

RICHEMONT

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APPLICATIONS OPENED AT THE NORTH AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF SWISS WATCHMAKING

The North American Institute of Swiss Watchmaking (NAIOSW) is pleased to announce the opening call for applications for its Encasing Technician Course (ETC), beginning September 21st, 2026. The four-month course teaches students the necessary skills in micromechanics and basic watch encasing service operations, through both practical and theoretical training, to prepare them for a successful career. It focuses on: Fundamentals of Micromechanics Watch Encasing and Adjustment Procedures of Movement Exchange. Applications are open until August 10th, 2026.

A legacy steeped in the artistry of Swiss watchmaking

Founded by Richemont in 2008 and based in Dallas, Texas, the [NAIOSW](#) is dedicated to preserving and advancing the art of Swiss watchmaking, attracting talented individuals who are curious and passionate about horology.

Since its inception, the Institute has provided a unique educational environment for its students, in alignment with the internationally recognised Watchmakers of Switzerland Training and Educational Program (WOSTEP). This partnership leverages a wealth of knowledge, experience, and industry insights and serves as a testament to the Institute's dedication to watchmaking excellence. Trained by a passionate team of watchmaking instructors with a combined 175 years of experience, students are immersed in advanced watch theory and practical skill development, mirroring professional standards, to strengthen their horological discipline and mastery.

Through the support of Richemont and its Maisons, eligible students can receive full tuition, tools, materials, and expert instruction, reflecting the Group's strategic investment in horological talent and commitment to fostering artistic finesse and timeless tradition. In the 18 years since its founding, 145 graduates have achieved certification in the internal and WOSTEP curriculums and often start their career at one of Richemont's prestigious Specialist Watchmaker Maisons, amounting to a 92% success rate.

“The ever-increasing need to keep pace with the growth of the watchmaking industry in the U.S. presents a profound opportunity. At Richemont, we recognised this early, which is why we established the NAIOSW. Through NAIOSW, we are proud to offer a fully funded, world-class education deeply rooted in authentic Swiss tradition, ensuring the next generation receives unparalleled training. Our commitment goes beyond teaching a profession; we are cultivating master craftspeople who will embark on rewarding, long-term careers within our prestigious Maisons, authorised service centers, and the broader industry, thereby

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securing the enduring legacy of fine watchmaking for decades to come. NAIOSW is where that journey begins,” says John Sokol, AVP, Technical Services, Richemont Americas and NAIOSW Programme Director.

Rewarding careers in luxury watchmaking

The Institute offers three additional comprehensive programmes designed to educate and inspire dedicated students, equipping them with the skills and knowledge necessary for a rewarding career in luxury watchmaking. Embracing the Swiss watchmaking culture in North America, these programmes nurture craftsmanship and creative problem-solving whilst building technical skills related to the service and repair of luxury timepieces and the assembly of mechanical movements.

- *The Customer Service Watchmaker Programme*: this one-year programme teaches students the necessary skills in watchmaking service operations, through both practical and theoretical training. It focuses on: Fundamentals of Micromechanics Watch Encasing Watch Servicing Quartz, Mechanical, Chronograph and Automatic Calibers Repair and Adjustment Procedure
- *Richemont Watchmaking Course (RWC) Programme*: after successful completion of the ETC programme and gaining 12-18 months of practical experience, employees become eligible for the year-long RWC programme. Successful completion of the RWC, combined with their ETC and practical experience, leads to a Richemont Level 1 Watchmaker certification. Further development programmes and training opportunities are available to support watchmakers' continued career growth within Richemont.
- *High School Summer Internship*: for six weeks, students have an opportunity to work in the Technical Workshop at Richemont, supporting different functions of the Repair Operation. This includes a one-week training regarding Micro-Mechanics and how tools and products are handled, to prepare individuals for the remaining five weeks of work.

The NAIOSW offers unique opportunities to pursue a career in the prestigious field of watchmaking for anyone who demonstrates curiosity, dedication and passion for luxury horology.

Apply today: <https://www.naiosw.com/apply>

About the North American Institute of Swiss Watchmaking

Founded in 2008, the North American Institute of Swiss Watchmaking (NAIOSW) legacy is steeped in the artistry of Swiss watchmaking, providing a gateway to the world of elegance, craftsmanship, and tradition. Drawing upon the expertise of seasoned watchmakers and industry leaders, NAIOSW offers a curriculum that combines time-honored horological techniques with cutting-edge innovations to propel the enduring traditions of watchmaking continually forward.