

# Frequently Asked Questions

## The Accelerated Schools

Chief Financial Officer - [Job Description](#)

---

### ABOUT THE ORGANIZATION

#### What is The Accelerated Schools (TAS) ?

- Founded in 1994, as one of the first charter schools in California, TAS was guided then, and the charter cluster still is today, by the founding belief that all students can excel when nurtured in an environment that combines high expectations and active involvement from parents and the community. Through an innovative, rigorous curriculum coupled with intentional guidance and instruction, TAS strives to graduate students who are lifelong learners and engaged citizens, well-prepared to succeed in college and beyond.

#### What is TAS's mission and vision?

- The Accelerated Schools will graduate students who are prepared to succeed at the university and career of their choice and who will enter the workplace as informed and productive employees.
- 

### ABOUT THE ROLE

#### Where is the Chief Financial Officer role located?

- TAS is located within an urban community, south of Downtown Los Angeles, our offices are located on 4000 S. Main Street in Los Angeles

#### What is the compensation for this role?

- The salary range for this role is \$200k-230k with comprehensive benefits.

#### What are the key competencies for the Chief Financial Officer role?

##### Leadership & Advisory Capacity

- Advises the CEO and Board on financial and operational matters.
- Translates complex financial data into clear, actionable insights.
- Leads cross-functional departments including Business, Facilities, Technology, and Nutrition Services.

##### Financial Planning & Management

- Oversees charter school revenue streams (e.g., LCFF, grants, in-lieu taxes).
- Develops multi-year budgets aligned with long-term sustainability goals.
- Ensures accurate fund allocation (restricted vs. unrestricted) and financial reporting.

##### Compliance & Audit Readiness

- Ensures adherence to Ed Code, CSAM, FCMAT best practices, and grant requirements.
- Leads preparation and response for annual independent audits.
- Maintains compliance with LAUSD, CDE, and federal reporting requirements.

##### Risk & Resource Management

- Manages cash flow, reserves, and investment strategies in accordance with Board policy.
- Oversees insurance coverage for liability, cybersecurity, and student/staff protection.
- Implements and monitors strong internal controls.

##### Policy, Procurement & Facilities Planning

- Ensures legal compliance with procurement laws and public bidding.

- Leads long-term facilities planning, maintenance budgeting, and Prop 39/bond funding efforts.
- Promotes data privacy and cybersecurity compliance.

#### **Operational Oversight**

- Oversees payroll, STRS/ACA compliance, and financial aspects of HR operations.
- Manages contracts, vendor performance, and financial technology platforms.
- Supervises directors of Facilities, Nutrition Services, and Technology.

#### **What is the culture like at TAS?**

TAS seeks to live out their Core Values every day which represent our culture:

- Our Core Values:
  - Unity of Purpose
    - A passionate commitment to and a sense of urgency for the support of students from underserved communities, along with a belief that all students can achieve at high levels.
    - Shared belief that diversity drives innovation and that your identity allows you to contribute to our schools in unique ways.
    - Belief that leaders are there to serve, not to be served, and exhibit this in your daily interactions, speech, and decision-making.
  - Empowerment Coupled with Responsibility
    - Thrive while building strong relationships with other team leaders, team members, and students, especially when it comes to building trust and credibility.
    - Belief in the power of data, coaching, and professional development as critical levers in leadership development.
    - Belief that the success of students' learning is about what educators do or don't do. You will find ways to help your team members overcome any obstacles to their learning.
  - Building on Strengths
    - Belief that to build a strong foundation that supports teaching and learning, leaders need to ensure schools build capacity and coherence in providing a safe, clean, and healthy environment.
    - Active learning. You don't shy away from new situations but rather dive right in and seek out opportunities to continuously improve your skills and expand your impact while learning from those around you.
    - Our people are Highly skilled in your area of expertise, contribute to the larger organizational leadership team vision, and can model leadership during tough situations.

#### **What is the desired travel for this role?**

- This role is an onsite role with expectations to travel between our schools to support our school leaders.

---

## **ABOUT THE HIRING MANAGER & VISION**

#### **Who is the leader of The Accelerated Schools and hiring manager of this role?**

- The Chief Executive Officer of The Accelerated Schools is Jesse Melgares, who is the hiring manager for the Chief Financial Officer Role?

### What is the hiring manager's experience?

- Jesse Melgares has a Bachelor of Arts from UCLA along with a Master's of Arts in Education from Loyola Marymount University. Jesse is also a recent graduate of Master's in Management Studies in Public Education Management from the Yale School of Management.
- Prior to TAS, Jesse served as Vice President of Teaching & Learning at Alliance College-Ready Public Schools. Where he managed academic systems and content teams across 26 schools, supporting over 13,500 students.
- Jesse is always focused on ensuring rigorous and culturally responsive instruction.
- Jesse is known for prioritizing academic achievement and fostering educational excellence.
- As a leader Jesse emphasizes innovation, collaboration, and listening to the community to support school improvement.

---

### OTHER NEWS & INFORMATION

- Video: [TAS End of Year Celebration](#)
- Video: [TAS/ACES Black History Program](#)
- Video: [ACES Promotional Video](#)
- Video: [WAHS Promotional Video](#)
- Video: [TAS Teacher Testimonial Video](#)
- Video: [TAS Parent Testimonial Video \(Spanish\)](#)
- Article: [New CEO Announcement of Jesse Melgares](#)
- Video: Jesse Melgares speaking about [Master's in Public Education from The Broad Center](#)
- Article: [WAHS Receives AP School Honor Roll Distinction](#)
- Article: [ACES Featured in LA Times for "Teaching Kids how to create a safe space"](#)
- Article: [TAS Receives Dr. Carol Connor Award for Improving Literacy Outcomes](#)