HOCKING COLLEGE

Presidential Profile

The Board of Trustees of Hocking College, Ohio, invites nominations and applications for the position of President. This is a wonderful opportunity for a talented professional to lead and to serve a thriving rural community college.

About Hocking College

Hocking College was founded in 1968 with a focus on Environmental Studies and giving students a hands-on learning experience at an affordable price. Located in Nelsonville, Ohio, Hocking College serves more than 3,000 students throughout Southeastern Ohio and beyond. The College is committed to providing an accessible, high-quality, and student-centered education in a caring, supportive environment, with a mission to "serve as a pathway to prosperity, teaching and inspiring all who seek to learn, growing careers and changing lives."

Hocking College offers more than 50 associate degrees and certificate programs that provide students with a hands-on, quality educational experience that is flexible, affordable, and applicable to their career goals. The College's programs include high-demand career pathways and transfer programs, reflecting its vision of delivering relevant programs and serving as a partner and leader in regional economic development. Hocking College's main campus is located on 2,300 acres in Nelsonville, with additional locations at the Perry Campus in New Lexington and the Logan Campus.

The College provides a range of resources and opportunities to support student success, including financial aid and scholarships, career readiness training, transfer opportunities, on-campus housing, and student services. Hocking College is the only two-year community college in Ohio with on-campus housing, providing a more immersive learning community for residential students. The College also offers intercollegiate athletics, student organizations, and opportunities for students to engage in campus life. Hocking College is committed to student completion, job readiness, job placement, and maximizing transfer credit.

Hocking College's main campus is located in Nelsonville, Ohio, approximately 60 miles southeast of Columbus in the scenic Hocking Hills region. The College describes its campus as rich in innovative entrepreneurship, workforce development, and partnerships with local communities. The campus provides students with opportunities for world-class, hands-on experiential learning in a caring, supportive, and nurturing environment.

Role of the President

The next president of Hocking College must be an innovative, student-centered leader who understands both the responsibilities of leading a public institution and the entrepreneurial culture that distinguishes Hocking College. The successful candidate should demonstrate the following skills and attributes while addressing these opportunities and challenges:

- **Visionary and strategic leadership:** The ability to establish a compelling vision, translate it into measurable priorities, and inspire employees, students, trustees, employers, and community partners to work toward shared goals.
- **Commitment to student success and related enrollment development:** A deep understanding of the needs of first-generation, low-income, rural, adult, and nontraditional students. The president must support a culture in which students feel that they belong, believe in their potential, and receive the guidance needed to complete their education.
- **Entrepreneurial thinking:** Hocking College has developed a culture of identifying opportunities, acting decisively, and finding creative ways to accomplish important work. The next president must be comfortable testing new ideas, managing calculated risks, and developing sustainable revenue sources beyond traditional enrollment and state funding.
- **Financial and operational leadership:** Strong financial judgment is essential. The president must understand budgeting, enrollment management, facilities, auxiliary enterprises, grants, and long-term financial planning while protecting affordability and the College's all-inclusive pricing model.
- **Understanding of technical and workforce education:** The candidate should appreciate hands-on education, employer-aligned programs, apprenticeships, industry credentials, and the importance of preparing students for meaningful careers. The president must continue strengthening relationships with employers and ensuring that programs respond quickly to changing workforce needs.
- **Support for Hocking College's educational model:** The next leader should value eight-week course sessions, AI integration across the curriculum, live-learning laboratories, experiential education, and real-world operations such as the Lodge, Rhapsody Restaurant, Robbins Crossing, campus construction projects, and other student learning enterprises. The president must understand that these activities are central to teaching and learning—not simply auxiliary operations.
- **Collaborative culture-building:** The president must be visible, approachable, and willing to listen. Success will require building trust with faculty, staff, students, trustees, alumni, and community members while maintaining accountability and making difficult decisions when necessary.
- **Partnership and resource development:** The ability to build relationships with state leaders, foundations, school districts, universities, employers, and community organizations will be critical. The president should be an effective advocate who can communicate Hocking College's value and attract support and funders for its mission.
- **Commitment to innovation and responsible use of technology:** The next should understand the growing role of artificial intelligence and emerging technologies in instruction, student services, workforce preparation, and institutional operations.

Above all, Hocking College needs a president who respects what makes the institution distinctive while remaining willing to improve it. This person must combine courage with compassion, innovation with fiscal discipline, and ambitious ideas with the practical ability to turn those ideas into results for students and the region. It is essential that this person be visible and present,

approachable, a leader whom faculty and staff would willingly follow, decisive, and energetic. Being a role model for the entire community to respect and admire is essential.

Minimum Qualifications

- Five (5) years senior higher education administrative experience required, preferably at a community college.
- Doctoral degree or terminal professional degree from a regionally accredited institution is required to be completed by Summer, 2027.
- Demonstrated success in fundraising, advancement, grant development and cultivating philanthropic partnerships.
- Experience as an entrepreneur will be useful to the unique way in which Hocking College operates both internal operations and educational programs.

How To Apply

This is a confidential search process. To ensure full consideration, application materials should be received no later than **January 26, 2027**. The position will remain open until filled.

To apply go to http://www.acctsearches.org and upload your documents.

Candidates will need to have the following information or materials available to complete the application:

1. A letter of application (not to exceed 5 pages) that succinctly addresses the opportunities and challenges identified in the Position Profile and demonstrates how the candidate's experience and professional qualifications prepare them to serve as the President of Hocking College.
2. A current resume including an email address and cellular telephone number.
3. A list of eight references: example, two to three supervisors, two to three direct reports, and two to three faculty and/or staff members from current and former institutions.

For additional information, nominations, or confidential inquiries please contact: Bradley Ebersole, Ph.D., ACCT Search Consultant, at bradleyebersole@gmail.com or (740) 538-7989 (mobile)

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