



Position: **Policy and Government Affairs Associate/Counsel**

Location: **Oakland, CA**

CRL has an opening for a **Policy and Government Affairs Associate/Counsel** in **Oakland, CA**. If you would like to know more about this opportunity, please contact **Ellen Harnick**. If you are interested in applying for this position, please submit your resume and cover letter describing why you are a fit for this position to hiringmanager@self-help.org. Applications must be received by **April 2, 2019** to ensure consideration. Applications received after this date may or may not be considered, depending on the applicant pool. The position will remain posted until filled. You can view the full job description below.

As always, you can view all of our openings on [Connect](#). This job is open to both internal and external candidates. If you know a qualified candidate, please refer them to the [Careers](#) page on the Self-Help website. Referrals are always appreciated!

The Organization:

The Center for Responsible Lending (CRL) is a nonprofit, nonpartisan research and policy organization that promotes responsible lending practices and access to fair terms of credit for low-wealth families. CRL was created in 2002 to protect homeownership and family wealth by working to eliminate predatory lending and other abusive financial practices. Our work has helped lead to major changes in lending practices, saving families over \$2 billion annually. CRL has over 40 employees and offices in Durham, NC; Oakland, CA; and in Washington, DC.

CRL is an affiliate of Self-Help, a community development lender founded in 1980 that has provided over \$7 billion dollars in financing to help 146,000 low-wealth borrowers buy homes, build businesses and strengthen community resources.

Position Description:

The Center for Responsible Lending is seeking a Policy and Government Affairs Associate/Counsel to join our team in Oakland, CA. As part of CRL's State Policy Team, supporting stakeholders throughout the 50 states, the Policy and Government Affairs Associate/Counsel will work with stakeholders in California and other Western states to develop and advance strategies for legislative and regulatory reform at the state level to prevent predatory lending practices.

This position will have a significant focus on California, with responsibilities in supporting other Western states as well.

Essential Responsibilities:

- Conducting legislative or regulatory, advocacy.
- Developing advocacy materials (e.g., one-pagers, issues, briefs).
- Building coalitions and strengthening relationships with ally organizations and policy makers.

- Providing significant technical assistance in drafting legislation and developing policy recommendations.
- Monitoring policy and reporting on significant developments.
- Researching and documenting abusive lending practices among affected individuals and constituencies.
- Representing CRL at meetings with elected representatives and other stakeholders.
- Testifying at legislative hearings, and speaking with the press.
- Perform other duties as may be deemed necessary.

Minimum Qualifications:

- Bachelor's degree from an accredited college or university or equivalent related experience.
- 2 – 3 years' experience in legislative advocacy or policy.
- Excellent verbal, written, and policy analysis skills.
- Demonstrated facility in fostering relationships with diverse constituencies.
- Self-starter, able to initiate and juggle multiple projects and work independently.
- Ability to exercise discretion with internal/external partners.
- Ability to effectively present information both orally and in writing and to appropriately and skillfully respond to questions from groups and/or individuals.
- Ability to learn quickly and work independently as well as part of a team and with a diverse group of people and settings.
- Proficient with Word, Excel, PowerPoint and Social Media.
- Experience in building and supporting strong coalitions
- Ability and willingness to travel 25% on in-state and out-of-state travel.

Desired Qualifications:

- Background in finance, economics, civil rights, or consumer protection preferred.
- Experience and existing relationships with financial services/consumer protection legislative staff and or regulators preferred.
- Experience in legislative drafting and knowledge of financial services preferred.
- Advanced degree in law or policy-related field preferred.
- English/Spanish fluency preferred.

Physical Requirements:

Frequently requires use of manual dexterity and repetitive motions, primarily with the wrists, hands, and/or fingers. Must be able to occasionally lift and exert force of up to 40 pounds.

Compensation:

Competitive nonprofit salary, based on experience, plus a generous benefits package.

Application:

To apply, send resume and cover letter, describing why you are a fit for this position, to hiringsmanager@self-help.org. Please include the position title as the subject. Application must be

received by **April 2, 2019** to ensure consideration. Applications received after this date may or may not be considered, depending on the applicant pool. The position will remain posted until filled.

Self-Help is committed to providing equal employment opportunities to all persons regardless of race, color, class, age, religion, disability that can be accommodated, marital status, ancestry, nationality, family status or sexual orientation.