



## Executive Director, Evidence in Education Lab

### ABOUT RESULTS FOR AMERICA

[Results for America](#) is improving outcomes for young people, their families, and communities by shifting public resources toward programs and practices that use evidence and data to improve quality and get better results. Beyond scaling individual programs, Results for America seeks to drive broader systems change so that “investing in what works” becomes the new norm for allocating public dollars.

Results for America is building on existing momentum at the federal, state, local, and international levels, driving policy changes with a three-pronged strategy to:

- Catalyze a strong, bi-partisan, cross-sector coalition of leaders who are strongly committed to an “invest in what works” policy agenda and are willing to use their time and resources to press government to use data and evidence to make better budget, policy, and management decisions;
- Develop and advance policy ideas at all levels of government for how to implement an “invest in what works” approach; and
- Supporting Government leaders who are committed to investing in “what works.”

### POSITION OVERVIEW

Results for America is seeking an Executive Director to develop and lead the “Evidence in Education Lab”, a project focused on building state and local capacity for evidence-based policymaking in K-12 education. The Executive Director will have extensive experience with state and/or local education policy and practice, including the use of data, evidence, and evaluation to improve student outcomes.

The EELab will focus its initial work on supporting states and school districts in implementing the [evidence provisions](#) in the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA). The project will commence with a planning year (Phase 1) beginning immediately to design the project and execute a public process for selecting initial participants. Following the planning year, Phase 2 will launch with a pilot cohort of 2-4 leading states, each working with 2-4 of their leading school districts, to become models of ESSA implementation. A key goal of the EELab project is to create widespread awareness among all 50 states and their school districts of tools and products developed by the Lab and of what a successful implementation of ESSA’s evidence provisions should include.

The Executive Director will report to the Chief Operating Officer, Results for America. The position is full time, exempt and will be based in Washington, DC.

### DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

EELab Executive Director’s duties & responsibilities will include -- policy development, knowledge management, relationship-building, project management, and strategic planning devoted to advancing the mission of the EELab and RFA as a whole. The Director will manage multiple partners, create and manage state, local, and national coalitions, provide support to key stakeholders and partners, and ensure support for state and district participants in the EELab. All of these duties require a detail-oriented, reliable, and proactive approach to every day work.

The Executive Director of RFA’s EEdLab is a true team player, who balances multiple competing priorities simultaneously and who consistently approaches tasks with a positive attitude and willingness to ensure that the larger team meets its respective goals and deadlines.

## **KEY AREAS**

### **Strategic Planning and Policy Development**

- Developing and leading a strategic plan with specific deliverables and timetables for the EELab in close consultation with RFA staff and consultants;
- Identifying and selecting partner states and school districts to participate in the Lab;
- Identifying key leverage points to help advance the mission of the EELab;
- Developing a strategic plan of action for states and school districts to implement evidence-based provisions in the Every Student Succeeds Act;

### **Knowledge Management**

- Developing practical guides and tools for states and school districts to use for implementing evidence-based education policy;
- Ensuring that knowledge generated from the EELab is shared with the RFA Team and partners, and is communicated to federal policymakers as well as states and local school districts across the country;

### **Coalition Building**

- Launching and growing a learning network of states and school districts participating in the EELab;
- Making presentations to stakeholder groups to inform about the work of the EELab;
- Working with technical assistance providers to partner with states and districts in the EELab to achieve project deliverables;
- Developing and maintaining positive working relationships with other advocates of evidence-based policymaking;
- Traveling to state and school district sites to strengthen relationships;

### **Project Management**

- Planning, executing, and ensuring successful completion of all project deliverables;
- Assisting in completing funder communications and reports; and
- Overseeing and supporting team of consultants working on the EELab project.

Results for America's dynamic, start-up culture provides opportunities to build personal and professional skills and contribute in a variety of ways beyond the outlined responsibilities and requirements. Given the organization's entrepreneurial culture, employees may be encouraged or asked to take on new functions, projects, initiatives, and other responsibilities to support shifting priorities that are established by senior management or dictated by the mission and goals of the organization.

## **KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS AND ABILITIES**

- Strong commitment to the [Results for America](#) mission
- Minimum 7-10 years prior experience in state and/or district education policy and practice
- Expert level knowledge and interest in evidence-based policymaking, federal education policy, including the "Every Student Succeed Act" strongly preferred
- Strong leadership abilities, including highly developed interpersonal skills to build, maintain and inspire relationships with state & local leaders stakeholders in education policy.
- Willingness and ability to travel (5 times a year) to state and district sites.
- Highly self-motivated, self-agency, and ability to follow through independently.
- Exceptional writing and communicating skills
- Superior professional maturity, excellent judgment, and tact.
- High level of adaptability and flexibility within ambiguous, changing environment to identify gaps in processes and procedures and recommend solutions.

- Demonstrated track record for strategic planning and effectiveness in successfully executing within an entrepreneurial and growing organization
- Sophisticated stakeholder management skills including a high degree of comfort interacting with external constituents and speaking on behalf of the program
- Bachelor's degree required, Master's degree preferred.

To apply: Please send a resume and cover letter to: [recruiting@americaachieves.org](mailto:recruiting@americaachieves.org), subject line: Executive Director, Evidence in Education Lab

*Results for America is an Equal Opportunity Employer and encourages qualified individuals regardless of actual or perceived race, religion, color, sex, age, national origin, disability, sexual orientation, marital status, personal appearance, matriculation, political affiliation, family status or responsibilities, gender identity or expression, pregnancy, childbirth or related medical conditions.*