Education Advocate

Advocates for Children of New York, Inc. (AFC) seeks an Education Advocate for its Immigrant Students’ Rights Project (ISRP) to protect the education-related rights of underserved immigrant families. Immigrant families face unique obstacles in New York City public schools that stem from their linguistic and cultural backgrounds.

The Education Advocate will serve families of children with special needs and English Language Learners in asserting their educational rights in New York City public schools. The Education Advocate will assist Staff Attorneys in all aspects of casework including conducting intake with families, finding appropriate educational programs and services, communicating with Department of Education personnel, and attending school meetings. The Education Advocate will also provide know-your-rights trainings to families around the city. The Education Advocate may also support the Project Director in ongoing policy advocacy efforts focusing on English Language Learners, immigrant students, and access to translation and interpretation services in schools. This is a new, entry-level position funded by a one-year grant; there is the possibility of continued funding in future years.

AFC is a not-for-profit organization that strives to ensure a high-quality education for New York students who face barriers to academic success, focusing on students from low-income backgrounds. AFC works on behalf of children and youth who are at greatest risk of academic failure due to poverty, race, ethnicity, disability, homelessness, immigration status/limited English proficiency, or involvement in the child welfare or juvenile justice systems. We use uniquely integrated strategies to advance systemic reform, empower families and communities, and advocate for the educational rights of individual students.

**Qualifications**

- Bachelor’s Degree required;
- Spanish language fluency required;
- Commitment to serving the public interest;
- Excellent oral and written communication skills;
- Interest in educational issues and issues affecting children, low-income families, and immigrant communities;
- Experience working with children or families preferred;
- Organizational skills, flexibility, and initiative.
How to apply

Send an email with “ISRP Advocate” in the subject line with a cover letter, resume and writing sample of no less than three pages to isrpadvocate@afcnyc.org. Candidates should highlight any personal or professional experience that demonstrates their connection to the populations that AFC serves. Only candidates being scheduled for interviews will be contacted. Candidates selected for interviews must provide contact information for three references.

Expected Start Date

The position is available immediately, and resumes will be considered on a rolling basis.

Compensation

The salary depends on experience. In addition to a competitive salary, AFC also offers generous benefits.

AFC is an affirmative action employer that actively seeks to recruit and retain a diverse staff and especially encourages applications from people of color, persons with disabilities, persons of diverse sexual orientations, gender identities or gender expressions and persons of diverse socioeconomic backgrounds. For more information on AFC, see www.advocatesforchildren.org.