

Postsecondary Commission

Postsecondary Commission Position Opening: Director of Community of Practice

Position Overview

The Community of Practice team for the Postsecondary Commission will promote and support colleges — existing ones, new ones, and aspiring ones — that share PSC’s belief in earnings outcomes, transparency, innovation, and accountability. The team will seek to support and promote a pipeline of new college entrepreneurs and to shorten the learning curve of these new college entrepreneurs as they strive to launch new institutions. The Director of PSC’s Community of Practice will lead this work to create and convene a movement of colleges dedicated to economic mobility, innovation, accountability, and transparency.

This position is full-time and fully remote and reports to a Vice President overseeing both the Community of Practice and Accreditation teams.

Organizational Overview

The Postsecondary Commission is a nonprofit organization working to become a new college accreditor. We want to be the accreditor for colleges – both new and current ones – that create economic mobility for students, are transparent with their outcomes, and are willing to be held accountable for their results. We have five core principles that guide our work - we will only accredit nonprofit colleges; we will measure and report colleges’ economic mobility outcomes; we will protect students and taxpayers through transparency of and accountability for outcomes; we will seek out and welcome innovation in our colleges; and we will be structured and operate free from conflicts of interest. The federal recognition process is long and in 2023, as part of that process, we will develop, seek public input on, and release our standards, protocols, and procedures for accreditation. We will also begin to work with partner colleges to implement and refine our proposed approach to accreditation. This is the work that will define the Postsecondary Commission as a new college accreditor and this is the work that every role will help support.

Responsibilities

- **Build a Network.** The Director of Community of Practice will build a network of individuals and entities, primarily practitioners, who are committed to a movement of new colleges. This work will include:
 - **Entrepreneur Identification and Recruitment** - This person will seek out and build relationships with social entrepreneurs working in higher education and interested in or currently running innovative colleges. This person will create a dynamic network of potential college startup leaders for the Postsecondary Commission to engage with.
 - **Innovation Ecosystem Engagement** - This person will become an expert on the innovators and supporters of innovation in higher education beyond college operators. The person in this role will need to quickly map the landscape and learn how to engage the various stakeholders in the Postsecondary Commission’s mission and work. For this, this position will work closely with staff from both the accreditation and communications teams.

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- **Plan and Execute Events.** The Director of Community of Practice will facilitate formal and informal connection opportunities for the network that gets built.
 - **In Person Convenings** - This role will organize a yearly convening for all relevant stakeholders in the new college ecosystem, as well as host strategic local meetups and regionally and/or thematically focused networking events.
 - **Online Community Building** - In addition to hosting in person convenings, this person will organize an online community for new college entrepreneurs, with frequent opportunities for information sharing, networking, and movement building.
- **Create Content.** The Director of Community of Practice will build out the content and possibly other support that social entrepreneurs starting new colleges will need to be successful.
 - **Content Development** - New college entrepreneurs face myriad challenges starting new colleges. The person in this role will develop high quality, accessible content that explains, showcases, and curates resources about how to overcome common challenges in launching a new college and using differential impact or value-add outcomes.
 - **Story-telling** - This position will also work with the communications team to capture stories of new college entrepreneurs, their colleges, their students, and their impact.

Qualifications & Experience

- **Prior Work Experience.** We would like someone who has 5-7 years of work experience in higher education, particularly working with innovators in the design and model space. Deep connections across higher education, K12, and workforce sectors are all required.
- **Perfectionism and Attention to Detail.** We need someone who has incredibly high work standards and an astute attention to detail. From the events to the content, there is little room for error as the Postsecondary Commission has to establish itself.
- **Relationship Management.** We are looking for someone who is a careful, effective, and intuitive relationship builder and manager. The Community of Practice will succeed based on the quality of interactions that outsiders have with the Postsecondary Commission.
- **Communicator.** This externally-facing role requires a person who is equally adept and comfortable writing and speaking, preparing a meaty content document and creating a highly visual slide deck.
- **People & Project Manager.** We are a small team and this job will require firing on many cylinders simultaneously. This person should be comfortable managing multiple projects and deadlines, as well as building and managing a small team.
- **Quick and Eager Learner.** No one starts knowing everything for a job, and this role will have a lot to learn. Candidates should have a proven curiosity and interest in learning.

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- **Collaborative.** We are a small team. We need someone who works well with others, takes an interest in them, and builds them up.
- **Entrepreneurial.** The Postsecondary Commission is a startup. Things change constantly. We need someone who likes that sort of work environment. We need someone who is flexible, who processes new data and developments well, and who pivots quickly.
- **Humble and Kind, Open to Feedback, and Fun.** Yes, humble and kind, open to feedback, and fun. This is some of what we value.

Compensation and Process

The position can be located anywhere in the United States, and will be full-time. There may be up to 20% travel. Compensation depends on knowledge, skills and experience.

Interested candidates can apply by **sending a resume and short note of interest to jobs@postsecondarycommission.org**. This posting will be open until filled.