

# TOM McNAMARA

Chief Operating Officer, Unitek Learning



Tom McNamara serves as Chief Transformation Officer at Unitek Learning, where he is responsible for driving strategic growth, operational excellence, and large-scale transformation initiatives across the organization. Tom leads the integration of Unitek’s higher education and workforce solutions strategies, helping healthcare systems nationwide address acute nursing and workforce shortages through innovative “earn-as-you-learn” programs. His leadership ensures Unitek continues to expand access to high-quality nursing education while strengthening partnerships that reshape the future of healthcare training.

A veteran education executive with more than 25 years of experience, Tom has held senior leadership roles spanning higher education, healthcare, and private equity-backed organizations. Before assuming his current role, he served as President of Workforce Development at Risepoint, where he built partnerships between regional and national healthcare systems and community-serving universities to train the next generation of nurses and allied health professionals. He also served as an Operating Advisor for The Vistria Group, supporting portfolio companies in education and healthcare services to scale operations, optimize performance, and deliver measurable social impact.

Earlier in his career, Tom served as Chief Operating Officer at West Coast University and President of American Career College, where he led the institutions through major periods of growth, accreditation, and program innovation—positioning them as leading healthcare education providers. He also served as President of Contemporary Forums, overseeing its transformation into one of the few continuing education providers to earn joint accreditation from the ACCME, ACPE, and ANCC. Previously, he spent over a decade with Perdocio Education Corporation, where he led the start-up and Art and Design group, opening 15 institutions and managing a \$300 million business.

Tom began his career in finance and audit roles at PwC and Ornu, working in both the U.S. and Ireland. Today, he brings that same financial discipline, operational insight, and passion for purpose-driven education to Unitek Learning’s mission of solving the national nursing shortage. He also serves on the board of ThinkCERCA reflecting his lifelong commitment to expanding educational access.