FUTURE CAUCUS

Request for Proposal | On the Rise Consultant

About Future Caucus

Future Caucus is a nonpartisan, nonprofit organization that empowers young elected officials in Congress and state legislatures to bridge the partisan divide and lead a new era of collaborative governance. By supporting innovative policymaking and fostering collaboration, we help Gen Z and millennial leaders drive positive change and promote a political culture rooted in empathy and solutions.

On the Rise Report | Project Background

Future Caucus is seeking an experienced researcher with strong quantitative analysis skills and clear, media-ready writing to execute information collection and analysis for the **2026 On the Rise Report**, the only report of its kind to collect the ages of congressional candidates and provide analysis on demographics of and trends among young people running for these seats. The report is a public-facing, election-year flagship publication used by national media, philanthropic partners, and policymakers to understand trends in generational representation in congressional elections.

Success for the 2026 On the Rise Report includes:

- Defensible and transparent age methodology
- Clear longitudinal comparison across election cycles
- Media-ready findings that translate complex data into accessible insights
- Analytical continuity with prior reports

The 2024 On the Rise Report can be found here.

Scope of Work & Key Deliverables

1. **Methodology & Data Infrastructure**
    - Establish age data hierarchy (e.g., verified / estimated / missing)
    - Define confidence levels and ethical constraints of estimation
    - Build a tracking system for age completeness and reliability
    - Draft clear, defensible methodology language early in the process
2. **Quantitative Analysis**
    - Candidate share by generation (House vs. Senate)
    - Trend comparisons across 2020, 2022, 2024, and 2026
    - Candidate drop-out analysis (pre-primary, primary, general)
    - Party, gender, and generational intersections
    - Pipeline analysis (state legislative experience → Congress)

3. **Narrative Drafting**
    - Draft core report sections (I–IV), including charts-ready findings
    - Integrate qualitative insights and quotes from candidates
    - Incorporate relevant findings from Future Caucus' *Exit Interview* research
4. **Collaboration & Review**
    - Participate in weekly or biweekly check-ins with Future Caucus staff
    - Support internal fact-checking and message testing
    - Refine findings based on leadership, legal, and communications feedback

Timeline:

March–April: Data Infrastructure & Collection

- Pull full candidate universe from KnowWho
- Establish hierarchy of age data reliability (see pg. 7 of *On the Rise 2024*)
    - Example: green/yellow/red
- Build tracking system for known / estimated / missing ages

May–June: Analysis & Drafting

- Conduct analysis
- Produce topline findings and charts
- Draft narrative sections I–IV
- Prepare methodology language early

June - Review, Refinement, and Comms Prep

August - Final Production

- Design
- Final dataset freeze

September: Release

Submission Instructions

Proposals should be submitted via email as a single PDF document to Paige Ferguson, Senior Director, Policy Innovation Lab | Future Caucus | paige@futurecaucus.org

Proposal Submission Requirements - 1000 Word Limit

1. Brief overview of relevant experience (political data, elections, demographics, or public-facing research)

2. Proposed approach to improving age data methodology and confidence language
3. How do you transparently communicate data limitations without undermining credibility?
4. Sample of prior analytical or research-based writing (public-facing preferred)
5. Proposed fee and availability

Budget: $15,000
Proposal Due Date: Friday, April 3, 2026