



ROBERT MORRIS UNIVERSITY DEPARTMENT OF ATHLETICS

VICE PRESIDENT AND DIRECTOR OF ATHLETICS





THE OPPORTUNITY

Robert Morris University seeks an innovative, student-centered leader to serve as its next Vice President and Director of Athletics. This is a unique opportunity to lead a highly visible and impactful athletics program at a university that values excellence in academics, campus life, and student engagement.

The Vice President and Director of Athletics will provide vision, leadership, and oversight for a comprehensive NCAA Division I athletics program while advancing the university's mission and supporting institutional priorities. The successful candidate will be a forward-thinking leader who understands the evolving landscape of intercollegiate athletics and can identify creative opportunities to strengthen the department's financial sustainability, competitive success, and campus engagement.

The ideal candidate will possess strong business and financial acumen, an entrepreneurial mindset and a proven ability to fundraise and build partnerships. This leader will be a collaborative manager who can unite and inspire teams, foster a culture of accountability and inclusion, and effectively engage student-athletes, coaches, staff, alumni, donors, and campus partners.

The next Vice President and Director of Athletics will champion academic achievement, personal growth, and competitive excellence while ensuring that student-athlete success remains at the center of all decision-making. They will work to enhance the student experience, strengthen community engagement, increase visibility for the university, and support enrollment and retention efforts.

This position calls for a dynamic leader who embraces innovation, thrives in a resource-conscious environment, and understands the critical role athletics can play in advancing institutional goals. The successful candidate will be an exceptional communicator, a strategic relationship builder, and a visionary leader capable of creating momentum, inspiring others, and delivering results.





POSITION DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

The Vice President and Director of Athletics will foster high standards of integrity, athletic excellence, and academic success; attain engagement, donor, and sponsorship goals; lead and fiscally manage a competitive NCAA Division I athletic program; develop excellent relationships with both internal and external constituents; and direct and hire coaches who are committed not only to winning but to the student experience and to compliance with the rules. Reporting to the President of the university, the Vice President and Director of Athletics will provide leadership for the athletics program in line with the university's mission, vision, core values, and fiscal goals. The incumbent will:

- Lead athletic fundraising and engagement initiatives. Partner with relevant university stakeholders to develop corporate partnerships and reach internal goals for athletic sponsorships and gifts. Leverage alumni, fans, and students to promote community engagement, increase game attendance, and build donor networks.
- Recruit, manage, and develop coaching staffs that field competitive teams, attain the university's student-athlete academic performance goals, and enable an engaged, well-rounded student-athlete experience. Maintain an effective staff capable of administering the athletics department's operations.
- Maintain compliance with relevant governmental regulations and with university, NCAA, and conference policies, rules, and regulations.
- Provide managerial oversight to the operations of the UPMC Events Center, the university's basketball and volleyball arena, conference center, and concert / event venue.
- Periodically review the effectiveness of the athletics organization. Adjust for performance expectations and seek opportunities to be more effective and leverage university wide resources and talent





A PRIVATE COMPREHENSIVE INSTITUTION

Robert Morris University is a career-focused institution that provides a complete student experience, combining personalized academic support with engaged learning activities that launch students into great careers and great lives. Dedicated to lifelong career development, RMU aims to be a preferred strategic partner for professionals, corporations, and other organizations in the Pittsburgh region and beyond. Situated on a wooded, gently rolling campus in suburban Pittsburgh, RMU hosts more than 3,800 students (including 2,900 undergraduates) who are educated in one of six academic schools:

- Rockwell School of Business
- School of Communication and Media
- School of Data Intelligence and Technology
- School of Education and Social Sciences
- School of Engineering and Science
- School of Health Professions

OUR VISION

RMU changes lives by empowering students to achieve their potential.

OUR MISSION

Through professionally focused educational programs, extraordinary experiences, and a supportive community, RMU students are challenged, inspired, and transformed into career-ready individuals.

OUR VALUES

We believe every RMU student has the potential to be unstoppable.
We work relentlessly to empower our students to achieve their goals.

STUDENT-FOCUSED We keep students at the center of every decision we make and every action we take.

WELCOMING We foster a community that values individuality, supports authenticity, and embraces inclusivity.

ACCOUNTABLE We strive to do the right thing, are honest about our choices, and take responsibility for our actions.

ENTREPRENEURIAL We face change boldly and transform challenge into opportunity.





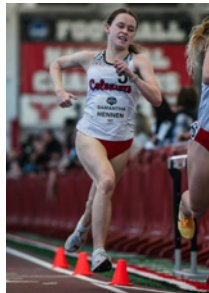
ATHLETICS

RMU fields 17 NCAA Division I teams (seven men's, ten women's) comprising over 450 student-athletes. Counted among the 17 are the only NCAA Division I hockey programs (women's and men's) in Southwestern Pennsylvania. The men's basketball squad has made a remarkable nine appearances in March Madness since RMU elevated the program from the junior college ranks in 1976. Counted among that are 10 conference tournament championships and, most recently, the University's first Horizon League crown in 2025 when Andy Toole was named Horizon League Coach of the Year.

The 2024-25 school year was a record breaking one at Robert Morris. The Colonials claimed six team conference titles in the sports of men's soccer (Horizon League Tournament), women's cross country (Horizon League Championship), women's lacrosse (Mid-American Conference regular season), men's lacrosse (Northeast Conference Tournament) and softball (Horizon League Tournament) to go along with the aforementioned men's basketball championship. Four of those teams – men's soccer, men's basketball, men's lacrosse and softball – qualified for the NCAA tournament. In 2026, men's lacrosse successfully defended its NEC title while making a second consecutive visit to the NCAA Championship, both under '26 NEC Coach of the Year Craig McDonald.

Community service is also at the center of the RMU student-athlete experience. Colonial student-athletes logged thousands of hours during the recently completed 2025-26 school year, led by the women's basketball team which registered 182. That squad immersed itself in everything from visiting Children's Hospital to reading in local elementary schools to spearheading canned food and toy drives in and around Pittsburgh and Moon Township.







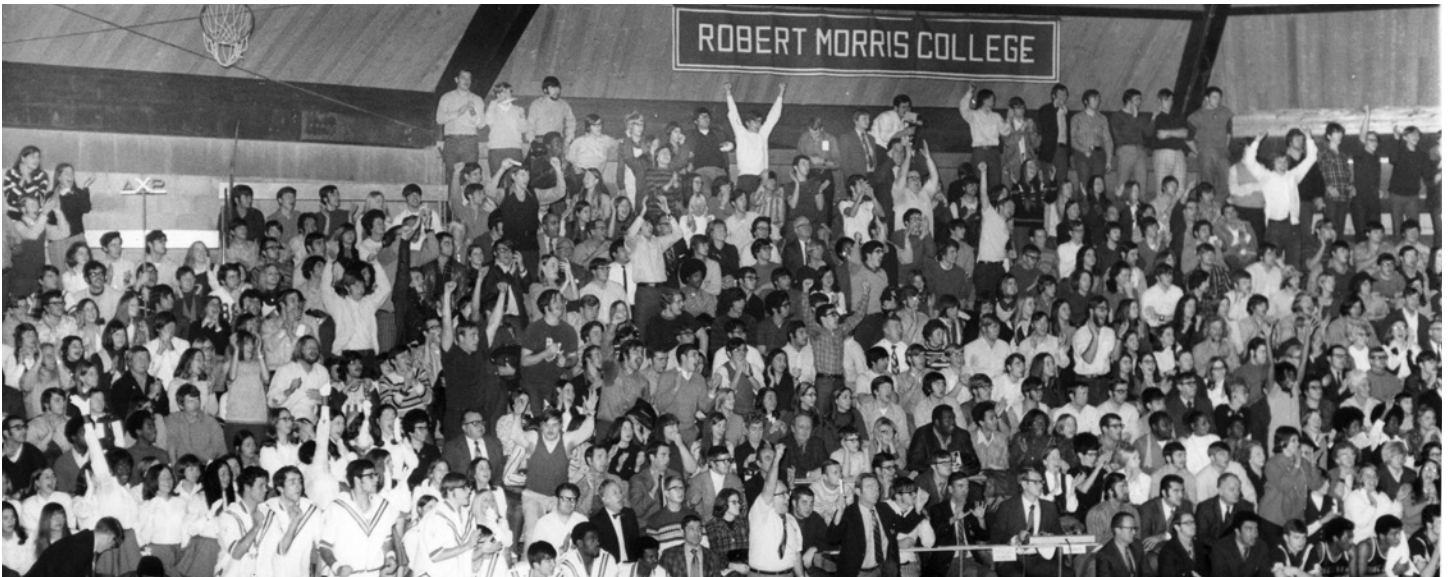
NAMESAKE

Though Robert Morris the man has no formal connection to the institution, Robert Morris University has embraced the role its namesake played in winning America's independence from England. Morris, who was one of Pennsylvania's first senators, signed the Declaration of Independence, the Articles of Confederation, and the Constitution. RMU's sports teams are nicknamed the Colonials and many campus buildings are named for founding fathers and other men and women who made pivotal contributions to American independence. The nickname "Bobby Mo" emerged naturally from the student body as a shorthand for the University and has since evolved into a fundamental component of the athletic department's brand identity.

MASCOT

RMU's beloved mascot, RoMo, made his first appearance in 2006 to coincide with the inauguration of Joe Walton Stadium. Sporting a tri-corn hat and the university's signature colors, this spirited fan favorite is a staple at athletic events.





A HISTORY OF TRANSFORMATION

Throughout its history, Robert Morris University has evolved to meet the changing demands of the higher education market and the professional workforce of western Pennsylvania—all while staying true to its consistent values and mission.

RMU was founded in 1921 as the Pittsburgh School of Accountancy by Andrew Blass in response to what he saw as a shortage of accountants in the local economy. In 1935, the school's President, Richard Khuen III, changed the name of the institution to the Robert Morris School of Business to reflect the institution's broadening range of academic programs and to honor the founding father known as the financier of the American revolution. After leasing space at several other Pittsburgh locations, including downtown's famed William Penn Hotel, Robert Morris purchased a building of its own in 1959, the Rust Engineering Building at 600 Fifth Avenue in downtown Pittsburgh. Three years later, Robert Morris acquired the summer estate and farm of Pittsburgh department store executive Oliver Kaufmann in Moon Township in order to build its first residential campus. The first students on campus lived in the Kaufmann mansion, where now sits Massey Hall, across from the estate's original gardens. Today, over 1,500 students live in 13 residence halls.

In 1961, Robert Morris became a nonprofit institution so that it could become a junior college, a change necessitated by a decision of the Pennsylvania Institute of Certified Public Accountants to require candidates for the CPA exam to earn a college degree. The following year, the name of the school changed to Robert Morris Junior College, and then, in 1969, it became Robert Morris College.

Robert Morris continued to grow throughout the next three decades, expanding to include graduate degree programs and adding more bachelor's programs as well. In 1977, Robert Morris joined the NCAA Division I for intercollegiate athletics. In 2002, following approval by the Pennsylvania Department of Education, the school became Robert Morris University





APPLICATION PROCESS

The deadline for applications and nominations is **July 1, 2026**.

Applicants must submit a resume and letter of interest via email.

All applications and nominations will be handled confidentially.

Please send applications and nominations to **AthleticDirectorSearch@rmu.edu**.