Position Summary: Under the supervision of the Chicago Teachers Union president and vice president, the communications director will supervise all communication department staff, direct paid and earned media campaigns, craft and implement messaging and mobilization campaigns at the city and state levels, and support the work of our elected leaders and members with traditional and digital media efforts. The communications director also will serve as the chief writer and media strategist for the CTU and will work with other CTU departments and the international union to develop and execute traditional, digital and internal membership communications strategies.

Position Responsibilities:

- Manages media campaigns staff to ensure high-quality, consistent and creative campaigns across media types to advance the mission and vision of the CTU.
- Helps develop and oversee strategy for media components of campaigns the CTU is running at the local and state levels.
- Builds and optimizes the CTU’s relationships with journalists and producers.
- Works with the CTU’s office of the president to coordinate and amplify speaking engagements and media requests and to leverage digital media to best promote and support activities of the CTU’s membership and executive officers.
- Works with other CTU department heads and additional stakeholders to craft and deliver messaging for the CTU and its officers.
- Oversees work and contracts for pollsters, graphic artists, and paid and earned media vendors.
- Creates and implements best practices for media engagement throughout the CTU’s campaigns, departments and divisions.
- Oversees paid advertising for the CTU on local and state campaigns.
- Works with the CTU’s political department and other departments to integrate best media practices into the union’s work.

Primary Knowledge, Skills and Abilities:

- A minimum of six years’ experience running media, messaging and/or digital campaigns.
- At least two years’ experience managing staff in communications and/or political campaign settings.
- Ability to write quickly and effectively, with a strong eye for political messaging.
- Ability to supervise work allocation and implement procedures and systems to maximize operating efficiency.
- Experience writing speeches, columns, op-eds and articles.
- Ability to persuasively articulate the importance of integrating media strategy in an organizing, political or issue advocacy campaign.
- Knowledge and interest in integrating digital media with traditional media.
- Ability to work effectively with elected leaders and staff in complex and sometimes politically sensitive situations.
- Ability to oversee and manage multiple priority projects and meet deadlines.
- Background in labor, education and/or politics.

Secondary Knowledge, Skills and Abilities:

- Prior work experience in a union environment.
- Familiarity with local and state education and political issues.
- Experience in Hispanic media outreach.
- Experience working with community partners and civil rights groups.

Application Requirements: Applicants should submit a cover letter, writing sample and resume via email to shynaabrown@ctulocal1.com. Applications will be accepted until the position is filled. Please reference posting CTU Communication Jobs in the subject line.