



## Chief Program Officer

### Job Description

*Location: Remote*

*The preferred application deadline is December 15, 2022. Please note that we do not guarantee review of applications after this date.*

#### Context

Accelerate is a newly launched nonprofit that seeks to embed high-impact tutoring and personalized learning in public schools now and for the long term. Accelerate will fund and support innovation in schools, launch high quality research, and build a federal and state policy agenda to support this work. It was launched in April 2022 with \$65 million in committed funding and with research partnerships with the University of Chicago and Brown University. Kevin Huffman, former Tennessee state commissioner, is the founding CEO and Dr. Janice Jackson, former CEO of Chicago Public Schools, is the executive board chair.

Accelerate has launched in the context of the national achievement gaps that have worsened significantly over the last two years. We are unabashedly solutions-oriented, evidence-driven and student-centered. Accelerate aims to help education leaders across the country build tools and strategies to address the pressing challenges of the current moment.

In our launch year, Accelerate is a growing organization - one that is equity-centered, results-oriented, and simultaneously grounded in optimism and realistic implementation. We aspire to build a small, talented, diverse team of leaders who bring both systemic experience and an entrepreneurial spirit to the work.

#### Role and Responsibilities

The Chief Program Officer will play a key leadership role in the following domains:

##### Grantee Programming & Knowledge Building

- Work with existing grantees - a portfolio of districts, for-profit providers, and nonprofits - to understand emerging best practices in individualized instruction and areas of continued need, applying a high bar for excellence to help identify the most promising new strategies in the country.
- Build programming for Accelerate Community of Practice, a cohort of over 100 state agencies, districts, nonprofit intermediaries, and nonprofit and for-profit tutoring providers. This will include building collaborative structures to share research and results of participants' work, explore implementation challenges and best practices, and examine opportunities to encourage adoption of promising practices.

## **Grantmaking**

- Support the development and rollout of Accelerate's 2023 Call to Effective Action, identifying best bets for continuing investments and areas of outstanding need and encouraging the adoption of strong models of individualized instruction in districts across the country.
- Support the development of models for cost effectiveness of interventions and work with the field to pursue more efficient and sustainable strategies that can endure after federal stimulus funding.

## **Partnership Development**

- Build and utilize partnerships with CCSSO, Council of Great City Schools, Chiefs for Change, NGA and others to share lessons learned from the field in real time, with the goal of impacting adoption of key practices for the '23-24 and '24-25 school year.
- Work with Brown University/Annenberg Institute, University of Chicago, Harvard and other research partners to take evidence and turn it into actionable tools for schools and districts.
- Support schools, school systems, and state agencies in preparing for the adoption of proven interventions.
- Support efforts to work with state agencies to build regulatory frameworks supporting adoption of programs and practices with a strong evidence base.

## **Qualifications**

- Results oriented, determined, skilled leader with track record of driving student achievement.
- Senior leadership experience - as Chief Academic Officer or similar role, Deputy Superintendent or Superintendent - in public schools and/or public school systems.
- Clear record of successfully leading a team and convening multiple stakeholders to achieve a powerful result.
- Unwavering belief in the potential of all students
- Exceptional ability to communicate with others.
- Authentic desire and willingness to listen to, learn from, and connect with a diverse range of people with varied interests and experiences, including students, families, educators, policy makers, local leaders, and funders.
- A desire to continually grow, improve, and learn.
- Demonstrated focus on diversity, equity, and inclusion as a leader.
- Proven ability to swiftly and creatively find solutions to tough problems.

### Compensation

Salary and benefits are competitive and commensurate with experience.

### How to Apply

Please submit your application [here](#). Note: the preferred application deadline is December 9, 2022. After this date we do not guarantee review of submissions.

*Accelerate is an Equal Employment Opportunity employer and has a strong commitment to building a diverse and inclusive team. As such, it is the continuing policy of Accelerate to consider all applicants without regard to race, color, religion, national origin, age, gender, sexual orientation, genetic information, veteran status, disability, or any other categories protected by applicable federal, state, or local law.*