



**Albany-  
Dougherty**  
Economic  
Development  
Commission



## President & CEO Albany, Georgia

**Overview.** The Albany-Dougherty Economic Development Commission, based in Albany, Georgia, has launched an executive search for a President and Chief Executive Officer. The Chason Group has been retained to lead the Board of Directors through the process.

**About Albany-Dougherty County, Georgia.** The Albany-Dougherty County metropolitan statistical area has a population of over 165,000 residents according to the US Census Bureau's 2018 data. Located in southwest Georgia along the banks of the Flint River, the community is a regional hub for healthcare, manufacturing, transportation and education.

Whether goods are being transported to the Port of Savannah or Interstate 75, Albany-Dougherty County provides businesses with four-lane access all the way there. The community's strategic location allows businesses to reach 82 percent of the domestic industrial market and 79 percent of the nation's largest consumer markets in less than two days (by truck). Southwest Georgia Regional Airport offers passenger and cargo travel. Rail services are provided by Norfolk Southern Corp. and Norfolk Southern Corp. and Georgia & Florida Railway.

**Top Employers.** Albany and Dougherty County have a very diverse list of businesses who call the area home. From manufacturing to health care

services to data centers to logistics and distribution, industries have a place in the regional economy. Some of the community's best-known industries include Procter & Gamble, MillerCoors, Coats & Clark, Georgia Pacific, Mars Chocolate North America, Pfizer and Webstaurant.

**About the Economic Development Commission.** The mission of the Albany-Dougherty EDC is to serve as the economic development marketing arm for the community. Led by a twelve-member volunteer Board of Directors, the stand-alone non-profit entity is financially supported by the City of Albany, the Dougherty County Board of Commissioners and private business community investors through the Albany Area Chamber of Commerce Foundation. Each entity invests equal funds on an annual basis for operations and marketing, culminating in a \$750,000 budget.

The office of the EDC is located in Downtown Albany. The EDC and the Albany Area Chamber of Commerce, while separate entities, work closely together on workforce development, business friendly legislative matters and infrastructure maintenance and development.

The EDC has two additional staff members. The Director of Marketing and Research and the Executive Assistant play significant roles in the organization.

**THE CHASON GROUP, INC.**

# Position Announcement, President & CEO Albany, Georgia



**The President's Roles.** The President is responsible for pursuing and obtaining commercial and industrial development for Albany and Dougherty County. This position is also accountable for administering all operations of the EDC. The professional will represent the community at meetings with clients and in dealing with the media. Other responsibilities include developing an annual budget tied to a strategic plan and serving as the economic development contact with the Georgia Department of Economic Development, Albany Water, Gas and Lights Commission, Electric Cities of Georgia, Georgia EMC and Georgia Power Company.

**Position Requirements.** Candidates applying for the President's position must hold a Bachelor's degree, ideally with an MBA or other post-graduate work, from an accredited college, or equivalent experience in the area of economic development or similar field(s). Candidates should have at least five years of leadership / management experience in the economic development, business, government or non-profit sector, or a combination of these and eligible to obtain a valid State of Georgia driver's license within the first 90 days of employment.

The Search Committee is seeking a professional with a proven tenure in economic development, relationship building, marketing and communications; demonstrated knowledge of standards and best practices for economic development organizations; as well as a history of involvement in relevant professional organizations.

**Key Skill Sets.** Applicants interested in the President's position should have excellent communication skills. Written, verbal, listening and digital media communication skill sets are vital for the position.

Other key skill sets required to be successful in the position include a track record of providing thoughtful leadership, vision, inclusivity and strategic direction for an organization – both short and long-term.

Candidates will be responsible for developing an organizational culture that exudes collaboration and partnerships for the global success of the EDC. The candidate chosen for the position will serve as the key resource in relating policies, strategies and various courses of action – internal and external - to the Board of Directors, internal team, City of Albany, Dougherty County Commission, regional partners, state leaders, volunteers and general public.

**How To Apply.** For more information regarding the executive search process for the President's position with the Albany-Dougherty EDC, please contact Tim Chason at 404/735-0540 or Randy Cardoza at 404/661-9438. A pdf cover letter and resume may be uploaded at [www.thechasongroup.com](http://www.thechasongroup.com). The deadline for materials to be submitted is August 3, 2020. The anticipated start date for the position is Fall 2020.

