

Policy Advisor – 54 reasons

Position Description

Reporting to:	Manager Business Development	Work location:	Melbourne, Canberra, Sydney or Brisbane – otherwise by negotiation
Department:	54 reasons	Budget holder:	No
Team:	Strategy and Partnerships	Direct reports:	Nil

Here you'll make a difference

54 reasons is Australia's leading child rights organisation, proudly part of the Save the Children Australia Group and global movement. We're here to make sure that everyone understands their rights. So that children and young people have their rights met and thrive, in all their diversity.

We champion the children, young people and families we work with. We are inspired by the curiosity and creativity of children, and motivated by the love of those who care for them. With the child's voice at the centre, we provide quality services to children and their caregivers, advocating with them so that children develop, learn, and are connected, safe and confident.

Our people are proudly local, and as diverse as the communities we serve - in every state and territory, and across regions, remote areas and capital cities. Our operations and services span the early years and school engagement, youth justice, domestic and family violence and family support, and our practice is grounded in child rights and participation.

Role Purpose

This role exists so that 54 reasons' policy and advocacy drives change in areas where child rights are not being met deeply or consistently and where our contribution can help tip the scales for children whose rights are most at risk. This includes but is not limited to early years, school engagement, youth justice, domestic and family violence, and overall elevating children's rights, interests and voices in government policy, institutions and systems.

Sitting in our central Strategy and Partnerships team and reporting to the Manager Business Development, the successful candidate will do this by:

- Proactively scanning legislative, policy and budget developments in all states & territories, and federally
- Providing strategic advice to senior leaders on government opportunities and risks
- Analysing qualitative and quantitative data to help shape our policy positions
- Drafting high-quality briefings, submissions, research summaries and correspondence
- Representing 54 reasons in sector collaborations, working with partners on joint advocacy
- Working closely with Save the Children's strategic communications branch to inform and support Group-wide brand, government engagement and media objectives.

In doing so, the Advisor plans and works collaboratively with state and territory operational leaders, internal and external subject matter experts, service delivery and funding partners. This role will also support the work of the Australian Centre for Child Rights, a new initiative launched in 2025 together with SNAICC and university partners, in its mission to drive whole systems reform around child rights.

Here your skills will be valued

Role requirements

- Support the delivery of a 54 reasons positioning plan, and the delivery of state plans
- Support the positioning of SCA and 54 reasons as Australia's leading child rights organisation
- Produce high quality and evidence-based research summaries, briefings, submissions, policy papers, reports and correspondence
- Represent 54 reasons in sector collaborations and relevant working groups



- Liaise with relevant functions across Save the Children Group, ensuring strong alignment between 54 reasons activities and broader SCA Group strategic communications strategy and plans
- Work effectively as a key member of 54 reasons' Strategy and Partnerships team, with collective responsibility for team culture, reflection and learning, and adaptive practice.

Health, safety, security and risk management

- Be a role model for safety and security and comply with all workplace safety policy, procedure, work instructions and training
- Act safely at all times
- Report all incidents, injuries and potential hazards in a timely manner
- Participate in, and contribute to, health and safety awareness and improvements
- Be aware of, document and manage the risks associated with your team's programs and workplaces and ensure appropriate elimination or mitigation measures are applied

Child protection and safeguarding requirements

- Maintain a child safe environment at the workplace and safeguard children's rights, acting in the best interests of children at all times
- Comply with the [Child Safeguarding Policy](#) & [Code of Conduct](#)
- Demonstrate the highest standards of behaviour towards children in both your private and professional life
- Never abuse the position of trust that comes with being a part of the Save the Children family
- Maintain a safe and positive relationship at all times when working with children and young people
- Respond to any concerns for the safety or wellbeing of a child in a program in accordance with internal reporting processes

All roles at Save the Children contribute to our impact for children

At Save the Children and 54 reasons, every role, whether in our programs or support services, plays a vital part in our impact for children. We are committed to creating a positive impact on the lives of children and their communities, and we value the contributions of every team member in achieving this vision.

Here you'll belong

It takes all types of people to do the challenging work we do. Here are some of the specific skills and experiences you'll bring to this role:

Essential knowledge or experience

- At least 3-5 years' experience in social policy, ideally related to children and young people in Australia
- Strong research and policy analysis skills, including the ability to quickly analyse and synthesise complex information from a variety of sources
- Excellent written communication skills, including the ability to tailor across audiences and products
- Demonstrated understanding of government or government relations, including legislative, policy and budget development processes
- Experience in partnership development and/or relationship management

Desirable knowledge or experience

- Knowledge and understanding of child rights and participation principles and approaches

Required qualifications and/or accreditations

- Undergraduate or post-graduate degree in humanities, social science, politics, economics, law or another related discipline

Additional Information

- Any offer of employment at 54 reasons will be subject to a satisfactory National Police Record Check and, where required, a Working with Children Check
- Employees must sign on to Save the Children Australia's Child Safeguarding Policy and Code of Conduct

- Ongoing performance and employment will be measured against KPIs, values and demonstrated behaviours outlined above
- 54 reasons is an Equal Opportunity Employer

Driver's Licence:

Working with Children Check:

Not required

Required

Travel:

Assets:

Some required

Laptop