



Position:

Director, Strategic Initiatives & Cluster Development
Los Angeles County Economic Development Corporation
Posted 4/25/2017

About LAEDC:

The LAEDC's vision is to raise standards of living for the residents of Los Angeles County by increasing economic opportunity and regional prosperity. As a 501c3 public benefit corporation, the LAEDC provides economic development leadership for the region to promote a globally competitive, prosperous and growing LA County economy, and works to improve the wellbeing of our residents, and enables those residents to find good jobs. We achieve this through economic research and analysis, strategic assistance to business, government and key industries, and targeted public policy. LAEDC is a non-profit public-benefit organization.

Position Summary:

Job Title: Director, Industry Cluster Development

Reports to: President & Chief Operating Officer

The LAEDC believes that targeted programs focusing on building capacity within our region's key (those in which LA County has comparative advantages over other regions) export-oriented industry clusters is the way successful economic development is performed in a 21st Century, innovation-intensive and globalized economy. LAEDC is increasingly focused on fostering success of these key industry clusters as a central element of our job creation strategy. The Director, Industry Cluster Development at the LAEDC implements, manages and successfully drives the LAEDC's industry cluster development program, whose mission is to build capacity within the industry clusters in which Southern California has productive advantages, such as: advanced transportation; aerospace; bioscience, digital media/entertainment; etc.

The Director manages LAEDC efforts and strategic priorities by performing duties personally and/or through other staff members. In this role, the Director drives an agenda, programs, member-based industry councils and tactical initiatives in several specific industry clusters that will increase coordination and collaboration between industry participants (business, workforce boards, education, government, associations and other industry advocates) to contend with challenges and exploit opportunities for the industry cluster. Through work with the team at LAEDC, the Director will have a meaningful impact on launching programs and advocating for public policies in support of these key industries.

Candidates for this position must have impeccable written and oral communications skills; must be a self-starter and extremely detail-oriented; should have experience in public policy, legislative affairs, and experience overseeing programmatic and management aspects of grants; and must have a

demonstrated record of successful delivery of related programs.

Responsibilities

Oversight and Management:

- Oversee, manage and staff LAEDC's Industry Cluster Development strategy, programs and initiatives, as well as staff and direct LAEDC cluster-focused councils, including: Southern California Aerospace Council; e4 Mobility Alliance; and operationalize new councils, including Digital Media/Entertainment, as demand and available resources dictate and permit.
- Interface with all LAEDC program departments and coordinate efforts in support of cluster development initiatives, including in coordination with: Workforce Program Manager on talent development initiatives for key industry clusters; and relevant Business Assistance Program (BAP) District Managers to integrate BAP's transactional industry cluster work into the broader industry cluster development program, as well as the councils.
- Oversee and manage any grant program work related to cluster development, including some grant compliance and administration.

Public Policy and Strategic Initiatives:

- Identify, monitor and analyze current events and policy developments integral to supporting the LAEDC's industry cluster development approach, strategy and programmatic initiatives.
- Monitor local, state and federal political developments, and track and analyze current and proposed legislation that affects or has the potential to affect LA County's leading traded industry clusters.

Industry Cluster Promotion:

- Develop and frame programs and policies to take advantage of opportunities or positively address key challenges faced by leading industry clusters.
- Develop, along with Marketing department, collateral materials to promote LA County's clusters and to educate elected officials, other relevant stakeholders, and the broader public about LA County's key clusters.
- Raise awareness of industry cluster development initiatives and programs through various "earned media" efforts, including opinion editorials, letters-to-the-editor, press releases, other materials.
- Work closely with local, regional and state partner advocacy organizations, economic development corporations and other relevant stakeholders to support LAEDC industry cluster efforts.
- Serve as an external representative of LAEDC to relevant industry leaders, public officials, educational institutions, business/industry associations and community members.

Other:

- Supervise and manage Program Coordinator, department interns and other support staff, if applicable.
- Other special projects as directed by the President & Chief Operating Officer

Experience and Qualifications:

To perform the job successfully, an individual should demonstrate the following competencies:



Bachelor degree in Public Policy, Urban Planning, Economics, Public Affairs or similar area of study is preferred.

To perform this job successfully, an individual must be able to perform essential duties satisfactorily. Reasonable accommodations may be made to enable individuals with disabilities to perform the essential functions. The LAEDC is an equal opportunity employer.

If interested in this position, please contact Dave Flaks, President & Chief Operating Officer for LAEDC, and include resume and cover letter: David.flaks@laedc.org
