

Florida Commissioner of Education

Characteristics of Florida's next educational leader.

The State of Florida invites applications for the position of Commissioner.

The Commissioner of Education is the chief educational officer of the state and is responsible for providing full assistance to the State Board of Education in enforcing compliance with the mission and goals of Florida's seamless preK-20 education system.

The Commissioner is responsible to the State Board of Education and reports to the Governor as the agency head for the Department of Education.

Desired Characteristics:

The State Board of Education is seeking a Commissioner of Education who:

- Is strongly committed to a student-first philosophy.
- Has successfully met the challenges of leading a large organization dedicated to ambitious goals, high standards, and continuous improvement.
- Has demonstrated the ability to articulate a clear vision of quality education with documented evidence of consistent, positive results.
- Understands and appreciates Florida's institutions, culture, and political and educational leadership.
- Has a proven record of implementing programs that address the achievement gap while focusing on the needs of all students.
- Demonstrates an ability to inspire, motivate and build consensus among high impact decision makers such as legislative, business, community and school leaders.
- Is well informed about standards-based education and successful education reform efforts in Florida and throughout the nation.
- Inspires trust, possesses self-confidence, and models high standards of integrity.
- Possesses excellent communication skills and can effectively establish dialogue with all stakeholder groups.
- Is a "team player" who inspires others by example.
- Creates an atmosphere of trust and mutual respect, open channels of communication and shared decision-making.

Minimum Qualification: A baccalaureate degree from a regionally-accredited institution is required, advanced degree preferred.

Responsibilities: *(refer to the Job Description for greater detail)*

The Commissioner operates all statewide functions necessary to support the State Board of Education and the K-20 education system, including strategic planning and budget development, assessment and accountability, advocacy and coordination, and general administration.

The Commissioner provides leadership, policy direction, accountability, and oversight on behalf of the State Board of Education, the Governor, the citizens, and the Department of Education in accordance with the Education Code, Title XLVIII, Chapters 1000-1013, Florida Statutes.

Salary Range: \$195,416-\$275,058 negotiable commensurate with qualifications and experience.

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Job Description

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Responsibilities:

The Commissioner operates all statewide functions necessary to support the State Board of Education and the K-20 education system, including strategic planning and budget development, assessment and accountability, advocacy and coordination, and general administration.

The Commissioner provides leadership, policy direction, accountability, and oversight on behalf of the State Board of Education (SBE), the Governor, the citizens, and the Department of Education in accordance with the Education Code, Title XLVIII, Chapters 1000-1013, Florida Statutes, including but not limited to the following general powers and duties:

Strategic Planning and Budget Development

- Recommend a coordinated preK-20 education budget that estimates the expenditures for the SBE, including the Department of Education, the Commissioner of Education, and all of the boards, institutions, agencies, and services under the general supervision of the SBE.
- Develop and implement a plan for cooperating with the Federal Government in carrying out any or all phases of the educational program and recommend policies for administering funds that are appropriated by Congress and apportioned to the state for any or all educational purposes.
- Implement a program of school improvement and education accountability designed to provide all students the opportunity to make adequate learning gains in each year of school based upon the achievement of state education goals.
- Recommend to the SBE performance goals addressing the educational needs of the state for the preK-20 education system.
- Work in conjunction with the Legislature to recommend funding priorities for the distribution of capital outlay funds for public postsecondary educational institutions.

Assessment and Accountability

- Serve as the primary source of information to the Legislature and Florida constituencies concerning the State Board of Education and Florida's preK-20 education system.
- Develop and implement an integrated preK-20 information system for educational management.
- Implement and maintain a statewide program of educational assessment that provides information for the improvement of the operation and management of all public schools, including schools operating for the purpose of providing educational services to youth in Department of Juvenile Justice programs.

- Implement and maintain a system of intensive school improvement and stringent education accountability.

Advocacy and Coordination

- Effectively determine and advocate student-centered policies and decisions.
- Effectively advocate and lobby priority policies of the State Board of Education and Governor before the Florida Legislature and other decision making bodies.
- Cooperate with other public and nonpublic agencies in planning and bringing about improvements in the educational program.
- Provide information related to current and pending SBE policies to the members of school boards, community college boards of trustees, and state university boards of trustees.
- Serve as a member of the Florida Board of Governors and ensure alignment of initiatives with state policy goals.

General Administration

- Advise and counsel with the SBE on all matters pertaining to education; recommend actions and policies; and execute or provide for the execution of all acts and policies as are approved.
- Maintain oversight and manage the staffing and operations of all units, human and material resources of the Florida Department of Education.
- Perform necessary technical assistance and compliance monitoring to ensure appropriate and consistent interpretation of law.

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