Ranked among the top 100 universities globally, McMaster University is a research-intensive, student-centered university dedicated to advancing human and societal health and well-being and has achieved an international reputation as a center of excellence for teaching and learning, innovation, and creativity. McMaster is focused on preparing its students to be engaged and thoughtful citizens, equipped with the skills, knowledge, resilience, and understanding needed to make a positive and effective contribution to the world. In addition to providing an outstanding, personalized learning environment for its students, the University has the ability and the creativity, across all six Faculties, to partner and collaborate on the knowledge, discoveries and innovation that are needed to make a positive and decisive impact on our society and world.

As one of Canada’s U15 research-intensive institutions, the University’s commitment to excellence in research is evidenced through its impressive research resources with a total research income of $374.6 million, averaging $419,000 per faculty member which is more than double the national average. Currently, McMaster is home to over 37,000 students, over 17,000 staff and more than 1,000 full-time faculty. As an institution, McMaster is committed to creating a brighter world for all.

Reporting to the Vice-President (Operations and Finance), the Associate Vice-President and Chief Financial Officer (AVP & CFO) is the senior financial executive with responsibility for leading and implementing the University’s financial plans and strategy. The AVP & CFO takes an enterprise-wide perspective of the University’s finances, ensuring that the full resources of the University are taken into consideration in determining optimal financial decisions and that the financial position of the University can facilitate and support the academic and research missions and strategic direction of the institution. In executing this enterprise-wide role, the AVP & CFO must work collaboratively and form effective relationships with the Provost and Vice-President (Academic), other members of the President and Vice-Presidents’ group, the Deans, all other senior financial officers and leaders across the University (within the central administration and the Faculties), as well as with the other Associate Vice-Presidents and leaders within the division.

Working in close collaboration with senior colleagues, the AVP & CFO is responsible for the University’s multi-year financial plan, debt strategy, and for maintaining the financial strength and stability of the University as measured by rating agencies. The AVP & CFO works in partnership to develop key financial strategy documents such as the University’s capital plan, operating budget, and approach to financial risk management and is responsible for ensuring that financial information submitted to the governing bodies, government authorities, rating agencies or otherwise is complete, accurate, and consistent with strategy. The AVP and & CFO provides leadership to the University’s Financial Affairs portfolio and is accountable for its strategic direction, to operate as a strategically oriented function in support of the core academic and research missions of the University

As the ideal candidate, you hold an advanced degree and Professional Accounting Designation and will bring experience in finance and operational leadership in a complex unionized public sector organization, with experience in the post-secondary sector considered a strong asset. You are both innovative and collegial and possess the strategic and leadership acumen to enable you to lead a team towards operational excellence. You understand the goals of the University and can translate them into plans that support the University’s mission, allowing students, faculty and staff to realize their goals, and ensuring McMaster University’s sustainability in the broadest sense. You are a decisive leader who has an ability to delegate and empower direct reports to make
decisions. You are passionate about how you and your team can collaborate with and support others in the pursuit of the academic, teaching and research mission of the University. With regard to financial acumen, you bring strength and experience in financial and capital planning and management of comparable complexity and magnitude and have excellent knowledge of financial concepts and best practices and principles related to financial management and investment management.

If you are interested in this opportunity, please apply online at www.kbrs.ca/career/17157. For more information, contact Katherine Frank (kfrank@kbrs.ca) or Beth McLennan (bmclennan@kbrs.ca).

The diversity of the McMaster workforce is at the core of our innovation and creativity and strengthens our research and teaching excellence. In keeping with its Statement on Building an Inclusive Community with a Shared Purpose, McMaster University strives to embody the values of respect, collaboration, and diversity, and has a strong commitment to employment equity. The University seeks qualified candidates who share our commitment to equity, diversity and inclusion, who will contribute to the diversification of ideas and perspectives, and especially welcomes applications from indigenous (First Nations, Métis or Inuit) peoples, members of racialized communities, persons with disabilities, women, and persons who identify as 2S/LGBTQ+.

As part of McMaster’s commitment, all applicants are invited to complete a confidential Applicant Diversity Survey as part of the application submission process. The Survey questionnaire requests voluntary self-identification in relation to equity-seeking groups that have historically faced and continue to face barriers in employment. The entire survey will take approximately two minutes to complete. All information collected is confidential and will be used to support efforts to broaden the diversity of the applicant pool and to promote a fair, equitable and inclusive talent acquisition process. The survey link will be provided at the time of application.

Canadians and permanent residents will be given priority.

McMaster University and KBRS will provide support in the recruitment process to applicants with disabilities, including accommodation that takes into account an applicant’s accessibility needs. If you require accommodation in order to participate as a candidate in the recruitment process, please contact accommodate@kbrs.ca or communicate your needs to the recruitment professional named in the job description.