

Application deadline: Open until filled
Initial reviews will begin September 16, 2019

Position Available: Chief Information Officer

Description

The Great Lakes Commission (GLC) seeks a proven, visionary leader in strategy, implementation and management of information and digital technologies to help the agency transform governance and policy making in the Great Lakes-St. Lawrence River Basin.

The Chief Information Officer will lead the development and implementation of a strategic digital vision for converting data on the Great Lakes (water, land, economy, environment, infrastructure and more) into accessible information and actionable knowledge that supports decision making for the future of the Great Lakes Basin including environmental management, economic development, infrastructure investment, planning, governance, and social and cultural value.

Agency

The GLC is an interstate compact agency established in state law and authorized by the U.S. Congress to research, collect, organize and make accessible data and information about the Great Lakes-St. Lawrence River Basin economy and environment that is relevant to its member states and provinces, the governments of Canada and the United States, state, federal and tribal agencies, non-profit organizations, and others in the Great Lakes Basin. Decision makers rely on data maintained by the Commission to support planning, investment, conservation, resource management and other policy actions. The GLC seeks a Chief Information Officer to expand the GLC's information capacity and service delivery to state and federal policy makers, businesses, municipalities, ports, industries, advocates and other stakeholders.

Vision

The strategic digital vision will incorporate and support the governance responsibilities embodied in the Great Lakes Basin Compact and will help the Great Lakes Commission innovate and advance the mission of the agency as it implements a world-class conservation and development commitment among eight states, two provinces, the United States and Canada.

Blue Accounting

The GLC serves the region in part through data and information sharing on the Great Lakes Basin's *Blue Accounting Initiative*. Blue Accounting helps Great Lakes entities and communities to collaboratively establish

shared goals and then measure the level of achievement by transforming existing data into useful and readily available information that supports durable policy and efficient investment decisions for public and private community members (<https://www.blueaccounting.org>). The incumbent will use the strategic digital vision to support, enhance and build on successes of Blue Accounting.

Role

The Chief Information Officer will report to the executive director and work closely within the GLC senior leadership team, including the director, deputy director, policy and program leads, external relations and communications. Within that team structure, the Chief Information Officer will be responsible for developing, refining, communicating and implementing a strategic plan for data management and delivery to serve the Commission, the agency and a broad range of stakeholders and decision makers in the Great Lakes Basin community. Refining and implementing this plan will include collaborating with leaders and stakeholders from the government, private sector, academia, nongovernmental organizations and others.

As a member of the GLC senior management team, the Chief Information Officer will also actively engage in program development, implementation and management: building and leading internal and external teams to market services and support the strategic digital vision.

The successful candidate will engage with internal and external partners to envision potential roles and opportunities to deliver relevant, timely and innovative information services in the Great Lakes Basin. The Chief Information Officer will further lead and motivate staff to develop and market information technologies and tools that support priorities of the Great Lakes Commission. The most competitive candidates will bring demonstrated success in leading teams with experience converting available data sets into services that support actions and decisions.

Leadership

The Chief Information Officer will possess strong leadership and technical skills and demonstrated ability to effectively develop and execute an IT vision and strategy that supports, enables and catalyzes programmatic strategies across the agency. The Chief Information Officer will:

- Engage GLC leaders, customers and partners to understand critical data, information needs;
- Work with GLC leaders, customers and key external partners to define and implement a Great Lakes Basin digital strategy;
- Provide direction for data and information architecture management, solution design, security and risk management, and infrastructure and operations support.
- Provide direction for the design, development, operation and support of IT solutions and services across the agency;
- Develop and lead an IT team that may include staff, contractors and service providers;
- Develop an IT sourcing strategy and lead strategic and operational management of vendor and partner relationships;
- Develop and oversee design/delivery of web-based applications and decision support tools that convert data into IT tools and information, including data visualizations, web-based mapping tools, remote sensing and modeling tools, citizen data, and more.

Additionally, the Chief Information Officer will:

- Develop and manage an annual IT budget to deliver needed services across the GLC;
- Work with other senior staff, the GLC Board, and external partners to develop funding proposals and raise funds on an as needed basis;
- Build effective partnerships with key external partners in government, business and non-governmental groups; and
- Build and market GLC services to governments, businesses, advocates, prospective funders and venture capitalists.

Requirements

Education

- Bachelors or advanced degree in Computer Science, Information Systems, IT Management, Marketing, Business Administration, GIS, Planning, Natural Resource, or related field

Skills and Experience

- Ten years of professional experience in IT, network systems or information management
- Five years in professional organizational leadership
- Leading digital transformational activities within an organization, including development and implementation of IT strategy, process through organization design, IT application development and building effective data architecture
- Outstanding verbal and written communication skills and an ability to influence in situations that are not within direct control
- Collaborative program and project management
- Strong understanding of information technologies and key trends, how organizations are effectively applying them and how they may be appropriately applied to the GLC
- Staff leadership and management: leading, managing, and motivating team members to help develop and execute IT strategy in a collaborative team context
- Effectively curating, collating, aggregating, integrating data from disparate sources, transforming that data into web-based information such as visualizations, story maps, interactive infographics that are accessible to a diverse set of users
- Expertise in applying technologies to support management, policy, and action using GIS applications, video streaming, mobile applications and social networking, among others
- Budgeting and financial management
- Contracting and managing external IT contractors
- Web development, application, support, and maintenance

The ideal candidate will also bring the following skills and experience:

- Familiarity with the Great Lakes Basin

- Experience in water or natural resource management, planning, land use, civil engineering, climate change, coastal resilience, and other related fields
- Familiarity with human-centered design and ability to execute
- Demonstrated success in raising funds, marketing services, program development and grant writing/administration

This is a regular full time, position located in Ann Arbor, Michigan, and serving the binational Great Lakes Basin. The GLC offers a competitive salary and comprehensive benefits plan that includes medical, dental and vision insurance, as well as competitive retirement investment package.

Application Process

To apply for this outstanding opportunity, please email a complete application package in a single PDF file, including a cover letter, resume, and at least three references, by e-mail to: vacancy@glc.org

This is an open, competitive recruitment. The GLC will begin reviewing applications September 16, 2019. Please note: Applications must include all required materials to be considered. *No phone calls, please.*

About the Great Lakes Commission

The Great Lakes Commission was established in 1955 in part to “promote the orderly, integrated and comprehensive development, use and conservation of the water resources of the Great Lakes Basin.” The Commission is established in state law and operates with U.S. congressional authority. Commission membership consists of the eight Great Lakes states and associate membership for the provinces of Ontario and Québec.

Each Member jurisdiction is represented by a delegation consisting of three to five members who are appointees of the respective governor or premier, legislators or senior agency officials. A board of directors, consisting of the chair of each delegation, serves as the Commission’s executive body. In carrying out its initiatives, the Commission works in close cooperation with many partner organizations, including U.S. and Canadian federal agencies, state agencies, local communities, binational institutions, tribal/First Nation governments and other regional interests. Representatives appointed by partner entities participate extensively in Commission activities through a formal Observer program. The Commission is supported by a professional staff in Ann Arbor, Michigan. Learn more at www.glc.org.

Note: The Great Lakes Commission, as an equal opportunity employer, complies with applicable federal and state laws prohibiting discrimination. It is the policy of the Great Lakes Commission that no person shall be discriminated against, as an employee or applicant for employment, because of race, color, national origin, religion, age, sex, height, weight, sexual orientation, marital status, partisan considerations or a disability or genetic information that is unrelated to the person’s ability to perform the duties of a particular job or position.