

**Program Director  
Student Success Initiatives  
Florida Community Engagement**

***Our Foundation***

Helios Education Foundation believes every individual in Arizona and Florida should have the opportunity to attend and be prepared to succeed in postsecondary education. In order to create those opportunities, the Foundation strategically partners with organizations and institutions to improve student academic preparedness across the education continuum and to foster a high expectation, college-going culture for all students.

The Foundation views its role as much more than a grant-making organization, but as an actively engaged partner, working in communities across Arizona and Florida contributing its expertise and resources to improve education systems and set more students on a path to completing a postsecondary license, certificate or degree.

Partnerships are cultivated and strategically aligned to advance the Foundation's priorities in Early Grade Success, College and Career Readiness and Postsecondary Completion.

***The Position***

The Program Director focused on *Florida Student Success Initiatives* is a member of the Florida Community Engagement department. This position is responsible for assisting in the development of strategic goals and objectives aligned to the Foundation's Florida Regional Student Success Initiatives and serves as the lead in specific community investment and engagement activities. The Program Director prioritizes improving access to and the quality of early childhood professional development, promoting coordination between early childhood and K-3 education, and expanding regional K-12 grantmaking aligned with the Foundation's Florida community engagement strategies.

These initiatives will focus on aligning high-quality early learning for Florida children to K-12 educational experiences that provide academic support and clear pathways to postsecondary education preparedness and success. This position will foster collaboration and alignment of sustainable early childhood education systems in Florida, both statewide and regionally. It will also identify and develop strategic partnerships and funding opportunities statewide and regionally that promote innovation and excellence in public K-12 schools with a focus on improving college readiness, reducing or eliminating achievement gaps, and aligning these preK-12 investments with the Foundation's college access and student success investments.

The Program Director, as part of a cross-functional team, coordinates investment strategies with the Foundation's work in public policy, marketing and communications, and research and evaluation. This position reports to the Senior Vice President, Florida Community Engagement, and will also collaborate closely with the Vice President, Florida Student Success Initiatives. This position is located in Tampa, Florida.

### ***The Candidate***

- Strategic thinker with ability to execute the Foundation's community investment goals and objectives
- Skilled communicator who speaks persuasively in public settings to advocate and generate interest in Impact areas
- Ability to work collaboratively with colleagues, work across the educational continuum and act decisively consistent with programmatic and organizational goals
- Passion for education equity and elimination of student achievement/degree completion gaps
- Knowledge of the education landscape in Florida, including challenges and opportunities in the education continuum impacting low-income, first-generation, and underserved students and students overall
- Strong written and verbal communication skills
- Results-oriented with a collaborative work style
- Strong alignment with Helios' culture, norms, behaviors and beliefs

Bachelor's degree and at least five (5) years direct experience in the fields of education or education policy, with experience in early learning and/or K-12 education desirable. Additional experience in strategic philanthropic grantmaking is highly desirable. An advanced degree in education and evidence of coursework related to curriculum, teacher education, or education and leadership is preferred.

To apply, send a cover letter and resume to Ms. Noel McClain, Human Capital & Workplace Operations Director, at [hr@helios.org](mailto:hr@helios.org) (subject line "Program Director Florida - Search"); or Helios Education Foundation, 2415 East Camelback Road, Suite 500, Phoenix, Arizona 85016. Credentials will be accepted until a sufficient number of competitive candidates has been received. First review of candidates will occur no later than August 30, 2019. Candidate credentials will be reviewed as they are received. Only candidates selected for an interview for this position will be contacted by the Foundation.