



4248 Park Glen Road
Minneapolis, MN 55416
(952) 928-4648

Title: Director, Public Affairs
Reports to: Senior Vice President, Public Affairs, Events & Education
Job Type: Full Time
Location: Remote, with some travel expected for MAG events
Application: For consideration, please submit applications [here](#)

Job Summary

The MAG Director of Public Affairs is responsible for developing and implementing MAG advocacy and policy efforts to support more competitive and transparent payments systems. This role is critical in the promotion of positive relationships with the public, government officials, and key stakeholders in its role to champion the MAG's mission and values. The MAG promotes a fair and equitable payments system that best serves the needs of consumers and ensures merchants have choice in payments services.

Responsibilities

Domestic Advocacy and Policy Strategy

- Develop and execute comprehensive advocacy and policy strategies including the positioning of merchants' payments perspective with multiple parties, including but not limited to federal issues
- Cultivate and maintain relationships with key stakeholders, including government officials in regulatory agencies and legislative staff
- Liason with D.C. merchant trade associations on policy matters and legislative developments that impact the interests of merchant members on payments issues
- Collaborate with internal departments to ensure consistent messaging and alignment with the organization's goals and values.
- Serve as staff liaison to the MAG Advocacy and Communications Committees and Communities of Practice (COPs) as needed on policy matters
- Manage and develop MAG regulatory comment submissions
- Serve as a back-up to CEO and SVP in serving as MAG's spokesperson representing the organization in the payments industry (event attendance and panel participation)

International

- Serve as staff liaison to International Committee sharing market updates from a global perspective to better educate merchants about varying policies around the world
- Support policy and advocacy interests working with International Advisors in MAG APAC and MAG Europe

Operational

- Explore advocacy and policy efforts that enhance the value of MAG to merchant members and member prospects supporting the growth of MAG's merchant and community reach
- Assist business development on policy matters when traveling on behalf of the MAG and interfacing with prospect members and sponsors
- Work with communications staff to enhance the position of MAG image in social and earned media

Driving **positive change and innovation** in the payments industry that serves the merchants interest through **collaboration, education, and advocacy.**



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- Participate actively in the annual planning process, including developing and executing policy work plans and deliverables while evaluating and providing feedback on plans as the year progresses
- Stay abreast of industry trends and best practices in public affairs and make recommendations for continuous improvement
- Assist with ad-hoc projects and other duties as assigned
- Occasional travel is required for MAG conferences and other meetings

Qualifications

- Bachelor's Degree in Public Relations, Communications, Journalism, Political Science, or related field required
- Five years experience working in public policy, public affairs, public relations, advocacy, and/or a merchant trade association
- Two years of policy experience in the payments industry is a plus
- Demonstrated knowledge of federal government and legislative processes required
- Demonstrated knowledge of state and international government and legislative processes a plus
- Excellent communication skills with the ability to articulate complex ideas clearly and persuasively
- Strong interpersonal skills to build and maintain relationships with diverse stakeholders
- Ability to think strategically and develop innovative solutions to public relations challenges
- Strong leadership abilities with the capacity to motivate and inspire action to achieve deliverables
- Ability to maintain confidentiality and handle sensitive information with discretion
- Flexibility and adaptability to work in a fast-paced dynamic environment
- Proficiency in Microsoft Office Suite and media monitoring tools

MAG Employee Benefits

Interested candidates can view the current MAG Employee Benefits [here on our website](#)

About the MAG

The Merchant Advisory Group (MAG) plays a vital role in helping merchants and the industry shape innovative approaches to payments. Providing unparalleled collaboration and networking opportunities for merchants and sponsors, the MAG collaborates with industry stakeholders and advocates for merchants' interests. The MAG represents over 150 U.S. merchants which account for over \$4.8 Trillion in annual sales at over 580,000 locations across the U.S. and online. Roughly \$3.5 Trillion of those sales and over 100 billion card payments are electronic which represents approximately 62%* of total U.S. card volume. MAG members employ over 14 million associates.

**Source of Total U.S. card volumes: Federal Reserve Payments Study 2019*

The Merchant Advisory Group is an Equal Opportunity Employer. All qualified applicants will receive consideration without regard to race, color, religion, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity, national origin or ancestry, age, disability or veteran status, or other protected status.

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