

About Colorado Succeeds

Colorado Succeeds is a nonpartisan network of business leaders representing companies of different sizes, sectors, and locations from across Colorado who have come together to ensure that all Colorado students are educated to their greatest potential and all Colorado businesses have the homegrown talent they need to thrive. Together, we are leading the way in the agile education movement, ensuring that today's students develop real world skills, have access to growth and development opportunities, and learn how to learn.

Colorado Succeeds believes education systems should respond to the diverse needs of learners as well as the dynamic skills changes occurring in the world around us. By focusing on outcomes and not inputs, we can equip all learners with the skills they will need to solve problems that have yet to be identified. Colorado Succeeds' members are business and community leaders who have united to change outcomes for kids, support in bringing more relevance to schools, and shape the future of Colorado's workforce. Our members have committed their networks and resources to help deliver on this mission through our strategic priorities: policy, practice, and philanthropy.

Our Vision: All of Colorado's children are educated to their greatest potential, and all of Colorado's businesses have the talented and innovative homegrown workforce they need to thrive.

Our Mission: To apply our business expertise, influence, and capital to improve Colorado's schools.

Equity Rationale: Colorado Succeeds is committed to Justice, Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion as its core motivator, strategy, and value. Systemic inequities in education have for too long determined the type and quality of educational opportunities students can access and experience, and the Colorado Paradox is still very much a reality. While more than half of the state's residents have a postsecondary degree, only 22% graduated from Colorado's K-12 public schools. According to the Colorado Talent Pipeline Report, 97% of CO's top in-demand jobs require some level of formal postsecondary education or training, and only about 1 in 5 high school graduates obtain that type of credential.

Through strategies in policy, practice, and philanthropy that center students and families who face systemic inequities, Colorado Succeeds works to remove barriers to ensure equity in accessing experiences, opportunities, and resources they need to reach their greatest potential. Colorado Succeeds is committed to engaging the perspectives of diverse communities to learn, understand, and form the basis of our future actions. Succeeds is committed to finding ways to ensure these education stakeholders and their ideas are at the table, co-creating, supporting, and leading efforts that are best for Colorado's students and families.

Colorado Succeeds holds itself to continuous improvement, including advancing equitable policy agendas, more visibly and consistently sharing its commitment to equity, centering equity in decision-making and strategy development, and clearly defining and demonstrating progress towards equity outcomes.

Opportunity

This position offers the successful candidate an opportunity to lead statewide communications efforts for Colorado Succeeds. The Manager of Communications is expected to work collaboratively with the Chief of Staff, and support the policy, advocacy, and corporate relations teams.

Roles & Responsibilities

- Lead the development and implementation of a communications strategy that fully integrates Colorado Succeeds' theory of change and commitment to justice, equity, diversity and inclusion.
- Conduct a robust redesign of the Colorado Succeeds website in partnership with the leadership team, a website developer and other key vendors

- Develop the organization's strategy for leveraging communications to engage corporate members in our mission
- Manage a team of vendors including but not limited to writers, video production, graphic design, digital advertising, and public relations
- Regularly manage the Colorado Succeeds social media accounts to promote our work, share relevant education/workforce news, and participate in conversations
- Lead local, state, and national press outreach on education and workforce readiness
- Spearhead the design and production of collateral, such as annual impact reports
- Draft, design, and send Colorado Succeeds monthly member briefing and monitor performance to drive continuous performance improve
- Track relevant KPIs related to organizational goals and priorities, and identify opportunities to improve performance to meet or exceed such goals

Required Qualifications:

- At least 4 years of work experience, preferably in communications roles at education, government, or business organizations
- 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, including a focus on justice, equity, diversity and inclusion.
- 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, and tailor communications to diverse audiences including business leaders, policymakers, and education stakeholders
- Experience managing vendors, setting expectations, and providing feedback to ensure the best work product
- Ability to develop strategic goals, set metrics for measuring success, and adjust as needed in the fluid, fast-paced, work environment
- Familiarity with WordPress, social media platforms, and email marketing
- 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 and workforce
- The ability to critically assess challenges and identify effective solutions

Compensation:

Full-time position. Salary range: \$55K-\$70K. 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.

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.