Director of Strategic Initiatives

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Job Type: time type
Full time

Job Number: job requisition id
R0081592

Location: Fayetteville, AR
Current University of Arkansas System employees, including student employees and graduate assistants, need to log in to Workday via MyApps.Microsoft.com, then access Find Jobs from the Workday search bar to view and apply for open positions.

Students at all University of Arkansas institutions will view open positions and apply within Workday by searching for "Find Jobs for Students."

University of Arkansas, Fayetteville students will view open positions and apply within Workday by searching for "Find Student Jobs at UAF."

All Job Postings will close at 12:01 a.m. CT on the specified Closing Date (if designated).

If you close the browser or exit your application prior to submitting, the application process will be saved as a draft. You will be able to access and complete the application through "My Draft Applications" located on your Candidate Home page.

Closing Date:
02/17/2026

Type of Position:
Administrative Strategy

Workstudy Position:

No

Job Type:
Fixed Duration of Project/Grant (Fixed Term)

Work Shift:

Sponsorship Available:

No

Institution Name:
University of Arkansas, Fayetteville
Founded in 1871, the University of Arkansas is a land grant institution, classified by the Carnegie Foundation among the nation's top 2 percent of universities with the highest level of research activity. The University of Arkansas works to advance the state and build a better world through education, research, and outreach by providing transformational opportunities and skills, fostering a welcoming climate, and nurturing creativity, discovery, and the spread of new ideas and innovations.

The University of Arkansas campus is located in Fayetteville, a welcoming community ranked as one of the best places to live in the U.S. The growing region surrounding Fayetteville is home to numerous Fortune 500 companies and one of the nation's strongest economies. Northwest Arkansas is also quickly gaining a national reputation for its focus on the arts and overall quality of life.

As an employer, the University of Arkansas offers a vibrant work environment and a workplace culture that promotes a healthy work-life balance. The benefits package includes university contributions to health, dental, life and disability insurance, tuition waivers for employees and their families, 12 official holidays, immediate leave accrual, and a choice of retirement programs with university contributions ranging from 5 to 10% of employee salary.

Below you will find the details for the position including any supplementary documentation and questions, you should review before applying for the opening.

If you have a disability and need assistance with the hiring process, please submit a request via the Disability Accommodations | OEOC | University of Arkansas (uark.edu) : Request an Accommodation. Applicants are required to submit a request for each position of which they have applied.

For general application assistance or if you have questions about a job posting, please contact Human Resources at 479.575.5351.

Department:
Graduate Programs, Research and Executive Education

Department's Website:

Summary of Job Duties:
The Sam M. Walton College of Business at the University of Arkansas is seeking a highly organized and proactive Director of Strategic Initiatives to lead the execution of strategic supply chain innovation initiatives within the Supply Chain Management Research Center (SCMRC). These initiatives focus on addressing challenges faced by commercial industries, government sectors, and global supply chains.

The Director of Strategic Initiatives will play a critical role in coordinating cross-functional efforts, overseeing key research-driven projects, and engaging stakeholders across academia, industry, and policy sectors. This position will also support the planning and execution of pilot programs, industry partnerships, and applied research efforts aimed at modernizing logistics and supply chain systems in both commercial and government contexts, including sectors such as defense, national security, and public infrastructure.

Regular, reliable, and non-disruptive attendance is an essential job duty, as is the ability to create and maintain collegial, harmonious working relationships with others.

Qualifications:

Minimum Qualifications

- Bachelor's degree in business, supply chain, engineering, or a related field
- Experience in leading projects in logistics, supply chain, technology, or innovation-focused roles
- Experience coordinating multi-stakeholder projects involving research, industry collaboration, and funding oversight
- Strong communication skills and experience working with executives, researchers, and government entities
- Strong network within technology investment firms, logistics enterprises, and AI-driven startups

- Proven ability to develop and execute research-backed supply chain innovation strategies with cross-sector impact
- Background in venture capital investing, emerging technology commercialization, and financial governance

Preferred Qualifications

- Master's degree (MBA, supply chain, engineering, or related field)
- Experience working on research-driven projects with corporate or government funding
- Extensive knowledge of emerging supply chain technologies, AI, cybersecurity, and automation

Additional Information:
Salary Information:

Commensurate with education and experience

Required Documents to Apply:

Cover Letter/Letter of Application, List of three Professional References (name, email, business title), Resume

Optional Documents:

Proof of Veteran Status

Recruitment Contact Information:

Brian Fugate
Associate Dean for Graduate Programs and Research
Sam M. Walton College of Business
Bsfugate@uark.edu

All application materials must be uploaded to the University of Arkansas System Career Site https://uasys.wd5.myworkdayjobs.com/UASYS

Please do not send to listed recruitment contact.

Special Instructions to Applicants:

Pre-employment Screening Requirements:
Criminal Background Check, Sex Offender Registry

The University of Arkansas is committed to providing a safe campus community. We conduct background checks for applicants being considered for employment. Background checks include a criminal background check and a sex offender registry check. For certain positions, there may also be a financial (credit) background check, a Motor Vehicle Registry (MVR) check, and/or drug

screening. Required checks are identified in the position listing. A criminal conviction or arrest pending adjudication or adverse financial history information alone shall not disqualify an applicant in the absence of a relationship to the requirements of the position. Background check information will be used in a confidential, non-discriminatory manner consistent with state and federal law.

The University of Arkansas seeks to attract, develop and retain high quality faculty, staff and administrators that consistently display practices and behaviors to advance a culture that embeds equal opportunity, educational excellence and unparalleled access for all.

The University of Arkansas is an equal opportunity institution. The University does not discriminate in its education programs or activities (including in admission and employment) on the basis of any category or status protected by law, including age, race, color, national origin, disability, religion, protected veteran status, military service, genetic information, sex, sexual orientation, or pregnancy. Questions or concerns about the application of Title IX, which prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex, may be sent to the University's Title IX Coordinator and to the U.S. Department of Education Office for Civil Rights.

Persons must have proof of legal authority to work in the United States on the first day of employment.

All Application information is subject to public disclosure under the Arkansas Freedom of Information Act.

Constant Physical Activity:
N/A

Frequent Physical Activity:
N/A

Occasional Physical Activity:
N/A

Benefits Eligible:
Yes

The University of Arkansas is an equal opportunity, affirmative action institution. All applicants are subject to public disclosure under the Arkansas Freedom of Information Act and persons hired must have proof of legal authority to work in the United States.