We are looking for the next leader of Business Oregon, someone who has the leadership skills, passion, and drive to create prosperous opportunities for all Oregon communities, in both the metropolitan and rural areas of our state. Our next leader must have the skills and ability to build relationships and engage with veteran, women, and minority owned businesses and entrepreneurs to help them bring their visions to life here in Oregon. Our next leader can't just speak the language of economic development, they need to have a clear understanding of the landscape and challenges that small business and entrepreneurship face in the state of Oregon.

What You Will Do!
As the Agency Director for Business Oregon, you will have the opportunity to serve as a representative of the Governor in determining direction and policy in areas with economic impact to the state. You’ll work closely with elected officials on critical business development within the state of Oregon. With the formal adoption of the Business Oregon Five Year Strategic Plan, our next leader will bring their operations lens and focus to the plan’s implementation which will address five critical priorities. Those are:

- Bring business development and sustainability to all-areas of Oregon in a COVID- and post COVID-19 business environment.
- Grow small- and middle-market companies.
- Cultivate rural economic stability.
- Advance economic opportunity for underrepresented people.
- Ensure an inclusive, transparent, and fiscally healthy agency.

As the next Business Oregon Agency Director you will also have the opportunity to:

- Market Oregon's global competitiveness and drive the retention, expansion, and recruitment of businesses to our state, while implementing strategies to create a dynamic startup and entrepreneurial environment and fill supply chain gaps.
- Oversee an arts portfolio which includes the Oregon Arts Commission and Cultural Trust which promotes Oregon’s cultural resources inside and outside the state.
- Utilize your ability to develop positive and long lasting relationships with private sector, economic development organizations, other state agencies, members of the academic community, and other state and local government entities in order to develop state-wide economic and community development initiatives and policies, and to use all available resources in the effective promotion of Oregon's business environment.
- Oversee the Business Finance section which partners with the public and private sector to aid with retention, expansion, and recruitment opportunities for Oregon-based businesses. These programs support local municipalities for water systems, wastewater systems, port development, roads and other infrastructure needs that serve as a precursor for business development and meeting community needs.
- Regularly meet with and serve of different advisory councils and commissions with statutory responsibilities related to Business Oregon.
Benefits of Joining Our Team

Talented people with unique skills and innovative ideas want to carry out their business vision in a place that provides an ecosystem where growth flourishes. In Oregon, we don't need to manufacture our own attractions. We have a breathtaking coastline, striking mountain peaks, lush forests and high desert. Today, our state's economy is as diverse as our landscape and it could not be possible without our intentional focus on continued growth within each of our local regions.

Our mission is to invest in Oregon businesses, communities, and people to promote a globally competitive, diverse, and inclusive economy. As the person at the forefront leading this cutting edge work, you will have the opportunity to:

- Work with leading minds in government and industry to create new opportunities for business growth and development in Oregon.
- Act as an advocate and catalyst to foster an ecosystem that will allow small business to flourish within our state.
- Work for an agency that lives and breathes the mission, vision and values of fostering a strong economy for all Oregonians.
- Perform in a dynamic environment with a diverse portfolio of business services where each day offers new and interesting opportunities.

The State of Oregon offers a competitive and affordable health and benefits package, including excellent medical, vision and dental coverage, paid holidays off and personal business leave, as well as paid and accrued vacation leave and sick leave. In addition to standard medical benefits and employee leave, the state also provides additional optional benefits, such as basic life insurance, short-term disability, long-term disability, deferred compensation savings program, and flexible spending accounts for health care and childcare expenses.

What We Are Looking For

Experienced executive leader who has at least (10) ten years of management experience in a public or private organization which included responsibility for each of the following: a) development of program rules and policies, b) development of long- and short-range goals and plans, c) program evaluation, and d) budget preparation.

The ideal candidate will possess the following skills and experience to bring to the team:

- The ability to distill big ideas into daily operational performance goals.
- Experience cultivating inclusivity with underrepresented/under-served communities.
- Experience supporting organizational cultural shift.
- Exceptional communication skills will be critical as you meet with diverse communities of stakeholders, the public, internal staff and colleagues from across the state.
- The ability to foster an environment of equity and inclusion where all can bring their whole selves to work and thrive.
- Accountability as you work to develop a culture of internal and external partnerships that work towards shared outcomes.
- An abundance of emotional intelligence that will aid you as you meet with an array of communities and work with staff daily to achieve the agency’s desired goals.
- Experience in change management as you carry forward the amazing work of Business Oregon and continually developing the adopted strategic plan and vision of the agency.
- A clear understanding of the critical role of small business and calling on your experience as an advocate for the expansion of women and minority owned small businesses will prepare you for success in this role.

How to Apply

- Current State of Oregon employees (including current temporary, limited-duration or permanent employees): You must apply through your employee Workday account. At the time of application, please attach your current cover letter and resume
- External Applicants - Please visit the State of Oregon job opportunities web-page to submit your application for the position, which includes your current cover letter and resume

Want to Know More? Let Me Help!

- Your candidate profile, cover letter, and resume are the perfect place to display your interest in the position and highlight the skills and experience you will bring, making you the best candidate for the position. In addition to your related work experience and education, we will use the attributes and minimum qualifications above under the “What We Are Looking For” section to determine whom to interview. Submissions are screened for consistency of
information and communication skills at the professional level (attention to detail, spelling, grammar, presentation, etc.).

- The salary listed is the non-PERS qualifying salary range. If the successful candidate is PERS qualifying, the salary range will reflect the additional 6.95%. Please review the Classification and Compensation page for more details, or you may visit our website for information on Pay Equity.
- If you have questions about the job announcement, or need an alternate format to apply, please contact the Senior Recruitment Analyst, Amber Ingram, at: amber.ingram@oregon.gov | 503-798-3978.
- Finalists will be subject to a computerized criminal history check. Adverse background data may be grounds for immediate disqualification.
- Applicants must be authorized to work in the United States. Applicants who require VISA sponsorship will not be considered at this time.
- Employee is required to possess and maintain a valid driver's license issued by the state where the employee resides and an acceptable driving record.
- This announcement is for one, full time, permanent, Principal Executive/Manager I position. This recruitment may be used to fill future vacancies.

Helpful Links & Resources
Oregon Job Opportunities Webpage
Workday Applicant FAQ
Veterans Preference Information & Guidance | Oregon Department of Veterans' Affairs at: 1-800-692-9666
What You Need to Know to Get the Job
How to Set Job Alerts

Business Oregon is an Equal Opportunity, Affirmative Action Employer Committed to Workforce Diversity