

ACCESS Academies

Executive Director

ACCESS Academies seeks a forward-thinking, dynamic leader who will assist in creating and leading the vision for the organization's future.

ACCESS Academies (Academies Creating Challenging Education for St. Louis Students) is a not-for-profit corporation established in 2005 to ensure that socially-and/or economically-disadvantaged students in the St. Louis area have access to top-quality, values-based education, regardless of race, ethnicity or religious affiliation.

The ACCESS Academies middle school program is found at St. Louis the King School at the Cathedral, Most Holy Trinity School & Academy and St. Cecilia School & Academy. All three schools are located in St. Louis City. The Academy program is based on the NativityMiguel model of Education which employs 10-hour school days, a 10-1/2-month school year, dedicated teachers and parental involvement, and collaborates with individuals and organizations to ensure the economic sustainability of participating schools and the ongoing success of their students.

As a result, 98% of ACCESS graduates are accepted into college-prep high schools. The ACCESS Graduate Support Program also provides tutoring, mentoring, tuition assistance, counseling and other forms of assistance to graduates through their high school years. As a result, 99% of ACCESS students graduate from high school on time and 92% are admitted to college.

ACCESS is poised for growth, which will require the next Executive Director to focus on: 1) fundraising for organization operations, 2) fundraising for high school scholarships, and 3) Board development. The Executive Director reports to the Board of Directors and provides overall leadership for the organization, with particular emphasis on supporting the Board, fundraising, fostering partnerships, communication and administration. The Executive Director must at all times support the mission, philosophy, and values of ACCESS Academies and act in accordance with the highest ethical and professional standards.

The ideal candidate will have:

- A demonstrated commitment to the mission of educational access for underserved populations, knowledge of education principles and practices, and of education issues for low-income and minority students in particular.
- A record of accomplishment and progressive responsibility, that includes managing, motivating and effectively leading and inspiring staff and volunteers and a minimum 5 years of fundraising, board development, and/or management experience in a non-profit or education environment.
- Knowledge of the St. Louis philanthropic community.
- A proven ability in major gift fundraising and special event production.
- Experience in executing a strategic plan with attention to reporting measurable outcomes.
- A forward-thinking management approach that seeks improvement in operations and program implementation, as well as considers opportunities growth in future years.

A Bachelor of Arts from an accredited college or university is required, M.A. preferred, in Education, Administration, Management, or related field.

This is an executive position based in the offices of ACCESS Academies, located in Bridgeton, MO. The position requires the supervision of staff, regular written and verbal communication, contact with member schools, planning and organization, independent decision making, use of computer, making presentations, public speaking, and attendance at meetings. Regular travel in the St. Louis area will be required. More information can be found at www.accessacademies.org

Applicants should submit a cover letter and resume to the Search Committee at ExecSearch@bhgh.org with "ACCESS ED" typed in the subject line. Please no calls.

ACCESS Academies is an at-will and equal opportunity employer.