

Ohio Soybean Position Announcement

Applications are being accepted for the position of Policy and Demand Coordinator with the Ohio Soybean Association and Ohio Soybean Council. Please see the position description below for specific responsibilities.

The Ohio Soybean Association (OSA) is a member-driven grassroots organization dedicated to improving the business climate for Ohio soybean producers. OSA's mission is to provide leadership for Ohio's soybean producers in promoting effective policies and legislation to ensure a growing and profitable soybean industry. OSA is governed by a board of soybean producers and soybean industry partners.

The Ohio Soybean Council (OSC) is the Qualified State Soybean Board for Ohio. OSC's mission is to invest Ohio soybean checkoff funds to maximize the value of soybeans and increase profit opportunities for Ohio farmers. OSC is governed by a board of Ohio soybean producers.

The candidate selected for this job will play an important role in the success of our mission-driven organization and will become a key member of our staff team. We value our staff and offer a competitive salary and a wide array of benefits including, but not limited to: employer-paid medical, dental, vision and life insurance coverage; paid time off; a parental leave policy; a tuition reimbursement program; and a 401K program.

Applications will be accepted for this position until August 16, 2024. To apply, please email or mail a cover letter and resume to:

Brandon Kern, Director of Public Policy and Issues Analysis
Ohio Soybean Association/Ohio Soybean Council
918 Proprietors Road, Worthington, Ohio 43085
Email: [hiring@soyohio.org](mailto: hiring@soyohio.org)

Position Description:

The Policy and Demand Coordinator supports our work to implement and analyze state and federal policy priorities, drive farmer and partner engagement on key issues, and build domestic and international soybean demand, to the benefit of Ohio soybean farmers and stakeholders.

Reports to: Director, Public Affairs and Issues Analysis

Responsibilities would include, but not be limited to, the following:

Public Affairs, Policy and Advocacy

- Coordinates policy and advocacy activities
 - Coordinates lobbying and engagement activities with the General Assembly and state agencies.
 - Prepares testimony and written correspondence.
 - Monitors developments of state-level legislation and regulatory rulemaking and provides analysis of impacts on soybean producers.
 - Organize legislative visits for OSA Board Members and staff with state officials.
 - Work as part of team to develop and deliver communications to publicize OSA policy priorities and achievements.
- Coordinates engagement activities of the Political Action Committee
 - Develop and implement fundraising strategies.
 - Assists in development budgeting and disbursement strategies for PAC contributions to support political candidates.
 - Develop and implement communications to donors and members to highlight the priorities and achievements of, as well as drive participation in, PAC activities.
 - Assist with planning of annual OSA Harvest Classic fundraiser
- Conducts farmer member and strategic partner engagement
 - Prepares monthly policy updates for membership communication.
 - Participate in OSA and OSC farmer outreach and education events
 - Identify and participate in existing ag events to highlight OSA policy priorities and achievements and drive membership and member engagement
 - Identify prospects and assist with increasing participation in OSA corporate partnership and advertising programs

Issues Analysis and Research

- Conduct research and analysis on a wide range of topics that impact production of soybeans such as regulatory structures, data management and technology development.
- Draft reporting and other content to disseminate findings of issue analysis and research to OSA and OSC board members.

Demand and Market Development

- Collect market information to help guide OSC initiatives, inform stakeholders, and enhance trade relations.
- Collaborate with manager of demand & market development, farmers, in-state industry and national groups to host international trade teams.
- Travel to domestic and international meetings relevant to OSC projects and initiatives.
- Seek in-state conference and tradeshow opportunities to engage with Ohio's animal agriculture, transportation and economic development organizations.
- Identify opportunities to grow demand for Ohio soybeans – commodity and specialty.
- Help with farmer travel/ board involvement / engagement

Qualifications:

- Bachelor's degree in relevant field or equivalent experience
- Strong oral and written communication skills
- Strong understanding of state, federal, and local government, including structure, key decision-makers and process
- Familiarity with agricultural policy issues at state and federal levels preferred
- Strong relationship-building skills and ability to adapt to a dynamic workplace
- Experience working in a member-based organization preferred
- Ability to work independently or cooperatively as part of a team
- Proficiency with word processing, spreadsheet, and presentation software
- Experience with multiple social media platforms
- Experience managing multiple projects with multiple deadlines simultaneously
- Ability to travel as needed
- Enthusiasm for the field of public affairs and policy
- Self-motivated, creative, and organized

This position will be filled on an equal opportunity and non-discriminatory basis without regard to race, color, creed, age, gender, disability, religion, sexual orientation, national origin, ancestry, or military or veteran status. Employment may be conditional upon successful completion of a substance abuse screening test and/or background check as part of the company's pre-employment policy.