The Seattle Times ⌄

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Education Lab Reporter

📍 Seattle, WA   ⏱ Full Time

🏛 Newsroom   🎓 Experienced

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The Seattle Times, a Pulitzer Prize-winning newspaper and one of the few remaining independent news organizations in the country, is looking to hire a **Reporter** for Education Lab (https://www.seattletimes.com/education-lab/), the team that covers education in our region with a focus on equity. Education Lab is a solutions-journalism project supported by local foundations and other groups that combines in-depth reporting with an ambitious community-engagement effort that has impact in the region.

We're looking for an experienced journalist who can illuminate problems and find the most promising solutions – then turn those findings into lively copy and other forms of storytelling. We want you to bring new voices to our coverage, to consider engagement as you work, and to coordinate closely with photographers and graphic artists to add impact to your stories.

Successful candidates will have experience covering education systems from preschool to college, and a strong understanding of education trends, policies and challenges at the state, local and federal level. We're especially interested in candidates who can develop thoughtful, in-depth stories about the ways the pandemic has shaped students' education and career choices beyond high school. We are looking for candidates with data skills, knowledge of equity issues in education and an understanding of tried-and-true instructional methods that work for a broad range of students.

This is a community-funded position and is subject to grant renewal. While renewal is anticipated, funding for this role is not guaranteed beyond two years. To learn

more about our grant-funded projects, click [here](https://company.seattletimes.com/impact/) (https://company.seattletimes.com/impact/).

Responsibilities

- Be curious and widely read about education issues, and be ready with a diverse, ever-growing story list that mixes daily stories with longer-term enterprise and watchdog pieces.
- Use good, empathetic interview techniques to gain a better understanding of your story and the people in it.
- Write with authority based on understanding of your subject matter. Show your excellent command of language, and self-edit for crisp, clean copy on multiple platforms.
- Produce enterprise stories and stay ahead of the news by anticipating or uncovering developments.
- Be comfortable filing public records requests and flexing your investigative muscles on a daily basis.
- Analyze databases to find your own story ideas.
- Work closely with photographers and graphic artists to illustrate your stories.
- Pitch solutions stories that interrogate responses to problems.
- Make engagement part of your reporting. We want your creative ideas for how we can better interact with our community.
- Be a good team member. We pride ourselves on trusting and supporting each other and being flexible during unexpected moments of need.
- Model unimpeachable ethics and standards.
- Master new digital tools and write with a digital-first approach when warranted. (i.e., writing iteratively in breaking-news situations.)
- Demonstrate a commitment to equity and inclusion in story choice, sourcing and framing.

Qualifications

We are committed to diversity and creating an inclusive newsroom and encourage members of traditionally underrepresented communities to apply. If your profile does not match this job description exactly, you may still be a candidate for this position. Please let us know how your skills and experience relate to the role and its objectives in your Cover Letter.

- **Experience**: A minimum of four years' reporting experience, preferably at a metropolitan daily news organization. You should have at least a year with a specific emphasis on education.
- **Education**: College graduate or equivalent combination of education and experience.

Preferred skills:

- You should be able to read education research and quickly separate the wheat from the chaff.
- We're especially excited about candidates who regularly do their own data analysis. Familiarity with education databases such as CRDC, CEDARS and IPEDS is a plus.
- It is our job to reach underserved communities, many of which include immigrants. Fluency in a language other than English is an advantage.

Compensation: The full salary range for this position is $41,600 to $96,600. We typically pay between $55,000 and $85,000, depending on experience and qualifications.

Benefits:

- Medical, dental, vision and long-term disability insurance
- Employee assistance program and wellness bank
- Optional life and AD&D and long-term care insurance
- 401(k) plan with employer match
- 2 weeks of vacation per year, increasing to 4 weeks after 4 years
- 10 days of sick pay per year, unused sick pay accrues to extended illness bank
- 9 paid holidays
- Internet stipend for mostly remote employees
- Transit subsidy
- Complimentary Seattle Times subscription
- Parental leave up to 6 months

Please Note: This position requires you to join a union and pay ongoing union dues each month. In addition, you will be required to undergo a pre-employment drug screen for controlled substances (excluding marijuana) and a criminal background check once an offer has been made.

Founded in 1896, The Seattle Times continues its tradition as a family-owned, Pulitzer Prize-winning newspaper that cuts through the clutter and provides readers with timely, relevant news. We serve the Pacific Northwest with thoughtful, independent journalism that makes a real difference in our community. And as a media solutions company, we combine cutting-edge digital capabilities and service with the values and integrity of respected traditional media… with an established audience of 2.1 million. At The Seattle Times, you'll find work that matters.

If you need assistance to accommodate a disability, please contact Human Resources at careers@seattletimes.com and provide a description of the reasonable accommodation(s) needed.