

Robert M. Davis

Chairman and chief executive officer

Rob Davis is chairman of the board and chief executive officer of Merck.

Previously, Rob served as Merck's president, responsible for the company's operating divisions — Human Health, Animal Health, Manufacturing and Merck Research Laboratories. Prior to that, he was executive vice president, Global Services, and the company's chief financial officer.

Rob joined the company as chief financial officer in 2014 with additional responsibility for real estate operations, corporate strategy and business development. In 2016, his role was expanded to include responsibility for information technology and procurement, forming Global Services. He became president in April 2021, CEO and a member of the board of directors on July 1, 2021, and chairman of the board on December 1, 2022.

Prior to joining Merck, Rob was corporate vice president and president of Baxter's medical products business. During his tenure at Baxter, he held several other positions, including president of Baxter's renal business, chief financial officer and treasurer. Before joining Baxter in 2004, Rob held numerous positions of increasing responsibility over 14 years at Eli Lilly and Company.

Rob serves on the board of directors for Duke Energy Corporation, one of America's largest energy holding companies, and is chair of its finance and risk management committee and a member of the corporate governance committee. In addition, Rob is a member of the Northwestern Law Board at the Northwestern University Pritzker School of Law. He is also a board member of Project HOPE, a nonprofit organization focused on empowering health care workers to deliver expert care when and where it is needed most, and of Catalyst, a global nonprofit that promotes equal access to career opportunities and corporate leadership for women.

Rob received his J.D. from the Northwestern University Pritzker School of Law, his M.B.A. from Northwestern University's Kellogg Graduate School of Management and his bachelor's degree in finance from Miami University.

