



opportunity unlocked

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## ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF ADMISSIONS & PLACEMENT

Organization Summary: Oliver Scholars prepares high-achieving Black and Latino students from underserved New York City communities for success at top independent schools and prestigious colleges. We provide crucial support for our scholars so they can realize their full potential and ultimately give back to the city, the nation, and the world.

Position Summary and Reporting: Reporting to the Director of Admissions and Placement, the *Assistant Director of Admissions and Placement* is an integral part of the organization. S/he has both an internal and externally facing role and therefore must be flexible and able to communicate effectively with people at all levels. The Assistant Director must have an engaging personality, eager to develop and deepen collaborations with schools and community based organizations, exceptional interpersonal skills, and a desire to help people. S/he must be extremely detailed-oriented, have excellent organization skills, and have the ability to prioritize tasks and meet deadlines. The Assistant Director should be motivated by working with underserved youth and their families and excited by working in an entrepreneurial environment where being innovative and creative is celebrated. During certain times of the year, the Assistant Director may be required to work Tuesday - Saturday.

### RESPONSIBILITIES

#### *Recruitment & Admissions:*

- Develop and maintain relationships with a network of representatives from feeder schools, churches, civic and community based organizations, alumni and other volunteers
- Lead presentations for families and schools that accurately and competently explain the admissions process and the educational opportunities available at Oliver in English and Spanish
- Attend middle school and high school fairs/open houses
- Assist with organizing large mailings for all public, private and parochial schools
- Assist with research and analyze data of NYC public and charter schools
- Communicate with nominators and families on a regular basis to give updates, request documents, and answer questions
- Screen and read applications for prospective students, collaborate with the Director of Admissions and Placement to decide on applicants
- Maintain general knowledge of Oliver's program activities and requirements
- Regularly update database of school personnel, applicants, and volunteer contacts

### *Placement & Advocacy*

- Conduct presentations for parents and students on all parts of the placement process including interviewing, financial aid, and test preparation
- Conduct one-on-one counseling sessions for families about school options, choice and fit
- Coordinate and administer the standardized tests required for admission
- Resolve family application issues and help organize and keep track of all student application pieces
- Review and revise applications appropriately and maintain integrity of documents
- Advocate for Oliver applicants with Consortium Schools admissions staff under the guidance of the Director
- Counsel parents of unplaced students on other available educational opportunities
- Participate in review sessions with the Guidance team after the summer preparation program to discuss student performance and create a process for counseling out students or directing them to support resources
- Collaborate with the Director to identify and codify innovative strategies to ensure all students gain entry to the best fit, college preparatory high schools
- Assist the Director with the development and execution of all placement related programming, including but not limited to parent and student workshops on interviewing, financial aid, and test preparation during Fall, Winter, and Spring classes

### *Consortium School Cultivation and Growth*

- Assist Director with the research and evaluation processes to assess appropriateness of new Consortium Schools
- Assist Director with deepening relationships with Consortium Schools through annual school visits and cultivation events
- Assist with managing Oliver Scholars' brand and relationships with Independent School admissions and financial aid officers
- Represent Oliver Scholars at meetings and discussions with independent school admissions officers and at events

### *Scholar Support*

- Execute the application writing workshop during Fall classes
- Provide support during Winter and Spring classes
- Proctor Independent School Admissions exams
- Provide support in the planning and execution of the Summer Immersion Program (SIP) which includes the ISAP (Independent School Application Process) curriculum

### *Other Duties*

- Collaborate with other program directors as needed on a variety of Scholar related initiatives
- Participate in Oliver's organizational and fundraising efforts as requested (e.g. providing content for grant proposals, funder visits, and Annual Gala)
- Assist with projects and other duties as needed and requested within the organization

## QUALIFICATIONS

- Bachelor's degree required;
- 2-4 years' experience working with students and families at another student-focused nonprofit, in k-12 or Higher-Ed;
- Deep understanding of the broad educational issues facing educational systems and students of color in particular;
- Outstanding public speaking and writing skills;
- Commitment to the mission of Oliver Scholars;
- Demonstrated ability to work in a collaborative manner;
- Able and willing to work late evenings and able to work a Tuesday -Saturday schedule at times during the year;
- Bi-lingual (Spanish) highly preferred;
- Familiarity with independent schools
- Valid drivers' license and able to travel domestically.

## DESIRED COMPETENCIES

- Superior analytical, critical thinking, problem solving and organizational skills with meticulous attention to detail and accuracy;
- Collaborative approach to problem solving and ability to work effectively with individuals at all levels (internally and externally);
- Demonstrated flexibility and ability to work under pressure; ability and desire to work in a fast-paced, changing environment, and conform to shifting priorities, demands and timeline;
- Demonstrated willingness to learn new techniques, procedures, processes, and computer programs as needed;
- Ability to look at situations from several points of view;
- A demonstrated commitment to high professional ethical standards and a diverse workplace.

HOW TO APPLY: For consideration, please forward your cover letter and resume to [jobs@oliverscholars.org](mailto:jobs@oliverscholars.org). Please note, "[Assistant Director of Admissions & Placement] - [your last name]" in the subject line of your email. Only applicants under consideration will be contacted. No phone calls, please.

A diverse workforce and open culture are at the heart of our organization and vital to our success. Oliver Scholars is an equal opportunity/affirmative action employer. All qualified applicants will be considered for employment without discrimination based on race, color, creed, national origin, sex, age, disability, marital status, sexual orientation, military status, citizenship status, or current employment status. Candidates who identify as members of historically underrepresented groups are highly encouraged to apply.