



Public Policy Director Job Announcement

The International Dark-Sky Association (IDA), based in Tucson, AZ, is a not-for-profit organization whose mission is to “preserve and protect the nighttime environment and our heritage of dark skies through environmentally responsible outdoor lighting.” Founded in 1988, the IDA has made great strides in public education, outreach, and conservation efforts. People around the world are now aware of light pollution and its impact on the natural nighttime environment.

IDA is hiring a Public Policy Director who will be responsible for developing and implementing strategies to influence policies, ordinances, and laws, which limit light pollution in the United States and abroad. The position plays a central role in developing IDA’s policy agenda and working with our grassroots and like-minded organizations to successfully implement these policies.

The Public Policy Director is a new staff position at IDA and requires an individual with extensive experience in environmental policy formulation at all levels of government, including the international community. The successful candidate will have a thorough understanding and working knowledge of the technical and scientific aspects of light pollution and its management that employs both voluntary and non-voluntary strategies. An ability to work with the continuum of stakeholders who represent diverse interests and perspectives is an essential quality for the position. The successful candidate will have experience influencing public policy through the use and strategic application of all tools to affect change – including the media, litigation, and education.

Salary and Benefits

The position is full time (40 hours per week), salaried in the upper 40’s to low \$50’s (depending on experience) and is based at IDA’s headquarters in Tucson. IDA offers full benefits, including health and dental care, short-term disability and paid vacation. For more information, please visit IDA’s website at darksky.org.

To Apply

All application materials must be submitted electronically to Susan Ciarniello at susan@darksky.org.

In order to be considered for the position applicants must provide:

- A cover letter describing skills, interest, and relevant experience and why the candidate is best suited for the position;
- A writing sample; and
- A current resume or C.V.

The position will remain open until filled. No telephone inquiries. Applicants will be notified as the decision-making process proceeds – please do not contact IDA.

IDA is an Equal Opportunity Employer



Job Description

IDA Public Policy Director

The IDA Public Policy Director is responsible for developing and executing strategies to influence public policies relating to the regulation and reduction of light pollution and the promotion of appropriate outdoor lighting practices in the United States and abroad.

Reporting to the Executive Director, the Public Policy Director administers and oversees IDA's policy work, including its full integration into the organization's programs to reduce light pollution. The position plays a central role in developing IDA's policy agenda and supporting our Chapters, grassroots, like-minded organizations, and other advocates to successfully enact and implement these policies.

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Primary Duties and Responsibilities

The IDA Public Policy Director will perform the following duties:

- Work with IDA's Executive Director, Board of Directors, volunteers and staff – in particular the IDA Director of Engagement – to develop an annual advocacy agenda that identifies high priority policy reforms for reducing light pollution and its environmental impacts, both domestically and internationally.
- Work with the Conservation Director to influence agency-level practices and assist in the drafting of agency-wide guidance on outdoor lighting policies.
- Support efforts of the Director of Engagement in mobilizing IDA's Chapters, grassroots, and other allies to act on and achieve IDA's priority policy goals.
- Ensure that IDA's advocacy campaigns are focused, designed and implemented so as to achieve measurable policy outcomes.
- Develop strategic alliances with the conservation and natural resource community, like-minded organizations, and other influencers – such as

industry, the business sector, and academicians – in order to leverage IDA's impact, reach, and capacity on its priority policy initiatives.

- Persuasively advocate IDA's policy agenda to elected officials, agency representatives, and other key decision-makers in order to influence outcomes consistent with IDA's goals.
- With support from the IDA Director of Engagement, Technical Director, and Communications Director, develop and maintain an IDA database of model lighting ordinances and similar resources to support citizen activists in reducing light pollution.
- Develop and prepare briefing papers, fact sheets, action alerts and other materials and resources for advocating IDA's position to reduce light pollution.
- Collaborate with IDA's Communications Director to ensure that advocacy positions are clearly communicated and closely integrated into our grassroots, domestically and abroad.
- In collaboration with IDA's Director of Engagement and Communications Director, assist with trainings and workshops to provide grassroots activists the necessary tools, support and resources to make them effective and forceful advocates.
- Embrace and model IDA's organizational culture of philanthropy by supporting all facets of fundraising and development, including donor cultivation, grant writing, annual appeals, and membership recruitment.

Personal characteristics

The Public Policy Director should demonstrate competence in the following areas:

- Fully committed to the mission and goals of IDA.
- Exceptional oral and written communication skills and the ability to communicate complex issues persuasively and compellingly to diverse audiences.
- Comfortable making public presentations and responding to press and media inquiries.
- Proven ability to help mobilize citizen groups, grassroots organizations, and local communities to achieve clearly defined policy outcomes.
- Working knowledge of the political processes required to formulate and to secure legislative and regulatory policies in the international, federal, state and local sector.
- An ability to work constructively across constituency groups and stakeholders – including those whose positions are diametrically opposed to IDA – both respectfully and diplomatically.
- An approach to problem solving that is pragmatic and, when necessary, includes compromise.
- Conversant in the issue of light pollution, including its technical aspects, ecological and energy conservation impacts, and safety and security.
- Understand and demonstrate ethical behavior and practices that are consistent and align with the values of IDA.

- Establish and maintain positive working relationships with others, both internally and externally, to achieve the goals of IDA.
- Work cooperatively and effectively with others to set goals, resolve problems, and make decisions that enhance IDA's effectiveness.

Qualifications

Education and experience

- Masters or undergraduate degree in public administration, political science, or discipline relevant to the position.
- A minimum of five years of advocacy experience on issues related to the environment and, preferably, light pollution.
- Demonstrated ability to analyze public policy proposals, including the drafting of legislative and regulatory language.
- Experience and ease in communicating with high level policy makers, including those in the legislative and executive branches, opinion leaders and their staff.
- Ability to use data in shaping IDA's policy proposals and messages.
- Experience in coalition building and working in a team environment.
- Experience working with the international community on issues involving light pollution.
- Ability to communicate complex information clearly in writing and in oral presentations to a range of audiences.
- Strong organizational and interpersonal skills.
- Demonstrated knowledge of nonprofit governance, management and administration.
- Ability to work independently with little supervision.

Proficiency in the use of computer

- Microsoft Word, Excel and PowerPoint

This is a full-time permanent position. Compensation is commensurate with experience and includes benefits.

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