

COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE

Dean *and* AAES Director
Position Profile



THE OPPORTUNITY

Auburn University invites nominations and applications for the position of **Dean of the College of Agriculture and Director of the Alabama Agricultural Experiment Station**. The Dean and Director serves as the chief academic and administrative officer for both organizations and provides vision and leadership to enhance the College's and Experiment Station's traditions of excellence. As an academic leader, the position of Dean reports to the Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs, while the position of Experiment Station Director reports to the President. The Dean and Director will be located in Auburn, Alabama.



ABOUT AUBURN UNIVERSITY

A nationally ranked land-grant institution, Auburn University is frequently recognized for its commitment to world-class scholarship, interdisciplinary research with an elite, top-tier Carnegie R1 classification, life-changing outreach and an undergraduate education experience second to none. Our institution is committed to providing exceptional instruction, outreach and research that translates the intellectual capital of our University into unique solutions that impact the world. Auburn University has developed into one of the largest universities in the South, remaining in the educational forefront with its traditional blend of arts and applied science, and changing with the needs of today while living with a respect for the traditions and spirit that are Auburn.

Quick Facts*

34,145

Total Enrollment

27,907

Undergraduates

6,238

Graduate and
Professional Students

12

Academic Colleges

150+

Majors

1,435

Full-time Faculty
Members

2,619

Administrative/
Professional Employees

1,498

Staff Employees

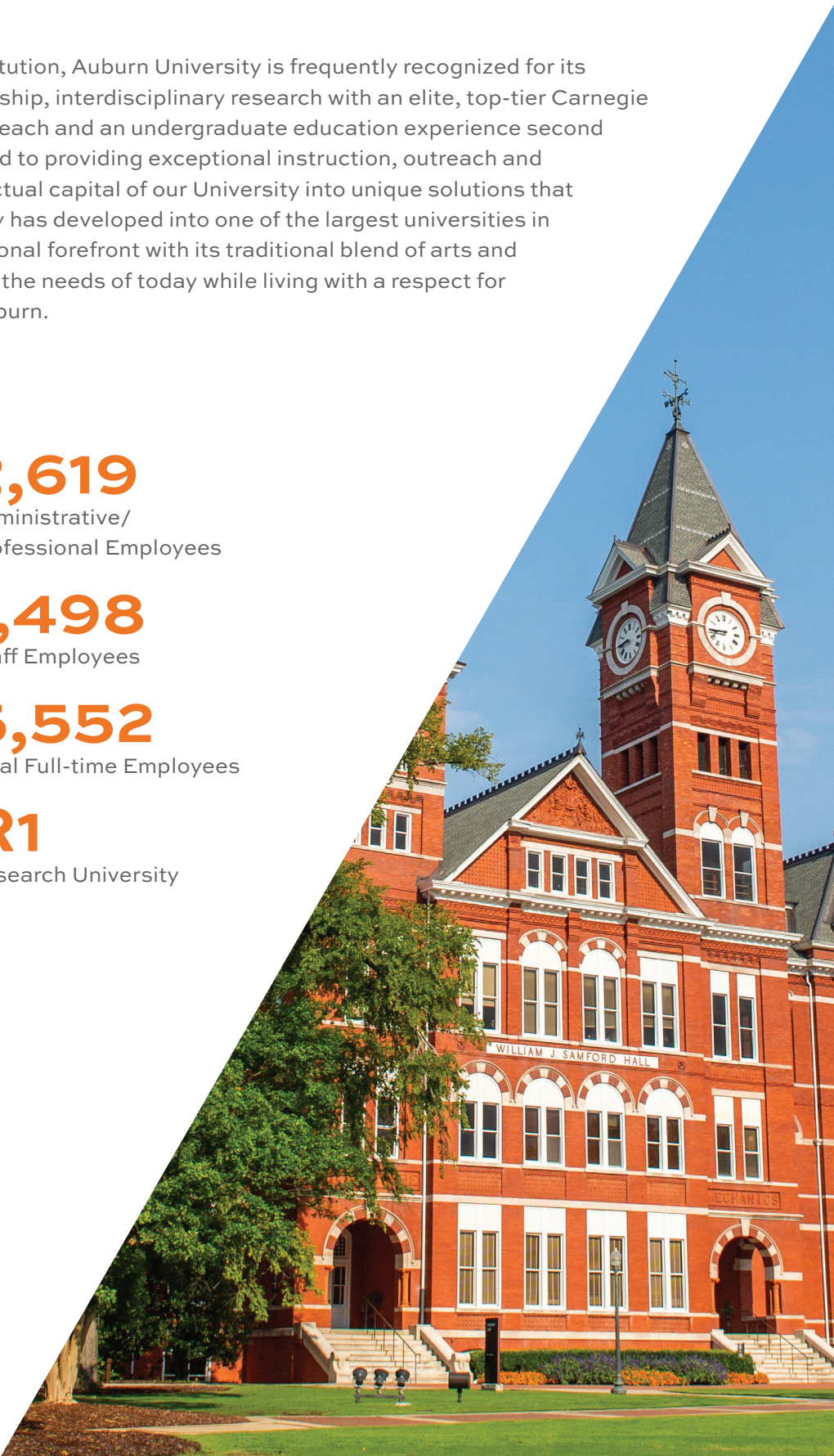
5,552

Total Full-time Employees

R1

Research University

**Based on latest figures.*



THE COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE AND EXPERIMENT STATION

The College of Agriculture is one of Auburn University's founding colleges, along with the Samuel Ginn College of Engineering, established in 1872 under the Morrill Act to educate and prepare students for careers in the agricultural and mechanical arts. The Alabama Agricultural Experiment Station was established in 1883 by an act of the Alabama legislature to conduct scientific research that would advance Alabama's agricultural and forestry industries. Together, the College of Agriculture and Experiment Station have built a heritage of advancing agriculture through scientific discovery, innovative teaching, extensive outreach and deep understanding of industry needs.



Employees

161 Full-time Faculty

323 Full-time Staff

Students

1,087 Undergraduate Students

404 Graduate Students

Departments and School

Agricultural Economics
and Rural Sociology

Animal Sciences

Biosystems Engineering

Crop, Soil and Environmental Sciences

Entomology and Plant Pathology

Horticulture

Poultry Science

School of Fisheries, Aquaculture
and Aquatic Sciences

Academic Programs

UNDERGRADUATE

The College of Agriculture currently enrolls a record **1,087 undergraduate students**. About two thirds of our students are from Alabama. Our college is one of the leading colleges at Auburn for scholarships, awarding more than **\$1.4 million in scholarship funding annually**. We offer students a close-knit family atmosphere along with **13 academic majors** developed for industry needs and career success.

Agricultural Business and Economics

Agricultural Communications

Agricultural Science

Agriscience Education (with the College of Education)

Animal Sciences

Applied Biotechnology

Biological and Agricultural Technology Management

Biosystems Engineering (with the Samuel Ginn College of Engineering)

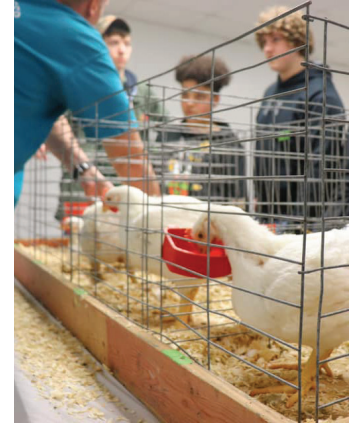
Crop and Soil Sciences

Environmental Science

Fisheries, Aquaculture and Aquatic Sciences

Horticulture

Poultry Science





Academic Programs, cont.

GRADUATE

The College of Agriculture currently enrolls a record **404 graduate students**, including **151 Ph.D. students**, **248 master's students** and **five non-degree-seeking students**.

Most of our graduate students are graduate research assistants working closely with our research faculty.



PH.D. PROGRAMS

Applied Economics

Animal Sciences

Biosystems Engineering

Crop and Soil Sciences

Environmental Science

Entomology

Fisheries, Aquaculture and Aquatic Sciences

Horticulture

Plant Pathology

Poultry Science



MASTER'S PROGRAMS

Applied Economics

Animal Sciences

Biosystems Engineering

Crop and Soil Sciences

Environmental Science

Entomology

Fisheries, Aquaculture and Aquatic Sciences

Horticulture

Plant Pathology

Poultry Science

Public Horticulture

Rural Sociology



Research

Our high-impact research tackles some of the leading issues and challenges faced by Alabama farmers as well as agriculturists throughout the industry. The years 2023 and 2024 were the College of Agriculture and Experiment Station's two highest years for grant and contract awards — **\$64 million and \$53.4 million, respectively.**

College of Agriculture research faculty have appointments in the Experiment Station, which also includes some faculty from the colleges of Forestry, Wildlife and Environment, Human Sciences, Sciences and Mathematics and Veterinary Medicine. Experiment Station research is conducted in university labs and at outlying research units throughout the state. The Experiment Station's newest research unit, located in Autaugaville, was purchased in 2023 and is currently in development.

Extension

Many of the research faculty of the College of Agriculture and Experiment Station serve as Extension specialists and Extension professors, holding appointments with the Alabama Cooperative Extension System. Through these roles, they serve a crucial mission of working with regional Extension agents to share consequential research findings with farmers, industry leaders and communities throughout Alabama. Our faculty and staff work with Extension to do this through field days, commodity conferences, publications, workshops, webinars, community events and more.

EXPERIMENT STATION COLLEGES

Agriculture	Sciences and Mathematics
Forestry, Wildlife and Environment	Veterinary Medicine
Human Sciences	

EXPERIMENT STATION RESEARCH UNITS

NORTH REGION

1. Tennessee Valley Research and Extension Center (TVREC)
2. Upper Coastal Plain Agricultural Research Center (UCPARC)
3. North Alabama Horticulture Research Center (NAHRC)
4. Sand Mountain Research and Extension Center (SMREC)

WEST-CENTRAL REGION

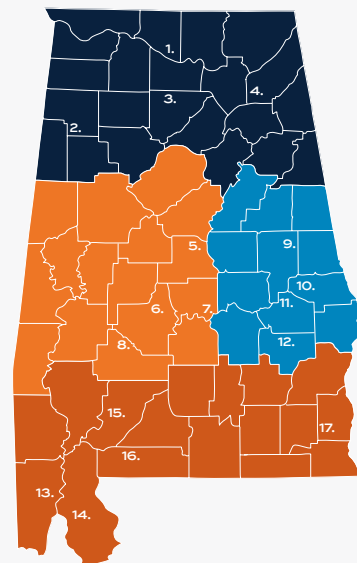
5. Chilton Research and Extension Center (CREC)
6. Black Belt Research and Extension Center (BBREC)
7. Prattville Agricultural Research Center (PARU)
8. Lower Coastal Plains Agricultural Research Center (LCPARC)

EAST-CENTRAL REGION

9. Piedmont Research Unit (PRU)
10. Plant Science Research Center (PSRC)
11. E.V. Smith Research Center (EVSRC)
12. Turnipseed-Ikenberry (T-I)

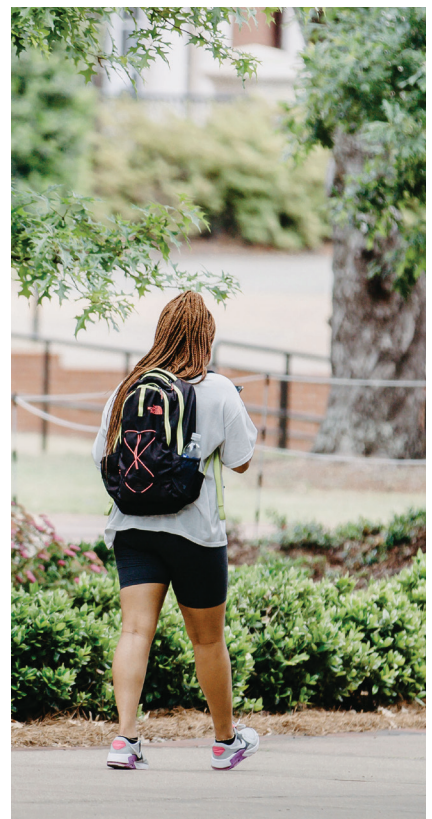
SOUTH REGION

13. Ornamental Horticulture Research Center (OHRC)
14. Gulf Coast Research and Extension Center (GCREC)
15. Monroeville Experiment Field (MEF)
16. Brewton Agricultural Research Unit (BARU)
17. Wiregrass Research and Extension Center (WREC)



OUR COMMUNITY

With an affordable cost of living and year-round gentle seasons, Auburn residents overwhelmingly rate the city as a great place to live. They enjoy a thriving community, recognized as one of the **“best small towns in America,”** with moderate climate and easy access to major cities or beaches and recreational mountain facilities. Situated along the rapidly developing I-85 corridor between Atlanta, Georgia, and Montgomery, Alabama, the combined Auburn-Opelika, Alabama-Columbus, Georgia, statistical area has a population more than 500,000, with excellent public school systems, outstanding recreational areas and exceptional regional medical center.



DEAN, COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE

DIRECTOR, ALABAMA AGRICULTURAL EXPERIMENT STATION

The Dean of the College of Agriculture and Director of the Alabama Agricultural Experiment Station will lead these organizations in support of the University's shared values, including scholarship, teaching, research, service and extension/outreach. This individual will represent and lead in the advancement of all academic and research units within the college and Experiment Station. In addition, the Dean and Director must support and advocate for all students, faculty and staff while ensuring that all constituents both enhance and improve their knowledge and capacity to serve the College of Agriculture, Experiment Station and Auburn University.

Candidates must possess a Ph.D. or commensurate credentials at the time of employment, a graduate degree in an agricultural field and academic and professional accomplishments that are sufficient to merit appointment with tenure at the rank of professor. In addition, the successful candidate will possess a thorough knowledge of the land-grant mission and demonstrated capacity to lead two stable and growing organizations, build consensus among stakeholders, foster increased research and scholarship, promote student advancement, enhance corporate and alumni relations, assertively fundraise, and effectively represent

the college and Experiment Station to outside constituencies. Experience in administration, fiscal management, faculty/staff development and fundraising is highly desired. Other qualifications include collaborative leadership, shared decision-making and demonstrated effectiveness in sustaining collegial relationships with faculty, staff, students and administrators.

A successful track record in strategic planning, budget development and practical ability to balance advocacy for the College and Experiment Station with the broader needs of the university and its relevant stakeholders is essential to success in this position. In addition, the candidate selected for this position must meet eligibility requirements to work in the United States when the appointment is scheduled to begin and continue working legally for the proposed term of employment. Salary and benefits will be commensurate with education and experience. While applications and nominations will be accepted until the position is filled, interested parties are encouraged to submit their curriculum vitae and letter of interest indicating experience as it relates to the position, and submit the application to the address below by the end of **FEBRUARY**. Electronic submissions of all nominations and applications are encouraged.

Search Committee – Dean and Director, College of Agriculture and Alabama Agricultural Experiment Station

Attention: Director, Breckenridge Partners Email: lh@breckenridgepartners.com

Initial review of candidates will be on an ongoing basis and will continue until a qualified candidate is appointed.

Auburn University is an EEO/Vet/Disability Employer and committed to building an inclusive and diverse community.