



Dean, School of Health and Medical Sciences
Position Description – December 2025

POSITION SPECIFICATION

Position	Dean, School of Health and Medical Sciences
Organization	Seton Hall University
Location	South Orange, New Jersey
Reporting Relationship	Provost and Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs
Website	<u>School of Health and Medical Sciences</u>

THE OPPORTUNITY

Seton Hall University invites nominations and applications for the position of Dean of the School of Health and Medical Sciences. Reporting to the Provost and Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs and serving as the chief academic officer of the School, the Dean will build upon an established and very successful health sciences and medical professions portfolio, leading its next exciting phase of growth and development.

The Dean will provide strategic vision and operational leadership to each of the School's multiple academic and scholarly programs, setting priorities for the School and guiding it toward strategic goals of enhancing and promoting research, community engaged scholarship, and excellence in undergraduate, graduate, and professional education with a diverse population of students, faculty, staff, and stakeholders. The Dean is the School's chief advocate and steward, promoting its goals and achievements, leading its development and fundraising activities, and speaking for its mission of excellence in scholarship, teaching, and service.

Supporting Seton Hall University's research mission, the Dean will advance the scholarly activities of the faculty, including interdisciplinary opportunities and external collaborations. The Dean will also inspire students and promote an ethos of professionalism and care. Further, the Dean will be the School's public voice, promoting innovative ideas and solidifying partnerships within Seton Hall University, regionally, nationally, and internationally as a recognized leader in the field.

The Dean will have a tremendous opportunity to capitalize on a robust culture of interprofessional education and the creation of new partnerships. The successful candidate will be a collegial, nationally recognized, and entrepreneurial leader prepared to advance the mission of the School and to support and sustain a large number of existing areas of innovation and development.

SETON HALL UNIVERSITY

Seton Hall University is located in South Orange, New Jersey, 14 miles from New York City. It is the oldest Catholic diocesan institution of higher education in the United States and is home to about 6,300 undergraduate and 3,700 graduate students. A vibrant and culturally inclusive community, Seton Hall pursues academic excellence and ethical development in a collaborative environment and prepares its students to be servant leaders in their professional and community lives. Seton Hall University is an equal opportunity employer. It honors diverse perspectives and welcomes employees from all faith traditions. In turn, its faculty and employees respect Catholic beliefs and values, engage in the Catholic Intellectual Tradition and in servant leadership, and they support the University's mission as a Catholic institution of higher education.



Seton Hall University has been developing students in mind, heart, and spirit since 1856. When Bishop James Roosevelt Bayley founded Seton Hall, he envisioned a home where leaders learn. Today, Seton Hall celebrates a diverse tapestry of ideas and perspectives that enrich the dialogue and academic discussion in the classroom. Students come from all around the United States and from more than 70 countries around the world. The institution is proud that its diversity stimulates innovative teaching and learning and prepares students to live and work in a global society. Seton Hall students are prepared to be leaders in their professional and community lives in a global society and are challenged by outstanding faculty, an evolving technologically advanced setting, and values-centered curricula.

Seton Hall's 58-acre main campus is located in the town of South Orange. The School of Health and Medical Sciences, along with the College of Nursing, as well as the Hackensack Meridian School of Medicine, is situated in the towns of Clifton and Nutley, while the School of Law is located in nearby Newark. There are eight colleges and schools at Seton Hall in addition to the School of Health and Medical Sciences, including the College of Arts and Sciences, College of Nursing, School of Law, Stillman School of Business, College of Human Development, Culture, and Media, Division of Continuing Education and Professional Studies, School of Diplomacy and International Relations, and the School of Theology.

Seton Hall is an academically distinguished university with a national reputation for educating a diverse student body through the liberal arts and sciences and select professional programs that are infused with the Catholic intellectual tradition. Inspired by Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton's work educating people of all backgrounds, encompassing the full range of human experience, Seton Hall integrates liberal arts and sciences with professional programs at the undergraduate and graduate levels. Seton Hall is committed to supporting and strengthening quality scholarship, as well as learning and academic advancement. A number of unique pathways exist for students to advance from the undergraduate level to the University's rigorous, nationally ranked graduate and professional programs, which strengthen Seton Hall's academic reputation.

Seton Hall recognizes that its teacher-scholars form the heart of the institution. Seton Hall prides itself on being a university with outstanding student-faculty engagement that affords all students the academic opportunities, challenges, and intellectual freedom that characterize exceptional programs. Seton Hall offers cross-disciplinary learning to foster adaptable, capable, skilled, and compassionate graduates; graduate programs continue to develop students' professional skills through research, advanced studies and clinical training. By both practicing and promoting a Catholic understanding of social and economic justice, Seton Hall develops students into citizens who are committed to serving communities and who are equipped with the skills and knowledge needed to meet the challenges and opportunities the 21st century offers. More information about Seton Hall University's mission and values, as well as its new strategic plan "Inspiring Great Minds to Greater Purpose" can be found online [here](#).

Offering more than 90 rigorous majors, leading publications such as *The Princeton Review*, *U.S. News & World Report*, and *Bloomberg Businessweek*, among others, have singled out Seton Hall for its academic excellence. Seton Hall is home to numerous winners of prestigious academic awards and prizes, including dozens of Fulbright Scholars, as well as Rhodes, Udall, Pickering, and Truman scholars. Seton Hall faculty members get to know their students as individuals. A 14:1 student-faculty ratio ensures that professors can teach, mentor, and conduct academic research with undergraduates.

At Seton Hall, students are educated to think and act at the intersection of theory and practice. Faithful to the tenets of Catholic social teaching and home to more than 40 members of the priest



community, Seton Hall welcomes students of all faiths. More than 150 clubs and organizations make it easy for students to find their place. The legacy of Seton Hall is helping students achieve their collegiate dreams regardless of financial background. That's why the University recently provided \$158 million in financial aid and scholarships. Seton Hall also fields 14 varsity teams that compete in the NCAA Division I BIG EAST Conference and offers a variety of intramural and club sports on campus for non-varsity students. Additional information about Seton Hall's rankings, recognition, and recent successes can be found online [here](#).

THE SCHOOL OF HEALTH AND MEDICAL SCIENCES

The School of Health and Medical Sciences is a professional and preprofessional school within the University. Founded in 1987, the School was the first in New Jersey to offer many graduate-level healthcare programs. More recently, SHMS has launched an innovative undergraduate BS In Interprofessional Sciences, which has immediately attracted strong enrollments, and which provides students a flexible preprofessional education with a substantial foundation in the sciences and significant applied learning opportunities. All the School's graduate programs are located on the University's Interprofessional Health Sciences (IHS) Campus in Nutley, New Jersey. IHS creates a forward-thinking approach to healthcare education, bringing together future doctors, nurses, and health professionals in the fields of medicine, nursing, physical therapy, physician assistant, occupational therapy, athletic training and speech language pathology. This innovative team-based training reflects the future of healthcare delivery; Seton Hall is one of only a few universities using this model. This new approach will vastly improve cooperation and communication among health professionals and greatly strengthen both patient care and the wellbeing and resilience of students, our future healthcare providers. The School's mission is to prepare healthcare professionals to assume leadership roles in health care. To achieve this goal, a variety of unique and innovative educational programs are offered utilizing a multi-institutional and integrated approach to graduate education. The School of Health and Medical Sciences has 59 full-time faculty. Profiles of the School's faculty can be found online [here](#).

School of Health and Medical Sciences programs consistently earn high national rankings from *U.S. News & World Report*, almost all of them in the top 25%: in April 2025, the Physician Assistant (PA) program was ranked 14, Healthcare Management (MHA) 33, Occupational Therapy (MSOT) at 61, Physical Therapy (DPT) at 65, and Speech-Language Pathology (SLP) at 92. These rankings place all but the last of these programs among the top 25% of nationally, and among the very top programs among Catholic institutions. The graduate programs in Speech-Language Pathology and Occupational Therapy are ranked first in New Jersey. The healthcare sector in New Jersey employs about 500,000 people and presents SHMS with a wealth of opportunities for programmatic growth, placements, grantsmanship, funding, and collaboration.

The School of Health and Medical Sciences's presence on the Interprofessional Health Sciences (IHS) campus creates opportunity for a forward-thinking approach to healthcare education, bringing together future health professionals in the fields of physical therapy, physician assistant, occupational therapy, athletic training, speech language pathology, healthcare administration, nursing, and medicine. This innovative team-based education reflects the future of healthcare delivery and Seton Hall University is one of only a few universities using this model. This approach vastly improves cooperation and communication among health professionals and strengthens patient care. The IHS campus is also home to the Hackensack Meridian School of Medicine. Seton Hall's partnership with Hackensack Meridian Health's extensive hospital network offers premiere access to clinical teaching sites for students in all its healthcare programs, and Seton Hall offers exceptionally innovative, rigorous, and well-equipped simulation labs and experiential learning with live actors as well as simulated patients and virtual reality.



The Center for Interprofessional Education in the Health Sciences (CIEHS), based in the School of Health and Medical Sciences, engages in and creates opportunities for meaningful and cross-disciplinary educational, research, and clinical experiences to further develop the School's team-based, patient-centered approach to healthcare. CIEHS supports a critically reflective and engaging environment for our community members to acquire and develop knowledge and familiarity with cross-disciplinary skills, behaviors, and perspectives. More information about CIEHS can be found online [here](#).

For the latest School news and events, please visit the website [here](#).

Academic Programs

The School offers several innovative graduate programs in health sciences and health administration. These programs are designed to provide individuals with an enhanced knowledge base through flexible and diverse curricula. The School offers professional programs at the master's and doctoral levels, preparing students to become skilled healthcare practitioners with a solid appreciation for interprofessional practice:

- **Master of Science in Athletic Training (M.S.A.T.)**
This is a two-year, 64-credit, six-semester professional level Master of Science degree program. Students develop the knowledge and skills needed to perform as athletic trainers and to adapt to the rapid changes in the profession and healthcare. In addition to preparing students for the BOC, the curriculum also equips them to take the Strength and Conditioning Specialist (CSCS) examination. More information about the program can be found online [here](#).
- **Master of Science in Occupational Therapy (M.S.O.T.)**
Seton Hall's Master of Science in Occupational Therapy (M.S.O.T.) is the highest-ranking program of its kind in New Jersey, according to *U.S. News & World Report*. This two-year, 64 credit M.S.O.T. degree provides a direct path to a rewarding career in the thriving field of occupational therapy. Students benefit from state-of-the-art facilities, expert faculty and an extensive clinical network in the New York Metro region. More information about the program can be found online [here](#).
- **Doctor of Physical Therapy (D.P.T.)**
The three-year, 111-credit D.P.T. program blends rigorous in-person academics with extensive clinical experiences. The curriculum integrates foundational sciences, hands-on practice and professional development, preparing graduates to thrive in diverse physical therapy settings. The program is ranked in the top 25% nationally by *U.S. News & World Report*. More information about the program can be found online [here](#).
- **Master of Science in Physician Assistant (M.S.)**
Since 2001, Seton Hall's P.A. program has trained students for clinical excellence and long-term success in a high-demand healthcare career. The three-year, full-time program offers broad patient exposure, builds essential clinical skills and equips graduates to deliver compassionate, high-quality care to diverse populations. The M.S. in Physician Assistant program is ranked No. 14 by *U.S. News and World Report*. More information about the program can be found online [here](#).



- **Master of Science in Speech-Language Pathology (M.S. in S.L.P.)**
The five-semester M.S. in Speech-Language Pathology program blends clinical, research, classroom, and service experience to prepare graduates for success as a speech-language pathologist. The program is tied for the highest-ranking program in New Jersey and is ranked in the top one-third nationally by *U.S. News & World Report*. More information about the program can be found online [here](#).
- **Doctor of Philosophy in Health Sciences (Ph.D.)**
The School also offers a post-professional program leading to the degree of Doctor of Philosophy in Health Sciences, with specializations in movement science, speech-language pathology, or health professions leadership. This 100% online, interdisciplinary program helps healthcare professionals become advanced practitioners, researchers, managers and educators. Seton Hall is one of only two schools in New Jersey to offer the health sciences doctorate. More information about the program can be found online [here](#).
- **Master of Healthcare Administration (MHA)**
For individuals wishing to advance or begin their careers in healthcare management, the School offers the Master of Healthcare Administration degree, available in both on-campus and online formats. The 42-credit program delivers a rigorous, industry-relevant curriculum, revised annually based on student feedback and emerging healthcare trends. More information about the program can be found online [here](#).

KEY RESPONSIBILITIES

Reporting to the Provost and Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs, the Dean is the chief administrative and academic officer of the School. The Dean must be an outstanding scholar and possess a detailed understanding of the current challenges within at least one of the relevant disciplines within the School, as well as national and global healthcare broadly, and be willing to work with state, regional, national, and international stakeholders, including professional practice and industry leaders, to address these challenges for each and every program within the School's academic portfolio.

The Dean must also forge relationships for future partnerships and innovation. The ideal candidate will be an experienced, inclusive, and collaborative leader who is committed to guiding the School to the next level of excellence. The Dean will be expected to work effectively with students, faculty, staff, educators, practice leaders, and industry representatives as partners to advance Seton Hall University's research, teaching, and service missions. The successful candidate will bring the experience necessary to represent the School clearly and compellingly to both internal and external constituencies, enhancing the visibility and impact of its work while increasing gifts, research funding, contracts, and other mission-aligned revenue. Key responsibilities of the Dean include:

- Provide leadership to the School in all academic matters, including research and curricular initiatives, as well as faculty recruitment, to strengthen the School's collective reputation in academic, clinical, and service excellence
- Ensure that the educational programs provide a positive learning experience and social accountability to the community, offering high-quality and innovative educational opportunities to facilitate the transition from student to skilled and compassionate



healthcare professional, with a particular emphasis on interprofessional education and servant leadership in alignment with the University's mission

- Lead the School's efforts to obtain federal, foundation, and other externally funded research awards
- Foster alumni recognition and participation in the growth of the School, as well as expand the School's philanthropic support
- Support the School's mandate to educate the highest caliber of health and medical sciences professionals, leaders, and researchers, equipping them to effectively promote wellness, impact policy, and improve health outcomes across multiple settings with diverse individuals, groups, and communities
- Oversee accreditation processes specific to the various academic programs, including preparation of self-studies, coordination of site visits, and implementation of accreditation standards
- Promote professionalism and high ethical standards with an understanding of cultural humility and responsiveness
- Work effectively with clinical partner leadership to promote success and to ensure support of the School's academic mission
- Form necessary external and internal collaborations to further develop robust clinical and translational research programs
- Provide the necessary stewardship of the School's fiscal and human resources to ensure successful execution of its primary missions, maintaining financial security for the School and additional funding for expanded high quality space and key strategic initiatives
- Promote collaborative relationships with other Seton Hall University colleges and schools to further the goal of interdisciplinary and interprofessional education, research, and patient care, with a particular emphasis within medical humanities
- Ensure that the School continues to be a leader working with the communities it collaborates with, addressing a broad co-developed list of needs that impact the community's health and social welfare to advance equity and eliminate health disparities
- Serve as principal advocate and spokesperson for the School within the Seton Hall University community and to local, national, and international constituencies in the public and private sectors

EXPERIENCE AND QUALIFICATIONS

Candidates must have professional leadership experience in academic instruction, scholarly attainment, and personnel and resources management. Competitive candidates will also demonstrate the skills necessary to lead students, faculty, and staff across the various programs within the School. Competitive candidates will have demonstrated the following traits:

- The ability to lead within a distributed organizational structure across multiple campuses
- A leadership style that invites collaboration, encourages teamwork, welcomes diverse perspectives, and values transparency
- The skills to navigate the organizational, political, and fiscal realities unique to a major university
- A deep understanding of the disciplines and the experience necessary to transform current practices through coalition building and effective use of resource advocacy to promote the success of the School as a whole



- The ability to work productively and cooperatively with students, faculty, staff, alumni, educators, and community leaders as partners to advance the School's and University's research, teaching, engagement, outreach, and service missions, and to increase philanthropic support for the School
- A track record of administrative achievement that gives strong evidence of capacity to manage a complex School, including its budget, workforce, and programs
- A demonstrated history of successful and timely large-scale project management
- The capacity to represent the School compellingly to external constituencies, enhancing the visibility and impact of its work
- Demonstrated commitment and understanding of supporting mutually beneficial community partnerships
- The ability to imagine and explore new possibilities, while also supporting existing and important initiatives that are currently in development within the School
- Demonstrated success as a funded researcher with the ability to support research at the faculty and student levels, including the ability to foster interdisciplinary and interprofessional collaboration
- Demonstrated success as an educator with the ability to inspire students
- Demonstrated capability to lead professional and support staff effectively, including hiring, motivating, training, and professional development
- The ability to recruit and retain highly desirable research and instructional faculty in a competitive environment
- Experience connecting across diverse professional groups leading to successful collaboration and conflict resolution
- Strong written, oral, and interpersonal skills with the ability to communicate the School's points of pride, needs, plans, and programs effectively

EDUCATION, RANK, AND TENURE

The Dean will ideally have a terminal degree in one of the disciplines of the School or a related field from an accredited institution. Candidates must also have a distinguished track record of teaching, research, service, and community engagement that is commensurate with appointment to the rank of full professor and eligibility for tenure at Seton Hall University.

NOMINATIONS AND APPLICATIONS

Seton Hall University has retained the services of Dr. Josh Ward at the executive search firm Korn Ferry. Applicants should submit the following two documents (as two separate PDFs):

1. An up-to-date and detailed curriculum vitae.
2. A brief (2-4 pages) letter of interest describing why you are interested in becoming the Dean of the School of Health and Medical Sciences at Seton Hall University, why you would be successful based on your professional and/or lived experience, and why now is a good time for you to consider this opportunity.

For priority consideration, please submit all application materials by **February 13, 2026**. The two documents (as separate PDFs) should be sent directly to:

Josh Ward, PhD
Senior Client Partner
Higher Education | Academic Medicine | Law



Korn Ferry
(405) 640-3994
Josh.Ward@KornFerry.com

EEO Statement: Seton Hall University is located in South Orange, New Jersey, 14 miles from New York City. It is the oldest Catholic diocesan institution of higher education in the United States and is home to about 6,300 undergraduate and 3,700 graduate students. A vibrant and culturally inclusive community, Seton Hall pursues academic excellence and ethical development in a collaborative environment and prepares its students to be servant leaders in their professional and community lives. Seton Hall University is an equal opportunity employer. It honors diverse perspectives and welcomes employees from all faith traditions. In turn, its faculty respects Catholic beliefs and values, engages the Catholic Intellectual Tradition, and supports the University's mission as a Catholic institution of higher education.

Required Compensation Notice: Seton Hall University offers an attractive compensation and benefits package, commensurate with the successful candidate's background and experience. Benefits include but are not limited to bundled medical, prescription, and vision insurance, dental insurance, and life insurance, and retirement plan. More information is available at <https://www.shu.edu/human-resources/benefits.html>. The estimated salary compensation range for the position is \$250,000 – \$290,000. Seton Hall University has provided this range which represents its good faith estimate of what the University reasonably expects to pay for the position. The final salary offered to the selected candidate will be determined based on factors including (but not limited to) the experience and qualifications of the selected candidate – including equivalent years in rank, training, and field or discipline; internal equity; and external market pay for comparable positions.