CPA

Practice **Advisor**

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Jun. 21, 2016



Most CFOs have faith in millennial workers' abilities to become future leaders, recent research from Robert Half shows. Eighty-five percent of CFOs interviewed said they are confident their millennial employees — the swath of workers born between 1978 and 1999 — possess management potential.

The survey also found businesses are offering professional development resources to help these workers prepare for leadership positions. CFOs said their organizations most often provide onsite training (60 percent); opportunities to attend conferences, seminars and webinars (57 percent); and mentoring programs (55 percent).

"Millennials are a highly educated, ambitious group who gravitate toward jobs that provide meaningful personal and professional growth," said Paul McDonald, senior executive director at Robert Half. "To retain these employees and develop them into

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View an infographic of the survey findings.

CFOs were asked, "How confident are you that millennial workers at your firm are prepared to assume leadership positions?" Their responses:

Very confident	28%	*Responses do not equal 100 percent due to rounding.	
Somewhat confident	57%	CFOs were also asked, "Which of the following, if a your firm using to train millennial workers for	ny, is
Not very confident	9%	leadership positions?" Their responses**:	
Not at all confident	4%	Onsite training	60%
Don't know	1%	Conferences, seminars and webinars	57%
	99%*	Mentoring	55%
		Memberships to professional and trade associations	42%
		Online courses	42%
		Subscriptions to trade publications	41%

^{**}Multiple responses allowed.

For more insight on preparing millennials for advanced positions, download Creating a Leadership Pipeline: Developing the Millennial Generation Into Finance Leaders from Financial Executives Research Foundation (FERF), Robert Half and author Michael S. Seaver.

Robert Half offers five tips for tailoring professional development to millennials:

1. Learn what makes them tick. Millennials commonly seek inclusive and

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5. **Be accessible.** Research shows millennials often prefer face-to-face interaction with their managers. Help them become next-generation leaders by communicating in person, when possible.

While millennials, like any group, are not uniform in their goals and preferences, research for *Get Ready for Generation Z* from Robert Half and Enactus provides insights into their work priorities and styles.

Firm Management • Staffing

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