



**SEAFOOD
ENGINE**
In New England

Communications Manager

The National Science Foundation (NSF) Seafood Engine in New England (<https://seafoodengine.org>) is looking for an experienced, creative, and collaborative Communications Manager. Led by the Northeastern Regional Association of Coastal Ocean Observing Systems (NERACOOS), the Seafood Engine is an emerging innovation ecosystem and the only blue economy program with the NSF Regional Innovation Engines program. The Engine brings together premier R&D universities and educational institutions; industry, economic development, and community organizations; and government agencies to stimulate transformative technological innovation across the seafood supply chain. In doing so, the Engine aims to advance competitiveness, profitability, and workforce development jointly in the U.S. seafood industry and blue tech sector, regionally and nationally. The Communications Manager will develop effective messaging, connect with key audiences, collaborate with partners, and grow the visibility of the Engine. This position will report to the Engine Chief Executive Officer (CEO).

Core responsibilities include:

- Steward the Engine's communications strategy, identifying priority messaging, audiences, and channels to promote the organization's mission and amplify brand recognition, consistent with NSF and NERACOOS branding guidelines.
- Create content for newsletters, social media posts, congressional outreach, and press outreach, boosting relevant news and content from partner agencies, industries, and institutions, and soliciting new content from Engine participants.
- Administer Engine social media accounts and manage updates to the NSF Seafood Engine website and the development and dissemination of an Engine newsletter and other promotional and technical materials.
- Develop and maintain relationships with key members of the press, provide them with updates on Engine news, and work toward earned media coverage of the Engine.
- Work with the Engine Engagement Team on organizing and publicizing Engine presence at a variety of relevant events, including those sponsored by the Engine and other workshops, conferences, expos, etc., at which the Engine has a presence.
- Select, order, and disseminate Engine-branded swag and create collateral using Canva, Adobe Creative Suite, or other design programs to build identity and community.
- Support the Engine executive team (CEO, Chief Operating Officer, Chief Innovation Officer) in building and maintaining relationships with key partners and supporters, including congressional offices, government agencies, research and academic institutions, industry organizations, companies, and others, helping to understand their priorities and activities to most effectively align Engine strategies.
- Collaborate with communications experts at NERACOOS, fellow NSF Engines, and partner institutions to develop and execute coordinated, consistent, and synergistic strategies and outputs (e.g., the NERACOOS Annual Impact Report).



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- Identify and manage consultants, interns, and other part-time support needed to execute an effective communications strategy.
- Oversee and manage the Engine communications budget in cooperation with the Finance Manager, other Engine staff, and partners.

Requirements:

- Bachelor's degree in a relevant field such as communications, journalism, marketing, or English.
- Minimum of five years of communications experience within a company, academic institution, or nonprofit organization.
- Training and experience in one or more of the core skills needed for effective communications, particularly persuasive writing needed to create Engine content.
- Familiarity with additional technical aspects of communications, such as graphic design, website design, and others, sufficient to identify, manage, and evaluate the work of contractors.
- Ability to work effectively both independently and as part of a dynamic team.
- High level analytical skills, excellent judgement, and creative problem-solving skills.

Additional Information:

Salary: This is a grant-funded position, with a budgeted salary up to \$100,000, commensurate with the experience and qualifications of the successful candidate. The initial appointment is subject to renewal of the Engine for its second award period commencing on, or around, September 1, 2027, with the potential for subsequent renewal up to a total program duration of ten years based on performance and availability of funds. The ideal candidate will be instrumental in driving the development and success of the organization, with the opportunity to transition into a longer-term role over the full ten-year duration of the Engine if key milestones are achieved.

Benefits: NERACOOS offers a benefits package that includes medical insurance and a health savings account, a simplified employee pension following three years of service, professional development opportunities, and flex work schedules.

Location: The successful candidate will be a NERACOOS employee and ideally be based close to the NERACOOS office in Portsmouth, NH. Other locations within the Engine region of service (Rhode Island to Maine) can be considered, contingent upon the ability to periodically travel to Portsmouth for face-to-face interactions with colleagues. Additional travel within the region to meet with partners, contractors, and vendors, and nationally (especially to Washington, DC) for agency meetings may be required periodically.

To apply, please send a cover letter of no more than two pages describing interest and qualifications, along with a resume including names and contact information for three professional references to Seafood.Engine@neracoos.org. Review of applications will begin immediately and continue until a suitable candidate is found.

Thinking about applying?

If you're reading this and you have some of the qualifications listed, we encourage you to apply! Let us know how your experience and passion make you the right person for this job.