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Vanguard to hire 300 across Phoenix area as expansion continues



Deborah Akinsipe

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Deborah Akinsipe Person Valley Forge, Pa.-based Vanguard is on a hiring spree after adding more than 300 employees this year in Arizona and planning to do the same in 2014.

By Angela Gonzales - Senior Reporter, Phoenix

Business Journal

Sep 3, 2013, 5:48pm EDT

The investment management company now has more than 2,100 employees in Scottsdale. It also hired about 300 people last year.

All these new hires are needed to handle the company's growth, said Deborah Akinsipe, Vanguard's director of human resources in Arizona.

The positions range from entry-level to estate and trust attorneys, as well as positions that have securities licensing requirements.

Akinsipe declined to provide salary ranges, except to say that Vanguard is competitive within the market.

"We are looking for knowledge-based workers in our environment," she said. "We are looking for people who have strong conceptual thinking, creativity and innovation, critical thinking."

Managing nearly \$2.2 trillion in U.S. mutual fund assets, Vanguard is one of the largest investment management companies in the world. The company offers more than 160 index and actively managed funds to U.S. investors and more than 80 additional funds in non-U.S. markets.

In 1994, Vanguard decided to expand outside Pennsylvania into key contingency sites that also would serve as a place to reach clients in other parts of the country. Scottsdale and Charlotte, N.C., were chosen as these sites.

Scottsdale enables Vanguard to serve clients in the western part of the country and provide backup when corporate headquarters is experiencing inclement weather in Pennsylvania, officials said.

Vanguard employs 14,000 globally, with Scottsdale serving as its second-largest operation. It currently has 471,000 square feet of space on its existing campus, with plans to add 148,000 square feet in the first quarter of 2014.

That new space is less than a mile away from its existing campus at Raintree Drive and Northsite Boulevard in Scottsdale. Akinsipe declined to disclose the development cost of that project.

The new mini-campus will have a gym and dining facilities for employees.

"It's important to know Vanguard has been here for over 17 years now and has a strong commitment to the area," Akinsipe said. "With the additional building opening here, it will hold upwards of 700 people. Our presence in Scottsdale continues to grow."

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