



WASHINGTON
STATE Wire



State Capitol & Political Reporter

Since 2010, The [Washington State Wire](#) has been one of the primary digital outlets for news and information regarding policy and politics in Washington State. In 2017, the site re-launched with a new web design, weekly and daily email newsletters, and the launch of the annual [Re-Wire Policy Conference](#).

Since 2011, State of Reform has offered health policy analysis, reporting and commentary covering nine states. The State of Reform Health Policy Conference series is now hosted in 13 markets annually.

We are seeking a reporter to be based in Olympia, Washington, to cover state-level politics, policy and personalities.

Job description: The capitol reporter will cover Washington State policy, state agencies, and legislative activity. This will include reporting on the personalities and people that make Olympia work: elected officials, lobbyists, and state agency leadership.

The reporter will also write stories for our sister site, www.stateofreform.com, focused on state health policy. The level of writing for State of Reform will vary from .25 to .5 depending on the time of the year.

This position will be based in Olympia with occasional travel throughout the state. Duties for this position include:

- Regular and daily reporting of about two to three posts per day for the Wire and State of Reform
- Support for the conferences and events sponsored by The Wire and State of Reform, including agenda development, speaker identification and recruitment and other tasks as needed
- Data aggregation and open-source intelligence collection to support online content
- Research of current policy and market activities with a focus on state government, but which will include federal, regional and local government as it relates to state issues

- Support for and coordination of analysis and coverage of daily and weekly newsletters distributed to email readers
- Lead responsibility for social media at The Wire

Qualifications: This position will require a set of diverse skills and the ability to manage multiple types of projects. Please address how you meet these qualifications in your cover letter.

- 5-7 years of progressively challenging duties within a reporting or political/policy analysis position. This could include writing for clients, legislators, for a university newspaper or other comparable position.
- A sophisticated level of awareness and understanding of the issues facing Washington state policy makers today. An understanding of tax/revenue policy, health policy, education or environmental policy would be a plus.
- Experience in and ability to continue to learn in the areas of digital media, social media, data analytics, infographics, etc.
- 4-year college graduate with a degree in journalism, public relations, communications, marketing, business administration, political science, economics, international relations, social science or related field; a related graduate degree is helpful
- Excellent writing and verbal communication skills along with a proven ability to develop and maintain strong working relationships with both internal and external stakeholders
- Must be organized and have excellent follow through, a fast learner, be able to handle multiple assignments and enjoy the pressure of a deadline-driven environment.
- Must have advanced problem solving and critical thinking skills. The importance of this piece cannot be overstated.

To Apply: This is a full time position. We offer a competitive compensation package, including health care, retirement and paid time off benefits.

Most importantly, this is a work place where the right candidate will enjoy the challenges offered and a culture in which one can flourish as a person. We are building a new kind of entrepreneurial journalism and a new kind of civic reporting. And, we want your help to do it.

If you'd like to apply for a position, please send us your resume, and a cover letter to info@washingtonstatewire.com. In your cover letter, tell us how you'd add to the team, and why you are a fit with us. Provide writing samples of between 200 and 600 words. Be prepared to offer references during the interview process.