Position Announcement Communication Specialist Washington State Senate Democratic Caucus

Salary Range: Based on experience

Closing Date: Nov. 22, 2019

The Washington State Senate Democratic Caucus (SDC) Communications Office is seeking a candidate to fill a Communications Specialist job opening. This is a full-time position with benefits, including health, retirement and leave. The SDC consists exclusively of Democratic members of the Washington State Senate.

## JOB DESCRIPTION:

The Communication Specialist is an experienced communications professional who coordinates media-, public- and stakeholder-relation activities for Democratic state senators.

Duties include, but are not limited to:

- Developing plans for helping senators communicate their policy message to the media, the public, and the stakeholder groups in their districts and beyond;
- Identifying unanticipated communications opportunities in social media, print, TV, radio, and other outlets;
- Writing speeches and talking points, as well as producing multi-media Web content, news releases, op-eds, letters to the editor, and newsletter and e-newsletter copy;
- Advising senators on effectively communicating a message and how to link communications goals with legislative goals;
- Establishing and maintaining relationships with representatives of regional media, and stakeholder groups;
- Identifying new tactics for targeted, direct communication efforts with constituents in each member's district;
- Coordinating with policy staff, senators' legislative assistants and nonpartisan committee staff;
- Tracking media coverage of senators' public policy proposals.
- Ability to work long hours; late nights and weekends are typical during the legislative session.
- Salary based on relevant experience.

## **QUALIFICATIONS:**

Successful candidates must be excellent writers able to handle multiple tasks, work well under pressure, meet tight deadlines, be proactive and thrive in a team-oriented work environment. Applicants should have a bachelor's degree in journalism, public relations, communications or a related field.

Work experience should include two years experience in public policy, public relations or journalism and familiarity with social media. Proficiency in Adobe graphic design software is a plus.

Applicants should have a passion for the legislative process, excellent political and strategic judgment, as well as the ability to frame complex political issues into a coherent and simple message. Familiarity with the people, politics and press in the Legislature is a plus.

**INTERESTED CANDIDATES** should send a cover letter, resume, three references and three brief writing samples in a Word or .pdf format by NOVEMBER 22, 2019 to:

Peter Dodds Senate Democratic Caucus 358 Cherberg Building Olympia, WA 98504-0464 (360) 786-7477 peter.dodds@leg.wa.gov

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