UNIVERSITY OF CENTRAL FLORIDA

YOUR GUIDE TO WORKING AT UCF
FROM ITS HUMBLE BEGINNINGS IN 1963,

UCF was founded primarily as a source of talent for the burgeoning space program. Today, it has grown into a model for a 21st-century university in one of the top metropolitan cities in the world.

UCF is one of the largest universities in the nation, and yet, it still maintains a sense of a tight-knight community. We’re glad you’re a part of it.

This is a place of dreamers and doers, among them a diverse staff and faculty who create a welcoming environment, a high quality of life, and opportunities to grow, learn and succeed.

We think differently here, which you will learn about in the pages to follow.

Welcome to UCF. CHARGE ON.

“ At UCF, we are not afraid to take on big, bold ideas. It’s been part of our DNA since our founding.”

— Thad Seymore Jr., Interim President
PART OF SOMETHING BIG.

With more than 13,000 faculty and staff representing 36 countries, UCF is one of Central Florida’s largest — and most inclusive — employers.
HISTORY AND TRADITIONS

**FOUNDING**
UCF was founded on July 10, 1963, when a legislative bill was signed to officially create a new state university. The first classes on campus were held five years later.

**ORIGINS**
UCF was originally named Florida Technological University (FTU), and it was founded primarily as a source of talent for the burgeoning space program and nearby Kennedy Space Center. The name changed to UCF in 1978.

**REACH FOR THE STARS**
Charles Millican, the university’s first president, was responsible for choosing our motto — Reach for the Stars — and the Pegasus seal to symbolize our never-ending drive to achieve the impossible. Today, the Office of the President is located in the building that bears his name.

**SPIRIT SPLASH**
Perhaps UCF’s biggest annual tradition is Spirit Splash. On the Friday of Homecoming week, thousands of students attend a pep rally and rush into the Reflecting Pond, all vying for the chance to catch limited edition rubber ducks, which are launched into the crowd by UCF’s spirit teams and student-athletes.

**UCF CELEBRATES THE ARTS**
Held at the Dr. Phillips Performing Arts Center in downtown Orlando, UCF Celebrates the Arts is an annual showcase featuring an interactive exhibition of student artworks and performances.

**LIGHT UP UCF**
An annual family-friendly event held at the Addition Financial Arena, Light Up UCF features ice skating, rides and holiday attractions, including a world-class choreographed light show.
At UCF, we seek challenges and push boundaries. We encourage innovation and invite the impossible. And through our more than 220 degree programs in 13 colleges, we encourage the next generation to expand their intellectual perspective to new horizons, to conduct cutting-edge research that inspires headlines, and to gain real-world experiences through internships and co-ops that lead to dream jobs. By providing a high-quality education to as many deserving people as possible, UCF is helping create a brighter future for our students, their families, our community — and our world.

FLORIDA BOARD OF GOVERNORS
The board is comprised of 17 members, 14 of whom are appointed by the Florida governor and confirmed by the Florida Senate for a term of seven years. The board oversees the operation and management of the Florida public university system’s 12 institutions.

THE UCF BOARD OF TRUSTEES
The board sets policy and serves as UCF’s legal owner and final authority responsible for efficient and effective use of resources.

THE PRESIDENT
The president leads in policy and planning, strategic communications and administrative and fiscal operations to advance UCF’s mission.

ucf.edu/leadership/president

ucf.edu/academics
We are here to make a better future for our students and our society. At UCF we know everyone has potential. And when more people unleash their full potential anything is possible.

**WE BELIEVE:**

Success can only happen when we expand opportunity and demand excellence.

If there’s a better way, we should do it.

Innovation comes from the meeting of diverse viewpoints.

None of us is smarter than all of us.

Making the world a better place is a big job. It requires a big university. It requires UCF.

“Brand is everything we say and do, and how we say and do it.”

**UCF CULTURE**

Our brand is more than a logo. It is a standard to rally around, a foundation to build upon and a source of inspiration.

We are all keepers of the brand and it is our collective responsibility to help share — and strengthen — the UCF story. Speaking with one voice amplifies our message and ensures that our common mission resonates clearly and powerfully. Promoting our brand with unity, clarity and consistency helps everyone associate UCF with credibility and quality. ucf.edu/brand

**UCF CREED**

The UCF Creed serves as a set of values that guide UCF policy, strategic decision-making and the day-to-day behavior of all Knights.

**INTEGRITY**

I will practice and defend academic and personal honesty.

**COMMUNITY**

I will promote an open and supportive campus environment by respecting the rights and contributions of every individual.

**EXCELLENCE**

I will strive toward the highest standards of performance in any endeavor I undertake.

**SCHOLARSHIP**

I will cherish and honor learning as a fundamental purpose of my membership in the UCF community.

**CREATIVITY**

I will use my talents to enrich the human experience.

sdes.ucf.edu/creed
STRATEGY

SCALE × EXCELLENCE = IMPACT

Think of the equation at the top of this page as a five-word mission statement. We harness the strength of our size — our resources, our student body, our technology, our educational pathways and more — while staying committed to a constant pursuit of excellence. When you multiply those two factors, you create a positive, lasting benefit that resonates on a global scale.

COLLECTIVE IMPACT

Collective Impact is the name of UCF’s strategic plan. A road map for the next two decades, this plan sets the course for our university and our community in a way that will transform how we teach, learn and engage.

At UCF, we do bigger better. In the process, we are challenging long-held assumptions about the role and scope of higher education. This means setting big goals — and working together — to achieve our Collective Impact.

our promises

Harness the power of scale to transform lives and livelihoods.

Attract and cultivate exceptional and diverse faculty, students and staff whose collective contributions strengthen us.

Deploy our distinctive assets to solve society’s greatest challenges.

Create partnerships at every level that amplify our academic, economic, social and cultural impact and reputation.

Innovate academic, operational and financial models to transform higher education.

ucf.edu/strategic-plan

“UCF is challenging [the storyline that exclusivity is better] by proving that a university can have it all: a large, diverse student population, high standards, and affordable tuition.” — Bill Gates

UCF ranks among the nation’s top 10 Most Innovative colleges, according to U.S. News & World Report.

With 26 percent Hispanic enrollment, UCF received a Hispanic Serving Institution designation by the U.S. Department of Education.

In its 2020 guide to the Best Graduate Schools, U.S. News & World Report ranked 27 UCF grad programs among the top 100 in the nation including three in the top 10.

UCF medical students continually match with residencies above the national average, with the 2019 graduating class matching at a rate of 99 percent — higher than the national average of 93.9 percent.

UCF enrolled 324 National Merit Scholars in 2018-19 academic year.

UCF’s incoming freshman class in 2018 boasted an average SAT score of 1328 and an average GPA of 4.12 — both school records.

More than 17,000 current UCF students are the first in their families to attend college.
CURIOSITY LEADS THE WAY

Every day, you can find UCF researchers working together to generate real-world impact, improving the lives of our students and community.

Faculty and graduate students are conducting a range of research pertaining to energy, tourism, HIV, cancer, suicide, human behavior, civics education, language acquisition, cyber security, sea-level rise, building energy conservation, species conservation and art’s impact on health.

“UCF research enhances our quality of life, energizes the economy and delivers solutions to some of society’s most-pressing problems.”

— Elizabeth A. Dooley, Provost and Vice President of Academic Affairs

INNOVATION

FUELING INNOVATION
UCF ranks among the top 25 universities in the nation alongside Columbia, MIT and Carnegie Mellon for pioneering research that leads to innovative new technology and launches job-creating companies, according to the Milken Institute, a nonprofit think tank.

LEADING IN PATENTS
The National Academy of Inventors ranks UCF in the top 25 U.S. public research universities—along with MIT, Stanford, Caltech and Johns Hopkins— for number of patents issued in 2016.

SOLVING BIG PROBLEMS
UCF was designated as a university with “highest research activity” by the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching. Researchers have earned more than $1 billion in external grants and contracts during the past decade.

FACULTY CLUSTER INITIATIVE:
By leveraging our existing strengths, the university has encouraged interdisciplinary approaches to the world’s most pressing challenges. In 2015, the university launched a faculty cluster initiative that brought together cross-disciplinary teams focused on solving scientific and societal challenges through teaching and research. There are now nine clusters, each steadily working toward success.

CYBER SECURITY AND PRIVACY
LEARNING SCIENCES
VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN
DISABILITY, AGING AND TECHNOLOGY (DAT)
ENERGY CONVERSION AND PROPULSION
RENEWABLE ENERGY SYSTEMS
SUSTAINABLE COASTAL SYSTEMS
GENOMICS AND BIOINFORMATICS
PROSTHETIC INTERFACES

COLLABORATION

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PLACES TO KNOW

1. Addition Financial Arena
   - Built in 2007, this 10,000-seat arena is home to the UCF men’s and women’s basketball programs, commencement ceremonies, concerts, family shows and other attractions for the Central Florida area.

2. Arboratum/Nature trails
   - Take a break from the hustle of campus and enjoy three miles of nature trails or consider volunteering in our organic, community garden at the UCF Arboratum, which provides fresh produce to students in need at the Knights Pantry on campus.

3. Art Gallery
   - The gallery hosts exhibitions and programming that examine cultural and social contexts and support contemporary art practices. Free to the UCF community, it’s the perfect spot to take a break and get inspired.

4. Human Resources
   - You’ll attend New Employee Orientation here, and come back for professional development seminars throughout your career.

5. John C. Hitt Library
   - Named in honor of UCF’s fourth president, the John C. Hitt Library is the oldest building on campus. In addition to borrowing privileges, current employees can also request and access resources for teaching and research purposes.

6. John Euliano Park
   - Named after a generous friend to the program and an honorary alumnus, John Euliano Park is home to the UCF baseball team. It accommodates 3,841 fans and is home to the UCF baseball team.

7. Lake Claire
   - Lake Claire offers the opportunity to explore nature. Recreational activities like kayaking and canoe rentals, sand volleyball and spaces to host cookouts are available. Free to students, faculty and staff with proper UCF ID.

8. Memory Mall
   - This large, open grassy area — located near Classroom Building II, the UCF FAIRWINDS Alumni Center, the Veterans Commemorative Sites, Career Services and Knights Plaza — is where you can find students enjoying a sunny afternoon or fans tailgating before a football game.

9. Memory Hall
   - One of the oldest buildings on campus and named after UCF’s first president, Memory Hall is where the majority of the administrative work for the university is done. It is home to Academic Affairs, Administration and Finance, Cashier’s Office, Ombuds Office, Compliance and Ethics Office, Office of the President, Student Development and Enrollment Services, as well as many others.

10. Recreation and Wellness Center
    - This facility offers two swimming pools, cardio and fitness floors, a 4-foot rock climbing wall, sand volleyball and multipurpose courts, and more. Aerobics, yoga, Zumba and more are a few of the group classes offered. Faculty and staff have the opportunity to purchase a gym membership, and promotional rates are available for new members (conditions apply). Visit rec.ucf.edu for more information.

11. Reflecting Pond
    - A popular spot for the UCF community and one of the most iconic features of campus, the Reflecting Pond is located near the John C. Hitt Library, Millican Hall and the Education Complex. It’s the perfect spot to relax on a lunch break. Homecoming week, thousands of students rush the pond in a tradition known as Spirit Splash.

12. Soccer and Track & Field Complex
    - Home to the men’s and women’s soccer teams as well as the track & field team, this complex can seat more than 2,000 fans. The facility opens its gates for recreational use to faculty, staff and students for limited hours daily, usually in the afternoon.

13. Softball Complex
    - Home to the UCF softball team, this facility also hosts tailgating opportunities on its lot along the outfield fence for fans on football game days.

14. Spectrum Stadium
    - Home to the UCF football team since it opened its gates in 2007, Spectrum Stadium is the place to be on fall Saturdays. With a capacity of more than 45,000, the stadium is also known as the “House of UCF” for its tendency to shake when the crowd jamps in unison.

15. Student Union
    - Located in the heart of campus, the Student Union features food courts and a variety of dining and coffee options. It also houses computer labs, lounges, meeting spaces, retail shops and the Blackstone Launchpad for business innovation. You can also find the SGA, Ticket Center, which offers discounts on local attractions.

16. The Venue
    - Home to the UCF volleyball team, this 2,000-seat arena is one of the elite volleyball-only facilities in the nation.

17. Water Tower
    - The UCF Water Tower has been a landmark on campus since 1967.

18. Duke Energy UCF Welcome Center
    - Home to the Office of Undergraduate Admissions, campus tours originate here daily. The center welcomes 50,000 guests from all over the world each year.
UCF DOWNTOWN
UCF Downtown, in partnership with Valencia College, brings 7,700 students to live, learn and work in downtown Orlando, creating a game-changing campus in the heart of our great city. This transformational project, which kick-started Orlando’s $1 billion public-private Creative Village, increases access for students, provides pathways into high-demand career fields, fosters collaboration with our neighbors in meaningful ways and improves countless lives through the power of education.

Home to the College of Community Innovation and Education, UCF Downtown offers more than 20 academic programs, each geared to provide students with more educational opportunities, such as internships or research partnerships with businesses, nonprofit organizations and governments in the downtown area.

ucf.edu/downtown

ROSEN COLLEGE OF HOSPITALITY MANAGEMENT
Located just minutes from some of the world’s top-rated attractions, resorts, restaurants, and convention spaces, the UCF Rosen College of Hospitality Management provides students with an unrivaled opportunity to learn and work in the industry’s leading market. Situated in the heart of hospitality, Rosen is a 159,000-square-foot, state-of-the-art, Mediterranean resort-style campus and the largest facility ever built for hospitality management education.

The college is a true innovator in hospitality education, offering six academic degrees, including the only event management degree of its kind, as well as the only standalone doctoral program in hospitality management in the state of Florida.

hospitality.ucf.edu

ACADEMIC HEALTH SCIENCES CENTER
Soon to be located in Lake Nona, the Academic Health Sciences Center (AHSC) brings together related academic, clinical and research programs and services and includes the College of Medicine, College of Nursing, College of Health Professions and Sciences. The AHSC will also include a new university hospital scheduled to open in 2021 and a UCF Cancer Research and Treatment Center.

The programs in AHSC highlight the ways UCF cares for others — social work, nursing, kinesiology, medicine, population health, physical therapy, athletic training and communication sciences and disorders.

UCF HEALTH
With locations in East Orlando, Lake Nona and Osceola County, UCF Health provides primary and specialty care, which is delivered by doctors who are training the next generation of doctors at the UCF College of Medicine. Through a team of researchers and educators, UCF Health offers patients innovative solutions to today’s medical challenges. To find locations, visit the website.

ucfhealth.com

UCF ONLINE
Through UCF Online, students can study and earn a UCF degree from anywhere in the world. Our fully online program offers more than 80 degree and certificate programs, and is ranked among the Top 20 Best Online Programs, according to U.S. News & World Report.

ucf.edu/online

UCF CONNECT OFFERS 11 CENTERS CONVENIENTLY LOCATED THROUGHOUT CENTRAL FLORIDA
UCF Connect extends UCF’s reach to communities in and beyond the region while providing access to quality continuing and higher education for students who, because of time, distance, preference or life circumstances, might not otherwise have the opportunity to pursue an education.

Among its signature offerings is DirectConnect to UCF, a nationally renowned pathway developed for students transferring from UCF’s six state college partner institutions. connect.ucf.edu
ATHLETICS

REACHING NEW HEIGHTS

Knights are champions on and off the field. “Orlando’s Hometown Team” has earned landmark victories on the state and national level — from conference titles to New Year’s Six bowl wins. Every touchdown, 3-point shot, home run, goal and award our student-athletes achieve scores points for the reputation and pride of UCF.

For employees, athletic events are a great way to support the UCF community. UCF Athletics offers discounted tickets for faculty and staff to select events. There’s no better way to connect to the culture of a university than by coming together to cheer for the Knights on game day in a packed stadium or rowdy arena.

ATHLETIC TEAMS

Baseball
Men’s Basketball
Women’s Basketball
Cheerleading
Women’s Cross Country
Football
Men’s Golf
Women’s Golf
Women’s Rowing
Men’s Soccer
Women’s Soccer
Softball
Men’s Tennis
Women’s Tennis
Women’s Track & Field
Women’s Volleyball

POINTS THAT REALLY COUNT

Winning in the Classroom
Collectively, UCF student-athletes continually earn an average GPA of 3.0 or better.

A+ Coaches
In 2017, UCF was the only school among eight conferences nationally to earn an ‘A’ for racial and gender hiring practices for women’s teams’ head coaches.

Study by The Institute for Diversity and Ethics in Sport (TIDES) at UCF, the Tucker Center for Research on Girls & Women in Sport at the University of Minnesota, and LGBT SportSafe

Building a Village
The Kenneth G. Dixon Athletics Village will create an environment conducive for the holistic success of UCF’s student-athletes, including centers for leadership, nutrition, recovery and beyond.

“I’ve always been excited about the prospect of building something, and there’s no ceiling to where we can take UCF Athletics.”
— Danny White, Vice President and Director of Athletics
SPORTS SEASONS

Baseball ........................................ Spring
Men’s Basketball ............................ Winter
Women’s Basketball ..................... Winter
Women’s Cross Country .................. Fall
Football ....................................... Fall
Men’s Golf .................................... Spring
Women’s Golf .............................. Spring
Women’s Rowing .......................... Spring
Men’s Soccer ............................... Fall
Women’s Soccer .......................... Fall
Softball ...................................... Spring
Men’s Tennis ............................... Spring
Women’s Tennis .......................... Spring
Women’s Track & Field .................. Spring
Women’s Volleyball ...................... Fall

HOW TO ATTEND

You can purchase tickets to UCF’s sporting events through UCFKnights.com or by calling the UCF Athletics Ticket Office at 407-823-1000. UCF faculty and staff can receive a 20 percent discount on season tickets for football and men’s basketball. Special pricing is available for young alumni, family plans and group tickets.

T vorhanden

THE WAR ON I-4

The rivalry between the UCF and USF was formalized in 2016. There are two trophies: one for the university with the best conference record across all sports and one for the winner of the annual Thanksgiving weekend football showdown.

ucfknights.com
THAT’S WHY partnerships and philanthropy have become such an important part of our strategic plan. Finding innovative ways to fund the university is the key to maintaining our margin of excellence and maximizing our impact. Giving by private, corporate and alumni supporters helps to sustain student scholarships, arts programs, endowed research chairs, research facilities, capital investments and other critical endeavors.

MAKING A BIG DIFFERENCE
As a faculty or staff member, you will see the impact of donor generosity in all its forms. You will hear the stories — students whose scholarships made the difference between having to forgo their education and staying to finish their degree, or faculty members who’ve made research breakthroughs thanks to equipment or graduate assistants funded by donors. And as a valued new member of Knight Nation, you will help us fuel UCF’s culture of philanthropy to propel our students to new heights of success.

SUPPORT WHAT YOU LOVE
Whether that’s expanding opportunities through scholarships for students who are the first in their families to attend college, our police K9 unit, your favorite Knights sports team or children in need of 3D-printed bionic arms, help us help our black and gold family. Any amount can make a huge difference.

WAYS TO HELP OUT
✦ Donating to your favorite UCF Foundation fund
✦ Buying season tickets
✦ Mentoring
✦ Knighting Your Ride with the UCF specialty license plate
✦ Referring others to educational and career opportunities here
✦ Advocating and amplifying the messages in this booklet and our brand with friends, neighbors and others.

PHILANTHROPY

UCF’S GOAL is to offer the best undergraduate education in Florida, but contrary to popular belief, tuition and state funding cover only a portion of the real cost of educating our students. Many of the programs that enrich the student experience do not receive the state investment they require. And the same goes for the important research we do at UCF.

Sruthy Babu received a First Generation Student Scholarship, allowing her to earn a biology degree.

ucffoundation.org
UCF offers a variety of retirement plans for employees. We offer classes and services to help you plan for retirement. After retirement, join the UCF Retirement Association, a nonprofit organization that promotes fellowship among UCF retirees and provides discounts and privileges at UCF.

**EMPLOYEE TUITION ASSISTANCE**

Whatever your passion, we’ve got the academic opportunities ready for you. With generous tuition support for most employees — plus their children and spouses — a UCF degree is within reach. Learn more at ucf.edu/degree-search.

**LEAVE**

Annual and sick leave is earned and accrued when employees are in pay status and are credited to employees on the last day of the pay period. Policies are determined by employee classification. UCF offers paid holidays, annual leave, sick leave, military leave and parental leave.

UCF also offers the option of joining a sick leave pool, which can support up to a maximum of 12 weeks additional paid leave when an individual’s annual and sick leave is exhausted. The sick leave pool has helped many of our co-workers through tremendously difficult times.

**OTHER BENEFITS**

Here is a sampling of other benefits you may be eligible to receive just for being an employee at UCF.

- Eligibility for the Public Service Loan Forgiveness Program administered through the U.S. Department of Education
- Priority enrollment at UCF’s on-campus Creative School for Children, which is accredited by the National Association for the Education of Young Children
- Borrowing privileges at the UCF Library
- Professional development workshops through HR Learning and Organizational Effectiveness
- Confidential mental health and financial counseling through HealthAdvocate Employee Assistant Program

**DISCOUNTS ON:**

- UCF dining plans
- Theme park tickets through SGA Ticket Center at the Student Union
- Rental car, hotel, restaurant and more through Abenity
- Apple hardware, Microsoft Office and Dell products through UCF Technology Product Center
- Gym membership at Recreation and Wellness Center

UCF HOLIDAYS

- New Year’s Day
- Martin Luther King Jr. Day
- Memorial Day
- Independence Day
- Labor Day
- Veterans Day
- Thanksgiving Day
- Day after Thanksgiving
- Christmas Day

UCF LYNDACAMPUS

Employees have free access to more than 3,500 instructional videos and exercises instructed by accomplished teachers and recognized industry experts. UCF LyndaCampus is a high-quality resource for UCF faculty, staff and students looking to develop or enhance skills in Adobe Creative Suite, Microsoft Office, design, project management, social media and more. lyndcampus_aa.ucf.edu

UCF MOBILE APP

UCF Mobile includes many features to keep you connected while on-the-go. You can access popular features of myUCF, catch a ride on a campus shuttle, find your way on the campus map, read up on the latest news, learn about upcoming events or access important emergency information. Available on iOS and Android.

Employee benefit policies are always being updated, so for the most current information, visit us online. hr.ucf.edu

Lake Claire, located on the northwest side of campus, provides a place for informal, stress-free recreation.
STAY INFORMED

ucf.edu
If you’ve got a question about UCF, a good place to start is the official website of the university, ucf.edu. From degree information to university structure to timely news to an A-Z index, you pretty much can find information about anything you want to learn about our university.

UCF Today
UCF Today shares stories written by UCF authors from each corner of campus. Through stories of impact, innovation and everyday life at the university, its mission is to make UCF more visible, attract new students, faculty, staff and donors and gain greater recognition and respect for UCF. You can read these stories on today.ucf.edu, and we hope you repeat and share your favorites. today.ucf.edu

UCF Events Calendar
On any given day throughout the year, you can learn about events to attend on campus through events.ucf.edu.

Pegasus magazine
Pegasus magazine is the official publication of the University of Central Florida. Since 2012, Pegasus has been recognized for excellence by a variety of professional organizations. It is published three times a year by UCF Marketing in partnership with the UCF Foundation and the UCF Office of Alumni Engagement and Annual Giving. ucf.edu/pegasus

facebook.com/UCF
@UCF
@UCF.edu
linkedin.com/school/university-of-central-florida
youtube.com/UCF