



## Position: Manager

### Location: Louisiana (Flexible)

*Location: Flexible, Louisiana preferred*

*Preferred application deadline: October 15, 2021*

### Position Summary

Working directly with key Empower leaders, you will work to support innovative education efforts primarily in Louisiana. This effort will help drive sustainable and transformative progress within districts.

If public health conditions make travel possible then applicants must be willing to travel up to 30% of the time (primarily within Louisiana) to support the growth of our partnerships and provide on-the-ground support in communities across the state. As part of this role, you will receive coaching, mentorship, and guidance from experienced leaders inside and outside of our organization.

### Who We Are

Empower Schools works with local communities across the country to help design, launch, and support empowered district school partnerships and Zones. We believe that schools and communities thrive when educators are empowered and held accountable for making key decisions that are best for students.

Our approach centers around the following focus areas:

- *Establishing Partnerships:* We execute foundational and operational necessities for the launch of new networks—from complex, multi-stream project management to crafting governance agreements/contracts, to navigating state and local policy pathways.
- *Supporting Leaders:* We bring deep expertise and strong support skills to help school, system, and community leaders design and launch networks of empowered district schools. We help build capacity in network and district leaders to implement and sustain the work.
- *Convening Practitioners:* We host convenings and organize learning cohorts for school, network and district leaders pursuing empowered school strategies.
- *Spreading the Word:* We identify and narrate bright spot successes and best practices in empowered public school models and innovative, sustaining governance structures.

Empower's work is informed by our experience as the design and launch partner of several public school improvement and innovation efforts across the country including the Springfield (MA) Empowerment Zone Partnership, the Luminary Learning Network in Denver, the Rural



Schools Innovation Zone in South Texas, and the Leadership Academies Network in Fort Worth. Recently, we have built responsive and high-performing teams supporting work in states including Texas and Colorado, and we are working to deepen our impact in Louisiana. To date, we have supported the design and launch of fourteen empowering partnerships across five states, serving more than 28,000 students attending 60 schools.

Our core work is most often focused on partnering with districts and developing context-specific partnerships between district schools and nonprofits. We are supported by an ecosystem of partners and stakeholders in each community, often organized at a state-level in partnership with state agencies. Developing both site and state-specific strategies and relationships is key to our work.

## Who You Are

- You are committed to centering racial and socioeconomic equity in your work. You understand the impact of systemic and implicit racism and challenge yourself and others to support transformational outcomes for students across race and class.
- You are a fast learner with a thirst for knowledge and are excited by developing creative solutions to challenges encountered at the school and system levels, and particularly excited about developing state-specific expertise in Louisiana.
- Your strong project management skills allow you to develop and implement complex projects involving multiple stakeholders and tight deadlines to high standards.
- You enjoy working individually and as part of a team and are able to quickly and effectively build strong relationships and influence others with your ideas. You can work collaboratively with a wide range of stakeholders, becoming a trusted partner through your reliability, initiative, and collaborative spirit.
- You are familiar with the challenges facing K-12 urban education and have applied your analytical and creative problem-solving skills to address them in previous roles.
- You are able to take ideas and solutions from brainstorming to fruition, while engaging and incorporating the perspectives of others.
- You make time to reflect on your work in order to continually improve your effectiveness, you know how to self-advocate in order to get the support that you need, and you can keep it all in perspective with a sense of humor.
- In short, you are a rock star generalist with a broad skill-set, who can support a wide range of projects.

## How You'll Help

You will support an array of important initiatives and relationships, playing a key role in enabling schools in the state to make the best decisions for students in communities across Louisiana. Your work will vary based on the needs over time and will include the following:



- **Support execution and project management of district partnerships**
  - Serve as project manager for specific project workstreams; successfully manage and track workflows and activities of staff, consultants, and partners as required for successful execution
  - Work closely with superintendents and cabinet-level district leaders to plan and implement bold school plans, such as new school launch of high-demand models, high-quality school replication, and other innovative efforts; help set conditions for flexibility and innovation to enable strong responses to student needs
  - Build deep relationships with district stakeholders and help ensure projects stay on track over time through regular check-ins and communication
  - Create custom, community-focused presentation and communication materials for various stakeholders (e.g., district partners, school-based staff, community members, state policy champions, etc.)
  - Work with teammates to support the design and implementation of programmatic strategy that supports district partnership efforts
  
- **Support partnership development and execution of state and district partnerships**
  - In collaboration with teammates and state education department leaders, participate in strategy sessions and support program design to use ESSER funds to catalyze sustainable innovation, especially for students most in need
  - Develop and cultivate relationships with potential state and district partners in Louisiana and across the country
  - Build a productive and professional working relationship quickly with various stakeholders
  - Support developing project proposals, project plans, and partnership documents
  
- **Additional support as needed**
  - Provide leverage and capacity on additional growth projects outside of Louisiana as needed

## Qualifications

- At least 3-5 years of work experience
  - Educational expertise required
  - Consulting and strategic planning work preferred



- Demonstrated interest in and strong alignment with the goals of Empower Schools
- Strong, demonstrated commitment to anti-racism, diversity, equity & inclusion
- Track record of taking initiative to successfully manage complex projects and initiatives involving multiple components
- Dynamic and effective prioritization skills, enabling strong, ontime completion of multiple projects with shifting timelines
- Must be articulate, tactful, and able to successfully manage stakeholder relations with partners, external organizations, policy makers, and education leaders
- Possess an entrepreneurial mindset (i.e., flexible, resourceful, and creative) and deep motivation to drive toward high-quality outcomes with a consistently positive attitude
- Excellent written and oral communications skills, including the ability to translate ideas into clear, compelling documents (e.g., in PowerPoint and Word formats)
- BA/BS or advanced degree preferred

## Salary and Benefits

The salary for a Manager starts at \$65,000 per year. Empower Schools offers a comprehensive benefits package, including health and dental insurance, retirement benefits, life and disability insurance, and flexible spending accounts.

## Application

Interested and qualified applicants should apply [here](#). Note: the preferred application deadline for this position is October 15, 2021.

*We support equal opportunity and value building the diversity of our team as we grow. We seek individuals of all races, ethnicities, abilities, and creeds to support our organization's work and encourage individuals from historically under-represented backgrounds to apply.*