Claire Valdez, Democratic Nominee
New York Congressional District 7

Position: Communications Director
Location: Washington, DC

Job Overview

Claire Valdez, Democratic nominee for NY-7 and presumptive incoming Congressperson, is seeking a Communications Director for her congressional office. The Communications Director is responsible for crafting the office's communications strategy, preparing the Member for interviews and speeches, and serving as the primary spokesperson and media contact. This is a Director-level role that reports to the Chief of Staff.

Responsibilities

- Craft and implement the office's overall communications strategy, including digital, press, and event-based PR.
- Write and communicate across multiple formats in the Member's voice, including releases, statements, op-eds, speeches, talking points, newsletters, social media, and more.
- Monitor press coverage of the Member and the office, alerting the Member and team where necessary.
- Manage crisis communications, including defending and protecting the Member's reputation during emergencies.
- Serve as the primary spokesperson and media contact for the office.
- Depending on your primary skillset: hire, supervise, and develop a Communications Assistant to assist with digital or act as junior spokesperson.
- Prepare the Member for interviews, speeches, and other public appearances where she is speaking.
- Manage the office's website and social media content.
- Develop content for the office, including creating and editing photography and videos of the Member.
- Ensure an active communications presence in New York and New York City, managing relationships with press at the national, state, city, and local levels.
- Pitch stories to reporters and press.
- Maintain liaisons with other communications teams on the hill, as well as allied stakeholders and organizations.
- Advise staff on messaging and coach them on writing in the Member's voice.
- Organize press at office events such as town halls or press conferences and work with the Operations Manager to ensure livestreaming and A/V capabilities where necessary.
- Perform all other duties as assigned by the Member and Chief of Staff.

Qualifications and Characteristics

- 5+ years working in communications, including 2+ years acting as a spokesperson.
- Exceptional political instincts and creativity, knowing when and when not to engage with a given story.
- Excellent storytelling skills, including an ability to describe complicated topics in simple, understandable ways and to be persuasive in the Member's voice.
- Demonstrable experience with labor unions or the labor movement.
- Demonstrable experience managing crisis communications for a principal or organization, including the ability to remain calm and operate with discretion under pressure.
- Knowledge of the legislative process is required.
- Demonstrable management experience is strongly preferred.
- Demonstrable experience crafting communications strategy, including digital and press.
- Proficiency in Spanish is a plus.
- Alignment with the Member's democratic socialist values and platform.
- Familiarity with New York City or NY-7, including local media, is a plus.

Terms and Compensation

This is a full-time, salaried, benefits-eligible position based in Washington, DC, with occasional travel between DC and NY-7. The starting salary is **$120,000.** Employment will begin upon the Member's swearing-in in January 2027.

How to Apply

Interested applicants should apply **here.** A writing sample is required. As an addendum to your cover letter, please include 1-2 pages describing how you envision running the communications team in the 120th Congress, including what you see as key goals, measurable benchmarks, and barriers to success.

Please include the email and phone number for three professional references. Applications will be reviewed on a rolling basis.

The office of Representative Claire Valdez is an Equal Opportunity employer and does not discriminate on the basis of race, ethnicity, national origin, religion, socioeconomic status, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity and expression, age, disability, marital status, parental status, or veteran status. Candidates from marginalized communities are encouraged to apply.