RECRUITMENT
ADVERTISING POLICY
AND GUIDELINES
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Introduction

This document outlines the policy and principles to be followed by all Government of South Australia entities when undertaking recruitment vacancy advertising.

In conjunction with this document, reference should be made to the following:

- Government of South Australia Branding Guidelines
- Government of South Australia Marketing Communications Guidelines
- DPC Circular 009: The Master Media Agency Scheme for Government Advertising
- Brand South Australia Policy & Guidelines

All documents are available at www.dpc.sa.gov.au/govcommunications

Compliance with this policy does not negate the need for agencies to comply with departmental human resource or advertising policies or the requirements of the Commissioner for Public Sector Employment's Determinations.
Scope of this policy

This policy applies to marketing communications activities:

- for the purpose of recruiting staff
- placed in any medium including but not limited to press, print, on-line, broadcast and outdoor
- in any market, South Australia, interstate or overseas
- undertaken by:
  - South Australian Government departments, agencies and operating units
  - entities that receive 50% or more of their operating funding or more from the Government of South Australia
  - public authorities and instrumentalities of the Crown
  - organisations that are under the direction of a Minister of the Crown
  - recruitment agencies acting on behalf of any of the above.

Exemption from this recruitment policy is provided for:

- Courts Administration Authority
- Parliament of South Australia
- Government House.

Additional exemptions pertaining to specific sections of this policy are detailed under the relevant section.
Advertising vacancies

All Government agencies undertaking recruitment advertising to fill vacancies must comply with the following requirements:

- All vacancies over 12 months must be advertised on the I WORK FOR SA website iworkfor.sa.gov.au which is managed by the Office for the Public Sector, Department of the Premier and Cabinet.

- Vacancies under 12 months must comply with the agencies' own requirements which may include advertising on the I WORK FOR SA website.

- For vacancies that are listed on iworkfor.sa.gov.au all advertisements in other media must include the notice of vacancy number. This includes advertisements placed by a recruitment consultant on behalf of an agency.

1 Commissioner's Determination 1
Types of recruitment advertising

Brand recruitment advertising

Recruitment vacancy advertising is differentiated from recruitment brand advertising in that the latter uses brand advertising techniques to influence perception of a career sector, profession, employer or range of job opportunities.

All brand advertising, including that undertaken for the purpose of recruitment, is subject to the communications approval process.

Please refer to the Marketing Communications Guidelines for more information.

The Government’s Master Media Agency for brand advertising provides specific advice on the most appropriate media strategy to reach your audience.

Wavemaker can be contacted on 8366 4744.

An example of a brand recruitment campaign
Types of recruitment advertising

Vacancy recruitment advertising – functional

The majority of recruitment advertising is functional advertising related to recruitment for a specific vacant job position with the intention of generating applications to fill the specific vacancy(ies).

Generally it will be of low creative content with no pictures or images and mono placement.

With the rise in media options available for recruitment advertising, digital in particular offers a low-cost and effective alternative to print. It is also important that you investigate use of relevant specialist websites, eNewsletter, industry magazines and journals or social networking sites.

The medium you choose to advertise in must match the level and type of position and effectively reach the applicants (audience) you are trying to attract.

The Master Media Agency functional advertising sub-contractor Blaze Advertising, can provide specific advice on the most appropriate media strategy to reach your target candidates. Blaze Advertising can be contacted on 8130 1900.

Recruitment vacancy advertising is only permitted as follows:

- Online recruitment sites, industry publications and electronic bulletins
- The standard government or health composite advertisements appearing in The Advertiser – Careers lift out Positions Vacant on Saturday
- Executive positions of an ASO8 level or higher are to be advertised only online and/or in the Government composite which appears in The Advertiser – Executive, Professional and Management pages
- Print in community/regional newspapers serving the location of the role
- There is to be no recruitment vacancy advertising in any interstate or national print media.

Recruitment advertising not listed above requires an exemption from the Chief Executive (or equivalent position in a Statutory Authority/Government Business Enterprise).

The Head of Profession (HOP) has delegated responsibility for exemptions from the functional advertising guidelines outlined in the Marketing Communications Guidelines to the Chief Executive (or equivalent).

Note: The HOP has responsibility for monitoring functional advertising expenditure placed by each Department/Statutory Authority/Government Business Enterprise to ensure that Chief Executives responsibly contain functional advertising expenditure on the HOP’s behalf.

For more information regarding the approval processes for communications activities please refer to the Marketing Communications Guidelines.
The Advertiser Government composite

The Government composite press advertisements, located in the Positions Vacant and Executive Appointments sections of The Advertiser on Saturday, provide greater impact and presence for Government recruitment vacancy advertising.


The following options are available for Government composite advertising:

- Advertiser – Positions Vacant – Saturday
- Advertiser - Executive Appointments – Saturday for Executive positions of an ASO8 level or higher

Use of the composite

Use of the Government composite is required when placing recruitment advertising in The Advertiser on Saturday for:

- all Public Service agencies
- all Public Sector bodies that have Regulation 11 agreements with the Commissioner for Public Sector Employment.

Government agencies that do not have Regulation 11 agreements may choose to use the Government composite, however it is not mandatory.

Exceptions

The requirement to advertise in the Government composite does not apply to advertisements in The Advertiser that are:

- for a joint recruitment drive where funding is provided in part or in whole by an entity other than the SA Government and the logo of the external entity is included in the advertisement
- to fill vacancies for:
  o Department of Education and Children Development teaching appointments
  o SA Police Officers
  o SA Police Band
  o Courts Administration Authority
  o Parliament SA
  o Government House
- subject to SA Health advertising policy.
Composite design

The Government composite complies with an approved design and is branded with the Government of South Australia logo. Departmental and agency logos are not permitted within the Composite.

Advertisements within the composite are restricted to the following sizes:

- 1 column in width by 8.5 cm in height
- 1 column in width by 4.25 cm in height
- 1 column in width by 2.125 cm in height

There are no graphic devices, photographs or images permitted within the modules of the composite.

These modules apply to both the Positions Vacant and Executive Appointments composites.

Agencies placing a booking in the Government composite must specify Positions Vacant or Executive Appointments.

Booking templates are available through the Master Media Agency functional advertising sub-contractor Blaze Advertising.
Recruitment advertising copy

Copy developed for your recruitment advertisement will have significant influence on the success of your recruitment process. Copy should be developed to entice potential applicants to find out more about the position - not simply repeat details contained within the Job and Person Specifications or corporate statement.

Recruitment copy should:

- Be written specifically for use within advertising
- Use language that 'sells' the position to potential candidates
- Prioritise the candidate and the information they need to make a decision about the role (e.g. when advertising interstate sell the benefits of a move to South Australia)
- Be simple and use an engaging and accessible tone
- Add to the appeal of the vacancy by detailing key information about the role
- Differentiate the position from others in the marketplace.

Recruitment copy should not:

- Provide a checklist for applicants that should be assumed minimum requirements (e.g. "must have a driver's license" or "must participate in a performance management process")
- Use acronyms or industry jargon
- Contain information that doesn't differentiate the position from others (e.g. "smoke free workplace")
- Make the application process seem onerous.

As recruitment websites commonly present job listings as part of search results, online recruitment advertising copy should include a dot-point summary selling the key attributes of the role. Applicants scanning search results will be motivated to investigate the job further by the strength of this summary.
Interstate and overseas recruitment

Under the Marketing Communications Guidelines there is to be no recruitment advertising in International or National print media without an exemption from the Chief Executive (or equivalent).

Where an exemption to advertise a recruitment vacancy interstate or overseas has been granted by the Chief Executive, the following guidelines must be followed:

- Inclusion of the Government of South Australia (GOSA) logo or agency specific variant is mandatory
- Placement of the GOSA logo is per the Government of South Australia Branding Guidelines.
- Inclusion of the State Brand logo is mandatory
- Placement of the State Brand logo is as follows:
  - Vertical format logo to be used
  - Alignment with the GOSA logos or agency specific variant
  - Must adhere to the Brand South Australia – Branding Guidelines & DPC Circular 26: Interstate & International Recruitment Advertising

Acceptable interstate and international recruitment advertising examples are provided on page 12 of these guidelines.

Government of South Australia and State Brand logos are available on the Communications Approval Portal (CAP).

Please see your Director of Communications for access to logos.
Interstate and international recruitment advertising examples

Please note: Examples for reference only

**Government of South Australia**

**Standard template**

**Co-Branded Agency**

**Example**
Use of recruitment agencies

With regard to the purchase of advertising media when an external recruitment agency acts on behalf of a Government agency:

- If media is purchased specifically for a Government recruitment advertisement, planning and booking must be provided by the Government’s Master Media Agency.
- If the recruitment agency has an existing preferred space booking as part of an ongoing contract with a publication, and wishes to feature a Government recruitment opportunity within this space, involvement of the master media agency is not required.

Government agencies should ensure pricing is competitive and only the space used for a vacancy advertisement is charged and not a premium to cover the recruitment agency’s masthead or unsold space.

All recruitment advertising which is being managed and placed by a recruitment consultant on behalf of a Government agency will need to be approved in line with your internal departmental approval protocols.

Use of the GOSA logo in external recruitment agency advertisements must comply with the Government of South Australia Branding Guidelines.
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