

POSITION PROFILE

Executive Director

OpenSecrets

Washington, DC



ABOUT OPENSECRETS

Nonpartisan, independent and nonprofit, OpenSecrets is the nation's premier research group tracking money in U.S. politics and its effect on elections and public policy. Our mission is to track the flow of money in American politics and provide the data and analysis to strengthen democracy. Our vision is for Americans to use this knowledge to create more vibrant, representative and accountable politics and government.

OpenSecrets manages the nation's premier dataset of federal and state political campaign spending, serving journalists, policymakers, advocates, academics, and the general public with the tools needed to ensure transparency and accountability in elections. OpenSecrets has become an indispensable part of U.S. democracy infrastructure not only through its own original analyses and reporting, but for the data that enables a broad range of others.



More than 7 million people visit the OpenSecrets.org website each year. In 2021, OpenSecrets had more than 33,000 media and research citations; helped more than 5,500 academics from more than 800 institutions of higher learning; and collaborated with hundreds of partner organizations. The organization's two predecessors have won awards from the MacArthur Foundation, the International Academy of Digital Arts and Sciences, and the Sigma Delta Chi Award for Public Service in Online Journalism from the Society of Professional Journalists, among others.

OpenSecrets formed in 2021 as the merger of the nation's two leading campaign finance data and transparency organizations -- the National Institute for Money in Politics and the Center for Responsive Politics. The union resulted in a unique, data-driven organization that harnesses federal and state data about money and influence in politics, and is attended by a staff of policy experts, journalists, and social and data science professionals. The staff's work earned the 2022 David C. Rothman Award for Protecting American Democracy.

Visit the
OpenSecrets [website](https://www.opensecrets.org)



THE OPPORTUNITY

OpenSecrets seeks an Executive Director to lead a vital organization in providing the data and analysis to create a more vibrant, representative, and accountable democracy.

OpenSecrets seeks to provide comprehensive and objective data and analysis unrivaled in quality and useability to journalists, policymakers, scholars, advocates, and the general public. The Executive Director will lead OpenSecrets, serving as the national face of the organization, offering a compelling vision to funders, staff, political leaders, and the media. The Executive Director will implement a strategy to prioritize and maximize the organization's impact including through fostering strong coalitions with a variety of partners and allies. They will ensure the ongoing and unrivaled technical quality and useability of its data. They will define a strategic financial plan for the organization that ensures continued financial support from new and existing funders. And they will lead and attract a world class staff of 32 (and growing!). The Executive Director will manage an annual budget of more than \$4 million and a board of about 20 national leaders and executives.



DATA INNOVATION & PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT

- Provide strategic leadership and innovation in data analyses, products and partnerships, engaging staff and partners in planning and execution.
- Lead the ongoing cycle of creation and assessment of unassailable datasets; work closely with OpenSecrets experts to analyze the data and communicate how it influences politics and policy.
- Define products, partnerships, and tools to help journalists, policy makers, advocates, scholars, and members of the general public see the stories inside the data.

FUNDRAISING & EXTERNAL RELATIONS

- Engage and attract existing and new financial supporters ranging from individuals to national leaders and foundations; define new opportunities to earn revenue while advancing the organizational mission.
- Inspire trust and confidence with a diverse set of national stakeholders and media across the political spectrum, evincing political sophistication, a deep understanding of the U.S. political system and money's role therein.
- Lead compelling communications with staff, funder, policy maker and user communities., to build OpenSecrets's public profile as the preeminent nonpartisan go-to source for money and politics data & analysis across the federal and state spheres.

ORGANIZATIONAL LEADERSHIP

- Provide inspirational, supportive, and empowering leadership for a passionate, committed, and expert staff; foster a culture of openness, transparency, inclusion, and collaboration.
- Apply a focus on thoughtful organizational development with a commitment to growth and development for team members at all levels; demonstrate attentiveness, availability, and investment in staff development and cohesion.
- Define multi-year strategic priorities consistent with organizational advantages within a fast-changing environment.
- Keep the board of directors informed and manage quarterly meetings.

COMPENSATION & BENEFITS

Salary for the role is anticipated to range from \$180,000 - \$200,000, commensurate with qualifications and experience.

OpenSecrets is currently a fully remote organization; the Executive Director is expected to maintain a regular presence in DC.

OpenSecrets offers an excellent benefits package, including full medical, dental, 403(b) match, generous vacation and sick leave, and all federal holidays paid.

OpenSecrets serves a wide audience across the political spectrum. People of diverse backgrounds are strongly encouraged to apply. OpenSecrets is an equal opportunity employer committed to creating a diverse and inclusive organizational culture. We do not discriminate against candidates and employees because of their disability, sex, race, gender identity, sexual orientation, religion, national origin, age, veteran status, or any other protected status under the law.



CONTACT

Koya Partners, the executive search firm that specializes in mission-driven search, has been exclusively retained for this engagement. Liz Lombard and Angie Sessoms of Koya Partners have been exclusively retained for this search. To express interest in this role, **please fill out our Talent Profile** or email Angie directly at **asesoms@koyapartners.com**. All inquiries and discussions will be considered strictly confidential.

Koya Partners is committed to providing reasonable accommodation to individuals living with disabilities. If you are a qualified individual living with a disability and need assistance expressing interest online, please email **NonprofitSearchOps@divsearch.com**. If you are selected for an interview, you will receive additional information regarding how to request an accommodation for the interview process.

ABOUT KOYA PARTNERS

Koya Partners, a part of Diversified Search Group, is a leading executive search and strategic advising firm dedicated to connecting exceptionally talented people with mission-driven clients. Our founding philosophy—The Right Person in the Right Place Can Change the World—guides our work as we partner with nonprofits & NGOs, institutions of higher education, responsible businesses, and social enterprises in local communities and around the world.

Learn more about how we can help you with your search on the **[Koya Partners website](#)**.

