



Bridge Michigan, the state's preeminent public policy online news site, seeks a dogged and curious Capitol reporter with a record of breaking big stories to add to our newsroom of all-stars.

The ideal candidate has experience writing sharp, revelatory articles about the intersection of money and politics, investigating how the levers of power are manipulated in government and possesses a generous, collaborative spirit. The reporter would be one of three on a state Capitol team and would also work closely with Bridge reporters who cover the environment, health, education, business and data.

The ideal candidate works well in a group but is adept at burrowing deep into documents, records and contracts to find stories that others miss and reveal how state government and political influence works. We seek someone who can go beyond the obvious and find news in little-covered commissions and agencies.

Bridge is committed to producing distinctive and thorough enterprise articles — and giving reporters the time and space to do so. This job will take you out of Lansing and into the state where state policies are most felt. We want you to travel. We want you to spend money filing the Freedom of Information Act requests. But we also want to give Capitol colleagues the same latitude, so the job will involve one week of covering breaking news for every two weeks devoted to enterprise reporting.

Bridge is committed to helping you produce the best work of your career. The job would cover:

- Michigan politics and power including campaign finance, contracts and lobbying, requiring a demonstrated ability to develop sources.
- Computer assisted reporting. Mini-beats on policy topics including roads and infrastructure, economics, health mandates, marijuana and accountability and transparency.

- Agencies including the Michigan Licensing and Regulatory Affairs, Michigan Civil Service, State Attorney General Office and other agencies that write policy.
- Breaking news from the legislative, executive branches.

Michigan is a dynamic, purple state that is perfect for political junkies — the top three elected officials are Democrats, while the Legislature is Republican. Geographically, most of the state is Republican, while the urban centers are some of the most reliably Democratic in the nation. News in this state is never dull, and the ideal candidate will never be bored.

Bridge Michigan is a nonprofit news organization, which means we use the best parts of legacy media but are not beholden to archaic traditions. We are deeply committed to lifting up diverse, often ignored voices and covering the state in an equitable manner — but we are also aggressively nonpartisan and committed to challenging conventional wisdom in our reporting.

We are serious about providing professional development opportunities and regular meetings with staffers, peers and mentors to engage in frank, honest dialogue about story selection and editorial decisions.

Bridge has offices in Lansing and Ypsilanti. The job will require in-person reporting in Lansing, but we are flexible otherwise and trust reporters to determine their best work environment. Bridge is operated by The Center for Michigan, a nonprofit that relies on individual donors, sponsors and philanthropic support and also publishes the editorially independent BridgeDetroit news site.

The targeted compensation for this position begins at \$65,000 annually. Our offices have a warm, nurturing environment and we respect work-life balance. While there may be the occasional long day, we want you to have a healthy life outside work. Benefits include medical, vision and dental insurance, 4-6 weeks of maternity/paternity/adoption leave, a minimum three weeks paid time off per year.

To apply, email jobs@bridgemi.com and write “Capitol Reporter” in the subject line. Candidates should include a cover letter explaining how they would approach the position, four to seven work samples and a resume.

The Center for Michigan is an equal opportunity employer, committed to diversity in our workforce and creating an inclusive environment. As we work toward building an organization that better reflects the communities we serve, we especially encourage members of traditionally underrepresented communities to apply, including people of color, women, members of the LGBTQIA+ community, and people with disabilities. All qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment. The Center for Michigan will not discriminate in its employment practices due to an applicant's race, color, religion, national origin, sex (including pregnancy, gender identity, and sexual orientation), age, disability/handicap, height, weight, marital status, familial status, veteran status, citizenship, or any other classification protected by federal or state law or local ordinance.

Position is open until filled.