Dr. Angie Paccione
Executive Director

Executive

Dr. Tricia Johnson
Deputy Executive Director

Dawn DiPrince
History Colorado (State Historical Society)Excutive Director

Angela Baier
CollegeInvest & College AssistChief Executive Officer

Cynthia Langan
HR Director 0.75FTE

Colorado Commission on Higher Education (CCHE)

Carla Blanc
Legislative Liason

Jimmy Rogers
Director of Information Technology

Michael Konken
IT Sytems Administrator

Taryn Omran
Director of Operations and Project Management

Pearl Zhang
0.5FTE Accessibility Remediation Specialist
Term Limited – 9 months

Renee Patilla
Executive Assistant

Bernadette Esquibel
0.5FTE Front Desk Receptionist
0.5FTE DPOS Program Specialist

Nicole Simmons-Rochon
Strategic CoordinatorTerm Limited - Dec 2024

Communications

Megan McDermott
Senior Director of Communications and Community Engagement & Public Information Officer

Edward Quinones
Communications Specialist

Miguel Tejeda
Webmaster 0.5FTE

Beth Hunter
Graphic Designer 0.5FTE

Aayjah Royston
Digital Communications Coordinator 0.5FTE

Erin McDonnell
Director of Study Colorado/ Outreach Director 0.75FTE

Katy Zeigler
0.5FTE Communications CoordinatorO.5FTE COHELPS Collegiate Apprenticeship

Twyla Esquibel
Director of Outreach

Annie Ngo
NGO Outreach Navigator

Shannon Walsh
Foster Care Student Navigator

Teresa Fowler
Foster Care Student Navigator

Phyllis Gebre-Michael
Foster Care Student Navigator

Violeta Apodaca
Foster Care Student Navigator

Vacant
FAFSA Coordinator Term Limited - June 2024

Sophie Vogel
CASFA Program Manager Term Limited - Dec 2024

Budget & Finance

Crystal Collins
Chief Financial Officer (CFO)

Peggy Hill
COF Administrator

Cholok (Coco) Marial
COF Analyst

Colorado Opportunity Fund (COF)

Lauren Gilliland
Deputy Chief Financial Officer / Budget Director

Ian Boyce
Controller

Theresa Tran
Deputy Controller/Director of Account Services

Bharathy Wimalanathan
Lead Accountant & Payroll Processor

Janisse Kadima
0.5FTE Accountant

William "Zach" Benson
0.5FTE Ed Prep Accountant
0.5FTE ECE Accountant - Interagency Agreement

Sunny Staninger
Contracts & Procurement Administrator

Kimberly Fisher
Fiscal and Reporting Monitor Term Limited - Dec 2024

Corey Evans
Senior Finance Analyst

April Gonzalez
Educator Program CoordinatorTerm Limited - Dec 2024

Nanci Goldberg
Educator Program CoordinatorTerm Limited - June 2024 (IA)

DeAnna Castaneda
Lead Finance Analyst

Kennedy Evans
Lead Finance Analyst

Roxanne Lang
Budget & Financial Accountant ETV - Interagency Agreement

Performance

Michael Vente
Chief Performance Officer and Senior Director of Research and Data Governance

Equity

Vacant
Chief Educational Equity Officer

Amina Bouayad
Equity Coordinator

Industry Partnerships

Beverly Jones
Director of Industry Partnerships 0.6FTE

DPOS

Lorna Candler
Chief Occupational Education Officer/Director

Division of Private Occupational Schools (DPOS) Team is Overseeing 300+ Schools

Mary Kanaly
Deputy Director & Compliance Officer

Lisa Combs
Compliance Investigator

Rachel Acosta
Program Specialist

Austin Bentz
Program Specialist

Kerrie Solis
Program Specialist

Martha Torres-Recinos
Program Specialist

Bernadette Esquibel
0.5FTE Front Desk Receptionist0.5FTE DPOS Program Specialist

Kristi Connors
Division Specialist

Vacant
Budget & Compliance Admin

Data & Research

Dr. Sophia Laderman
Chief Policy & Research Officer

Michael Vente
Senior Director of Research and Data Governance

Caitlin McKennie
0.5FTE Talent Pipeline Economist
0.5FTE Shared with CWDC

Maggie Yang
Senior Director of Data Systems and Applications

Jay Shah
Database Systems & Web Developer Manager

Edward Zarate
Application and Database Developer Term - Limited Dec 2024

Chris Ammons
SURDS Manager

Stan Gladych
Research & Data Analyst

Student & Academic Affairs

Dr. Kim Poast
Chief Student Success & Academic Affairs Officer

Carl Einhaus
Senior Director of Student Success & P20 Alignment

Peter Fritz
Director of Student Transitions and Degree Completion Initiatives

Jack Wolflink
Coordinator of Innovation Programs

Christina Ingrum
GEAR UP Program Director

Meghan Cave
Director of College Pathways and Communications

Kelly Zhang
Director of Budget and Grant Compliance

James Anderegg
Application Developer

Gaining Early Awareness + Readiness For Undergraduate Preparation (GEAR UP) is federally funded by the USDOE. This project will expire in 2025. At that time, we will apply for a new grant. Currently 19 in the field on-site school advisors.

Dr. Chris Rasmussen
Senior Director of Academic Pathways & Innovation

Christina Carrillo
Academic Policy Officer and Advocate

Chealsye Bowley
Director of Open Education and Learning Innovation

Heather DeLange
Director, Office of Private Postsecondary Education

Overseeing 85 Private IHE's

Vacant
Director of Educator Preparation

Sam Fogleman
Interim Director of Educator Preparation/Pathway Specialist0.5 FTE - SB19-190 0.5FTE Growing Great Teachers - Mentor Grant

Renee Welch
Director of Collegiate Apprenticeships

Sarah Pak
Collegiate Apprenticeship Employer Relations Manager

Katy Zeigler
0.5FTE Communications Coordinator 0.5FTE COHELPS Collegiate Apprenticeship

Richard Mizerak
Data and Research Analyst

Vacant
Healthcare Apprenticeship Consultant

Dr. Cynthia Armendariz
Managing Director of COSI

Dr. Ruthanne Orihuela
Director of Credential Pathways and Prior Learning Initiatives Term Limited - June 2023

Allana Farley
Credential Pathways Coordinator
Term Limited – June 2023

Madelyn Oaks
Healthcare Credential Pathways Coordinator
Term Limited – June 2023

Carla Castillo
Senior Program Manager

Crystal Annan
COSI Program Director

Alison Grendahl
Program Manager

Jacquie Granados
Program Manager

Kolby Knupp
Program Manager

Alison Grendahl
Program Manager

Mariana DelMonte-Gladstone
COSI & Second Chance Program Coordinator

Marie Snow
Program Coordinator

Kelly Perry-Cochrant
Grant Accountant

Earl Green
Applications and Database Developer

Colorado Scholarship Opportunity Initiative (COSI) provides qualifying Colorado students with scholarship awards to aid them in their pursuit of a college degree. In addition to financial assistance, COSI scholars are able to meet with COSI advisors on a regular basis.

COLORADO
Department of Higher Education

Term-Limited

Part-Time

Questions/Updates? Contact:
Taryn Omran,
Director of Operations & Project Managment
taryn.omran@dhe.state.co.us