

Employment Opportunity

Chief Financial Officer
Wisconsin Foundation & Alumni
Association
Madison, WI



Please apply on our website:

<https://www.qtigroup.com/find-a-job/details/chief-financial-officer/NM570898413>

ABOUT THE ORGANIZATION



The Wisconsin Foundation & Alumni Association has exclusively retained **The QTI Group** to lead the search for a **Chief Financial Officer**.

The Wisconsin Foundation and Alumni Association (WFAA) is a private, nonprofit organization dedicated to advancing the University of Wisconsin-Madison. In 2014, the UW Foundation merged with the Wisconsin Alumni Association to better serve a growing population of UW alumni and donors. As one organization, it provides a unified effort to engage alumni and friends who support and celebrate the UW.

WFAA believes that private support grows out of good relationships between campus leaders, faculty and program staff who need support, and the alumni and friends who want to invest in UW-Madison. It provides important engagement opportunities to link UW-Madison alumni to each other and to their alma mater, building a strong community of Badgers. WFAA works to foster goodwill toward the university; encourage ongoing philanthropic support; and partner with business leaders, community members, and other external constituencies to build affinity for the university.

Mission

WFAA exists to promote the welfare of and advance the objectives of the University of Wisconsin-Madison by encouraging the interest, engagement, and financial support of alumni, donors, and friends in the life of the University and with each other.



Impact

In the last year, UW-Madison has accomplished great things with the help of philanthropic support. Here's a snapshot of some of the university's highlights.

- More than 32,000 UW-Madison alumni and more than 43,000 non-alumni made gifts in fiscal year 2025, totaling 75,218 generous donors!
- For the first time in its history, UW-Madison has surpassed half a million living alumni, with 502,352 living alumni around the world contributing to communities both near and far.
- 65% of UW-Madison seniors are graduating without any student-loan debt. That's the highest share in recent decades!
- Morgridge Hall, UW-Madison's newest 343,000 square foot state-of-the-art academic building, brings all disciplines of the fast-growing School of Computer, Data & Information Sciences under one roof for the first time.
- \$4.9 Billion in Funds for the Future! Bringing the best people to learn, work, and teach at UW-Madison is possible because of endowed funds.
- A record number of 73,912 applicants sought admission to UW-Madison this year. Those enrolled represent all 72 Wisconsin counties, all 50 states, and more than 50 countries, underscoring world-class education, cutting-edge research, and unparalleled student experience.
- New leadership in the College of Engineering and the Schools of Education, Medicine and Public Health, and Veterinary Medicine will continue to drive UW-Madison's rise in reputation and national rankings.
- \$548 Million in Gifts in Action were transferred from WFAA to UW-Madison, the largest sum ever.
- The Wisconsin Registry for Alzheimer's Prevention (WRAP) is the largest and longest-running longitudinal study of the families of Alzheimer's patients. Led by UW-Madison professional Sterling Johnson and supported by both private gifts and government grants, WRAP has created a unique and powerful dataset that is helping find a way to stop this devastating illness.
- UW-Madison ranks 6th in the nation with more than \$1.7 billion spent on research projects.
- The UW Women's Hockey Team clinched its record-breaking eighth national title against Ohio State in April. The Badgers are the winningest team in Division 1 women's hockey, having won 8 National Championships since 2006.

For more information about WFAA and its tremendous impact on UW-Madison, please visit their [website](#).

ABOUT THE OPPORTUNITY



Reporting to the President and CEO, the Chief Financial Officer (CFO) leads the organization's fiscal strategy, oversight, and reporting. As a member of the Senior Leadership Team and advisor to the President and CEO, Board of Directors, and key stakeholders, the CFO oversees budgeting, financial planning and analysis, and all fiduciary responsibilities within a complex financial environment. This CFO provides expertise across fund accounting, financial reporting systems, audit oversight, internal controls, financial risk management, investment accounting, treasury management, facility operations, and gift services, while partnering with campus finance teams on gift fund management.

Key Responsibilities:

Strategic Financial Leadership

- Assesses organizational performance against both the annual budget and the organization's long-term strategy.
- Develops tools and systems to provide critical financial and operational information to the President and CEO and makes actionable recommendations.
- Advises the President and CEO on recommendations for key business model parameters such as the institutional advancement fees, spend plan, chargeback rates, enterprise-level liquidity management and interest payments on the short-term investment pool (STIP).
- Develops financial business plans and forecasts in alignment with organizational strategy.

Compliance, Reporting & Risk Management

- Advises the President and CEO on setting appropriate risk levels for the short-term investment pool (STIP) and owns the financial risk management system and processes in alignment with CEO direction.
- Directs the development, implementation and maintenance of financial policies and accounting controls; ensures compliance with applicable laws, regulations, and standards.
- Serves as an in-house compliance expert; analyzes, interprets, and implements FASB and other regulatory directives, proposes changes to improve or enhance current accounting practices.
- Coordinates closely with the Foundation's investment team (WISIMCO) on risk management, internal controls, and compliance matters.

Budgeting & Performance Management

- Oversees all financial accounts, ledgers, and reporting systems, ensuring compliance with appropriate GAAP and regulatory requirements.
- Maintains internal control safeguards and coordinates all audit activities.
- Oversees budgeting and the implementation of budgets to monitor progress and present financial metrics both internally and externally.

People Leadership & Organizational Culture

- Leads, supervises, and develops staff, fostering a shared vision, acting as a role model, and demonstrating the Foundation's values.
- Works effectively across a matrixed environment, partnering with campus finance departments and other internal stakeholders to build trust, alignment, and effective gift fund stewardship.
- Builds and maintains strong, collaborative relationships with the Senior Leadership Team, Finance Team, and WISIMCO to support shared goals and effective decision making.

Operational Leadership & Infrastructure

- Advises the President and CEO on the appropriate rate of growth in advancement operations and levels of reserves, while ensuring the business model can deliver on long-range objectives.
- Develops and utilizes forward-looking, predictive models and activity-based financial analyses to provide insight into operations and business plans.
- Designs, implements, and maintains operating policies and procedures to ensure gift/other revenue transactions are recorded in the customer relationship management (CRM) system on an accurate and timely basis, consistent with donor intent, core WFAA objectives, and industry standards.

Investment Oversight & Asset Management

- Provides strategic oversight of the STIP and oversees consolidated investment accounting and reporting across WFAA's investment pools, applying a strong understanding of financial markets and serving in an internal fiduciary role.
- Oversees asset liability management for the STIP, implementing approved risk parameters, including asset allocation across tiers, ensuring alignment between investment strategy, liquidity needs, and financial obligations within a complex financial environment.
- Coordinates with WISIMCO on the spending distribution and liquidity planning and ensures investment results are accurately integrated into the consolidated financial statements and regulatory reporting.

Board & Committee Engagement

- Engages the President and CEO and the Budget committee of the Board of Directors to develop short, medium, and long-term financial plans and projections.
- Serves as the primary liaison to the Budget and Audit Committees and STIP subcommittee.
- Delivers clear financial reporting, analysis, and intuitive dashboards that translate complex data for Board members, leaders, and stakeholders, supporting informed governance and fiduciary oversight.

Financial Reporting Systems, Technology & Process Improvement

- Leads and implements transformative initiatives, such as accounting system conversions, to improve the efficiency of financial and reporting systems.
- Designs and implements effective internal controls to help ensure all gift revenue is properly recorded, reported, and receipted/acknowledged in the CRM system, as well as to help ensure the accuracy of accounting data exported to the accounting system.

Required Qualifications:

- 10+ years of financial leadership experience encompassing accounting, compliance, financial reporting and treasury management, with a strong track record of analyzing financial information and informing senior leadership decision making.
- Bachelor's degree in Finance, Business Administration, or a related field, or equivalent professional experience required; Master's degree and CPA preferred.

The following outlines the experience and attributes of an ideal candidate:

- Knowledge and experience necessary to manage and lead within a financially complex organization.
- Proven experience assessing and managing financial and business risk and making appropriate recommendations and decisions.
- Strong leadership skills with the ability to influence and engage direct and indirect reports and peers.
- Excellent analytical and abstract reasoning skills.
- Upholds the highest standards of integrity and fiduciary responsibility.
- Exceptional interpersonal skills with the ability to effectively interface with senior management, staff, the board of directors, and various external constituents and partners.
- Significant experience providing oversight to audit activities as well as managing reporting, budget development and analysis, general ledger, and accounting for investments.
- Experience in a senior financial management role, partnering with executive staff to develop, model, and implement financial management strategies.
- Proven track record of success facilitating progressive financial system, process, and procedural changes within a financially complex organization.

APPLICATION & SELECTION PROCESS



The Wisconsin Foundation & Alumni Association has exclusively retained **The QTI Group** to lead the search for a Chief Financial Officer. The QTI Group is a comprehensive human resources advisory services firm founded in 1957. QTI is headquartered in Madison, WI.

Compensation & Benefits: This position offers a competitive total rewards package, including comprehensive benefits.

Location: Madison, WI.

For more information, please contact:

Brooke Hintze, MSE, CDR

Senior Executive Search Consultant

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608.257.1057

Apply Online: <https://www.qtigroup.com/find-a-job/details/chief-financial-officer/NM570898413>

Application Deadline: July 31st, 2026, at 4:00 pm CT.

ABOUT GREATER MADISON, WI



The position is located in Madison, Wisconsin, a thriving region of over 536,000 residents that blends the energy of a state capital with the innovation of the University of Wisconsin–Madison and a growing technology sector.

The city is also home to passionate Big Ten athletics, where Badger sports foster a strong sense of community and pride. Madison was ranked the #1 “Best Place to Live in America” by [Livability](#) in both 2021 and 2022. UW–Madison is a driving force behind the region’s success—fueling economic growth, innovation, and talent development.



The university generates nearly \$40 billion in annual economic impact and supports hundreds of thousands of jobs, helping attract leading employers and sustain a high quality of life. Its strengths in research, healthcare, and entrepreneurship—combined with a vibrant campus and the excitement of Badger athletics—create a dynamic environment for both professionals and families.

Madison offers a unique lifestyle that combines career opportunity with natural beauty. Surrounded by five lakes and connected by extensive bike trails, parks, and green spaces, the city provides an ideal setting to live, work, and thrive.

Watch this [short video](#) to capture the true essence of Madison, WI or for more information on life in the Madison area, please visit: <https://www.visitmadison.com/media/fun-facts/>.

