

About Colorado Succeeds

We are a 501c3 nonprofit, nonpartisan organization that brings together Colorado's business leaders to make sure the education system works better and smarter for all the people of Colorado.

We believe Colorado is the best place to live and work, and we want it to stay that way. This great state can only continue its tradition of excellence when all of our children are educated to their greatest potential, and all of our businesses have the talented and innovative homegrown workforce they need.

Education is the key—it unlocks success for everyone. It's every child's right, and every business's most precious resource. We believe great schools are good business. We know when Colorado schools improve, everybody wins.

Role & Responsibilities

This position offers the successful candidate an opportunity to have a high-profile and profound impact on the direction of statewide education initiatives in Colorado. The Director of Communications and Advocacy serves as a key member of Colorado Succeeds' leadership and management team, which works collaboratively with the Board of Directors to set the overall organizational agenda and strategy. The roles and responsibilities for this position include:

Communications

- Leading the development and implementation of the Colorado Succeeds' communications and advocacy strategy
- Leading local, state, and national press outreach on education and workforce readiness
- Develop organization's strategy for leveraging communications to engage members in our mission
- Managing a team (internal and vendor) to create content for the website, newsletters, press releases, opinion, and other storytelling communications to show the impact of our work
- Creating and managing coalition-building efforts to educate and engage business leaders and partners across Colorado

Advocacy

- Designing and implementing programs and initiatives aligned to our priorities and goals, including supporting new and ongoing coalitions, partnerships with other non-profits, district and government leaders.
- Overseeing and project managing existing Colorado Succeeds' programs.
- Serving as a content expert on education and workforce issues, ensuring that Colorado Succeeds is a pre-eminent voice on creating an agile education system.
- Representing Colorado Succeeds with partners, policymakers, funders, and the media at public events.
- Strengthen the overall member value proposition by distilling best practices and applying them to Colorado Succeeds' assets and aspirations.

Required Qualifications:

- At least 7 years work experience, preferably in senior communications or project management roles at education, government, or business organizations
- Bachelor's degree
- A history of entrepreneurial leadership, in particular with media, policy makers, education stakeholders, and/or community partners
- Commitment to and passion for Colorado Succeeds' mission and goals for improving the public education system
- Diplomatic, team-player with a demonstrated experience navigating complex political or advocacy issues, building relationships, and working collaboratively with a broad range of stakeholders
- Superb communication skills, including the ability to engage and lead multiple constituencies, build effective coalitions, and tailor communications to diverse audiences including business leaders, policymakers, and education stakeholders
- Strong networker able to build relationships, anticipate member needs, facilitate member connections, and engage membership in programs and priorities
- Excellent management skills, including experience managing a team: ability to develop strategic goals, set metrics for measuring success, and adjust as needed in the fluid, fast-paced, work managing political change
- Enjoy working hard and looking for challenges; able to act and react as necessary, even when limited information is available; not afraid to take charge of a situation; can overcome resistance and take unpopular stands when necessary
- Self-starter who stays well informed on issues/trends in education
- Brings a can-do attitude and what-ever-it-takes willingness to achieve goals and support colleagues
- The ability to critically assess challenges and identify effective solutions

Compensation:

Full-time position. Salary is commensurate with experience. Competitive benefits package available

To Apply:

Please send a resume and cover letter to Shannon Nicholas: snicholas@coloradosucceeds.org and indicate the position title in the subject line of the email. **This posting will close May 22, 2018.**

Colorado Succeeds is an equal opportunity employer, and in all its governance, operations, and services, strictly prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, gender, religion, national origin, age, disability, sexual orientation, gender identity and/or expression, or any other legally protected classes and characteristics. Colorado Succeeds commits to the principles of equal opportunity and places the utmost value on diversity.