

Position Open **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

Are you interested in spearheading economic growth in Alabama's most drop-dead beautiful county? The DeKalb County Economic Development Authority is searching for a dedicated professional to serve as its Executive Director to promote growth in a county that's home to majestic mountains, the Little River Canyon National Preserve, Desoto State Park and other breathtaking attractions. The Executive Director oversees economic development activities that help existing businesses grow and attract new industries to DeKalb County, creating jobs and opportunities that strengthen quality of life for its citizens. The Executive Director promotes a positive and encouraging environment while coordinating the economic growth efforts of all municipal and county agencies in DeKalb County, nestled in economically vibrant Northeast Alabama.

Objectives and Responsibilities

The Executive Director oversees the effective operation of economic development activities within DeKalb County for the purpose of promoting and strengthening existing businesses and industries within the county and attracting new industries which will provide jobs and contribute to the quality of life for the citizens of DeKalb County. The Executive Director promotes a positive and encouraging environment and cooperates and coordinates the efforts of all municipal and county agencies in DeKalb County.

The specific objectives, responsibilities, duties, and training requirements for this position include but are not limited to:

- Market real estate (land/buildings) to potential job creation prospects.
- Form relationships with key economic development stakeholders like local mayors and city leaders, state project managers, regional partners, utility providers, and site selectors to market the community's assets.
- Educate the community on the EDA's role in creating jobs and investment in our community through public presentations with groups like civic clubs, council/commission meetings, and publishing newspaper articles.
- Work with TVA representatives and elected officials on infrastructure enhancement opportunities, transportation objectives, and utility plans.
- Collaborate with both the local K-12 schools and community/technical college and education providers to build the local talent pipeline by increasing access to things like apprenticeships, dual enrollment, and other initiatives that will enhance our workforce.
- Networks with economic development leadership in other communities to stay abreast of success stories and gain ideas for improvement.
- Works with and builds relationships with local industries to ensure they grow and maintain their operations in the community.

Qualifications

EDUCATION – A bachelor's degree in business, economics, marketing or equivalent. Advance degree preferred and continuing education/certification in economic development.

EXPERIENCE – A minimum of three years' experience in economic/industrial development. Demonstrated experience of leading and collaborating with a variety of stakeholders in the promotion of economic development and growth within a community.

ATTITUDE – Must be willing and able to work in a team environment and possess the highest character and integrity, dependability, and desire to improve, that promotes and encourages an effective team. Should be friendly and able to meet people easily and adjust to different personalities. Should be able to gain and maintain the respect and trust of others, both inside and outside of the organization. Should have a specific interest and desire for the prosperity and quality of life for the citizens of DeKalb County.

To apply for this position, please submit a letter of interest along with your detailed resume to board@dekalbeda.com

