State Policy and Government Affairs Manager

The US Water Alliance is recruiting a State Policy and Government Affairs Manager to advance our vision of a sustainable water future for all. This is an exciting opportunity to help states develop the capacity and policy context to support equitable, climate-forward, and One Water infrastructure projects in communities and watersheds.

*If you’re excited about this role and our vision, we encourage you to apply even if you don’t believe you meet every single requirement or qualification in this job description!*

About the US Water Alliance

The US Water Alliance advances policies and programs to secure a sustainable water future for all. Established in 2008, the Alliance is a nonprofit organization that brings together diverse interests to identify and advance common-ground, achievable solutions to our nation’s most pressing water challenges. Our members and partners include community leaders, water providers, public officials, business leaders, environmental organizations, policy organizations, and more. We:

- **Educate the nation** about the true value of water and water equity, as well as the need for investment in water systems. Our innovative approaches to building public and political will, best-in-class communications tools, high-impact events, media coverage, and publications are educating and inspiring the nation about how water is essential and in need of investment.

- **Accelerate the adoption of One Water principles and solutions** that effectively manage water resources and advance a better quality of life for all. As an honest broker and action catalyst, we convene diverse interests to identify and advance practical, achievable solutions to our nation’s most pressing water challenges. We do this through our strategic initiatives and programs such as our Water Equity Network, Equitable Infrastructure Initiative, and One Water Hub, which offer high-quality opportunities for adoption of best practices, knowledge building, and peer exchange. We develop forward-looking and inclusive water policies and programs, and we build coalitions that will change the face of water management for decades to come.

- **Celebrate what works in innovative water management.** We shine a light on groundbreaking work through storytelling, analysis of successful approaches, and special recognition programs that demonstrate how water leaders are building stronger communities and a stronger America.

For more information, please visit our website at: [www.uswateralliance.org](http://www.uswateralliance.org).
Position Overview
Reporting to the Director of Policy and Government Affairs and interfacing with all Alliance programs, the State Policy and Government Affairs Manager will lead engagement with tribal, regional, and state policymakers and agencies. They will both lead specific projects and content relating to tribal, regional, and state policy and administration and support other program staff to engage tribal, regional, and state audiences in line with various program goals.

What You’ll Do

Strategy Development and Project Management
- Collaboratively establish regional, state, and tribal impact measurements and targets that strategically support Alliance programs, grant, and partner expectations, as well as our overall mission.
- In close partnership with Alliance program staff, create and deliver an annual work plan of regional, state, and tribal policy and administration activities.
- Create and manage a State Revolving Fund (SRF) and State Policy Community of Practice to provide the needed social infrastructure for state, regional and tribal actors to share ideas, lessons learned, and best practices about effective equitable and climate-resilient approaches to water infrastructure planning, financing, and delivery.
- Manage an ad hoc group of One Water Council members to advise the Alliance in our new focused efforts on state, regional, and tribal policy, including the SRF and State Policy Community of Practice.
- Work with communications and One Water Hub staff to leverage existing and future state policy content to widely share key insights, policies, practices, and Alliance positions.

Relationship Management and State, Regional, and Tribal Landscape Awareness
- Serve as the primary Alliance contact for state, regional, and tribal policymakers, administrators, and their staff, maintaining positive working relationships and serving as a brand ambassador for the Alliance.
- Build the Alliance’s network of contacts and partners across state legislators, gubernatorial administrations, state agencies, and tribal administrations.
- Maintain awareness of major developments and issues concerning One Water policy and administration in states, territories, and tribes; keep the Alliance team up to date on major developments and initiatives.

Budget and Grant Management
- Track related grant deliverables and impacts; contribute to timely reporting and funder updates.
- Manage related expenses in line with approved budgets and expense tracking procedures.

What you bring to this role
The State Policy and Government Affairs Manager will be a skilled project manager, effective partnership and network builder, impeccable writer, expert facilitator, and policy researcher who brings experience and passion around sustainable, integrated, and equitable water management. The ideal candidate has a background in the water sector, policy, infrastructure, coalition or network building, communications, and equity/environmental justice. This crucial member of the team will be flexible, dedicated to the Alliance mission, and able to adapt to dynamic and changing contexts and tight deadlines.
Education and Experience:
- BA/BS in related field
- Minimum of four years of relevant professional experience with at least two years working directly on state and/or tribal policy issues implicating water resources management and/or infrastructure
- Experience in water, coalition or network building, communications, and environmental justice issues required; additional experience in or with the water utility sector, urban planning, infrastructure, or place-based initiatives a plus

Abilities:
- Demonstrated capacity for critical, independent, and creative thinking and strategy
- Demonstrated public speaking, presentation, and facilitation skills
- A self-starter with strong organizational skills; ability to track and manage multiple initiatives simultaneously

Mindsets:
- Excellent interpersonal and diplomacy skills and experience
- Openness and flexibility to travel

Compensation and Location
In addition to a competitive salary that is commensurate with experience and in line with the organization’s budget, the US Water Alliance offers an excellent benefits package that includes paid vacation, health, vision, and dental insurance, and a 401(k)-retirement plan. Qualified candidates will be considered regardless of location. While most work is performed remotely, travel will be required for occasional on-site events, gatherings, and program and/or development needs.

To Apply
Please send your CV/resume, cover letter, and two original, unedited writing samples to hr@uswateralliance.org with “Application: State Policy and Government Affairs Manager” in the subject line. Applicant materials will be accepted through January 13, 2023.

What to Expect
We’ll review your application materials for experience, knowledge, and abilities required to successfully perform the job. Only those selected to advance in this process will be contacted for an interview. Candidates must possess current and valid US Work Authorization and be eligible to work for any US employer without sponsorship.

As part of our standard hiring process for new employees, employment will be contingent upon successful completion of a background check.

If you require assistance due to a disability in the application or recruitment process, please submit a request to hr@uswateralliance.org.

The US Water Alliance is committed to building and maintaining a diverse staff and a welcoming workplace for all.