Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey seeks an experienced and visionary leader to serve as dean of its highly regarded School of Social Work.

One of the nation's oldest and largest institutions of higher education, Rutgers is among America's highest-ranked, most diverse public research and land grant universities. The university serves more than 69,000 students from all 50 states and 130 countries and is located on three campuses—New Brunswick, Camden, and Newark—and consists of 29 schools and colleges. Several schools, including the School of Social Work, offer degree programs at multiple Rutgers locations.

The eighth-oldest college in the nation and a land-grant institution as well as a leading national public research university, Rutgers has a 250-plus-year history of tackling new challenges and meeting the needs of each rising generation. Rutgers University–New Brunswick, with its more than 50,000 students, is the university's largest campus location, a member of the Association of American Universities (AAU) and the Big Ten Academic Alliance, and home base to Rutgers School of Social Work. Rutgers–New Brunswick conducts life-changing research and offers a premier education in a diverse community. Students choose Rutgers–New Brunswick for its educational excellence and vast opportunities to learn how to lead a life and prepare for a career of meaning and consequence.

The Rutgers School of Social Work is nationally ranked 16th among more than 250 schools of social work by U.S. News and World Report 2022-2023, and for nearly 70 years, the school has been known for developing and disseminating knowledge that contributes to effective social welfare policies, programs, and practices. The school emphasizes theoretical and empirical analysis and research-based practice addressing groups experiencing disproportionate impact. Home to a highly diverse student body, faculty, and staff, the school houses approximately 300 undergraduate students, 1,700 graduate students, 75 full-time faculty members, a number of other academic professionals, and more than 130 full-time administrative, research, and professional staff.

The school offers a Bachelor of Arts in Social Work (BASW), Master of Social Work (MSW), Doctor of Social Work (DSW), and Ph.D. program options; five highly specialized social work certificate programs; as well as vibrant and rapidly growing opportunities for continuing education, global social work programs, and professional credit courses. The school is home to six research centers—Institute for Families, Center for Gambling Studies, Center for Leadership and Management, Center for Prevention Science, Center for Research on Ending Violence, and Huamin Research Center—and supports a variety of research and service initiatives including the Hub for Aging Collaboration.

The School of Social Work has a proud alumni community of more than 19,000 living members who are engaged as volunteers, ambassadors, and financial supporters. The school is fiscally healthy with an overall budget of more than $640 million and an endowment of over $40 million that supports curriculum development, faculty research, student scholarships/fellowships, internship opportunities, community engagement initiatives, facility management, and infrastructure.
The new dean will succeed Dr. Cathryn Potter, who has served as dean since 2013 and will return to the faculty at the end of the 2022-23 academic year after 10 years of service and invaluable contributions to the school and university. As chief academic and executive officer of the school, the dean is responsible for ensuring the highest levels of academic excellence. Additionally, the dean provides leadership for promoting diversity, equity, and inclusion; effective communication; recruiting and retaining excellent students, faculty, and staff; nurturing student success; maintaining a strong national and global reputation; ensuring transparency, fiscal management, and planning; and overall effectiveness of the school, its programs, institutes/centers, and services. The dean enhances the strength and impact of the school's faculty, staff, and students; provides leadership in forging key partnerships and collaborations with internal and external constituencies; and oversees strategic planning, faculty and staff development, academic and curricular programming, fundraising, and facilities.

The ideal candidate will be dedicated to building upon the excellence of the school and to furthering the values of the social work profession. The new dean will possess a record of outstanding leadership including a commitment to both undergraduate and graduate education; the ability to attract, retain, and develop a diverse faculty, student body, and staff; support for research, teaching, outreach, and access and opportunity; and the capacity to generate public and private resources for the school. Successful candidates will demonstrate distinguished scholarly qualifications and accomplishments that warrant a tenured faculty appointment in the Rutgers School of Social Work.

All applications, nominations, and inquiries are invited. Applications should include, as separate documents, a letter of interest addressing the themes in the profile at WittKieffer.com and a CV or resume.

WittKieffer is assisting Rutgers University in this search. For fullest consideration, candidates are encouraged to apply by no later than November 1, 2023.

Application materials should be submitted to WittKieffer’s candidate portal.

Nominations and inquiries can be directed to:

Robin Mamlet, Bree Liddell, and Jenna Brumleve
Rutgers-SSWDean@wittkieffer.com

It is university policy to provide equal employment opportunity to all its employees and applicants for employment regardless of their race, creed, color, national origin, age, ancestry, nationality, marital or domestic partnership or civil union status, sex, pregnancy, gender identity or expression, disability status, liability for military service, protected veteran status, affectional or sexual orientation, atypical cellular or blood trait, genetic information (including the refusal to submit to genetic testing), or any other category protected by law. As an institution, we value diversity of background and opinion, and prohibit discrimination or harassment on the basis of any legally protected class in the areas of hiring, recruitment, promotion, transfer, demotion, training, compensation, pay, fringe benefits, layoff, termination or any other terms and conditions of employment. For additional information please see the Non-Discrimination Statement.