

**The Rocky Mountain Collegian
Opinion Director**

The Opinion Director is a leader who oversees and directs the operations of the Collegian Opinion desk. The Opinion Director maintains a presence in the newsroom and is engaged in and dedicated to the overall production of content for the Collegian’s digital and print products. The position requires a **commitment of 10 hours per week of work-related duties** (with around 3-5 hours in the summer). This is only a single position.

This position is a one-year appointment, contingent upon performance review or rehiring practice at the jurisdiction of the Editor in Chief.

**An ideal candidate exhibits the following qualities:**

* Possesses a strong understanding of the role of an opinion section in a news-media organization.
* Possesses a strong grasp on micro- and macro- editing and AP style; preference to candidates who have previously taken copy editing, but not required.
* Possesses a basic understanding of press-specific Colorado law and how it relates to opinions published by a news media corporation.
* Has a strong understanding of journalistic ethics and its application to opinion content.
* Effectively balances time commitments outside of work.
* Prioritizes teamwork to maintain an inclusive and professional culture.
* Strong communication skills and an ability to make decisions under pressure.

**Main Responsibilities**

* Plans content with and in response to the news section and campus, community, local and national events.
* Encourages and nurtures new columnists and coaches skills.
* Pitches ideas for editorials and drafts these pieces with the Editor-in-Chief.
* Determines which Letters to the Editor will be printed, and micro-edits them to conform to standards.
* Educates readers and staff on the difference between news, columns, editorials and letters to the editor.
* Communicates frequently with managing editors about problems that may disrupt production.
* Actively and continuously seek out new and underrepresented voices, story ideas and readers on campus and in the community.
* Encourages and requires reporters to take photos and short videos on assignment when appropriate.
* Helps brainstorm and create content related to opinion for special editions.

**Managerial Responsibilities**

* Holds weekly planning meetings for the desk.
* Attends daily budget meetings for digital production, weekly print production meetings for the print edition, and a weekly all-staff content meeting to communicate effectively with the other editors.



* Keeps columnists accountable for content production through the implemented feedback system and through direct communication.
* Responds quickly to feedback and criticism, and adjusts for the success of the team.
* Communicates with the design team to create effective visual content to accompany columns.
* Plans an appropriate amount of content and takes responsibility for the desk.
* Edits one-on-one with columnists or provides feedback.
* Holds weekly office hours to be accessible to reporters who may need editing assistance.
* Responds quickly to corrections and reader criticism to ensure strong relationships across the University and within the city.
* Professionally communicates with readers who submit letters to the editor.

**Compensation**: Compensation will be $15 per hour. Employees are encouraged to apply for University work study. Employee Benefit information through Colorado State can be found on HR’s Website: https://hr.colostate.edu/current-employees/benefits/. Colorado State University may conduct background checks on all final candidates.

*Rocky Mountain Student Media Corporation is committed to increasing the diversity of our staff and providing a culturally responsive work environment. We encourage applications from people of all backgrounds and abilities. While RMSMC is an independent corporation from the University, we embrace Colorado State’s Principles of Community to guide us in our educational mission.*

**To apply**: Submit a resume, cover letter and three relevant clips to aseibel@collegian.com with the subject line: “Collegian 2025-2026 Application: Opinion Director.” Interviews will be scheduled and held by the Editor-in-Chief. Be prepared to answer questions regarding the attributes and responsibilities listed above. Position will be open until filled, with a final deadline of May 5. Priority application due April 23.