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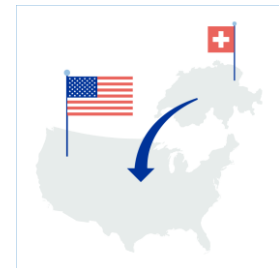


Zurich to launch new apprenticeship program in U.S.

Zurich, June 9, 2015 – Zurich Insurance Group (Zurich) today announced it will establish an apprenticeship program in the U.S. to help develop the next generation of insurance industry professionals.

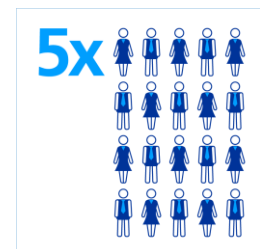
Earlier this year business leaders of Swiss-owned companies operating in the U.S. met with U.S. cabinet members and the Swiss Vice President and Federal Councillor at the White House and discussed opportunities to make the U.S. business environment even more welcoming to foreign direct investment by improving skills development programs, such as apprenticeships.

Zurich is committed to putting into practice a program modelled after Switzerland's highly successful national apprenticeship system. Two-thirds of Swiss school-leavers enroll in such vocational training programs that combine work experience with higher education in around 230 occupations.



“Our program is the first of its kind in the U.S. insurance industry and therefore has an important role to play in demonstrating the value of apprenticeships in this sector,” said Mike Foley, CEO North America Commercial and Regional Chairman of North America for Zurich Insurance Group. “Our experience in Switzerland has shown us that apprenticeships are a very powerful way of developing core business competencies and inspiring young people to take on new challenges.”

William Rainey Harper College will provide Zurich with administrative support and help design the course curriculum. The inaugural class will begin in 2016, and Zurich is committed to having 100 apprentices undertake the program by 2020.



The U.S. program will draw on the successes of Zurich's pre-existing apprenticeship program in Switzerland. That program trains in total more than 230 apprentices and high school graduates.



In 2014, 94 percent of those who had completed their apprenticeship went on to find employment within Zurich.

Further information

To get instant access to Zurich's news releases, calendar and other corporate publications on your iPad, iPhone or Android phone please go to your App Store and get the free [Zurich Investors and Media App](#).

For broadcast-standard and streaming-quality video and/or high resolution pictures supporting this news release, please visit our [Multimedia Pressroom](#).

Zurich Insurance Group (Zurich) is a leading multi-line insurer that serves its customers in global and local markets. With more than 55,000 employees, it provides a wide range of general insurance and life insurance products and services. Zurich's customers include individuals, small businesses, and mid-sized and large companies, including multinational corporations, in more than 170 countries. The Group is headquartered in Zurich, Switzerland, where it was founded in 1872. The holding company, Zurich Insurance Group Ltd (ZURN), is listed on the SIX Swiss Exchange and has a level I American Depositary Receipt (ZURVY) program, which is traded over-the-counter on OTCQX. Further information about Zurich is available at www.zurich.com.

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