



The Commit! Partnership Manager, Advocacy Position Opening

OVERVIEW

Founded in 2012, The Commit! Partnership (“Commit!” or “The Partnership”) has become the largest educational community-based collective impact organization in the U.S. as measured by either staff, by budget, or by total students supported (790,000+ ages 0 through 22). Encompassing 190+ partners across Dallas County, including almost every public school district, higher education entity and large foundation in the region, the Partnership also encompasses numerous independent private schools and public charter networks, businesses and educational non-profits. The Partnership’s overriding vision is relatively simple and straightforward: our community, working together, to ensure that all students receive an excellent and equitable education.

POSITION

The Manager of Advocacy will help ensure all students have an excellent and equitable education by advancing a policy agenda aligned with community partners. In this role, s/he would focus on advancing both state and local policy across three important priority areas for the Partnership: strengthening educator quality, providing a quality early childhood education to all students, and increasing college enrollment and student persistence toward completion.

RESPONSIBILITIES

- Work with leadership teams to define the organization's state and local policy agenda
- Provide strategic analysis – both qualitative and quantitative- on state and local policies to help inform policy agenda
- Develop strategy for advancing state and local policy goals with key decision-makers in both Austin and Dallas
- Communicate with and brief staff of the State Legislature and relevant state and local agencies (e.g. Texas Education Agency, Texas Workforce Commission, Department of Family and Protective Services, Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board and local school boards) through in-person meetings, written communications, and phone calls – to advance relevant legislation and regulation and help strengthen the Commit! brand
- Strategize and mobilize communities and relevant stakeholders in Dallas, especially partner organizations, teachers, parents, students, and community-based organizations, to help advance policy priorities
- Work with other collective impact organizations and advocacy groups across the state to identify policy alignment and coordinate advocacy efforts
- Communicate and coordinate with Commit! staff, boards, committees, and counsels on policy developments, including regular briefings for the leadership team during session
- Work with communications team to develop advocacy materials for legislators, action alerts, website and stakeholders
- Travel to Austin regularly (often during the legislative session) to advocate for policy priorities at hearings and at meetings with legislators, staff and agencies

QUALIFICATIONS

- Has at least 5 years of experience in positions that involve education reform and leading advocacy efforts that have produced meaningful change;
- Experience in coalition-building, mobilization, and leading teams;
- Demonstrated ability to analyze public policy proposals, including drafting legislative language;
- Experience in and comfort communicating with high level Legislative teams and Executive teams at state agencies;
- Ability to use data in shaping policy messages;
- Ability to communicate complex information clearly in writing and in oral presentations to a range of audiences;
- Strong organizational and interpersonal skills;
- Master's or higher degree in a related field preferred

Description of the Commit! Partnership

Currently representing over 1.3 million students in Dallas and Tarrant Counties from pre-K through college, Commit! is the largest member of the national StriveTogether Network, comprised of 64 chapters who commit to rigorous quality standards and who share research, practices and new approaches across their communities for collective impact. Founded in 2012, Commit! is actively supported by civic leaders and some of the region's most prominent CEO's, foundation directors, college presidents, K-12 superintendents and non-profit executives. A backbone staff of 25 employees supports the work of the Partnership through measurement, communications, convening, and project management.

This position offers a competitive compensation and benefits package. Interested candidates should email a cover letter and one-page resume to Sagar Desai at sagar.desai@commit2dallas.org. Please reference the "Advocacy Manager" position in the subject line. For more information, [read more about us](#) or contact Sagar with questions.