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## icare NSW insuring a bright future for new graduates

Five university graduates from across New South Wales have landed coveted positions on the 2019 icare Graduate Program. Selected from more than 550 applications received from university graduates across the country, Diana Zhang, Matthew Sheath, William Chang, Hannah Foster and Georgia Fairweather have this month started their working life with [icare NSW](#), one of the largest insurance and care providers in Australia.

An Economics graduate from the University of New South Wales, William joined the icare Graduate Program because the social aspect of icare's mission appealed to him.

"I graduated with a Finance degree during the Royal Commission. I was worried that I wouldn't be able to find an organisation in the sector that aligned with my personal values," Mr Chang said.

"icare is an insurance company that isn't motivated by profits. I want to be able to make a positive difference in people's lives and icare's 'commercial mind, social heart' mission really resonated with me."

For Hannah Foster, who grew up in Orange, the icare Graduate Program offered her the chance to explore a range of different career paths.

"When I finished my university course, I wasn't sure what I wanted to do. With four different placements over a two-year period, the icare Graduate Program will allow me to gain a better idea of my future career goals," Ms Foster said.

"I'm grateful to have that opportunity at icare. During high school, I volunteered with the Orange Aboriginal Medical Services. It was extremely rewarding being part of a service that supports people when they are at their most vulnerable. I'm very excited to be working for a company that is focused on assisting people improve their quality of life," she said.

Since launching in 2017, icare's Graduate Program has twice secured a spot on Australia's Top 75 Graduate Employers List, cementing icare as one of the best workplaces for new graduates entering the workforce.

"While we are an insurance organisation, we constantly strive to think differently and challenge our ways of working to ensure we are providing the best quality of care available and help people return to work, and to life," said icare's Chief Human Resources Officer, Samantha Liston.

"Our graduates have a hugely important role to play in this. From day one, they have the unique opportunity to work on and be responsible for real and meaningful projects that deliver better customer experiences and outcomes.

"We look for candidates who not only reflect our social values, but who are innovative thinkers, involved in some form of community leadership, are open to new challenges and have a genuine curiosity to learn and grow into our future leaders," Ms Liston said.

William's first placement is with icare's Enterprise Risk team where he will identify, assess and manage risks that may prevent icare from delivering insurance and care services to the businesses, people.

“The people of NSW depend on icare to be there when they need us, so anticipating and managing risks, including things like global financial crises or cyber security, is really critical,” Mr Chang said.

Hannah will be working with the Dust Diseases Care Research Team.

“There are currently no cures for workplace dust diseases like silicosis. The Research team has a huge database of medical and work history data from customers diagnosed with dust diseases. I’ll be helping to analyse this data so that we can better understand disease progression and use this knowledge to tailor our services for each customer so that they are receiving the best quality of care we can provide,” said Ms Foster.

icare’s two-year Graduate Program gives graduates hands-on, professional experience in diverse roles across the icare business, from finance through to customer experience design. Graduates also take part in a tailored learning and leadership development program.

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