

Director of Advocacy Position

About Us: At AAM, we believe in the transformative power of all museums – from art to zoos – to shape communities and drive positive societal change. As the leading advocate for museums nationwide, we champion their essential role in preserving cultural heritage and fostering inclusivity, resilience, and positive social impact. Join us in our mission to amplify the voice of museums and drive advocacy initiatives that resonate locally and nationally.

Position Overview: As the Director of Advocacy, you will be at the forefront of AAM's efforts to advocate for the value of museums and their vital role in society. Your responsibilities will include developing and executing grassroots advocacy strategies, fostering partnerships, and mobilizing the museum community to champion legislative support and policies. This role requires a dynamic leader who can navigate the intersection of politics, communication, and advocacy to drive impactful change. The salary for this position is high \$80s. The candidate must also reside within the District of Columbia, Maryland, or Virginia and be able to work regularly from our office in Arlington, VA.

Key Responsibilities: In this role, you will be responsible for developing and executing AAM's advocacy strategy in alignment with our organizational objectives, legislative goals, and timelines. You will cultivate and oversee partnerships aimed at amplifying our advocacy messages and mobilizing support within the museum community. Additionally, you will provide essential support and resources to empower museum professionals in their advocacy endeavors, including the tools and training for AAM-led signature advocacy efforts such as Museums Advocacy Day and Invite Congress to Visit Your Museum. Leading campaigns to champion legislation and policies that enhance museums' impact and drive societal change will be a core aspect of your role. Furthermore, you will ensure that our advocacy resources remain current, accessible, and pertinent to the diverse range of advocacy efforts we undertake. You may also serve as a representative of AAM in coalition meetings, on Capitol Hill, and with federal agencies as necessary.

Skills and Qualifications: The ideal candidate for this role will possess 5-7 years of experience in legislative, advocacy, or communications roles within advocacy organizations or equivalent experience working in or with Congress, coupled with an advanced understanding of politics, grassroots advocacy, and legislative processes and the federal government. Proficiency in modern online advocacy technology and tools is essential, as well as strong communication skills with the ability to convey complex information effectively. Additionally, candidates should demonstrate the ability to manage multiple projects, lead interdepartmental teams and collaborate across departments and have a willingness to travel within the United States 2-4 times per year. Preferred qualifications include experience in advocacy engagement and mobilization, knowledge of the museum community and its cultural landscape, and cross-departmental project management experience.

How to apply: Please follow the directions below when submitting your application materials.

- Submit a cover letter and resume to: hr@aam-us.org, using “Director of Advocacy” in the subject line.
- As part of your cover letter:

- Explain why you are interested in advocating for museums and what knowledge, skills, and experience you possess that would help you succeed.
- Limit your cover letter to no more than two pages.

Applications must be received by June 17. Submissions will be reviewed by our hiring team and candidates who are selected for further screening will be contacted by email within two weeks of this deadline. Due to the large number of applications AAM receives, we can only contact those candidates selected for further screening.

Don't meet every single requirement? Studies have shown that women and people of color are less likely to apply for jobs unless they meet every single qualification. AAM values a diverse and inclusive workplace, so if you are excited about this role but your experience doesn't align perfectly with all of the qualifications, we encourage you to apply anyway. You may be just the right candidate for this or other opportunities.

About the Alliance: The American Alliance of Museums, a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, is a trusted leader, partner, and advocate for museums, representing art, history, and science museums, as well as aquariums, zoos, and botanical gardens. With a budget of \$10M and staff of 40, the Alliance provides leadership, advocacy, and service to its membership and the museum field. Headquartered in Arlington, VA, the Alliance is an equal opportunity employer and values a diverse workplace. For more information, please visit www.aam-us.org