

Position description



Position	Policy and Advocacy Senior Adviser
Reports to	Strategy and Policy Team Lead, Be You
Work level	4
Group	Services
Team	Be You Strategy, Engagement, and Impact Team
Location	Onsite at the Hub in Melbourne CBD or Hybrid
Direct reports	Not Applicable

01. Purpose of the position and link to Strategy 2023+ *Earlier, Easier, Together*

Be You is the national mental health in education initiative, funded by the Commonwealth Department of Health and Aged Care and delivered by Beyond Blue, in collaboration with Early Childhood Australia and headspace.

The Policy and Advocacy Senior Adviser role sits with within the Strategy and Policy stream of the broader Be You Strategy, Engagement and Insights (SEI) team. The role also provides an advisory role into the Advocacy and Equity Team in the Strategy, Policy and Advice Unit.

The Policy and Advocacy Senior Adviser role is responsible for the development and implementation of policy and advocacy activities that support Be You to deliver its strategic priorities and drive positive system reform in the mental health in education sector. The role also contributes to the delivery of the Beyond Blue advocacy priority of supporting children (0-12 years) to thrive.

This role will support the delivery of Beyond Blue's "Integrity" and "Leading" goals of Strategy 2023+ by contributing to the community's recognition of Beyond Blue leading and influencing positive system and social change and championing safe, affirming and inclusive practices.

02. Key Accountabilities of Position

- Develop compelling and practical policy propositions to reform Australia's mental health and education systems, focused on policy reform to support the delivery of Be You strategic priorities and Beyond Blue's Strategy 2023+.
- Develop policy submissions, briefing documents, presentations, and correspondence to support policy and advocacy activities.
- Monitor the policy landscape and undertake research and analysis of children's mental health and wellbeing and education policy issues relevant to Be You and Beyond Blue.
- Proactively share insights relating to children's mental health and wellbeing, and the education policy landscape across Be You and Beyond Blue.
- Collaborate across the Be You and Advocacy and Equity teams, and the broader organisation, to achieve shared goals by providing evidence-based advice to inform our advocacy.

03. Key outcomes, or desired impact of role, linked to Strategy

- Be You advocacy is aligned with, and supports the delivery of, Beyond Blue's Strategy 2023+.
- We create positive change in the mental health sector by advocating for better mental health for everyone in Australia.
- Beyond Blue demonstrates an understanding of the historical, social, cultural and environmental factors that can influence peoples' ability to achieve their best mental health.

KPI's/Goals are set in the performance review cycles – January to June / July to December as part of our [Thrive Framework](#)

04. Core Capabilities

Of the eight capabilities listed in our [capability framework](#), those most critical for role success are:

- Communication: Expresses information clearly and with purpose.
- Innovative mindset: Generates new ideas and embraces progress to create more value for Beyond Blue communities.
- Agility: Embraces agile work methods and is flexible in an uncertain and turbulent environment.
- Critical thinking: Uses logic and reasoning to identify the strengths and weaknesses of alternative solutions or approaches to problems.
- Partnering: Collaborates and works in partnership (internal and external) to improve our sustainability and impact.

05. Specific Job Competencies

Education/qualifications

- Relevant tertiary qualifications in public health, public or social policy, political or social sciences, or a related discipline.
- Evidence of continued Professional Development and/or professional experience relevant to the role purpose and level.

Experience

- Experience working in policy and advocacy in a government department, statutory authority, not for profit organisation or peak body.
- Relevant experience in mental health promotion or prevention, education, children and families, or other complex social policy area.

Key essential skills

- High level strategic thinking and judgement, conceptual, analytic and planning skills, demonstrated through examples such as developing advocacy strategies, background papers, briefings, position statements and policy submissions.
- Demonstrated ability to communicate complex information for different audiences, and to identify implications, including risks and opportunities.
- Proven experience advising and supporting across teams, fostering strong and sustainable internal and external stakeholder relationships, to help gain buy-in and deliver results.
- Ability to deal with ambiguity and manage complexity while driving clarity, and to work independently and within a team environment.

06. Values leadership and our culture at Beyond Blue

Beyond Blue Values We all play a part and take responsibility for our impact on Beyond Blue's culture, in line with our [Values](#).

Cultural competency Beyond Blue strives to be a culturally safe and inclusive workplace. All employees are expected to undergo regular cultural competency training as part of their professional development plans.