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Take your Career to New Heights with Rainbow Ryders
The Top-Rated Hot Air Balloon Company Introduces New Pilot Program

PHOENIX, Feb. 1, 2021 — [Rainbow Ryders](#), the nation's leading hot air balloon company operating in the Southwest, is launching its new commercial hot air balloon pilot program on Feb. 5. Participants will be trained by some of the most established pilots in the industry to culminate an unforgettable career with Rainbow Ryders.

The flexible program lasts 9 to 12 months and is designed to cultivate a career with Rainbow Ryders while offering a variety of opportunities and financial incentives within the ballooning industry. Candidates will be working with state-of-the-art equipment at first-rate facilities for the duration of the program. The pilot-in-training will be responsible for propane, gas and any repairs not related to normal operation and Rainbow Ryders will provide the training, safety education, equipment and crew necessary for completion of the program. There will also be an opportunity for applicants to receive hands-on training for maintenance repairs of the equipment. Upon completion of the program, the pilots will be given a placement on the Rainbow Ryders team.

The founder and president of Rainbow Ryders, Scott Appelman, started the company in 1983 for a career change along with his passion for hot air balloons-- he piloted one balloon to start and the company became the largest hot air balloon business serving the Southwest with over 40 balloons across three states in its fleet.

“When I started this company, I wanted to create extraordinary experiences, and those aren't limited to only customers, said Founder and President Scott Appelman. “Being a hot air balloon pilot has been one of the pinnacles of my life, and I want to provide the opportunity for others to experience how fulfilling this career is.”

The company prides itself in its commitment to safety and remains the only “COVID Safe Practice” Certified hot air balloon ride company. Because of its impeccable safety record, Rainbow Ryders is named the only official ride operator for world-renowned balloon events such as the Albuquerque International Balloon Fiesta. The rigorous training and experience offered through the pilot program pays testament as to why Rainbow Ryders is known for having the best pilots in the industry.

Rainbow Ryders is encouraging applicants to apply for either the Albuquerque, New Mexico or Phoenix, Arizona location. Applicants are required to have at least one year ballooning experience with a reputable, commercial hot air balloon company, pass a criminal, driving, and credit background check, have a 2nd Class Airman Medical Certificate, and pass a ground school and written private exam with a score of 90 percent or above. To apply, applicants must send their resume and relevant experience to scott@rainbowryders.com or submit this information at www.rainbowryders.com.

About Rainbow Ryders

Rainbow Ryders, Inc. is the premier and largest hot air balloon business that has been serving the Southwest for over 39 years, with its headquarters in Phoenix and offices in Albuquerque and Colorado Springs. Rainbow Ryders’ pilots have flown more than 75,000 hours, serving more than half a million passengers. All of the company’s pilots are FAA certified and have over 200 years of combined experience. Pilot expertise and commitment to safety are two important reasons why Rainbow Ryders has been a trusted industry leader for decades. Visit rainbowryders.com for more information.

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