

Association of Central Oklahoma Governments

JOB OPPORTUNITY

DESCRIPTION:

JOB TITLE: Community & Economic Development (CED) Manager

DEPARTMENTS: Community & Economic Development (CED) Department

SUPERVISOR: Executive Director

DATE: JANUARY 2024

FLSA STATUS: Exempt

EMPLOYER INFORMATION:

The Association of Central Oklahoma Governments (ACOG) is the regional planning agency and the designated metropolitan planning organization (MPO) serving the four-county Central Oklahoma region (Oklahoma, Cleveland, Canadian, and Logan Counties). ACOG, located in Oklahoma City, performs work related to enhanced 911 services, community & economic development (CED), water resources, air quality, transportation planning services, and other issues of regional significance. For more information about ACOG and the variety of services and programs provided, please access our website at www.acogok.org.

JOB SUMMARY:

ACOG seeks a strategic manager to lead a department that focuses on community and economic development, by supporting ACOG member government projects. Reporting to the Executive Director, this customer-centered position must possess the ability to deliver high-quality products in a timely manner, manage diverse partnerships, and have a passion for helping communities develop a resilient and sustainable economy. The position manages contract and grant funded projects, provides technical assistance, conducts analysis, develops strategic studies, and reports, and facilitates collaboration among member governments and partner organizations.

COMMUNITY & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT ESSENTIAL JOB FUNCTIONS:

- Coordinate the activities of the four-county Capital Area Economic Development District (CAPEDD) of Oklahoma with member governments and economic development organizations
- Supervise Community and Economic Development Department staff
- Assist in the preparation and administration of federal and state community and economic development assistance programs
- Serve as the primary point of contact and coordinator of the ACOG Grant Preparation and Grant Administration Services for local member governments and other organizations
- Promote Economic Development Administration (EDA) grant opportunities for member organizations by assisting and/or writing EDA grant applications or by providing letters of support, when requested
- Manage the Community Economic Resiliency Initiative (CERI) Program. Work with the selected CERI municipalities while coordinating with the University of Oklahoma Institute for Quality Communities (IQC) in completing the planning objectives for each community

- Maintain, update, and strategically implement the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) for CAPEDD in coordination with the CEDS Advisory Committee
- Grow and maintain the membership of the CEDS Advisory Committee and coordinate the quarterly meetings and agendas for the committee
- Market the My Government Online (MGO) Software to governmental entities on behalf of ACOG. Schedule demonstration meetings, and coordinate with the South Central Planning & Development Commission (SCPDC) of Louisiana
- Assist with legislative priorities & support and advocate for legislation that benefits the region
- Assure compliance with the EDA requirements pertaining to grant contract administration and reporting
- Employ methods of data collection, data analysis, and preparation of reports on the economic viability and trends in the region
- Serve as the primary administrator of the Rural Economic Action Plan (REAP) grant program. Reviewing past projects, administer current projects, and prepare program documentation for the next round of projects
- Provide REAP/CDBG grantees with technical assistance on grant applications
- Assure compliance with the Oklahoma Department of Commerce (ODOC) requirements pertaining to REAP and CDBG grant contract administration and reporting
- Manage the following REAP activities: maintain scoring and ranking criteria for grant applications; coordinate training workshops for member governments; review and assess grant applications; maintain grant contract files and documentation; prepare correspondence and notifications to grantees; and conduct field evaluations/site visits to assess grantee progress on grant funded projects
- Prepare and manage annual budget for the Community & Economic Development Department
- Participate and assist with other regional initiatives and programs that promote ACOG's mission and goals

ADDITIONAL RESPONSIBILITIES:

- Perform other duties and projects as required by the Executive Director

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS FOR CONSIDERATION:

- Bachelor's Degree in public administration, planning, business administration, or a relevant degree
- Three (3) years of direct or related community and economic development planning experience. A Master's Degree in a related field may substitute for two years of experience
- Familiarity with community and economic development programs, grant contract administration & budgetary procedures, and project management

KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS, AND ABILITIES:

- Must have strong organizational skills and the ability to prepare and interpret quantitative data
- Excellent research and synthesis skills required
- Ability to work independently on long term projects with limited supervision, establish priorities, handle multiple tasks, and meet deadlines required
- Good written and verbal communications skills and ability to work effectively with internal/external customers required
- Consensus building skills, as well as the ability to understand different perspectives, build collaborative relationships, and develop and implement creative solutions
- Possess a team player mentality and willingness to follow and adhere to organization's policies and procedures
- CDBG certification with the State of Oklahoma is a plus
- Proficiency in MS Word, MS PowerPoint, and MS Excel
- Working knowledge of ESRI ArcGIS Desktop (GIS mapping and analysis) is a plus
- Effective presentation skills for small and large groups
- Demonstrate competence in contract, budget development, program development and administration is essential
- Experience with state and federal community and economic development programs is highly desirable
- Must have a valid OK or other state driver's license

PHYSICAL REQUIREMENTS:

The physical demands described here are representative of those that must be met by an employee to successfully perform the essential functions of this job. Reasonable accommodations may be made to enable individuals with disabilities to perform essential functions.

This work is sedentary and requires the following physical activities.

- Sitting for long periods; occasional bending, squatting, kneeling, stooping; good finger dexterity and feeling; frequent repetitive motions; talking, hearing, and visual acuity
- Occasionally lift to 40 pounds
- Specific vision abilities include close, color, peripheral, and the ability to adjust focus

WORKING CONDITIONS:

- Normal office environment with flexible hours

COMPENSATION:

The hiring range for this position will be \$68,000 - \$73,000 annually. ACOG offers a competitive benefits package which includes paid vacation and sick leave, health, dental, vision, life insurance and retirement; health reimbursement arrangement, flexible spending account for medical and child/dependent care expenses; and flexible work schedules.

HOW TO APPLY:

1. Download the ACOG employment application at:
<http://www.acogok.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/07/ACOG-Employment-Fill-Out-Form.pdf>
2. Send **completed application package** (cover letter, completed application form & resume) to:

Mark W. Sweeney, AICP, Executive Director
Association of Central Oklahoma Governments
4205 N. Lincoln Blvd.
Oklahoma City, OK 73105

Or by email to acogjobs@acogok.org with the subject: **Community & Economic Development Manager.**

Incomplete application packages will not be considered. Position is open until filled; the initial review of applications begins February 7, 2024.

All employment offers will be within the stated hiring range.

ACOG reserves the right to hire at an appropriate level. ACOG is an Equal Opportunity Employer (EOE).