



Position Description

Position: Principal, Investment Team
Reports to: Partner, Investment Team
Location: Denver/Boulder, CO or Chicago, IL

Background

The Charter School Growth Fund (“CSGF” or “the Fund”) is a non-profit venture fund that was founded by leading national philanthropists in 2005. Its mission is to provide philanthropic venture capital to expand the highest performing charter school operators across the nation that are producing outstanding academic outcomes for underserved students. CSGF accomplishes its mission by providing the financing, business planning support, coaching and resources that its portfolio members need to build self-sufficient networks of high-performing schools.

Opportunity

CSGF is seeking a new Investment Principal to join its dynamic and growing team. The right candidate will have strong financial and analytical acumen, the capacity to think strategically and communicate effectively, and the ability to provide excellent counsel to senior leaders in the CSGF portfolio. The ideal candidate will also have experience working with high-performing, multi-site organizations that are seeking to grow. The Principal will develop new investments and support the growth of some of the most successful charter management organizations (CMOs) across the nation. In particular, the Principal will have specific responsibility for helping develop and manage CSGF’s investments in the Midwest and Southeast regions of the United States.

The Principal will join a highly talented investment team that has strong business, venture capital, and philanthropic experience. The Principal position offers an exceptional opportunity to develop professionally, contribute meaningfully to a unique organization, and gain a deeper understanding of entrepreneurs who are working to change K-12 education. While experience in K-12 education is not a requirement, CSGF is seeking people who are passionate about and committed to K-12 education reform.

Responsibilities

- Conducting and leading intensive due diligence on high-performing charter school operators seeking growth capital from CSGF, including analysis and evaluation of financial models, academic achievement data, market dynamics, management teams, and business plans
- Serving as the lead liaison for a number of members of CSGF’s portfolio, which includes working closely with management teams, attending board meetings, and acting as a strategic thought partner
- Leading investment sourcing efforts for specific geographic regions to help identify potential investment candidates
- Developing and maintaining relationships with stakeholders in targeted geographic regions
- Leading the presentation and preparation of investment proposals to support investment decisions by the CSGF team and board of directors
- Contributing to overall internal investment team leadership and management, including developing junior investment professionals
- Working closely with CSGF team members to implement and continuously improve internal processes and workflow
- Leading and managing new strategic initiatives



Qualifications

- Eight or more years of work experience, possibly including consulting, investment management, venture capital, private equity or similar work experience advising clients on growth strategies
- Senior project management experience as demonstrated by P&L, portfolio management or business development responsibility
- Strong strategic thinking, communication, and creative problem solving skills
- Demonstrated skills in financial modeling, analysis of financial statements and growth projections
- Ability to work seamlessly between high-level strategy and detail oriented work
- Excellent interpersonal communication skills and the ability to build strong relationships including providing actionable advice and resources to CSGF portfolio members
- Capacity to work as part of a collaborative team within a small, dynamic and growing organization
- An advanced degree (MBA, JD) is preferred
- Willingness to travel extensively

Personal Qualities – CSGF Core Values

- **Results.** We work relentlessly to create efficient, measurable, and sustainable results. We strive for excellence and pursue our mission tenaciously. Candidate should have the ability to work in a self-directed manner in a fluid environment where flexibility and tenacity are required.
- **Entrepreneurship.** We embrace calculated risks and new approaches. We have an entrepreneurial spirit that welcomes innovation, diversity of ideas, and risk. Candidate should be willing to question conventional wisdom and think independently.
- **Integrity.** We are truthful, fair, and trustworthy in all aspects of our work. We hold ourselves and our partners to the highest ethical standards.
- **Respect.** We appreciate the challenges faced by education entrepreneurs and recognize the limits of our own knowledge. We understand that our ultimate success is dependent upon the achievements of our partners.
- **Teamwork.** We value each of our team members as individuals but believe that we achieve the greatest results by working together. We willingly sacrifice individual interests and recognition for greater collective impact. Candidate should have a great sense of humor and enjoy being a team player.

Compensation

Compensation is commensurate with experience and education. CSGF offers a very competitive benefits package and this position is eligible for an incentive bonus.

Application Instructions

If you are interested in this opportunity, please send a resume and cover letter via email to:

Kevin Hall, CEO
Charter School Growth Fund
careers@chartergrowthfund.org



Additional Information - Charter School Growth Fund

In its first fund ("Fund I"), CSGF raised over \$86 million for its growth fund from a small number of leading national foundations. In Fund I, CSGF invested in over 20 portfolio members that are on track to serve an additional 100,000 students by 2015. Members of CSGF's portfolio were selected from over 350 applicants and are among the highest performing school operators in the nation.

Based on the success of its portfolio and investment track record, CSGF launched a second fund ("Fund II") in late 2010 that will invest in 40-45 new and existing CMOs to enable them to serve an additional 225,000 students over the next several years. Since launching the new fund, CSGF has secured over \$150M of new commitments (over 90% of its five-year, \$160M target) from a small number of prominent foundations and high-net-worth individuals that will be invested over the life of Fund II.



In addition, CSGF recently launched new state funds in Florida and Tennessee that are public/private partnerships designed to develop a set of high-performing CMOs that can expand and serve more students in those states. CSGF's two state funds will invest an additional \$45M in 10-12 CMOs to help launch 50 new schools to serve approximately 25,000 students in Tennessee and Florida.

CSGF is governed by a board of prominent philanthropists and investors committed to the belief that outstanding charter schools can help transform K-12 education in our country to better serve all students.

*The Charter School Growth Fund is an equal opportunity employer.
We encourage diverse applicants to apply.*

For more information, visit www.chartergrowthfund.org.