Director

School of Hospitality and Sport Management

Muma College of Business

University of South Florida

The University of South Florida's (USF) Muma College of Business invites applications for Director of the School of Hospitality and Sport Management (Job ID 44640). We seek an entrepreneurial academic leader to guide the School's growth, strengthen its research and teaching, and expand its industry partnerships. Reporting to the Dean, the Director will lead the School across USF's Tampa and St. Petersburg campuses and serve as a visible ambassador in Tampa Bay and beyond.

This is a full-time faculty appointment with a 12-month administrative assignment. The anticipated start date is August 2027 or earlier. Salary is commensurate with experience. Candidates from hospitality, tourism, sport, entertainment management, and related fields are encouraged to apply.

Responsibilities

The Director will lead strategic planning aligned with the College's ten-year plan and unite the School's programs around a shared academic identity. Responsibilities include recruiting, evaluating, and developing faculty and staff; managing budgets and course scheduling; supporting faculty research, teaching excellence, and student success; and sustaining accreditation standards, including AACSB.

Fundraising and external engagement are central to the role. The Director will work with the Dean and advancement team to cultivate major gifts, secure corporate investment, and build relationships across hospitality, tourism, sport, and entertainment. The Director will expand experiential learning and applied research, strengthen the School's role as an industry talent partner, and keep its curriculum responsive to artificial intelligence, data analytics, customer experience, sports technology, and entrepreneurship.

Qualifications

Minimum qualifications

A terminal degree (Ph.D. or equivalent) in hospitality management, sport management, or a related field, and outstanding accomplishments in teaching, research, and engagement that meet USF standards for appointment with tenure at the associate or full professor level.

Preferred qualifications

Preferred qualifications include entrepreneurial leadership and demonstrated ability to develop and execute strategic and tactical plans collaboratively; knowledge of and contacts within the hospitality, tourism, sport, and entertainment industries; demonstrated ability to cultivate major gifts and corporate investment, with a record of building external partnerships; strong faculty and staff leadership; sound financial and operational management; and inclusive, collaborative, and persuasive communication that can unite previously separate programs.

About the School

Launched in fall 2025, the School of Hospitality and Sport Management brings together the former School of Hospitality and Tourism Management and the Vinik Sport & Entertainment Management program. The next Director will help shape the School's academic strategy, culture, and national and global reputation during an important period of growth.

The School offers B.S. and M.S. degrees in Hospitality Management, a minor in sport and entertainment management, certificates in event management and beverage management, and an online Brewing Arts certificate. The Vinik program awards both an MBA in Sport Business and an M.S. in Sport & Entertainment Management through a two-year graduate program. SportBusiness ranked the Vinik program No. 2 in the world and No. 1 in Florida in 2025.

Industry relationships include McKibbon Hospitality, Mainsail Lodging & Development, Marriott International, Wyndham Hotels & Resorts, and the Tampa Bay Buccaneers, Lightning, and Rays. These partnerships support internships, career placement, scholarships, and experiential learning. USF's new on-campus stadium, scheduled to open in fall 2027, the Uptown Landing development, and a planned School facility adjacent to the stadium offer opportunities for applied research and industry collaboration.

About USF and the Muma College of Business

USF is a member of the Association of American Universities and serves approximately 50,000 students. The Muma College of Business enrolls more than 9,000 students across seven schools and holds separate AACSB accreditation in business and accounting. Its ten-year strategic plan emphasizes student success, impactful research, community engagement, and expanded reach. Tampa Bay's hospitality and tourism economy, professional sports franchises, and business community provide a strong setting for academic and industry partnerships.

Application Information

Submit a cover letter, curriculum vitae, and the names of three references through USF Careers.

Review of applications will begin December 1, 2026. Early application is encouraged. First-round interviews are expected in December 2026.

Questions and nominations may be directed to Dr. Doug Hughes, search committee chair and Director of the School of Marketing and Innovation, at dehughes1@usf.edu.

Applications and nominations are subject to Florida public records and open meetings (Sunshine) laws. USF is an equal opportunity employer and does not discriminate against any employee or applicant for employment based on any characteristic protected by law.