IKEA recruiting 400 workers for new Portland store

by Bend_Weekly_News_Sources

Store Opening scheduled for Summer 2007 in Portland, Oregon

IKEA, a leading home furnishings retailer, this week announced the recruitment program for its future store, opening Summer 2007 in Portland, Oregon. The store will be the Swedish companyâ€™s second store in the Pacific Northwest and 31st in the United States.

Candidates interested in working at the much-heralded employer of choice should look online for all available positions at the future IKEA Portland store. Candidates with limited access to computers are encouraged to visit their local recreation centers as well as local libraries.

â€œWe are thrilled to offer interested jobseekers diverse positions with limitless opportunity at a global company,â€• said Ken Bodeen, IKEA Portland store manager. â€œAt IKEA, we realize that the ability to do the things in life that bring success and happiness is extremely valuable to our coworkers.â€•

Named in FORTUNEâ€™s â€œ100 Best Companies to Work Forâ€• list (three consecutive years), Working Mother magazineâ€™s annual list of the â€œ100 Best Companies for Working Mothersâ€• (four consecutive years) and Training magazineâ€™s annual â€œTop 125â€• ranking of companies that excel at human capital development (five consecutive years), IKEA places value and emphasis on coworkersâ€™ personal lives and the importance of a work/life balance.

While IKEA Portland progresses through construction and outfitting, a variety of positions are open to local residents. Prospective coworkers are welcome to apply for the nearly 400 diverse positions as postings are available in: home furnishings sales, interior decoration, customer service, safety and security, cashiers, maintenance, goods flow, receiving, warehouse and stock replenishment. Also, setting itself apart from other retailers in the area, IKEA Portland will offer â€“ among the 400 total positions to be hired for the store â€“ approximately 75 food service opportunities in its Restaurant, Swedish Foodmarket, CafÃ© Bistro and coworker cafeteria.

Drawing from the companyâ€™s Swedish heritage, IKEA is committed to a flexible workplace that emphasizes a work/life balance and provides professional opportunities to people from all life situations. If an IKEA coworker needs to take time off to find a nursing home for an aging parent, be home to kiss their child before bed or have flexible scheduling to best juggle caring for a newborn, one can do so without worrying about risking their career aspirations.

IKEA offers family-friendly initiatives and diverse workplace benefits including full medical/dental insurance to coworkers working 20 hours or more per week with eligibility for domestic partners and children. Coworkers working less than 20 hours still are eligible for medical and dental insurance. Other benefits include: vacation, paid maternity/paternity leave and paid time off for child adoption, tuition assistance, 401(k) match, professional development, training and mentoring programs and, of course, a discount on IKEA purchases. The organization puts career opportunity into the hands of the individual, encouraging coworkers to consider assignments within different functions, at other IKEA stores or even in other countries. IKEA prides itself on the fact that an opportunity to work at IKEA truly can evolve into a career, and also can serve as a gateway to global experience as well.

Under construction on nearly 19 acres at the southwestern corner of I-205 and Airport Way, the future IKEA Portland will present 50 different room settings, three complete homes, a supervised childrenâ€™s play area, and a 250-seat restaurant serving Swedish specialties such as meatballs with lingonberries or salmon plates, as well as American dishes. Other family-friendly features include a â€˜Childrenâ€™s IKEAâ€™ area in the showroom, baby care rooms, preferred parking and play areas throughout the store. Also, IKEA will generate significant tax revenue for local governments. When IKEA Portland opens in Summer 2007, the new store will welcome 400 coworkers to the IKEA family of more than 11,000 coworkers in the United States and 100,000 globally.

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