

Louisiana Cancer Research Center Director

Position Description

The Director of the Louisiana Cancer Research Center (LCRC) shall be appointed by, and report to, the LCRC Board of Directors. The Director will provide leadership and direction to the LCRC and its institutional members – LSU Health Sciences Center in New Orleans, Tulane University Health Sciences Center, Xavier University of Louisiana, and Ochsner Health Systems, as well as the Louisiana Campaign for Tobacco Free Living – toward the goal of achieving and sustaining National Cancer Institute (NCI) designation. The Director shall be a highly qualified scientist, who has received NCI grants, and administrator with a distinguished background in the discipline of cancer and have the qualifications necessary to be a tenured professor at one or more of the LCRC member institutions, as well as to have a faculty appointment at each of the LCRC academic institutions.

The Director works with the LCRC Board of Directors and External Scientific Advisory Board (ESAB) to advance and enhance the organization’s strategic vision and execute the strategic plan. S/he serves as the “face and voice” for the organization and is responsible for the leadership, direction, and overall management of the organization and its resources. The Director will work with partner institutions to ensure scientific and programmatic coordination with the objective of building programs of NCI designation caliber.

Key Relationships

Reports to Board of Directors

Other key Relationships Leaders and Programmatic Staff at the National Cancer Institute, Senior staff at partner institutions, State, and Federal officials, and Relevant policy and thought leaders.

Key Authority and Objectives

The Director shall appoint Deputy Directors for each member institution after consulting the heads of these institutions. Deputy Directors will be expected to support the activities of the Director. Further, the Director will have the authority to:

- Develop a unifying vision that aligns the Center with goals of the NCI Designated Cancer Centers;

- Raise the visibility of the LCRC;
- Grow the Center's clinical impact and synergize clinical trials infrastructure;
- Coordinate effective partnering across institutional relationships and external alliances;
- Manage and control the LCRC budget from all revenue sources;
- Assemble his/her own executive team and appoint or change program directors and administrative staff, with appropriate coordination to foster implementation within the individual institutions;
- Manage LCRC central staff who will report directly to him/her;
- Coordinate and facilitate the work of the External Scientific Advisory Board which will report to the director;
- Exercise control over all LCRC core facilities;
- Manage the operations of the LCRC building, including the allocation of space;
- Provide leadership for, and exercise control over, LCRC programmatic directions and which institution/program should take the lead for a specific programmatic direction;
- Educate, recruit, and retain the next generation of cancer leaders
- Approve all faculty recruitment receiving LCRC start-up funding or any other institution-specific LCRC expenditure;
- Appoint faculty members of the LCRC and review their membership on a periodic basis;
- Significantly strengthen the Center's financial sustainability and fundraising efforts
- Oversee fundraising activities of the LCRC;
- Explore potential strategies for increasing collaboration and coordination of the clinical activities of member institutions;
- And, form active collaborations with other institutions that will contribute to achieving and then sustaining the goal of NCI designation.

In addition, the Director will exercise budgetary control over the LCRC:

- Institutional Budgets –The LCRC Director will work with the Deputy Directors of each of the member institutions to develop a budget for expenditure of these funds, which budgets must ultimately be approved by the Director.

- Central Research Budget – The Director will develop a plan for allocating the LCRC Central Research Budget. In developing the central budget, the Director will be charged with maintaining an appropriate investment balance among member institutions that is commensurate with their roles and contributions to the goals of the LCRC;
- Building operations budget;
- And the Campaign for Tobacco Free Living Budget – the Director will work with the Director of the Campaign for Tobacco Free Living to develop a budget for the allocation it receives annually from the State, which budget must ultimately be approved by the Director.

On an annual basis, goals, objectives, benchmarks and budgets approved by the Director shall be submitted to the full LCRC Board for final approval.

Required Experience

10+ years of senior leadership experience with a proven track record of strategic and operational accomplishments.

Track record of significant and sustained research funding from the National Cancer Institute, National Institutes of Health, including in the role of Principal Investigator.

Extensive experience leading teams, with a deep understanding of academic research centers issues, structures, and missions.

Well-established member of relevant professional networks.

Experience serving as spokesperson of a substantial organization. Must be a credible, articulate communicator, with the ability to address a variety of audiences.

Relevant experience with public policy, with the ability to act as a political advocate.

Ability to work for and with a Board of Directors to establish strategic priorities for the organization, while ensuring that all relevant constituencies are represented.