

Education Design Lab

Role Description for Education Designer, HBCU Lead

Are you an entrepreneur at heart with a passion for preparing people of color for the future of work and learning?

Are you feeling constrained by systems that inhibit innovation and big thinking?

The Role + Opportunity

The Education Design Lab is seeking an **Education Designer with at least 10 years of experience in or working with higher education and a proven track record of building new programs that require negotiating and leading multiple stakeholders.** The person in this unique role has the opportunity to both lead individual institutions through innovative pilots and build the Lab's practice in this space to create lasting systemic change that positions people of color for success and mobility in a skills-based economy.

This position has two primary responsibilities. You will build upon the Lab's comprehensive work with historically Black colleges and universities and [UNCF's Career Pathways Initiative](#) acting as a project lead and coordinator for multi-university engagements. You will also lead and/or collaborate with our Education Designers on other Lab engagements with higher education institutions and non-traditional learning providers looking to adapt to the dramatic disruptions now facing the post-secondary sector.

What will you do?

As Education Designer, HBCU lead, you will conceptualize, manage and organize all aspects of "[design challenges](#)" with existing and potential HBCU clients. You will be a thought partner and strategist for HBCUs looking to change their approaches to career preparedness and other institutional priorities. You will lead institutions through a human-centered design and innovation process to generate transformative and scalable solutions. The work will also involve considerable planning, implementation and tracking. Central to this work will be the ability to define and maintain an ongoing workflow and arc of the engagement, manage communication across university teams and external stakeholders (e.g., employers, tech providers, funders). And you will pull in experts from the Lab (e.g., on [micro-credentialing](#)) and externally to help design the process and synthesize learnings.

What skills are we looking for?

- Significant experience in/around higher education, career planning and innovation, instructional design/curriculum planning that will inspire confidence in our partners and clients.
- Familiarity with critical innovation frameworks such as design thinking, change management, and lean start-up.

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- Project management skills (i.e., attention to detail; ability to quickly organize and prioritize tasks; comfort with juggling complex long-term goals and immediate needs).
- Intercultural fluency, oral+written communication, creative problem solving, and collaboration.
- Ability to manage up to keep diverse stakeholders informed and engaged about progress, ideas, needs, changes.
- Ability to be nimble, manage and redirect projects as needed.

This may be an excellent opportunity for you if:

- You are hungry to build a practice that can significantly impact the way in which HBCUs prepare students for the future of work.
- You have experience conceptualizing and managing projects with HBCU's, Predominantly Black Institutions or Minority Serving Institutions (MSIs), and or program and/or career development experience with African American students.
- You have experience in design thinking and or change management, or at least are interested in practicing and learning more about human-centered design.
- You have expertise in project management, leading projects with diverse stakeholders through ambiguity and seeing them through to completion.
- You are a connector and innovator in spirit, constantly thinking 'what if.'

Location: This position is full-time and, ideally, based in Washington, DC. Up to 25% travel may be required in a post-COVID environment. A successful candidate who is not DC-based should be prepared to spend the equivalent of at least 8 days per quarter in DC or on location with other team members. (Included in the 25%.)

Please submit your application to careers@eddesignlab.org.

About the Lab: The Education Design Lab is a national nonprofit dedicated to transforming higher education to meet the needs of the New Majority Learner, including first-generation and low-income students, working adults, veterans, student parents, etc. To date, we have partnered with over 135 colleges and universities and engaged employers, entrepreneurs, government, foundations, and nonprofits to address barriers to success for underserved learner populations. The organization has significant experience managing national and local learning cohorts, working with organizations such as The Lumina Foundation, the Michael and Susan Dell Foundation, the United Negro College Fund, Walmart, Credly, American Council on Education, and the ECMC Foundation. Learn more: www.eddesignlab.org.

Equal Opportunity Employer: The Education Design Lab is an equal opportunity employer; applicants are considered for all roles without regard to race, color, religious creed, sex, national origin, citizenship status, age, physical or mental disability, sexual orientation, marital, parental, veteran or military status, unfavorable military discharge, or any other status protected by applicable federal, state or local law.