Insurance and Risk Management

Today, about 2.5 million Americans work in the trillion-dollar insurance industry, and in Indiana, insurance is among the top two industries, both in number of employees and in wages earned. Few industries can match the diversity of career opportunities that are available to insurance and risk management graduates. The Insurance and Risk Management Program at Indiana State is a premier, nationally recognized undergraduate program that provides students with applied theoretical knowledge and outstanding preparation for leadership roles.

Careers

Graduating from ISU’s Insurance and Risk Management Program offers nearly 100 percent job placement. Many students find careers as:

- Actuaries
- Claims Adjusters
- Adjusters
- Insurance Attorneys
- Agents
- Risk Analysts
- Brokers
- Risk Managers
- Captive Agents
- Underwriters
- CPCUs (Chartered Property Casualty Underwriters)

Kali Diethrich, an insurance and risk management major spent the summer of 2010 working in the corporate headquarters of Allstate Corp. in Northbrook, IL.

Her responsibilities as an actuary intern, were to determine insurance product pricing for a six-state region of the United States.

“I always thought I had an idea of what actuaries do,” she said. “Getting to see that I actually really enjoy this work and this is something that I could see myself doing for a career, I think that’s the biggest and most exciting thing for me.”

Allstate’s demand for superior student interns like Diethrich is imperative to the business, Allstate senior actuary Jim Rowland said. Without experienced and superior talent, their company wouldn’t succeed.

Student Involvement

Gamma Iota Sigma is a professional fraternity at ISU. The object of this fraternity is to promote, encourage, and sustain student interest in insurance, risk management, and actuarial science as professions; to encourage the high moral and scholastic attainments of its members; and to facilitate interaction of educational institutions and industry by fostering research activities, scholarship, and improved public relations. The ISU chapter is open to business students interested in obtaining a major or minor in insurance and risk management.

Scholarships

Students majoring in insurance and risk management at ISU are eligible for the Gongaware and Networks Scholarships. The Gongaware Scholarship awards $30,000 over four years and includes a laptop and professional development account. The Networks Scholarship covers full in-state tuition, laptop, and professional development account. There are several scholarships and financial awards designated specifically or insurance and risk management majors and other scholarship available only to Scott College of Business majors and minors. For more information go to: www.indstate.edu/business/scholarships.
Curriculum

Students who major in insurance and risk management complete a comprehensive base of liberal studies and business courses. Students completing the 71-semester-hour major develop the skills, risk management and insurance knowledge, ethics, technological competency, and confidence necessary to succeed in the insurance and financial services industry. A 17-18-semester-hour minor attracts students majoring in such programs as accounting, business administration, finance, marketing, management, management information systems, criminology, human resource, mathematics, and safety management.

Faculty

The Insurance and Risk Management Program at Indiana State University was the only university in the state and one of only eight nationally recognized in the September 2008 issue of Risk Management Magazine. “When compared to other colleges, the Insurance and Risk Management Program at Indiana State University offers a larger breadth of programming, along with extensive mentoring,” the magazine stated.

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Alumni Spotlight

Daniel Pigg, ’01, a partner at Howard Clare Insurance in Terre Haute, has been very involved with his alma mater since graduation. He serves on the Scott College of Business’ Insurance Advisory Council, the Young Professionals Board, and volunteers his time with the student chapter of Gamma Iota Sigma (professional fraternity).

Maureen Biehl is a senior vice president and client executive for selected clients of Marsh’s Indianapolis office. She specializes in servicing multinational and global clients. Her clients include firms in the life sciences, automotive, financial, manufacturing and technology industries. She has worked on accounts in the U.S., Bermuda, London and Zurich. She earned a bachelors degree in insurance and risk management from ISU in 1998 and an MBA from Butler University.

Tim Leman is president of Gibson Insurance Group out of South Bend, IN. He is responsible for overseeing all aspects of the company, such as sales, human resources, etc. In 1997, he graduated Magna Cum Laude from ISU, earning a bachelor’s degree in insurance and risk management. He received the GOLD (Graduates of the Last Decade) Award in 2004 from ISU, and he serves on the Scott College of Business’ Insurance Advisory Council.

Find Out More

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