



RESOURCES LEGACY FUND®
CREATIVE SOLUTIONS. LASTING RESULTS.

Program Director Ocean Defense Initiative

About Ocean Defense Initiative

Ocean Defense Initiative (ODI) promotes U.S. leadership on ocean-based climate solutions and defends against U.S. policies that are harmful for our ocean, climate and communities. ODI seeks to elevate ocean climate action among U.S. decisionmakers and in the media through collaborative advocacy and strategic communications. We work to highlight the urgent need for action across a variety of ocean policy priorities including:

- Promoting the rapid and just phaseout of offshore oil and gas drilling
- Scaling up responsibly-sited offshore wind
- Decarbonizing ports & maritime shipping
- Increasing coastal resilience and adaptation
- Protecting blue carbon ecosystems
- Reducing plastic pollution & emissions
- Supporting climate-ready fisheries
- Ending Illegal, Unreported, and Unregulated (IUU) fishing
- Advancing marine protected areas
- Addressing ocean acidification
- Evaluating marine carbon dioxide removal

ODI is a fiscally sponsored project of Resources Legacy Fund (RLF). RLF builds alliances that advance bold solutions to secure a just and resilient world for people and nature. RLF partners with philanthropy, community groups, government, science, and business to promote smart policies and ensure equitable public funding for the environment, climate change resilience, and healthy communities. RLF manages complex, multi-year grantmaking programs and fiscally sponsored projects that accelerate change on environmental and equity issues.

Program Director

ODI seeks a Program Director to partner closely with the Executive Director on the strategic direction of the project and to implement the day-to-day tactics to advance ODI goals. Key responsibilities will include:

- Develop and maintain a creative, strategic, and persistent approach to elevating ocean climate action in the media and among decisionmakers;
- Produce fast, accurate, and high-quality copy on a consistent basis with emphasis on rapid response and defense;
- Develop and distribute communications materials such as message guidance, talking points, sample social etc. to be adapted for various audiences in earned and social media;
- Collaborate with broad coalition of climate, ocean, and environmental partners on shared priorities and collaboratively-developed products; assess the need to fill gaps where needed;
- Represent ODI in issue-specific coalitions, with potential for leadership and management roles;
- Conduct outreach and education to Congressional offices, Federal agencies, and Administration officials on an ongoing basis;
- Stay up-to-date on Congressional calendar and events and maintain an understanding of how ODI priorities fit in the larger policy and political landscape;
- Stay up-to-date with significant science, research, and policy developments across ocean climate action priority areas;
- Assist Executive Director with grants and contracts management, including grant reporting and proposal development; and
- Additional tasks to support ODI priorities as needed.

The Program Director is a full-time, exempt position and reports to ODI's Executive Director. This position is preferably located in Washington, DC, but we will consider candidates working remotely from other locations in the United States. Limited travel may be required.

Qualifications:

Note: These qualifications are guidelines, not hard and fast rules, so if you have many of the qualifications listed, we encourage you to apply. Experience can include paid and unpaid experience, including volunteer work that helped you to build the competencies, knowledge, and skills needed for this position.

- 6+ years work experience in government, communications, policy, or issue advocacy;
- Strong understanding of U.S. Congress and Federal decisionmaking processes;
- Working knowledge of ocean climate action issues and/or willingness to learn to fill gaps;

- Demonstrated commitment to justice, equity, diversity, and inclusion and understanding of applying an environmental justice approach to ocean policy and advocacy;
- Exceptional writing skills, with meticulous attention to detail and ability to generate content quickly and accurately;
- Highly collaborative working style, with the ability to lead and manage coalitions with humility, grace, and tact;
- Strong organizational skills with a proven ability to effectively organize and manage multiple responsibilities;
- Highly self-motivated with ability to thrive on a small team;
- Proficiency in google suite required; additional program skills in graphic design or ArcGIS a plus.

Compensation and Benefits:

\$80,000 - \$110,000; salary commensurate with related work experience and qualifications. We offer a comprehensive benefits package including medical, dental, vision insurance, 401k plan with a 5% match, and generous paid time off. RLF also offers a technology allowance, student loan repayment assistance, the Calm app, mental health benefits and approximately 17 paid holidays per year.

Procedure for Candidacy:

Applications will be accepted on a rolling basis. Review of applications will begin on Friday, January 5, 2024 and will continue until the position is filled. After initial application review, we will reach out to selected candidates for a video interview, which will be followed by a video interview for finalists.

Interested individuals should send a cover letter, resume, and three references in a single PDF to: jobs@oceandefenseinitiative.org. Finalists will be asked to provide a writing sample.

RLF is an equal opportunity employer and welcomes applications from all qualified candidates regardless of race, color, creed, national origin, ancestry, sex, marital status, disability, religious or political affiliation, or sexual orientation. We are committed to providing a work environment free from discrimination, where all team members feel valued, respected, and included. We know that our work is enriched by the varied voices and perspectives of every staff and board member, so we are committed to making an earnest effort to recruit, welcome, train, develop, and retain talented individuals from diverse backgrounds. We believe that a diverse and inclusive culture

expands our creative capacity to do our work and achieve greater outcomes for people and the natural world. Learn more about RLF's commitment to diversity, equity, and inclusion on our website.