

Policy and Research Director

Overview: This position works at the crossroads of policy and research, helping fulfill a vision to enhance the visual character of America's communities and countryside. On the policy end, help Scenic America stay on top of national regulatory, state regulatory and state legislative proposals and bills. As a researcher, engage with visual resource management and cultural ecosystem services, while working with leading researchers around the country. Then bring the best of policy and research to the numerous chapters and affiliates around the country by helping manage education programs and providing strategic resources to aid in their efforts to further the mission of Scenic America.

Scenic America is the only national 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization dedicated solely to preserving and enhancing the visual character of America's roadways, countryside, towns, and cities. We accomplish this mission through national advocacy efforts and technical assistance services, local and national projects, and the support of our state affiliates. For more information about Scenic America visit our website at www.scenic.org.

Reports to: President

Responsibilities:

Policy

- Draft memoranda, policy briefs, fact sheets, blog articles, and background papers on issues relating to scenic conservation, and support the drafting and compilation of federal legislation, state legislation, and local ordinances.
- Monitor, coordinate, and calibrate legislative and regulatory tracking software for Scenic America and our chapters and affiliates, working with administrative coordinator, communications director, interns, as well as with Scenic America chapters and affiliates. Review legislative tracking vendor options for new capabilities and update service agreements as needed.
- Coordinate appropriate rapid response actions based on legislative and regulatory tracking searches, including outreach to lawmakers and agencies, community action responses, statements for public comment, and other response options, working cross-departmentally with president and communications director.
- Serve as primary contact to Federal Highway Administration Outdoor Advertising Control (OAC) and State Department of Transportation OAC offices.

Research

 Supervise programs related to updating and verifying inventories of current state laws and local ordinances relating to scenic conservation issues as assigned, and

- make this information available to our supporters.
- Develop research toolkits to limit the impact of unsightly visual blight.
- Develop and apply new resources and research tools for scenic byways including GIS mapping.
- Develop tools and materials for creating visual resource inventories which can identify and measure key scenic assets
- Apply research toolkits to build capacity among chapter organizations for creating visual asset inventories.

Education

 With the communications director, manage and grow a scenic education program targeting K-12, including supervising education and technology contractors related to the work. Develop, calibrate, and build capabilities of new education tools, and seek out new partnerships to share these tools with educators.

Other Primary Duties

- Serve as backup to the President in representing Scenic America during partnership and advocacy meetings.
- Seek out new opportunities for collaboration and coalition-building.
- Recruit and supervise interns and review their work.
- Other items as assigned by the President.

Required Qualifications:

- Bachelor's Degree
- 7+ years of relevant work experience
- Strong attention to detail
- Experience with ESRI ArcGIS Pro or similar mapping software
- Excellent research skills
- Excellent written, oral, and interpersonal communication skills
- Strong writing, editing and proofreading skills, including ability to present complex or nuanced material in a manner that is accessible to the general public
- Motivation to work on substantive scenic conservation topics
- Mastery of Microsoft Office Suite and general comfort with technology
- Must possess excellent judgment and discretion
- Demonstrated ability to organize, prioritize, and complete work independently
- Demonstrated ability to play an important role in a team environment
- Superior project management and time management skills, especially using team collaborative management software
- Flexibility to assume responsibility for other tasks related to the functioning of a small

nonprofit

Preferred Qualifications:

Advanced degree in related field

Physical demands:

- Ability to travel occasionally to fulfill the job's responsibilities
- Sitting for extended periods at a desk and using a provided desktop or laptop computer
- Occasionally lifting and carrying up to 15 pounds

Location: Position is flexible hybrid/remote. Scenic America's headquarters is located in Washington, DC.

This is a full-time, exempt position.

Benefits: Scenic America provides a generous and competitive benefits package including:

- Generous Paid Time Off policy (20 days for 0-3 years tenure, 25 days for 4-6 years tenure, 30 days for 7+ years tenure)
- Platinum health care for employee (Scenic America pays 100%)
- Platinum health care for family (Scenic America pays 50%)
- 4% employer retirement contribution to 403(b) with no match required
- Vision and dental benefits (Scenic America pays 100%)
- Vision and dental benefits for family (Scenic America pays 50%)
- Life insurance (Scenic America pays 100%)
- Disability insurance (Scenic America pays 100%)
- Metro SmartBenefits (subsidized by Scenic America) for those regularly the office
- Cell phone reimbursement
- Support for professional development and growth
- A flexible schedule
- A positive and encouraging work environment at an effective organization that makes a difference

HOW TO APPLY

Send resume and cover letter with the subject line "Policy and Research Director" to: mark.falzone@scenic.org