



PRINCIPIA INSTITUTIONAL PROFILE

CHIEF EXECUTIVE SEARCH

2022



The PRINCIPIA



The Board of Trustees of Principia has launched a search for the position of Chief Executive. The search committee invites applications and nominations for the next leader to advance the mission of Principia.

THE OPPORTUNITY

Principia seeks an executive to strategically lead and manage the institution, consistent with its mission “to serve the Cause of Christian Science through appropriate channels open to it as an educational institution.” The Chief Executive ensures effective operation of both campus units—the School in St. Louis, Missouri, and the College in Elsah, Illinois.

As a dedicated Christian Scientist, the Chief Executive prayerfully supports the mission of Principia. The successful candidate will lead and inspire the institution as it continues to fulfill its mission, developing and strengthening its leadership role in the world of education.

Principia’s educational programs span from Acorn (for parents and infants) through Principia Lifelong Learning (adult education at Summer Session on the College campus and global educational trips for alumni and friends).

This opportunity requires experience leading change with creativity, persistence, vision, and good results at a medium or large,



multifaceted organization (in any field), while maintaining internal enthusiasm and external support.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS

- Committed to the Cause of Christian Science in thought and deed
- Love for Principia and its Purpose and Mission
- Membership in The Mother Church and active in a branch church
- Christian Science Primary class instruction and active participation in a Christian Science Association
- Master’s or terminal degree preferred; Bachelor’s degree with notable professional accomplishments considered
- Proven leadership and management skills in sizeable, complex, and multifaceted organizations
- Well-developed outreach, communication, and interpersonal skills with a variety of stakeholders
- Skills in leading and building consensus with multiple constituencies
- Experience building a budget and executing financial plans within budget
- Forward thinking, action oriented
- Humility, empathy, compassion, inclusiveness
- Experience working in an educational culture
- Experience working with a board of trustees



CHRISTIAN SCIENCE REQUIREMENTS

- Committed Christian Scientist
- Membership in The Mother Church and active branch church membership
- Christian Science Primary class instruction and active participation in Christian Science Association

HISTORY

In 1897, when Christian Science practitioner Mary Kimball Morgan began educating her two young sons at home, she wasn't setting out to establish a school. Word spread quickly among the thriving community of Christian Scientists in St. Louis—and with a firm foundation in the teachings of Christian Science, Principia officially began in 1898.

The first high school class graduated in 1906. Four years later, the four-year program expanded to six years, resulting in one of the first two-year junior colleges in the nation. In 1934, Principia's new four-year liberal arts college, established in Elmhurst, Illinois, graduated its first class. By 1960, all levels of the School had moved to the current campus in St. Louis. Today, across both campuses, Principia enrolls students from across the United States and from approximately 30 countries around the world.



The School offers a boarding program for students in grades 7–12; the College is nearly 100 percent residential.

MISSION

The Principia shall seek to serve the Cause of Christian Science through appropriate channels open to it as an educational institution.

VISION

Principia is a Christian Science community of practice where all members are students, teachers, and healers. Through transformative opportunities, a challenging curriculum, and character education based on the teachings of Christian Science, we examine, test, and strengthen our faith while developing the skills and understanding requisite for excellence. As global, outward-looking, inspired learners, we serve and better the world.

VALUES

Principia's values, listed below, are grounded in the teachings of Christian Science:

- Teaching and learning
- Thinking and acting from the basis of Principle, Love
- Unfoldment of character
- Individual and collective excellence
- Citizenship and service
- Innovation and continuous improvement



PRINCIPIA OVERVIEW

Number of Students

School: 401

College: 340

Student Gender Ratios

School: 48% Male, 52% Female

Upper School: 52% Male, 48% Female

College: 56% Male, 44% Female

Student-to-Faculty Ratios

School: 8:1 (Upper School 6:1)

College: 5:1

Average Class Size

School: 12–18

College: 8

Number of Full-Time Faculty and Degrees

School: 50

College: 65

- 85% (23) of Upper School faculty hold advanced degrees. 64% (32) of total School faculty hold advanced degrees.
- 69% (45) of College faculty hold terminal degrees.

Upper School Boarders and Day Students

76% Day Students

24% Boarders

Alumni

More than 14,000 Principia alumni live in 63 countries around the world.

Financial Aid

- 53% of families with a student enrolled at the School receive financial aid (not including faculty/staff tuition discounts).
- 95% of students enrolled at the College receive some form of aid (scholarships, grants, and/or loans).
- The average financial aid package for new College students is \$31,150.
- 40% of students graduate from the College with zero debt.

Campus Acreage

School campus = 360 acres

College campus = 2,600 acres

More information about Principia School and Principia College can be found on our website: **principia.edu**.



SCHOOL FACTS

- Early Childhood through grade 12
- AP and college-credit classes offered
- 16 interscholastic Upper School sports
- Boarding program for grades 7–12
- Updated facilities

COLLEGE FACTS

- More than 50% of students study abroad
- Campus designated a National Historic Landmark in 1993
- 11 historic buildings designed by architect Bernard Maybeck
- 27 majors
- 18 varsity athletic teams

GROWTH, NEEDS, AND OPPORTUNITIES

During the past decade, Principia has experienced substantial improvements on both campuses, reflecting higher academic standards, more enriching experiences for students, renovated and new facilities, extensive deployment of technology, substantial professional development programs, and stronger, more coordinated leadership teams. Throughout this period of significant change, the Chief Executive has been responsible for facilitating the evolution of the vision for the institution in partnership with the governing board, the heads of both campuses, and the senior leaders in shared services. The Chief Executive has also been the outward voice and face of Principia with alumni, donors, and the community.

Concurrently, the educational environment has experienced extraordinary changes:

- Technology has extensively revamped education and personal relations inside and outside of classrooms.
- Accrediting agencies have demanded a continuous improvement cycle for learning objectives and assessment of learning.
- Falling student demographics have required extraordinary enrollment efforts.

In the midst of these changes, there are ample opportunities for the Chief Executive to:

- Communicate a bright, forward-looking, and inspiring message about Principia to internal and external communities
- Leverage a substantial endowment and infrastructure in a sustainable, efficient, and effective manner
- Strengthen collaboration and synergy among the three administrative parts of Principia
- Further the benefits of technology in overcoming space and time limitations



APPLICATION AND NOMINATION PROCESS

Interested candidates are invited to contact M. Scott Mietchen of Fund Raising Counsel, Inc., for further information.

To submit an application, please email the following documents to Scott Mietchen at scott.mietchen@frcigroup.com.

- Cover letter of application
- Resume
- List of five professional references with contact information
- One-page summary of Christian Science activity, including:
 - Membership status and involvement in The Mother Church and local branch church
 - Christian Science Primary class instruction, level of participation in Christian Science Association



To nominate a qualified candidate, please send relevant information via email to: scott.mietchen@frcigroup.com.

Review of applications will begin March 1, 2022, and the position will remain open until filled.

For more information about the position and application process, contact:

M. Scott Mietchen, President
and Managing Partner
Fund Raising Counsel, Inc. (FRCI)
scott.mietchen@frcigroup.com



THRIVE! 2025 STRATEGIC PLAN FOR PRINCIPIA

Strategic Goals

Four Shared Goals

- **Live the Mission:** Nurture the spirit of the Principia community rooted in faith, hope, and love.
- **Grow Enrollment:** Ensure a thriving, richly diverse, and enduring community through strategic enrollment growth.
- **Boost Engagement:** Enhance student engagement to better prepare students for the future.
- **Practice Sustainability:** Strengthen and continually improve Principia's organizational sustainability through innovative and active stewardship of its human, ecological, and financial resources.



PRINCIPIA SCHOOL



PRINCIPIA COLLEGE

Two School-Specific Goals

- **Increase Partnerships:** Expand partnerships with other schools and organizations to provide Principia School students with broader and more diverse learning environments.
- **Illuminate Pathways:** Advance academic excellence through continual curriculum improvements to increase students' achievement levels in the core academic skills and college-readiness pathways.

One College-Specific Goal

- **Advance and Improve the Academic Experience:** Advance academic excellence by enhancing opportunities for Principia College to be a dynamic community of thought leaders, independent thinkers, and lifelong learners.