



Job Posting | Advocacy Cohort Lead

This position is classified as **Full-Time Exempt** and reports to the **Policy Director**.

ABOUT OREGON CONSUMER JUSTICE

OCJ advances the rights of consumers through advocacy, strategic litigation, research, education, and engagement, and works to bring consumer justice into balance for all Oregonians. From unfair debt collection and credit reporting tactics, deceptive student loan services, usurious payday loans, hidden banking and credit fees to mortgage, housing, insurance and construction fraud, imposter scams, illegal towing, misrepresented medical and travel services, telecom monopolies, dishonest auto sales, repairs, and financing, the need for consumer justice is everywhere – and the majority of need isn't being met.

OCJ is committed to ensuring that all people in Oregon experience a safe and fair marketplace by building an equitable and sustainable ecosystem that puts people first, makes sure that every financial and business transaction is fair and safe, and ensures that consumers have recourse when their rights are violated. Oregon Consumer Justice (OCJ) centers community in all aspects of our work, with a focus on communities including BIPOC, people living with disabilities, and elders, who have been historically and systematically excluded or harmed by unfair and predatory practices.

OCJ is now seeking an Advocacy and Cohort Lead who will bring vision and strategic thought partnership to help shape early-stage organizational development. The position is a full-time exempt role and reports to the Policy Director.

POSITION OVERVIEW

The Oregon Consumer Justice (OCJ) Advocacy Cohort Lead will be the primary point of contact to support OCJ's partners on policy and advocacy initiatives. Initially the focus of this position will be to work with the [organizations receiving OCJ policy-focused grants](#). The Advocacy Cohort Lead will collaborate with the Policy Director to develop and implement trainings for the policy cohort partners. During legislative sessions, the Advocacy Cohort Lead will organize lobby days, work with partner organizations to support community members engaging in the legislative process, and support partner organizations engaging in the legislative process,



especially those who may be new to policy and advocacy work.

DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Support OCJ's work with allied organizations and coalitions as we build a broad, community based and community guided movement to support progress towards OCJ's goal of achieving consumer justice

- Serve as the primary point of contact with partners who are part of OCJ's policy cohort.
- Participate in the development and implementation of trainings that will be co-created with policy cohort participants.
- Continuously strive to examine and refine practices to equitably share power and decision making.
- Working with the Policy Director, represent OCJ at coalition tables.
- Build long term partnership and engagement with grass roots organizations, advocates, and coalition partners.
- Support coalition partners' engagement, including capacity building and technical assistance, particularly within those populations that have been historically targeted by predatory practices, including BIPOC, elderly, low-income rural, and people living with disabilities.

Support OCJ's Legislative Agenda

- Organize Lobby Days during legislative sessions including managing participant recruitment, meeting scheduling, and logistical details.
- Support partner organizations and community members advocating for legislative bills on OCJ's Legislative Agenda.
- Opportunity to participate in legislative meetings, and to provide legislative testimony.

Required Skills/Abilities:

- Excellent interpersonal skills. Ability to work with community members, organizational partners, legislative staff, and OJC team members.
- Experience with community organizing and/or campaigns
- Ability to manage multiple priorities and be organized and attend to details
- Ability to work independently and as part of a team
- Ability to maintain accurate records and necessary paperwork
- Ability to provide support and training to other staff and partners

- Comfortable both taking the lead on a project and accepting direction
- Ability and willingness to occasionally work evenings and/or weekends. Willingness and ability to travel within Oregon and nationally for meetings and conferences is required. Holding a valid drivers' license is required, and having a car is preferred.
- Ability to communicate in languages in addition to English is a plus
- Experience with the legislative process is a plus

Commitment to Equity

OCJ sits at the intersection of law, policy, coalition and community advocates, and Oregon consumers, with a particular commitment to those consumers and communities most harmed by predatory and fraudulent practices. All roles at OCJ will require: a willingness to share power, collaboration and teamwork, empathy, radical listening, adaptive communications skills, openness to learning and failure and growth, a capacity to embrace discomfort and resolve conflicts, racial awareness and experience recognizing intersectionality and identity, and personal reflection. All employees at OCJ will be asked to participate in ongoing work to develop strong internal and external systems that support movement towards equity and justice.

Location

This position is Oregon based, and location in the Portland metro area will be required once OCJ establishes a physical office space (expected in Fall/Winter 2023). Until then, all staff work virtually from home. OCJ's standard work schedule is between 8am and 5pm Pacific, with some flexibility possible. During Oregon legislative sessions, including January through June 2023, the person in this position will often be expected to work in the state capitol in Salem. The person in this position will need to be flexible in their work schedule, including ability and willingness to occasionally work evenings and/or weekends. Willingness and ability to travel within Oregon and nationally for meetings and conferences are required.

Physical Demands

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

While performing the duties of this job, the employee will be frequently expected to use/operate a computer. The employee is frequently required to see, speak and hear, whether unassisted or through assistive devices, and to communicate in-person, by video, and by phone. The employee needs to be able to drive.

Salary and Application Process

Starting salary scale: \$55,000 to \$70,000

This position is open until filled. Initial review of applications will take place on August 12, 2022.

To apply:

Please send a resume and cover letter to recruiting@ocj.org.

In your cover letter, please answer these two questions:

1. What excites you about joining a new organization committed to advancing consumer justice, with a particular focus on communities most harmed by predatory practices?
2. What has been your experience working with community members either through a community-based organization or campaign?