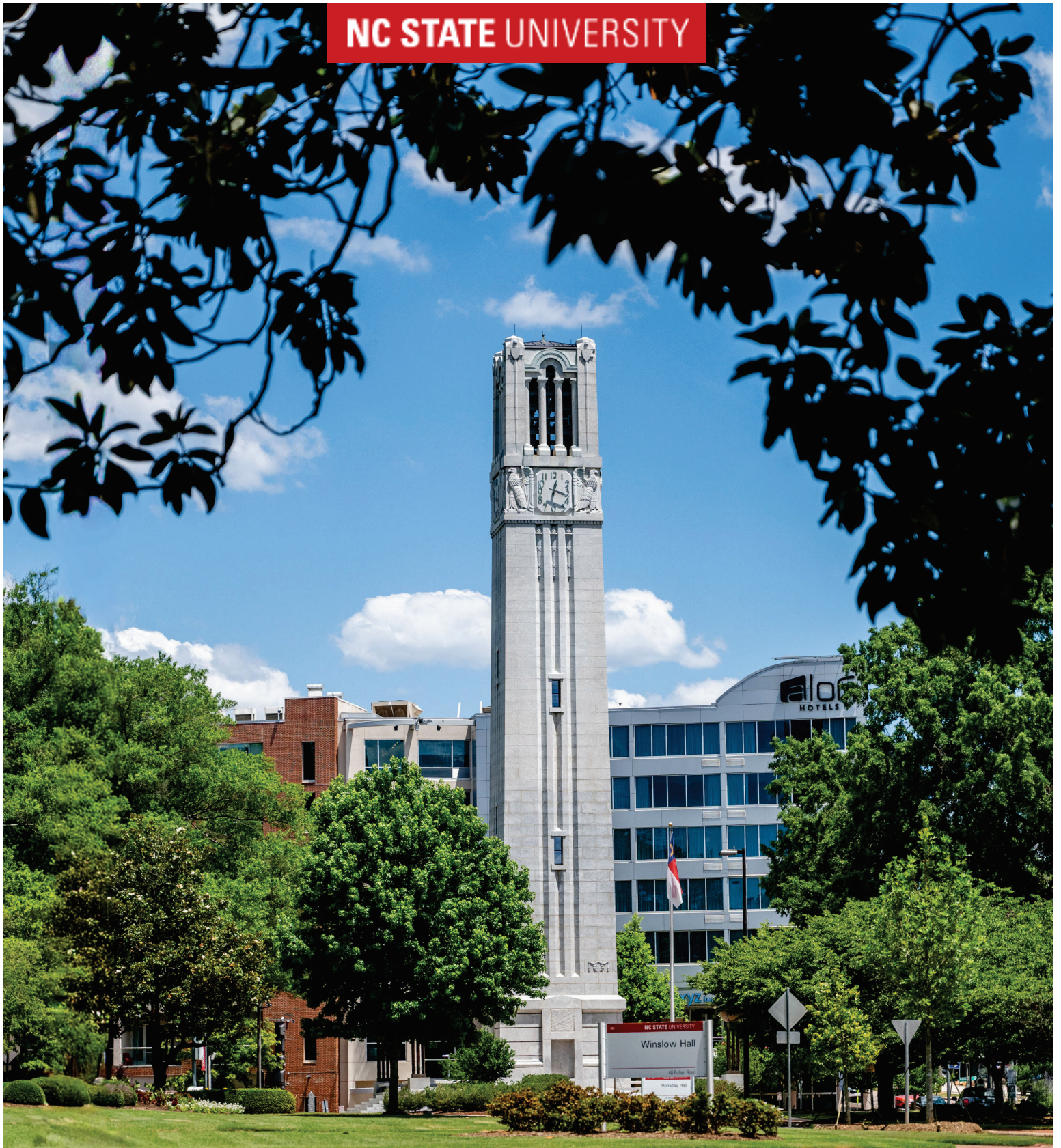


NC STATE UNIVERSITY



Job Prospectus for Associate Vice Chancellor, Research Administration

Raleigh, NC | Fall 2026

NC State University

NC State University, a leading public research (R1) land-grant university, is the largest university in the state of North Carolina and home to nearly 40,000 undergraduate and graduate students. NC State has 10 colleges and a Graduate School, with academics and research spanning a variety of disciplines, including engineering, agriculture, sciences, business, textiles, humanities and veterinary medicine. In Raleigh, NC State operates a 2,200-acre, 450 building Main Campus and also operates Centennial Campus and Centennial Biomedical Campus, providing state-of-the-art facilities for corporate, industrial and government partners working alongside university research and academic units – and a veterinary hospital with 24/7 emergency care. Additionally, NC State operates agricultural farms, research stations, nurseries and greenhouses, a research forest, a PULSTAR nuclear reactor, and research and extension facilities throughout the state of North Carolina, with a presence in all 100 counties. In total, NC State operates and maintains nearly 1,200 buildings and structures on more than 100,000 acres across the state.

NC State employs more than 9,000 faculty and staff in service to its mission of advancing education, research, and public engagement across North Carolina and beyond. As a preeminent public research university, NC State is recognized nationally and internationally for innovation in education, research, scholarship and engagement that solves the world's most critical challenges. NC State's research enterprise leads in big data, biomedical engineering, materials science, food safety, translational medicine and more, ranking 6th in research expenditures among public institutions without a medical school. NC State strives to be an "Employer of Choice" within a competitive region and was recognized by Forbes as a top large employer in North Carolina. The university's dynamic workplace culture depends on engaged, service-oriented employees and a vibrant, collaborative workplace experience.

The Office of Sponsored Programs

The Office of Sponsored Programs (OSP) is NC State's central administrative hub for institutional research administration. OSP provides enterprise-level leadership and operational support across three core institutional areas:

- Institutional Pre-Award Services
- Institutional Contract Negotiations
- Institutional Research Systems & Reporting

OSP oversees all institutional pre-award and non-financial post-award activities, including proposal review, submission, negotiation, acceptance, and award management for more than 3,700 annual actions and over \$500M in sponsored funding. The office leads the configuration, governance, and reporting infrastructure for the university's research administration systems and partners closely with OPAFS, the Office of Research Commercialization, the Office of Information Technology, General Counsel, and academic units to ensure that NC State's research enterprise operates with integrity, efficiency, and resilience.

The Opportunity

The Office of Sponsored Programs at NC State University invites applications for the position of The Associate Vice Chancellor, Research Administration (AVC-RA).

The Position

The AVC-RA serves as the university's senior executive leader for sponsored programs and institutional research administration, providing strategic oversight of enterprise-wide pre-award services, sponsored project administration, research contracts, research administration systems, and research administration data governance. Reporting directly to the Vice Chancellor for Research and Innovation, the AVC leads a high-performing leadership team that includes the Director of Institutional Research Systems & Reporting, the Director of Research Administration & Campus Liaison, and additional OSP directors. Working collaboratively with university leadership, colleges, research centers, faculty, federal sponsors, and administrative partners, the AVC ensures a coordinated, compliant, and service-oriented research administration enterprise that advances NC State's research mission while strengthening institutional stewardship and operational excellence.

As the AVC RA, you will shape the future of research administration at one of the nation's leading public research universities. Your leadership will influence how investigators secure external funding, how research operations evolve to meet an increasingly complex regulatory environment, and how institutional systems, data, and policies support innovation at scale. Success in this position comes from balancing strategic vision with collaborative leadership—building trusted partnerships across the university, championing continuous improvement, and fostering an environment where faculty and research administrators have the resources, guidance, and infrastructure needed to expand NC State's research impact.



Key responsibilities fall within the following functional areas:

Strategy Leadership for Research Administration:

- Provide strategic leadership for the university's sponsored programs enterprise, aligning research administration priorities with institutional goals and the evolving external funding landscape.
- Advise the Vice Chancellor for Research and Innovation and university leadership on research administration strategy, sponsored programs, regulatory compliance, institutional risk, and operational effectiveness.
- Lead the development and implementation of university-wide policies, governance, and business practices that strengthen research administration and support faculty success.
- Foster a culture of collaboration, service excellence, continuous improvement, and accountability across the Office of Sponsored Programs and the broader research community.

Enterprise Oversight & Risk Management:

- Provide executive oversight of institutional pre-award operations, research agreements, and sponsored programs administration to ensure consistent, compliant, and customer-focused service delivery.
- Safeguard the university's legal, financial, and operational interests through effective risk management, contract oversight, and compliance with federal, state, and sponsor requirements.
- Lead the university's response to significant regulatory changes, audits, investigations, and other matters impacting the research enterprise.

Research Systems, Data & Operational Excellence:

- Provide executive sponsorship for research administration systems, institutional data governance, and modernization initiatives that enhance operational effectiveness and decision-making.
- Champion technology, process improvement, and analytics strategies that strengthen research administration services and support institutional growth.
- Ensure research administration infrastructure evolves to meet the changing needs of faculty, sponsors, and the university.

University & External Engagement:

- Build trusted partnerships with university leadership, faculty, colleges, and research administrators to advance the institution's research mission.
- Represent NC State in relationships with federal agencies, industry, nonprofit organizations, and national research administration associations.
- Serve as the university's senior institutional representative for complex sponsor negotiations, strategic collaborations, and matters requiring executive-level consultation.

If you are a collaborative and strategic leader who is passionate about advancing research, building strong institutional partnerships, and shaping the future of research administration, we encourage you to apply.

Other Responsibilities

In addition to the core responsibilities of this role, there will be occasional opportunities to take on additional duties. This offers an opportunity to build on your skills, explore new areas, and gain a deeper understanding of the department's operations.

Minimum Qualifications

The ideal candidate must possess the following:

- A relevant post-baccalaureate degree with a minimum of three (3) years or greater of related professional experience, or a relevant undergraduate degree and a minimum of five (5) years or greater of relevant experience may be substituted for the advanced degree.

Other Required Qualifications

- Extensive progressively responsible leadership experience in sponsored programs, research administration, or a closely related function within a large, complex research institution.
- Demonstrated success leading enterprise-wide research administration operations, including developing strategy, guiding organizational change, and advancing operational excellence.
- Experience negotiating complex research agreements and managing institutional risk while ensuring compliance with federal regulations, sponsor requirements, and university policies.
- Proven ability to lead organizational transformation through process improvement, technology modernization, or implementation of enterprise research administration systems.
- Demonstrated success building collaborative partnerships, influencing executive and academic leaders, and leading high-performing teams within a decentralized organization.
- Exceptional communication, strategic decision-making, and relationship management skills with the ability to represent the institution in complex, high-impact matters.

Preferred Qualifications

- Terminal degree (e.g., PhD, JD, or equivalent) in a relevant discipline.
- Executive leadership experience within an R1 university or similarly complex research-intensive organization.
- Experience leading enterprise-wide research administration technology, data governance, or institutional modernization initiatives.
- Demonstrated success leading and developing senior leaders within a large, decentralized organizational environment.

How to Apply

Inquiries and nominations are invited and may be directed to: NC State Executive Search Services: Justin Lang, at (919) 513-1963 or jdlang2@ncsu.edu. Confidential review of applications will begin in September 2026 and will continue until the position is filled. Candidates should provide a resume/CV, cover letter, and the names and contact information of three (3) professional references. References will not be contacted without prior knowledge and approval from candidates. These materials must be submitted online at <https://jobs.ncsu.edu/> (position #00001681)

About NC State

At [NC State](https://www.ncsu.edu), we create prosperity for North Carolina and the nation. We began as a land-grant institution grounded in agriculture and engineering. Today, we are a pre-eminent research enterprise that excels across disciplines.

NC State is a powerhouse in science, technology, engineering and mathematics. We lead in agriculture, education, textiles, business and natural resources management. We are at the forefront of teaching and research in design, the humanities and the social sciences. And we are home to one of the world's best colleges of veterinary medicine.

Our more than 40,000 undergraduate and graduate students learn by doing. They pursue original research and start new companies. They forge connections with top employers and serve communities local and global. Through it all, they enjoy an outstanding return on investment. Whether it is [Princeton Review](#) ranking NC State among the nation's best values for universities, Money magazine naming it the No. 1 best college for your money in North Carolina, or [U.S. News & World Report](#) ranking NC State among the top 10 best values in public higher education, the university has many reasons to be proud. Each year, NC State adds [\\$6.5 billion to the statewide economy](#), equivalent to creating more than 90,000 new jobs. That represents a significant return on investment for the residents of North Carolina in the form of research advances, innovative technologies, successful companies, skilled graduates, and new jobs waiting for them.

Our more than 10,000 faculty and staff are world leaders in their fields, bridging the divides between academic disciplines and training high-caliber students to meet tomorrow's challenges. Together, they forge powerful partnerships with government, industry, nonprofits and academia to remake our world for the better. We expect everyone to give of their talents, skills, time and effort to make NC State an environment of inclusive excellence for all.



About Raleigh and North Carolina

North Carolina's rapid growth makes the state a leader and top spot for young professionals and families. Raleigh reflects statewide growth as a city on the rise:

- No. 5 (Cary, NC) among the best places to live in the U.S. ([U.S. News & World Report, 2026](#))
- No. 5 among the best-performing cities in the U.S. ([Milken Institute, 2026](#))

With Durham and Chapel Hill, the capital city anchors the Research Triangle, a national hotspot for high-tech enterprise. The region's top companies — including IBM, Cisco Systems, SAS Institute, Biogen Idec, and GlaxoSmithKline — rank among the country's best employers. NC State also maintains strong agricultural partnerships with Bayer, BASF, Novozymes and Syngenta, companies that lead the way in hiring new NC State graduates. The region maintains a robust startup ecosystem with numerous engineering and sciences startups – many from NC State – along with abundant venture capital.

Celebrating its 139th year in 2026, NC State continues to make its founding purpose a reality. Every day our career-ready graduates and world-leading faculty make the fruits of learning, discovery, and engagement available to people across the state, throughout the nation and around the world.





“NC State University is an equal opportunity employer. All qualified applicants will receive equal opportunities for employment without regard to age, color, disability, gender identity, genetic information, national origin, race, religion, sex (including pregnancy), sexual orientation, and veteran status. The University encourages all qualified applicants, including protected veterans and individuals with disabilities, to apply. Individuals with disabilities requiring disability-related accommodations in the application and interview process are welcome to contact 919-515-3148 to speak with a representative of the Office of Equal Opportunity.”