scale and reach for global impact: Dartmouth aspires to help solve systemic challenges around the world. The president will have an external perspective and champion efforts to extend Dartmouth’s global reach, applying its unique DNA and research expertise to address the issues that affect communities locally, regionally, and globally. This will require the president to think strategically about how, where, and in which focus areas Dartmouth should expand its footprint and investments.

Enhancing the student experience: Dartmouth is a tight-knit community where students form life-long relationships. The next president will be ready to take the best of Dartmouth’s history, culture, and spirit to further enrich the student experience. This experience should encompass excellence in academics as well as a broad range of extracurricular and social opportunities so as to ensure that today’s students feel connected, nurtured, and empowered as they pursue their educational and professional goals. These efforts will need to ensure that the health and wellness of all community members are fully supported. The president should also accelerate Dartmouth’s progress in renovating and expanding undergraduate and graduate housing.

Creating a truly inclusive and diverse campus: Dartmouth has made meaningful progress to create a culture that is experienced as inclusive, safe, and welcoming by all members of the community. Under the leadership of its senior diversity officer, who reports directly to the president, Dartmouth is investing in a range of diversity, equity, and inclusion initiatives and developing a comprehensive strategic plan to support DEI across the campus. The new president will be deeply committed to ensuring that the student body, faculty, administration, and staff are representative in diversity of thought, race, ethnicity, and economic background, as well as active in creating a truly equitable and inclusive academic, social, and professional environment.

Embedding an innovative and agile mindset across the institution: Dartmouth aspires to be a leader in the transformation of higher education, bringing new ideas and models to teaching and learning. The president will embrace and instill a culture of innovation and agility across Dartmouth—from new programs, partnerships, business models, and experiences—to extend Dartmouth’s research and academic excellence for greater influence and impact, and to help redefine higher education.
Contributing to sustainable local development:

Dartmouth is fortunate in its location in the Upper Valley region of New Hampshire and Vermont and plays an important role in the community, including through its partnership with Dartmouth-Hitchcock Health. There is a significant opportunity to partner and support leaders in the region in improving transportation, building affordable housing, sustainable development, and expanded, affordable access to childcare and health care. The next president will seek to play an active role in championing research and partnerships that can help the region develop and thrive alongside the Dartmouth community.

Dartmouth is seeking an exceptional leader with the energy, vision, and stature to lead its diverse and dynamic community into the future. If you would like to make a nomination or apply, please write to dartmouth@spencerstuart.com