

CLSA JOB DESCRIPTION

Job Title:	Senior Vice President, Government Relations and Public Affairs
Job Level:	Executive
Location:	Washington, D.C. or Northern California
Reports to:	President & CEO
Hours:	Full-time
FLSA:	Exempt
Travel:	25 to 50%

About California Life Sciences Association (CLSA)

California Life Sciences Association (CLSA) is California’s statewide life sciences advocacy and business leadership organization. With offices in Sacramento, San Diego, South San Francisco, Los Angeles and Washington DC, CLSA works closely with industry, government, academia and others to shape public policy, improve access to innovative technologies, and grow California’s life sciences economy. CLSA serves biotechnology, pharmaceutical, medical device and diagnostics companies, research universities and institutes, investors and service providers throughout the Golden State. CLSA was founded in 2015 from the merger of the Bay Area Bioscience Association (BayBio) and the California Healthcare Institute (CHI).

Job Summary

California Life Sciences Association (CLSA) is seeking a Senior Vice President, Government Relations and Public Affairs with extensive experience in directing integrated government affairs, advocacy, communications, and advocacy issue campaigns at the state and federal level. This role will travel regularly between California and Washington, DC and will be responsible for leading CLSA’s state and federal government relations, advocacy, policy, and communications teams. The Senior Vice President, Government Relations and Public Affairs will be expected to function as the strategic leader of an integrated program, developing and guiding the planning and implementation of CLSA’s outreach to public officials, coalition building, and communications – including traditional and digital media.

Additional Responsibilities

- Works effectively with the CLSA board, leadership and members to create and implement a unified state and federal strategy for the organization as well as the public policy agenda.
- Initiates, cultivates and maintains strong working relationships with member companies, elected officials, executive branch personnel, and policy staff.
- Aligns priorities and strategies and coordinates activities with other industry associations such as BIO, PhRMA, AdvaMed, and BIOCOM.
- Exhibits CLSA values and leads, develops and sets the vision and strategic plan for CLSA’s government relations, policy, advocacy, and communication teams.
- Represents CLSA at key events, with the media, and in government meetings.

Background and Experience:

- BA required; MA or MS preferred in a related field.
- Proven leader with experience developing, directing, and implementing strategic, multi-dimensional state and/or federal issue campaigns.
- Demonstrated ability to set a vision and strategic plan for an integrated government relations, policy, advocacy, and communications operation.
- Minimum 10 years of government relations, advocacy, or public affairs experience required. Political or issue campaign experience is preferred. Healthcare industry experience is a plus.
- Minimum 5 years of experience leading multifunctional teams and professional level employees.
- Ability to develop creative and strategic messaging and communication plans, both internally and externally.
- Experience building and maintaining executive level relationships with member and partner organizations.
- Ability to motivate and inspire internal teams and lead organizational change efforts.
- Strong negotiation skills required.
- Experience building and managing a budget.
- Demonstrated record of sound political judgment and bipartisanship.