

Erste Bank looking for apprentices

[Back](#)

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- Erste Bank among the three best companies offering apprenticeships in Austria
- Now looking for 30 new apprentices for Vienna, Lower Austria and Burgenland



Erste Bank der oesterreichischen Sparkassen, recently named by the Republic of Austria as one of the country's best companies offering apprenticeships, is looking for 30 new apprentices. "Erste Bank trains a total of 90 apprentices throughout the year," said Sabine Mlnarsky-Bständig, the head of human resources for Erste Bank Oesterreich.

The young colleagues are trained to become bank customer advisors and office administrators in a three-year dual apprenticeship. The training programme is highly specialised and practice-oriented, with the highest priority paid to the personal development of each individual employee. Erste Bank is the only bank in Austria to offer seminars in etiquette, linguistic expression, communicative behaviour, consultations and sales talks. In addition, the programme offers individual coaching sessions, psychological counselling for personal matters, social aid, help with quitting smoking and nutritional advice as measures to improve inner balance and help strengthen social competence. All apprentices receive a laptop during their apprenticeship that they get to keep after successfully completing the programme.

During the first year of training, apprentices work in internal departments such as marketing, human resources and various product units. Then, in the second and third years, they begin to have direct contact with customers in the branches. They switch departments every six months throughout their apprenticeship so that they can become as familiar as possible with the company during this period. The company also actively encourages apprentices to complete their school leaving examination during their apprenticeship.

In the category of Companies with 250 Employees or more, Erste Bank recently received the national Fit for Future award in 2009 as one of the top three companies offering apprenticeships in Austria. "This award from the Republic of Austria is a great honour and strengthens our special commitment to our apprentices," continued Ms Mlnarsky-Bständig. Please send applications to: lehre@erstebank.at

[Back](#)