Policy and Advocacy Manager of Government Affairs
at the American Alpine Club
Remote with willingness to travel

Salary Range: $52,000 - $58,000, in addition to generous benefits

The American Alpine Club (AAC) is hiring an Advocacy and Government Affairs Manager. The Manager is a critical member of the AAC policy team, responsible for leading the AAC's government affairs and legislative campaign efforts in order to advance the climbing communities' positions on public lands, conservation, climate change and access for all initiatives. Please review and understand our departmental vision, mission and strategy.

The Manager will identify & present opportunities for the AAC, their members and volunteers, to effectively participate in the conservation policy making process and be responsible for representing the AAC in coalitions that achieve organizational goals and objectives.

In collaboration with the AAC's Policy Director and Grassroots Organizer, this individual will work closely with members of the Climbers' Advocacy Network (CAN) to outline and advise on grassroots campaign strategies that work in tandem towards accomplishing AAC's policy priorities. The Manager will also work with the Marketing team to effectively communicate and engage the broader climbing community in advocacy.

As the Manager of Advocacy + Government Affairs, you will:

Program Development:

- Oversee the successful implementation and further development of the AAC's government affairs and advocacy program to ensure that it achieves the departmental strategic plan and long-term objectives;
- Research, track, and prioritize legislation that aligns with the policy priorities of the AAC including but not limited to: human-powered recreation, public lands and conservation, sustainable climate action, and access for all initiatives;

Government Affairs and Advocacy:
- Grow and maintain the AAC's presence in Washington D.C. and member states through networking and relationship building with legislators and stakeholders;
- Represent AAC's policy priorities as a partner in various coalitions;
- Design, partner, and implement in-person and virtual advocacy events, forums, and fly-ins, such as Climb the Hill, Hill to Crag, and climbing festival activations with assistance from the Policy Director and Grassroots Organizer;
- When appropriate, serve as a spokesperson for the AAC at conferences and events that center advocacy;
- Collaborate with Policy Director to write and contribute to written testimonies and scoping comments that align with the climbing community and policy department's priorities;
- When necessary, oversee the creation of fact sheets and educational materials for leadership team members who are attending lobby meetings;
- Envision and execute creative advocacy campaigns that both educate and activate climbers across the country;
- Manage the strategic implementation of AAC's Send it to the Polls voter engagement outreach during general and midterm elections;

Administrative/Communication:
- Manage, grow, and optimize the AAC's advocacy CRM and advocacy action tracker;
- In partnership with the AAC Content Manager, create action alerts, targeted emails, and manage data in alignment with departmental strategy;
- Collaborate with AAC marketing to develop messaging and social media posts that highlight policy priorities and community engagement opportunities;
- Contribute to the AAC's quarterly policy zine - Summit Register;
- Collaborate with the Advancement team to contribute to grant identification, applications, and corporate partner engagement;
- Submit expenses for approval and work within a strict budget;
- Develop, track and report on annual work plans.

Community Engagement:
- Work with the Grassroots Organizer to educate and activate local communities around the goals of the AAC organizational and departmental strategy;
• Work with Grassroots Organizer to monitor performance of CAN volunteers, offer useful feedback and coaching, and measure project progress against the goals of the work plan;
• Engage coalition partners when policy priorities align in order to accomplish shared government affairs outreach goals.

You are a strong fit for this role if you:

• Believe in the AAC mission and vision;
• Possess experience & passion for fostering conservation at the intersection of social & environmental justice;
• Are passionate and knowledgeable about issues pertaining to human-powered recreation, public lands and conservation, sustainable climate action, and access for all initiatives;
• Can point to your demonstrated experience with government affairs, advocacy, grassroots organizing and a strong record with successful campaign implementation;
• Have strong project management and campaign planning skills with excellent attention to detail, great organizational skills, and solid judgment;
• Have proven experience successfully building coalitions and grassroots organizing;
• Possess bi-partisan relationships with lawmakers;
• Have excellent interpersonal, relationship-building, and listening skills;
• Are confident and effective communicating orally and in writing, including preparing reports, testimony, journal articles, and blog posts;
• Have a positive outlook coupled with the requisite “can do” attitude and a willingness to do what it takes to achieve personal and organizational goals and overcome obstacles;
• Have a passion for climbing and strong relationships with the climbing and the outdoor recreation communities.

Education and experience that will help you succeed:

• If you believe that you can do this job, we want to hear from you. In traditional terms, we’re looking for candidates with a knowledge and experience base that is equivalent to a BA/BS minimum, Masters or Doctorate in Public Policy, Political Science, Environmental Justice, Environmental Law and Policy, Natural Resources Management, or Environmental Governance preferred. That said, we understand
that you may be entirely self taught and more effective because of that experience and initiative. Degrees are not necessary for this position.

- 1-3 years of government affairs or advocacy experience.
- Preference given to those with work experience in NPO Government Affairs, lobbying, advocacy or legislative offices state/federal.

Physical Environment/Physical Requirements:

Typical office environment working with computer software like G Suite, Slack, Zoom, etc. This role will require some travel.

Reporting Relationship

The Advocacy and Government Affairs Manager will report to the AAC Policy Director. In addition, this role will collaborate with Interim-CEO, Pete Ward, and other AAC team members, including Heidi McDowell (Advancement Director), Shane Johnson (Chief Marketing Officer), Eddie Espinosa (Community Programs Director) and the Director of Climb United.

About the AAC

The American Alpine Club (“AAC”) is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization based in Golden, Colorado with over 25,000 members nationally. Founded in 1902 to support the research and exploration of mountainous regions, the AAC remains committed to supporting the climbing and human-powered outdoor recreation communities over a century later. Grounded in community and place, the AAC’s mission is to share and support our passion for climbing and respect for the places we climb. Through education, community gatherings, stewardship, policy, advocacy, and scientific research, the AAC strives to build a united community of competent climbers and healthy climbing landscapes.

To Apply:

Please email your resume and a cover letter that is no longer than one page and outlines your interest and fit for this role to hiring@americanalpineclub.org Use “Government Affairs and Advocacy Manager - [Your Last Name]” as the subject line – no phone calls please. Due to the volume of applications, only potential interviewees will be contacted.

The AAC is an equal opportunity employer. Your gender, religion, sex life, skin color, first language, and size and ability of your body do not factor into employment decisions here.
Neither do your friends in high places. If you love our mission and are good at what you do, come as you are.