

Director of Advocacy

Start Date: Immediate
Team: Team Strategic Communications
Location: New York, NY

About Achievement First:

Achievement First serves 15,000 students in 41 schools in five communities across Connecticut, New York, and Rhode Island. All of our students come to us through blind lottery. The majority are Black, Latinx, and children from low-income families who will be the first in their families to graduate from college. The mission of Achievement First is to deliver on the promise of equal educational opportunity for all of America's children. We know that every child—regardless of race, zip code, or economic status—deserves access to great schools. For more information about the Achievement First mission, model, our schools and team, please visit our website at www.achievementfirst.org.

Summary

Achievement First seeks a Director of Advocacy in New York who will develop and implement winning advocacy strategies that effectively advance the organization's priorities among elected officials, community leaders and other key stakeholders throughout New York State/City. This is a great opportunity for someone who is committed to building and maintaining strong community partnerships--aimed at building relationships with community leaders, neighborhood organizations, elected officials, and parent and families. This person will lead all external-and community-facing work in New York to advance AF's reputation and influence as a leading charter management organization in New York City.

Responsibilities of the Community Outreach Coordinator will include but are not limited to:

- Management of external affairs & partners advocacy planning and execution
 - Plan and execute elected official engagement strategy
 - Develop strong working relationships and serve as AF's primary point of contact with elected officials, government staffers and political stakeholders.
 - Co-create legislative priorities for the sector along with key advocacy charter organizations and groups.
 - Work with key advocacy groups on AF legislative priorities
- Parent and community engagement
 - Lead creation and execution of a parent advocacy strategy and successful coalition-building to support AF and education reform interests
 - Develop community partnerships with community leaders, government agencies and community-based organizations in ensuring we have a voice both upstate and downstate.
 - Manage all external AF events around critical resource dissemination across all of our schools and network, including developing and actualizing external relations goals related to network LRE commitments.
 - Manage a team of 15 AF staff volunteers to help plan large scale events around key issue areas
 - Co-Create strategy around expansion into new areas
- Support Administrative Functions for Team Student Recruitment
 - Support Spanish translations for all geographies.

- Support application verification and reconciliation for all EnollRI and SchoolMint applications.
- Work with Data Associate to support data analysis and presentation.
- Support running AF-owned lotteries and all lottery functionality

Skills and Characteristics

- Detail oriented
- Adaptive Project management
- Exceptional written and verbal communication skills
- Political acumen and knowledge
- Ability to effectively manage people to outcomes
- Ability to manage multiple complex collaborative projects simultaneously
- Ability to effectively interact, communicate with multiple stakeholders
- Ability to build and maintain relationships with families, elected officials and other stakeholders

Educational Background and Work Experience

- Education: Master's or Professional Degree
- 7 years of work experience, demonstrated results in advocacy/political campaigns/governmental affairs, community engagement/organizing and application management. Experience in program management and evaluation, knowledge of the current educational and political landscape in the state.

Compensation

Salary for this position is competitive and commensurate with experience. Additionally, Achievement First offers a comprehensive benefits package.

To Apply

Apply by completing our online application form linked [here](#).

Achievement First is an equal opportunity employer and an organization that values diversity. People from all diverse backgrounds are strongly encouraged to apply. You can learn more about diversity at Achievement First here: <http://www.achievementfirst.org/about-us/diversity/> .

Achievement First requires vaccination against COVID-19 for all employees. Reasonable Accommodations based on a qualifying disability or sincerely held religious belief are being considered in accordance with applicable law. Click [here](#) to read our full policy.