

Bridge Michigan, the state's preeminent online news site, seeks an education reporter to write engaging, accessible stories on pre-K-12 and higher education issues impacting students and families across Michigan.

The ideal candidate has experience covering education and/or a proven ability to clearly explain and contextualize policy issues to a general interest readership. We are looking for compelling, in-depth stories that offer insight into the broad spectrum of learning in Michigan; coverage that drives conversation while also bringing a human dimension to school coverage and education policy.

You will have the freedom to mine stories across Michigan, while breaking news and staying on top of data and trends in student achievement, funding, equity and teacher quality as Michigan seeks to reverse years of lagging achievement, particularly among low-income students and students of color.

You will be part of a two-person education team, along with a policy reporter who writes for both Bridge and Chalkbeat Detroit. You will also work with Bridge's expanding roster of reporters who cover the state Capitol, government, health, business and data — along with our outgoing education reporter, who is moving to another position at Bridge and will help you with sourcing and development. Indeed, that generous, collaborative spirit is a hallmark of Bridge.

Bridge is committed to producing distinctive and thorough articles — and giving reporters the time and space to do so. This job will take you out of Lansing and into the state where education policies are most felt. We want you to travel. We want you to file Freedom of Information Act requests. We expect you to bring fresh ideas and perspectives to our education coverage.

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 (near Ann Arbor). The job will require some time in Lansing, but you can live where you choose in Michigan. We 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.

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. Bridge is financially secure, with a generous benefits package that includes medical, vision and dental insurance, 4-6 weeks of maternity/paternity/adoption leave, and a minimum three weeks paid time off per year.

To apply, email jobs@bridgemi.com and write "Education 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.