

## POSITION ANNOUNCEMENT



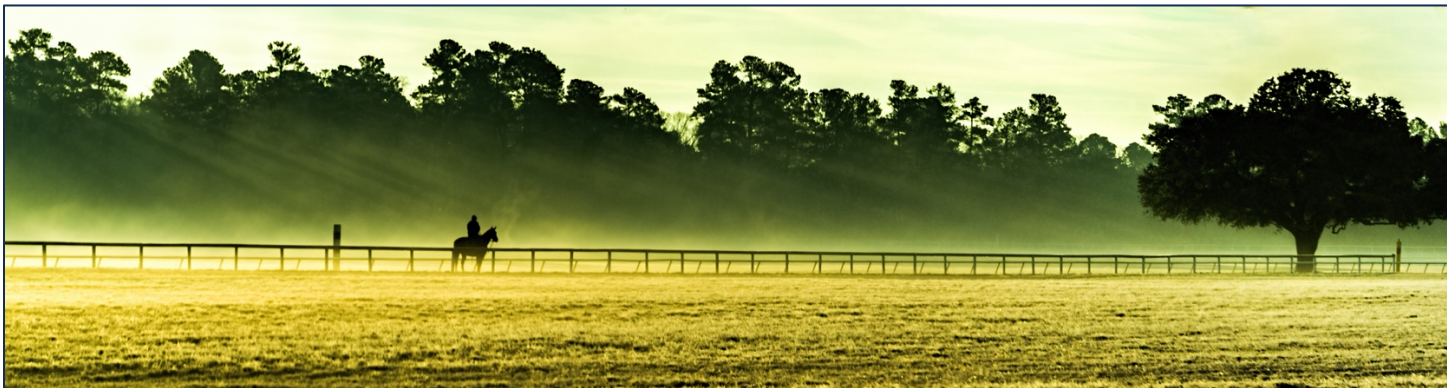
### *Overview.*

The Aiken Chamber of Commerce, located in Aiken County, South Carolina, is conducting an executive search for a President and Chief Executive Officer. David Jameson has announced his plans to retire from the business organization at the end of February 2024 after serving 18 years as its paid executive. The Chason Group ([www.thechasongroup.com](http://www.thechasongroup.com)) has been engaged by the chamber to lead the search process.

### *About Aiken, South Carolina.*

Aiken, the county seat of Aiken County, is located 20 miles from Augusta, Georgia and 56 miles from Columbia, South Carolina. The city has a population of approximately 32,000 residents and the total county population tops 171,000.

The area is known for its rich culture and charm in the equine industry and quality of life. World-class education institutions and employment opportunities with the Savannah River Nuclear Solutions, Bridgestone Americas Tire Operation and Aiken Regional Medical Centers are key reasons people of all age groups are moving to the area.



### *About The Chamber.*

The Aiken Chamber of Commerce, with a membership of almost 1,000 strong, is the largest voluntary, membership-driven organization of businesses in the Aiken region. The Chamber has continuously earned the US Chamber's 5-Star Accreditation since 2011. The program facilitates continuing excellence in the chamber industry and fosters a pro-business environment across America. In order to receive Accreditation, a chamber must meet minimum standards in their operations and programs, including areas of governance, government affairs, communications, and technology.

With an annual budget of \$1.1 million and internal team of five professionals, the Chamber is recognized for its significant advocacy on behalf of businesses of all sizes. The business organization works continuously to develop relationships with local, state, and federal elected and appointed leaders. The area's pro-business environment is the foundation for growth in Aiken.

Additional programs the Chamber is recognized for include First Friday Means Business Breakfast series, host of the local SCORE chapter, Aiken Young Professionals, Caffeinated Tuesdays, Business After Hours, Women in Business, State of the Community, Aiken's Makin', and Buy Aiken Red Ticket Campaign.

### *The President and CEO Position.*

The President and CEO is responsible for all aspects of operations for the Aiken Chamber and reports directly to the Board of Directors through an annually elected Chair. The professional provides vision, strategic direction, and management for the programs and personnel of the organization. The leader demonstrates expertise in strategic planning, program and personnel management, member sales and services, resource development, nonprofit governance and operations, financial management, public relations, public policy and advocacy, and community, economic, and workforce development.



The professional serves as the lead spokesperson for the Chamber and strategic initiatives, representing the Chamber's interests to the media, elected officials, and all community and organizational stakeholders. The professional is recognized as a dynamic leader with high integrity. Key skill sets required include the ability to manage and support current programs; develop new initiatives and collaborative partnerships; and to lead, engage, and commit to include the best diversity, equity, and inclusion practices for the region.



### *The Ideal Candidate.*

The ideal candidate for the Aiken Chamber's President and CEO position is a professional who has business and/or chamber of commerce experiences. The individual should have a proven track record of successful leadership in terms of guiding volunteers and a team of experienced staff members. The role of the Chamber President requires a person who understands how to collaborate and build relationships with stakeholders at all levels of business, government, and community status. Accountability, both fiscally and measurable goals, will be a key indicator of the success of the person chosen for the position.

### *Key Position Requirements.*

- Bachelor's degree in the area(s) of association management, economic development, community development, public relations, public administration, business and/or marketing from an accredited college or university or equivalent experience.
- A Certificate in Nonprofit Organization Management through the U.S. Chamber's Institute of Management (IOM) and the professional designation of Certified Chamber Executive (CCE) are highly preferred. In the absence of these professional credentials, a strong desire to achieve them at the earliest opportunity is the expectation of the Board of the chosen candidate.
- Five years of executive-level leadership and personnel management experience with a chamber of commerce or nonprofit organization of similar scale and complexity, with demonstrated working knowledge of business, public policy, community development, economic development, workforce development, event planning, and program development.

### **Key Skill Sets Required of President and CEO**

Business Savvy  
Collaborator  
Communicator  
Consensus Builder  
Engaging  
Goal Oriented  
Proven Leader  
Strategic Thinker  
Visionary

### *How To Apply.*

The Aiken Chamber of Commerce has retained The Chason Group, an executive search firm specializing in chambers of commerce, to lead the recruitment process. Candidates interested in applying for the President and CEO position may upload a cover letter and a copy of their resume at [www.thechasongroup.com](http://www.thechasongroup.com). All cover letters and resumes must be received no later than January 2, 2024. The most qualified candidates will receive a detailed application to complete prior to the interview process. The start date for the position is February/March 2024.



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EXECUTIVE SEARCH