

PRESIDENTIAL PROSPECTUS  
Saint Anselm College  
MANCHESTER, NH



## OVERVIEW

Saint Anselm College invites nominations and applications for its 12th President - an experienced, mission-driven leader who will pilot the College into its next era of academic distinction, institutional growth, and student-centered success. Guided by its Catholic and Benedictine mission and a liberal arts tradition, Saint Anselm seeks a President who will champion its purpose, inspire its community, and lead with wisdom, courage, and compassion.





## ABOUT SAINT ANSELM

**Saint Anselm is a top 100 National Liberal Arts College, as ranked by *U.S. News and World Report*. The College is noted for its academically rigorous undergraduate programs and professional preparation of students as leaders in a changing world. Students can choose from a vast array of majors and minors; several pre-professional programs; graduate programs that lean into the academic strengths of the College; more than 80 clubs and organizations; and many fulfilling community service and study abroad opportunities that promote professional, social, and civic engagement.**

Founded in 1889 by the Benedictine monks of St. Mary's Abbey in Newark, New Jersey, the College has cultivated generations of students through a transformative education that integrates intellectual rigor, moral inquiry, and spiritual reflection. The College remains committed to its founding vision to be a small, private, nonprofit institution delivering a first-rate liberal arts education with innovative educational programs and an exceptional student experience.

Saint Anselm has seen undergraduate enrollment growth over the past four years, with the first-year Class of 2029 representing the largest in the history of the College, a 90% retention rate and 84% four-year graduation rate. In addition, the College has four graduate programs: Nursing Leadership and Innovation (MSN), Criminal Justice (MA), Special Education (MEd), and Public Policy (MPP).

Saint Anselm is deeply committed to providing all students with a high-touch liberal arts education, enriched by opportunities for professional and career preparation and delivered within a learning community that fosters the following:

- Lifelong pursuit of truth
- Intellectual, moral, and spiritual growth

- Service to others
- Engagement in local, national, and global communities
- Care, compassion, and hospitality

The College is well-known for its nationally-ranked nursing program; a commitment to the humanities through the Gregory Grappone Humanities Institute; the New Hampshire Institute of Politics, the hub of national political activity in the first-in-the-nation Granite State; and the Meelia Center for Community Engagement, a widely recognized leader in service education and experience.

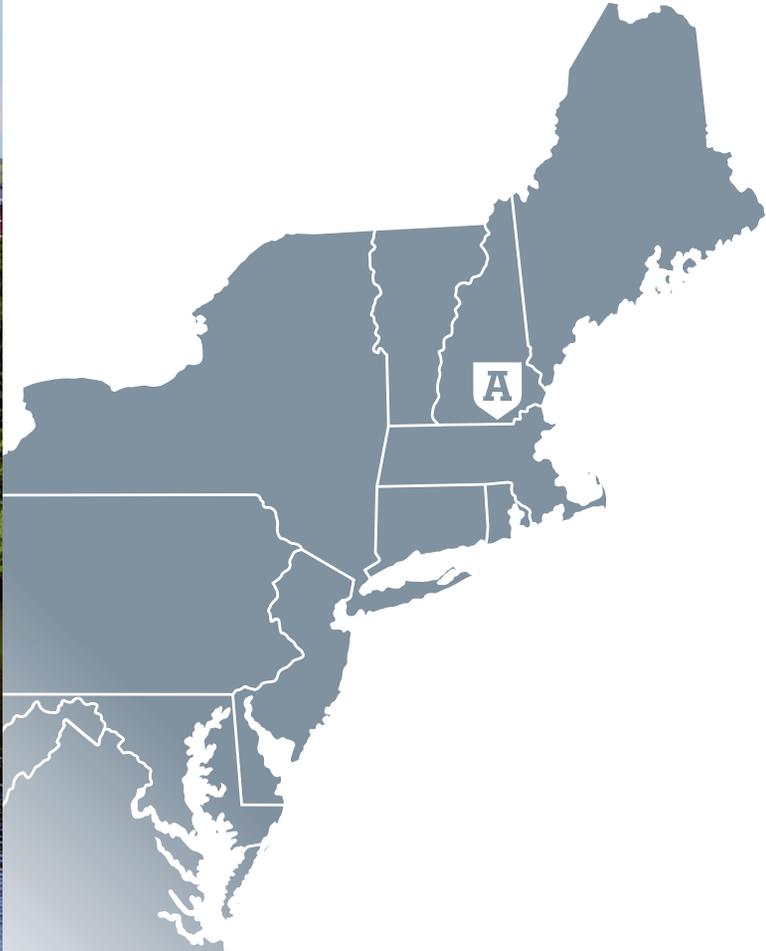
In the past five years, Saint Anselm has launched new programs in areas such as health sciences, public health, dance, and data science; established the Office of Partnerships, the Initiative for Housing Policy and Practice, and the Aaron Tolson Institute of Dance; and added track and field, women's golf and bowling; and competed in the NCAA semi-finals in men's lacrosse and won the first-ever NCAA national championship in women's field hockey. The College also established the Jean School of Nursing and Health Sciences, with a School of Business and Innovation approved for development and a School of Arts and Sciences under active consideration.





# LOCATION

Just one hour north of Boston and less than an hour to the coastal beaches and White Mountains, Saint Anselm overlooks New Hampshire's thriving city of Manchester. With a population of more than 110,000 people, Manchester is the largest city north of Boston and combines exciting urban opportunities with nearby natural splendor. New Hampshire is among the fastest-growing states in the Northeast and boasts 1,786 mountains to explore, 54 covered bridges, 18 miles of coastline, and a no income or sales tax.



## AT-A-GLANCE

- Established: 1889
- Affiliation: Catholic, Benedictine
- Academic Focus: Liberal arts with professional preparation
- 12:1 student to faculty ratio
- 2,234 undergraduate and 46 graduate students (Fall 2025)
- 30% student-athletes
- #96 National Liberal Arts Colleges, *U.S. News and World Report*
- #24 Most Engaged in Community Service, *Princeton Review*
- 99% of the Class of 2024 of graduates are either employed, pursuing further education, serving in the military, or volunteering
- 90% retention rate (first to second year) and four-year graduation rate of 84%



# STRATEGIC VISION

Saint Anselm's strategic plan, *Ascent to the Hilltop*, charts a bold course toward 2030.

The purpose of the plan is to guide students in realizing their intellectual, moral, and spiritual potential through the College's Catholic and Benedictine mission, a transformative liberal arts education, keen critical-thinking skills, professional and career readiness, and a vibrant, inclusive community set on a beautiful New England hilltop. The student-centric five-year strategy emerges from two guiding markers:

- To provide an exceptional student experience
- To grow institutional capacity to serve students long into the future

*Ascent to the Hilltop* directly responds to the industry's pressing challenges, including: infrastructure and campus capacity, revenue diversification beyond undergraduate tuition; evolving educational models and technological disruption; demographic shifts, particularly in the Northeast; public skepticism about the value of a liberal arts education.

By 2030, Saint Anselm will continue on its trajectory towards becoming a leading Catholic institution with: 2,500 enrolled students, three purpose-driven schools, and nationally recognized academic centers.





## THE ROLE

Reporting to the Board of Trustees, the president oversees all aspects of leading the College, including strategic planning, administration, academics, fundraising, and financial sustainability.

The President leads the Executive Team, which includes the following campus leaders:

- Senior Vice President of College Advancement and Chief Advancement Officer
- Director of Athletics
- Vice President for Human Resources and Institutional Equity
- Vice President for Student Development and Mission and Dean of Students
- Vice President of Academic Affairs
- Vice President of Enrollment
- Vice President of Finance and Chief Financial Officer
- Vice President of Strategic Marketing, Communications, and Public Relations and Chief Communications Officer
- Executive Assistant to the President

The President also relies on the Senior Administrative Leadership Team and the President's Council, deliberative groups that report to and advise the President on a range of issues, including progress on the strategic plan. These groups currently include other senior members of the following divisions:

- Academic Affairs
- Athletics
- Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Belonging
- Finance, Administration, and Facilities Management
- Institutional Advancement
- Marketing
- Staff Advisory
- Student Engagement

# PRIORITIES

With its illustrious 136-year history, Saint Anselm College is poised for continued success. The twelfth president will guide a mission-driven institution rooted in Catholic and Benedictine values, with a proud liberal arts tradition, loyal alumni, and a clear vision for the future.

Saint Anselm is known for providing its students with a distinctive liberal arts education that incorporates opportunities for professional and career preparation in a learning community that encourages the lifelong pursuit of the truth and fosters intellectual, moral, and spiritual growth to sustain and enrich its graduates' personal lives, work, and engagement within local, national, and global communities. The College embraces the Benedictine values of hospitality, stability, work, community, and learning in the following ways:

- Providing a welcoming and positive learning environment;
- Supporting teaching, scholarship, and service with respect, humility, and goodwill;
- Engaging and collaborating with campus and community partners; and
- Carefully stewarding funds and resources.



# PRIORITIES *(continued)*

In addition to the day-to-day responsibilities of strategically and thoughtfully implementing Ascent to the Hilltop – Vision 2030 and overseeing the College’s operation, the president will be expected to focus on the following opportunities:

## Providing inspirational leadership

- Set a strong vision, building support for it across all constituencies, and executing toward it with a disciplined, milestone-based strategic plan.
- Continue to strengthen the College’s long-term financial sustainability;
- Inspire academic excellence in teaching, research, and learning;
- Support the student experience inside the classroom, on campus, in the local community, and beyond;
- Expand opportunities for students to develop as life-long learners and leaders; and
- Serve as a role model for the College’s Catholic mission and values for all constituents.

## Visibility and resources

- Lead ambitious fundraising efforts to support the College’s mission, including growing the endowment;
- Continue positive momentum with regard to enrollment, retention, and graduation rates, while lowering the discount rate;
- Articulate Saint Anselm’s Catholic, Benedictine, liberal arts identity and its distinctive strengths to a wider audience – regionally, nationally, and internationally;
- Engage loyal Saint Anselm alumni in the life of the College, so that they can continue to give their expertise, talent, time, and resources to strengthen the College’s present and future;
- Support the athletics program and foster its importance to enrollment and alumni relations; and
- Develop external relationships and partnerships with the local Manchester community and across New England to support the College’s mission.

## Organization and management

- Recruit, develop, and retain a talented faculty and staff and support a positive working environment;
- Foster institutional pride and a culture of belonging;
- Connect with campus constituents in an approachable manner;
- Enhance student engagement by promoting academic and extracurricular achievements and expanding student-centered events and activities; and
- Build mutually beneficial partners that enhance the College’s offerings, academic standards, and reputation.



# QUALIFICATIONS

Saint Anselm College seeks a collaborative, strategic, and decisive leader to engage constituents by building on its many distinctive strengths and supporting its core values.

The president will lead with an understanding of the mission of Catholic higher education and high academic standards in teaching, scholarship, and student engagement. Accordingly, the president will be a practicing Catholic and aligned with the College's values, goals, and aspirations. Ideal candidates will be problem solvers who act to anticipate problems. Candidates should hold the credentials needed to inspire an academic community, ideally including a PhD and an appreciation of classroom teaching and the tenure process.

Strong candidates are also expected to demonstrate most of the following:

- Collaborative style prioritizing the involvement of the Board, the Abbey, campus constituents, and alumni in major decisions;
- Visionary and disciplined approach to meeting the milestones of the strategic plan;
- Role model of unwavering principles who will motivate and develop faculty, staff, and students;
- High emotional intelligence and strong interpersonal skills;
- Stellar communication skills, including persuasive writing, charismatic public speaking, and active listening;
- Strong financial management skills, including experience with budgeting and diversifying revenue;
- Understanding of higher education financial models and the headwinds affecting private colleges, especially in the Northeast;
- Fundraising track record or the personal traits that would predict success in this area;
- Ability to advance the College's profile, articulate its distinctive advantages, and promote it to a broader audience;
- Experience in developing graduate programs, online programs, and additional sources of revenue
- Nuanced understanding of when to engage in policy issues that serve the College's mission;
- Appreciation and ability to clearly articulate the enduring value and advantages of a liberal arts education;
- History of supporting students' social, professional, and intellectual growth and development;
- Track record of hiring a talented and diverse group of faculty members, administrators, and staff; and
- Ability to lead the College through the implementation of the strategic plan with energy, passion, flexibility, and an abiding sense of humor.





## SUMMARY

With a 136-year history, Saint Anselm College is poised for future success. As the 12th President, the ideal candidate will guide a mission-driven institution rooted in Catholic and Benedictine values, with a proud liberal arts tradition and a clear vision for the future.

## CONTACT

Nominations, inquiries, and expressions of interest should be sent to **[saintanselm@russellreynolds.com](mailto:saintanselm@russellreynolds.com)**.

*Successful candidates will be able to assist the college in advancing its mission and strategic priorities and further enhance its institutional success and momentum.*

*Our community values compassion, respect, integrity, and kindness for all. Guided by our Catholic and Benedictine identity, we are committed to sustaining an intentionally inclusive environment that benefits every individual.*