LIPSCOMB UNIVERSITY



Senior Vice President of Advancement

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About Lipscomb University

Lipscomb University is a private Christian university located in Nashville, Tennessee. Founded in 1891, it is affiliated with the Churches of Christ and integrates Christian faith with academic study across its undergraduate, graduate, and professional programs.

Mission

We are a Christ-centered community preparing learners for purposeful lives through rigorous academics and transformative experiences.



Vision

Anchored in our Christ-centered mission, Lipscomb University will lead as a top-tier, nationally recognized institution. We will excel in teaching, learning and research; be ambitious in our service to others; and be driven by continuous improvement.

Strategic Vision

As Lipscomb University celebrates 135 years of Christ-centered education, they have developed a shared vision and strategic plan that will carry this critical work into the future.

History

In the summer and fall of 1889, the two friends spent many long nights at David Lipscomb's farmhouse, developing their vision to establish a school that offered a rigorous and challenging academic education in a Christian context. They did not want it to be a "preacher" school, nor a seminary. Instead, they wanted it to be a place where the most useful academics would be taught alongside Bible study and opportunities for personal interactions with Scripture, rooted in the Church of Christ. This, they believed, was a complete education that would rear graduates who were prepared with wisdom and knowledge to serve their community and the world.

Lipscomb University has developed into a fast-growing Christian liberal arts institution that started with just nine students in 1891 and now serves nearly 5,000 students today. And Lipscomb Academy, which serves children from age 2 through the 12th grade, is now the largest private school of its kind in Middle Tennessee and one of only a few in the nation associated with a university. Today, Lipscomb is one of the only 2-year-old to Ph.D. institutions in the nation.

The vision and heart of David Lipscomb continues to be honored and lived out through the university. Like the man himself, the institution strongly values service to its community and the world as an act of faith. It's a place known for developing courageous and confident leaders equipped with practical knowledge and rooted in their spiritual growth, who take on some of the most complex and difficult problems with their innovation and willingness to step out from the crowd. Because of the commitment of its founder and every past president thereafter to boldly follow the plans God placed on their hearts, Lipscomb University plays a vital role today in countless lives, communities, and countries around the world. Faith is not only their foundation—it's their purpose and their future.

200+ Undergraduate Majors	**13:1** Student-to-Faculty Ratio	**292** Full-Time Faculty Members
32 Religious Preferences Represented		
43 Countries Represented		

Academics

Lipscomb enrolls 3,060 undergraduate students and 1,857 graduate students. The university emphasizes a small-community environment, with relatively small class sizes and close faculty interaction. Its academic structure includes colleges and schools for business, engineering, health sciences, education, humanities, and the arts. Lipscomb is particularly known for programs in business, nursing, engineering, pharmacy, and education, and many programs incorporate internships or experiential learning with Nashville companies and organizations.

Undergraduate

Graduate

Lipscomb Online



Student Life

Faith is woven into the student experience. Students take Bible courses as part of the core curriculum, and the campus culture includes chapel gatherings, service opportunities, and mission-focused initiatives. Lipscomb also emphasizes community service and global engagement, encouraging students to participate in study-abroad programs and service projects around the world. Click here to learn more.



Athletics

Athletically, Lipscomb competes in NCAA Division I as the Lipscomb Bisons, primarily in the ASUN Conference. Basketball and baseball are among the university's most visible sports, and athletics play a meaningful role in campus life. Click here to learn more.

Lipscomb Academy

Lipscomb Academy is a premier private, college-preparatory Christian school serving students from age 2 through 12th grade in Nashville, Tennessee. Uniquely affiliated with Lipscomb University and located on the university's campus, the academy is one of only a few private schools in the nation connected to a university. This relationship provides students with distinctive opportunities to access university facilities, interact with faculty, and participate in programs that extend learning beyond the traditional K–12 classroom. Lipscomb Academy operates under the governance of the Lipscomb University Board of Trustees and is an integral part of the broader Lipscomb community.



The Opportunity

Lipscomb University seeks a dynamic and relational leader to serve as its next Senior Vice President for Advancement, responsible for leading the institution's philanthropic strategy and strengthening engagement across the Lipscomb community. Reporting directly to the President and serving as a member of the President's Cabinet, the Senior Vice President will partner closely with President Candice McQueen to shape and advance a comprehensive fundraising strategy that supports both Lipscomb University and Lipscomb Academy, reflecting the distinctive connection between the university and its affiliated K–12 school.

Lipscomb is entering a significant season of opportunity as it prepares for its next comprehensive campaign aligned with the university's forthcoming 2026–2030 strategic plan. The Senior Vice President will join at a formative moment—before the campaign has been formally launched—with the opportunity to help shape campaign priorities, participate in the selection of a campaign consultant, and build the philanthropic strategy that will guide the institution's next phase of growth. Working closely with the President, Board leadership, and senior administration, this leader will help translate the university's strategic vision into compelling philanthropic opportunities and lead the strategy and execution of a comprehensive campaign expected to engage donors across the Lipscomb community and beyond.

Located in one of the fastest-growing cities in the United States, Lipscomb is uniquely positioned to engage a rapidly expanding philanthropic community in Nashville and Middle Tennessee. The university has already begun cultivating relationships with new donors drawn to the region's vibrant Christian and entrepreneurial community, and the next Senior Vice President will have the opportunity to expand these relationships while deepening engagement with Lipscomb's alumni, parents, and friends.

The successful candidate will bring both strategic vision and operational leadership, combining a proven ability to cultivate major and principal gifts with the capacity to lead and develop a high-performing advancement team. This leader will help articulate Lipscomb's story in compelling ways, foster a culture of generosity across the university and academy communities, and position the institution for its next era of growth and impact.





Key Responsibilities

Strategic Advancement Leadership

- Serve as the chief advancement strategist for Lipscomb University, developing and executing a comprehensive advancement strategy aligned with institutional priorities.
- Partner with the President and senior leadership to identify and articulate philanthropic priorities that advance the university's mission and strategic goals.
- Strengthen a culture of generosity and philanthropic engagement across the Lipscomb community.

Campaign Strategy and Leadership

- Lead the planning, development, and execution of Lipscomb's next comprehensive fundraising campaign.
- Partner with the President and Board of Trustees in shaping campaign priorities and preparing the university for a successful campaign launch.
- Select and work closely with an external campaign consultant to conduct feasibility planning and guide campaign strategy.
- Guide the advancement team in securing major and principal gifts that will anchor campaign success.

Fundraising and Donor Engagement

- Personally cultivate, solicit, and steward relationships with principal and major donors capable of making transformational gifts.
- Expand and diversify the university's base of philanthropic support through major gifts, annual giving, planned giving, and foundation and corporate partnerships.
- Partner with the President and trustees in high-level donor engagement and fundraising initiatives.

Institutional Advancement Leadership

- Provide leadership and coordination for advancement efforts serving both Lipscomb University and Lipscomb Academy, ensuring alignment of messaging, engagement, and philanthropic strategy across the Lipscomb community.
- Provide strategic leadership and coordination for the academy advancement team in partnership with the Head of School.
- Oversee alumni relations and parent engagement efforts that build lifelong connections to Lipscomb.

Team and Operational Leadership

- Lead and develop a high-performing advancement team, fostering a culture of accountability, collaboration, and excellence.
- Strengthen and grow the advancement team as needed to support campaign priorities and long-term fundraising success.
- Ensure best practices in prospect research, donor stewardship, gift processing, and advancement analytics.
- Oversee advancement planning, goal-setting, budgeting, and performance metrics to support sustained growth in philanthropic support.

Qualifications and Characteristics

The successful candidate will bring a deep commitment to Lipscomb University's Christian mission and the ability to lead advancement efforts that reflect the institution's values and vision.

Professional Experience

- Significant experience in advancement, philanthropy, business development, sales, or related fields with a demonstrated ability to cultivate relationships and secure major investments.
- Proven success cultivating and securing major gifts, ideally including seven- and eight-figure commitments.
- Experience planning or leading a comprehensive capital campaign or similarly complex fundraising initiative is preferred.
- Experience leading teams and managing complex initiatives within a mission-driven organization.

Leadership and Personal Qualities

- A strategic and visionary leader who can translate institutional priorities into compelling philanthropic opportunities.
- Exceptional interpersonal and communication skills with the ability to engage diverse constituencies.
- A collaborative leader who works effectively with senior leadership, trustees, faculty, and volunteers.
- A demonstrated commitment to Lipscomb University's Christian mission, including an active and growing Christian faith, and alignment with the university's Centering Core.
- A person of integrity, humility, and relational warmth who supports and affirms Lipscomb's Statement of Faith.

Education

- Bachelor's degree required; advanced degree preferred.



Contact

Nominations, expressions of interest, and applications will be treated with complete confidentiality. To apply, candidates should submit a resume and letter of interest to LipscombSVP@carterbaldwin.com. Confidential inquiries and questions concerning this search may be directed to:

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