

Employment in Financial Services

Contributing Editor

Louise Skinner at Morgan Lewis & Bockius

01. What is the primary regulatory regime applicable to financial services employees in your jurisdiction?

Switzerland

Author: *Simone Wetzstein, Matthias Lötscher, Sarah Vettiger*
at Walder Wyss

Employment law in Switzerland is based mainly on the following sources, set out in order of priority:

- the Federal Constitution;
- Cantonal Constitutions;
- public law, particularly the Federal Act on Work in Industry, Crafts and Commerce (the Labour Act) and five ordinances issued under this Act regulating work, and health and safety conditions;
- civil law, particularly the Swiss Code of Obligations (CO);
- collective bargaining agreements, if applicable;
- individual employment agreements; and
- usage, custom, doctrine, and case law.

Depending on the regulatory status of the employer and the specific activities of financial services employees, respectively, Swiss financial market laws may also apply. They are, in particular, the Federal banking, financial institutions and insurance supervision regulations.

Last updated on 16/04/2024

09. Is there a particular code of conduct and/or are there other regulations regarding standards of behaviour that financial services employees are expected to adhere to?

Switzerland

Author: *Simone Wetzstein, Matthias Lötscher, Sarah Vettiger*

at Walder Wyss

Depending on the regulatory status of the employing entity and, as the case may be, on the exact activities of a financial service employee, a financial service employee needs to adhere to certain code of conduct rules (eg, regarding transparency and care, documentation and accountability).

Supervised companies in Switzerland are, in principle, required to set up an organisation that ensures the compliance with Swiss financial market laws and its statutory code of conduct rules. For this purpose, among others, companies are required to issue regulations that their employees must follow.

Under Swiss financial market laws, code of conduct rules are generally based on abstract statutory rules and concretized by recognised privately organised associations.

In particular, several professional organisations (eg, the Swiss Bankers Association or the Asset Management Association) and self-regulated organisations issue their own set of code of conduct rules that members are required to follow.

Last updated on 16/04/2024

Contributors



Switzerland

Simone Wetzstein

Matthias Lötscher

Sarah Vettiger

Walder Wyss

www.internationalemploymentlawyer.com