

Position Description for President and CEO of Innovation Ohio and Senior Advisor to Innovation Ohio Education Fund

OVERVIEW

Innovation Ohio (IO), a nonprofit leader in progressive communications, coalition-building, and advocacy, is seeking a new President and CEO to lead the organization into its second decade. Based in Columbus, Ohio, IO runs communications and advocacy campaigns that champion progressive ideas and support progressive leaders, with an ultimate goal of building more progressive governance at the state and local levels in Ohio. Learn more at innovationohio.org.

THE LEADERSHIP OPPORTUNITY

The President and CEO leads the organization in developing the strategy, funding, and relationships necessary for IO to be a respected convener and influential voice in Ohio's progressive ecosystem. The board is seeking a visionary, strategic professional with proven leadership and outstanding interpersonal skills, who can work in coalition with partners to accomplish the short-term and long-term objectives of the organization and Ohio's larger progressive movement as a whole.

Role and Responsibilities:

- Furthering IO's mission through creative planning and organizational management, and partnering with the board, staff, and stakeholders to define the strategic course for the organization's future.
- Leading IO's fundraising efforts, including developing and executing a plan that fosters collaborative relationships with funders, secures support for both 501(c)(3) and 501(c)(4) activities, and ensures a sustainable, diversified and compliant flow of funds to the organization.
- Overseeing all compliance and fiscal responsibilities including those necessary for auditing, budgeting, and financial analysis.
- Building and maintaining strong relationships with allied leaders and organizations in order to support and strengthen Ohio's progressive infrastructure.
- Ensuring high-quality program delivery and effective use of personnel and financial resources.
- Working with staff to create and execute communications and advocacy plans that further progressive ideas and electoral goals at the state and local level.
- Working in coalition with other progressive organizations for scaled and collective impact.
- Convening and providing communications and advocacy support to coalitions coming together around key policy and/or electoral opportunities.
- Providing communications and advocacy briefings to first-time candidates, elected officials, allied organizations, and activists.
- Serving as a regular commentator for print media and on television talk shows to discuss local, state, and federal politics and policy.
- Building IO's external facing brand as a progressive influencer.
- Advancing diversity, equality, and inclusion internally and externally.

- Leading human resource management including, but not limited to, staff hiring, supervision, training and mentoring.
- Working well with staff and empowering individuals to fulfill their highest potential.
- Fostering a positive culture of integrity, quality and teamwork throughout the organization that supports a risk-taking, collaborative work environment that is open to new ideas.
- Working collaboratively with the Board of Directors to support an effective model of governance.

Skills and Qualifications

The new leader must demonstrate a passion for progressive advocacy and politics. In addition, the ideal candidate will possess the following qualifications:

- Five or more years of experience as a senior leader in an organization.
- Bachelor's degree or higher from an accredited college/university.
- Strong interpersonal and deep relational skills, with the ability to build trust and respect and interact equally well with the board, staff, and allied leaders.
- Demonstrated fundraising experience with success in building dynamic relationships with key stakeholders in order to successfully build multi-faceted streams of funding.
- Demonstrated history of the sound judgment, administrative skill, and financial insight necessary to oversee day-to-day operations, direct staff, and manage a budget.
- Demonstrated success in working with and leading diverse coalitions.
- Experience going on the record with print and televised media.
- Knowledgeable about IO's particular theory of change and experience in communications, advocacy, and coalition work.
- Have or can easily build connections with Ohio's state and local progressive communities.

SALARY AND BENEFITS

The President and CEO reports to Innovation Ohio's Board of Directors and supports the Innovation Ohio Education Fund as a Senior Advisor. The salary range begins at \$90k, based on experience, with generous healthcare benefits.

Candidates are encouraged to apply by August 7.

To apply, please send resume and cover letter addressing why you want to lead Innovation Ohio to: Katherine Liming (liming@innovationohio.org) with "IO President Position" in the subject line.

Please include at least three professional references (references not contacted until you have had a successful interview).

Innovation Ohio values diversity in gender, race, ethnicity, age, sexual orientation, class, ability, life experiences, and background. We're an Equal Opportunity Employer — women, people of color, people with disabilities, and LGBTQ candidates are strongly encouraged to apply.