

Position Title: National Policy and Campaigns Officer

Salary Range: – \$94,218 - \$120,265

Reports To: National Secretary

Location: 255 Drummond St, Carlton VIC

Date:

Position Overview

We are seeking an experienced, highly skilled, and passionate individual who can work with HSU branches to lead political and stakeholder engagement to advance policy outcomes in the interests of our members. Working as part of a small team and reporting to the HSU National Secretary, the National Policy and Campaigns Officer will be responsible for leading policy development and political engagement, developing and strengthening stakeholder relationships, and briefing and advising on changes to national policy, legislation and regulations that affect our members working in the health and community services sectors.

Organisational Context

The Health Services Union (HSU) is one of Australia’s fastest growing unions, with over 110,000 members.

Our members work across the breadth of the health and community services sectors. Our union is at the forefront of shaping a reform agenda relating to Aged Care, the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS), hospitals, primary care, and allied and mental health systems, including related reforms in skills, migration, WHS, gender equity and other areas. The HSU is comprised of eight autonomous branches and the role of HSU National is to facilitate cross-branch coordination, which supports membership growth and, by extension, the collective power of working people. Through this, we ensure that HSU members have a strong and powerful voice in the debates that shape their working lives and their communities.

Principal Duties

- Briefing and advising HSU branches on changes to national policy, legislation and regulations that affect HSU members in various industry sectors (Aged Care, the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS), hospitals, primary care, and allied and mental health systems, including related reforms in skills, migration, WHS and other areas).
- Developing national policy positions in co-ordination with branches, including for strategic planning, campaigns, submissions and consultation papers to Parliamentary, Departmental and other inquiries.

- Develop and maintain relationships with HSU branch officials and key external stakeholders (e.g. other unions, peak bodies, politicians, etc.)
- Advise and support the HSU National Secretary in maintaining and developing political relationships to further policy objectives.
- Coordinate political lobbying activities, including logistics, developing materials, briefing members and officials.
- Represent the union's national position on various committees and forums, and coordinate branch engagement.
- Brief and provide advice to the HSU National Secretary and HSU National Executive in relation to relevant policy developments, emerging industry issues and opportunities for membership growth.
- Work collaboratively with other national office staff who hold various specialist portfolios, namely Industrial, campaigns, media, and other policy.
- Provide advice and support to HSU branches seeking policy, research and campaigns assistance from HSU National.
- Work with the Communications Officer and external stakeholders to develop branch-led campaigns and media messaging relating to HSU policy advocacy
- Manage externally commissioned service providers/consultants engaged to provide policy, research and campaign services to HSU National.
- Any other duties as directed.

Essential Requirements

- Significant experience in policy, preferably for the health and community services sector. Tertiary qualification in a relevant field and /or extensive experience in a similar role.
- Outstanding written and verbal communication skills, with the ability to tailor messages to different audiences.
- Political awareness, including a strong understanding of the Commonwealth legislative process and political dynamics of the labour movement and political parties.
- Highly developed research skills.
- Excellent stakeholder management and lobbying skills
- Demonstrated experience in managing multiple research and policy projects simultaneously and working to competing and tight deadlines.
- Sound digital literacy skills.
- Ability to work independently and exercise sound judgment under limited supervision.
- Demonstrated commitment to the values and underlying principles of the union movement, social justice, community development and equity.