



Democracy Project Deputy Director State Innovation Exchange (SiX)

About the State Innovation Exchange (SiX)

The State Innovation Exchange (SiX) is a national resource and strategy center that supports state legislators in advancing and defending progressive policies across the country, including supporting and advancing the rights of workers and working families, protecting the environment, strengthening our democracy, advancing reproductive rights, and defending civil rights. With a long-term vision of building progressive power and infrastructure at the state level, SiX assists legislators who are working to move a progressive agenda forward in the states and it has built a network of more than 3,000 elected officials who represent all 50 states.

SiX's work in the states is informed by its expertise and track record of advancing a progressive, people-driven agenda through the legislative and governing process. SiX supports state legislators by making available top-notch research, training, policy expertise, communications support, political strategy, and a space to network and share ideas. Additionally, SiX annually convenes hundreds of legislators from across the country for a conference that provides opportunities to network and collaborate, discuss the lessons learned from different approaches in each state, provide education on important issues, and share effective tools and strategies that strengthen the policymaking process.

Democracy Project Deputy Director

The Democracy Project will recruit, train and connect legislators from across the country who will commit to a democracy values platform and who will elevate the issue in order to create a mandate for positive change. This effort will track and report on democracy policy moving in all 50 states and provide policy and messaging guidance in collaboration with partner organizations who operate in this space and help foster the development of state coalitions who dedicate their focus to proactive and defensive democracy policy reforms.

SiX is seeking a Deputy Director for the Democracy Project. The Deputy Director will be a well-networked, knowledgeable professional with a minimum of 5 years of experience in the democracy policy and organizing space, comfortable working with state legislators and national and state coalition partners and eager to work in a fast-paced, lean, and innovative organization. The Democracy Project Deputy Director will help extend the reach and impact of the Democracy Project, working to further develop the program, legislator recruitment in key states, partnering with coalition members on educational trainings and skills-building opportunities for legislators, and responding to communications, advocacy, and policy technical assistance requests as needed.

Responsibilities Include

- Work with the senior management to manage, recruit and cultivate state legislators involved in the Democracy Project, including identifying opportunities for and helping implement skills-building webinars, information-sharing venues, and other project ideas;
- Help identify opportunities to support and amplify legislators' voices on issues related to democracy;
- Work collaboratively with SiX staff around the country to provide policy, communications, and strategic resources and support for state legislators as they work to defend and advance progressive democracy priorities;
- Liaise with national and state coalition partners to ensure legislator engagement is complementary and responsive to movement trends and needs;
- Spearhead creation of communications resources for legislators;
- Arrange, coordinate, and at times facilitate trainings, strategic conversations, and other legislator events;
- Stay abreast of state democracy policy developments and infuse developments and trends into program planning and project launches;
- Coordinate with SiX partners and stakeholders and represent SiX at conferences, events, and meetings;
- Serve as a thought partner and thought leader internally and externally to continuously evolve SiX's democracy program;
- Assist the research team in bill tracking and reporting policy progression to legislators and partners;
- Perform other duties as assigned.

Skills and Qualifications

- A self-starter and leader who thrives on big ideas and bold plans for change;
- Experience and knowledge of state democracy policy and advocacy, with experience in state or national democracy coalitions preferred;
- Experience and comfort in working with legislators;
- An understanding of and commitment to democracy reforms that are more inclusive, representative and transparent;
- Excellent organizational skills, with the ability to self-motivate and drive projects to completion;
- Ability to work quickly under pressure and juggle several projects at once;
- Ability to work independently and as part of a team;
- Ability to work in a remote office environment;
- Strong communications and writing skills;
- Experience and/or relationships with press and communications efforts preferred;
- Understanding of state policy and the legislative process, and the needs of state legislators;
- Willingness to handle occasional long hours and travel.

Project Position

This position is a two-year, grant-funded project position. We anticipate renewal of grant funding in 2020. However, continuation of the position is contingent upon future funding.

Compensation

Salary: \$80,000 - \$90,000 depending on experience. Benefits: comprehensive benefits package that includes health, dental, vision, generous paid time off, 403(b) plan with a match, life insurance and disability coverage.

Priority Application Deadline: October 26, 2018 (applications will be accepted until position is filled).

Target Start Date: November 2018.

How to Apply

Send a cover letter and resume to jobs@stateinnovation.org. Please include "Democracy Project Deputy Director" in the subject line. Applications accepted until position is filled.

The State Innovation Exchange is an equal opportunity/affirmative action employers and encourage applications from all qualified individuals including women, people of color, persons with disabilities, and lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer (LGBTQ) individuals.