



Energy Innovation Coordinator

Shaping Our Appalachian Region (SOAR) is hiring a full-time position to coordinate activities related to energy innovation and economic development in Kentucky's 54 Appalachian Regional Commission counties. This position is made possible through partnership with the Kentucky Energy and Environment Cabinet (EEC).

This position will report to SOAR's Director of Business and Innovation and must be based in one of Kentucky's 54 ARC counties.

Duties and Responsibilities

1. Knowledge of Available Funding Opportunities Related to Energy Resources and Energy Economic Development

- Become a subject matter expert on U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) and Kentucky Energy and Environment Cabinet funding opportunities.
 - Ex: DOE's 46C tax credit program
- Understand key DOE and EEC priority areas.
- Use knowledge to draft foundational documents and guides for distribution to local communities.
 - Ex: one-pagers, visual documents, e-books

2. Community Engagement and Education:

- Build partnerships with local governments, private sector businesses, and other community-based organizations for training and engagements around energy conservation, efficiency, information on clean energy, and clean transportation.
- Work closely with the Interagency Working Group on Coal and Power Plant Communities & Economic Revitalization's (IWG) Technical Assistance and Rapid Response teams.
- Be responsible for any inbound leads generated by SOAR marketing and communication efforts related to energy innovation efforts or content.
- Willingness to learn about the federal Justice40 Initiative and collect detailed data breaking down underserved populations in communities across Eastern Kentucky.

3. Existing and Ongoing Energy Projects:

- Operate as SOAR's official point-of-contact to existing energy projects and stakeholders across SOAR's 54 counties.
 - Ex. Lewis Ridge Project in Bell County with Rye Development

4. Project Development

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- Leveraging foundational guides and knowledge of DOE and EEC funding opportunities, this position will work with regional stakeholders to identify potential projects.
- Assist communities and private sector entities in submitting state and federal funding applications dealing with energy innovation, especially those targeting former coal communities.
- Aggregate industry contact lists.
- Study and learn about Kentucky's EPAD program and increase adoption by eligible entities in SOAR's service territory.
- Study and learn about the United States Department of Agriculture's REAP program and increase the number of applications in SOAR's service territory.
- Study and learn about DOE loan programs and their potential to impact energy project development.
- Collaborate with the Kentucky Small Business Development Centers, investor groups, and the Kentucky Cabinet for Economic Development (CED) for training sessions around investment incentive opportunities for energy projects.
- Work alongside SOAR's Business and Innovation team through providing technical assistance, resources, and other support to existing manufacturers, small business owners, and entrepreneur clients in SOAR's 54 counties.
- Educate local government leaders and private sector stakeholders on federal funding and incentive criteria that prioritizes investments in marginalized communities that are part of the federal Justice40 Initiative.

5. Data Collection, Reporting, and Evaluation:

- Meticulously measure, collect, and record all activities and outcomes achieved.
- Submit regular monthly reporting on project activities and outcomes.
- Key performance metrics will include:
 - # of meetings held
 - # of meeting participants
 - # of SOAR counties reached
 - # of webinars held
 - # of communities participating in webinars
 - # of recommendations for projects
 - # of outside investors secured
 - # of projects identified
 - # of grant applications assisted
 - # of grants awarded
 - # of listening sessions held
 - # of communities participating in listening sessions

Expectations

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- Strong interest in energy innovation and its potential to drive economic development and increase outside investment in Eastern Kentucky.
- History of identifying and supporting marginalized populations inside underserved communities.
- Proven experience in community engagement, project development, and implementation.
- Strong communication and interpersonal skills. Training and group facilitation experience preferred.
- Knowledge of energy issues and community resources.
- Ability to work independently and collaboratively with diverse groups.
- Experience in data collection and reporting.
- Proficiency in Microsoft Office Suite (Word, Excel, PowerPoint, Outlook).
- Good attention to detail and a positive attitude

Culture and Core Values

SOAR's mission is simple: grow Eastern Kentucky's population.

Our team culture is anchored by putting the interests of Eastern Kentucky first in all that we do. We believe treating others the way we want to be treated is always within our control. Our core values include faith, selflessness, grit, integrity, and empathy. We do our best to exemplify these daily in our interactions with each other and with external partners.

Why SOAR?

The SOAR organization offers a chance to be part of a movement that's bigger than any one of us individually. Eastern Kentucky won't be solved by others. It's going to take us to come together to find the solutions. Through communications, collaborations, and convenings, SOAR is on the front lines helping to get the right people in the right rooms to ensure the future of Eastern Kentucky burns as bright as ever.

SOAR offers a competitive salary along with the following benefits:

- 100% paid individual health insurance
- SIMPLE IRA retirement plan
- Cell phone stipend
- Mileage reimbursement for work-related travel
- Laptop provided
- Annual bonus

Apply Now

Email a cover letter, resume, and salary history to hr@soar-ky.org.

SOAR

SOAR is an equal opportunity employer. All applicants will be considered for employment without attention to race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, national origin, veteran, or disability status.