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Chapter 1

Changing Nature of Human Resource Management

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SECTION 1

Nature of
Human Resource
Management

Learning Objectives

- After you have read this chapter, you should be able to:
 - ➤ Define HR management and identify the seven categories of HR activities.
 - ➤ Discuss three challenges facing HR today.
 - ➤ Describe how the major roles of HR management are being transformed.
 - > Identify the purposes and uses of HR technology.
 - ➤ Discuss why ethical issues affect HR management.
 - ➤ Explain the key competencies needed by HR professionals and why certification is important.

Nature of Human Resource Management

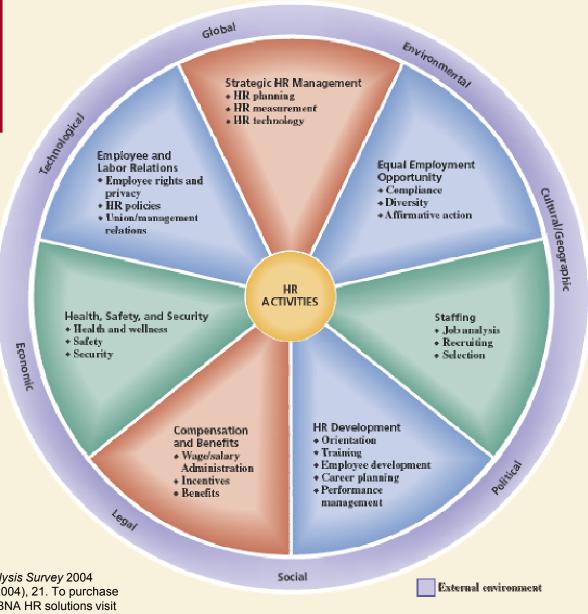
Human Resource (HR) Management

➤ The design of formal systems in an organization to ensure effective and efficient use of human talent to accomplish organizational goals.

Who Is an HR Manager?

- ➤ In the course carrying out their duties, every operating manager is, in essence, an HR manager.
- > HR specialists design processes and systems that operating managers help implement.

HR Management Activities



Source: *HR Department Benchmarks and Analysis Survey* 2004 (Washington, DC: Bureau of National Affairs, 2004), 21. To purchase this publication and find out more about other BNA HR solutions visit http://hrcenter.bna.com or call 800-372-1033. Used with permission.

Figure 1-1

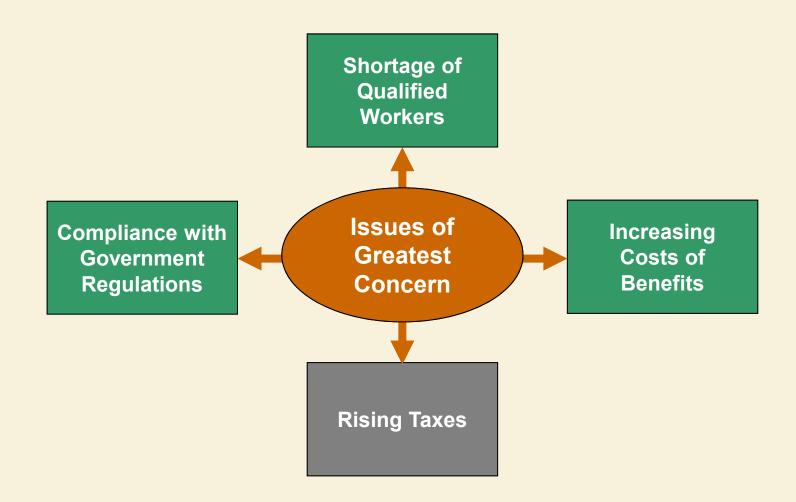
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HR Activities

- Strategic HR Management
- Equal Employment Opportunity
- Staffing
- HR Development
- Compensation and Benefits
- Health, Safety, and Security
- Employee and Labor Relations

Smaller Organizations and HR Management



Cooperation of HR with Operating Managers

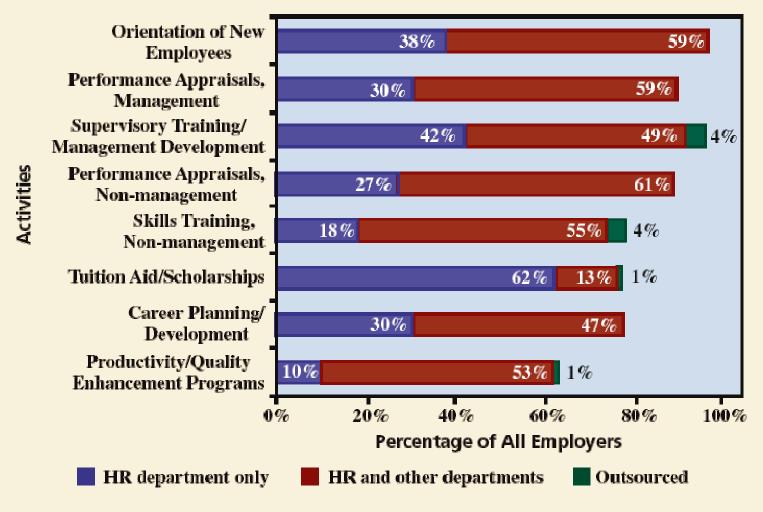
• HR Unit

- ➤ Develops legal, effective interviewing techniques
- ➤ Trains managers in conducting selection interviews
- Conducts interviews and testing
- Sends top three applicants to managers for final review
- > Checks references
- ➤ Does final interviewing and hiring for certain job classifications

Managers

- ➤ Advise HR of job openings
- Decide whether to do own final interviewing
- ➤ Receive interview training from HR unit
- ➤ Do final interviewing and hiring where appropriate
- ➤ Review reference information
- ➤ Provide feedback to HR unit on hiring/rejection decisions

Who Handles Training and Development



Note: Length of bars represents prevalence of activity among all surveyed employers.

Source: *HR Department Benchmarks and Analysis Survey* 2004 (Washington, DC: Bureau of National Affairs, 2004), 21. To purchase this publication and find out more about other BNA HR solutions visit http://hrcenter.bna.com or call 800-372-1033. Used with permission.

Typical Division of HR Responsibilities: Training

HR Unit

- Prepares skill-training materials
- Coordinates training efforts
- Conducts or arranges for off-the-job training
- Coordinates career plans and employee development efforts
- Provides input and expertise for organizational development

Managers

- Provide technical information
- Monitor training needs
- Conduct and monitor continuing on-the-job training
- Continually discuss employees' growth and future potential
- Participate in organizational change

Management of Human Capital In Organizations

Human Capital

- ➤ The collective value of the capabilities, knowledge, skills, life experiences, and motivation of an organizational workforce.
 - Also known as intellectual capital.
 - How to measure the strategic value of human assets?

Core Competency

- ➤ A unique capability that creates high value and differentiates an organization from its competition.
 - HR competencies: a source of competitive advantage.

- Globalization of Business
 - > Outsourcing and increased competition
 - > The threat of terrorism
- Economic and Technological Changes
 - Occupational shifts from manufacturing and agriculture to service industries and telecommunications.
 - ➤ Pressures of global competition causing firms to adapt by lowering costs and increasing productivity.
- Technological Shifts and the Internet
 - Growth of information technology.

Fastest Growing Jobs to 2010

Percentage Increase in Jobs

Increase in Job Numbers

Computer software engineers	100%	Food-service / fast food workers	673,000
Computer support specialists	97%	Customer service representatives	631,000
Network administrators	82%	Registered nurses	561,000
Personal / home care aides	62%	Retail salespersons	510,000
Physicians assistants	53%	Computer support specialists	490,000
Medical records technicians	49 %	Cashiers	474,000
Information systems managers	48%	Security guards	391,000
Physical/occupational therapists	46%	General/operating managers	363,000
Fitness trainers	40 %	Nurses aides	323,000
		Post-secondary teachers	315,000
		Home health aides	291,000

Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, www.bls.gov.

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- Workforce Availability and Quality Concerns
 - ➤ Inadequate supply of workers with needed skills for "knowledge jobs"
 - > Education of workers in basic skills
- Growth in Contingent Workforce
 - ➤ Increases in temporary workers, independent contractors, leased employees, and part-timers caused by:
 - Need for flexibility in staffing levels
 - Increased difficulty in firing regular employees.
 - Reduced legal liability from contract employees

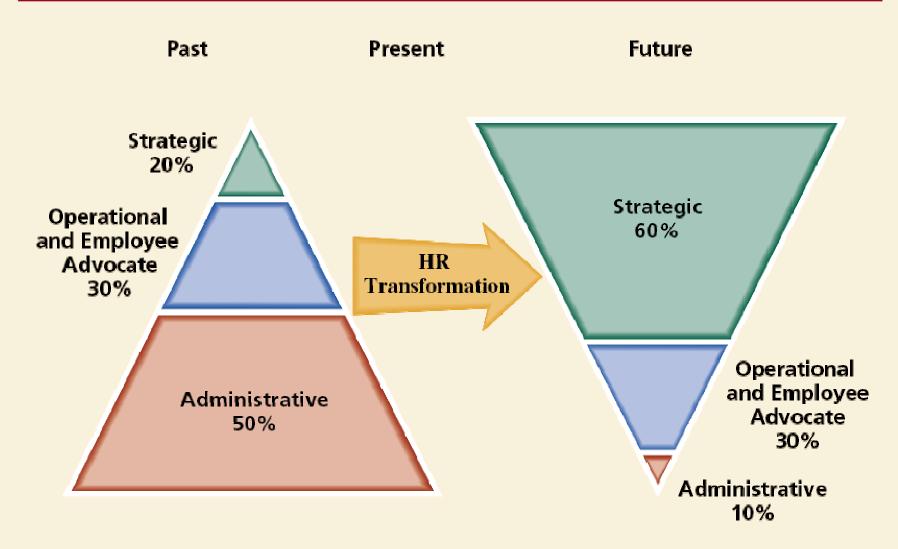
- Workforce Demographics and Diversity
 - ➤ Increasing Racial/Ethnic Diversity
 - > More Women in the Workforce
 - Single-parent households
 - Dual-career couples
 - Domestic partners
 - Working mothers and family/childcare
 - ➤ Significantly Aging Workforce
 - Age discrimination

- Organizational Cost Pressures and Restructuring
 - Mergers and Acquisitions
 - ➤ "Right-sizing"—eliminating of layers of management, closing facilities, merging with other organizations, and outplacing workers
 - Intended results are flatter organizations, increases in productivity, quality, service and lower costs.
 - Costs are "survivor mentality", loss of employee loyalty, and turnover of valuable employees.
 - HR managers must work toward ensuring cultural compatibility in mergers.

HR Management Roles

- Administrative Role
 - Clerical and administrative support operations (e.g., payroll and benefits work)
 - Technology is transforming how HR services are delivered.
 - Outsourcing HR services to reduce HR staffing costs
- Operational and Employee Advocate Role
 - "Champion" for employee concerns
 - Employee crisis management
 - Responding to employee complaints

Changing Roles of HR Management



Note: Example percentages are based on various surveys.

Figure 1-5

Strategic Role for HR

Strategic Role

- > "Contributing at the Table" to organizational results
- > HR becomes a strategic business partner by:
 - Focusing on developing HR programs that enhance organizational performance.
 - Involving HR in strategic planning at the onset.
 - Participating in decision making on mergers, acquisitions, and downsizing.
 - Redesigning organizations and work processes
 - Accounting and documenting the financial results of HR activities.

Operational to Strategic Transformation of HR

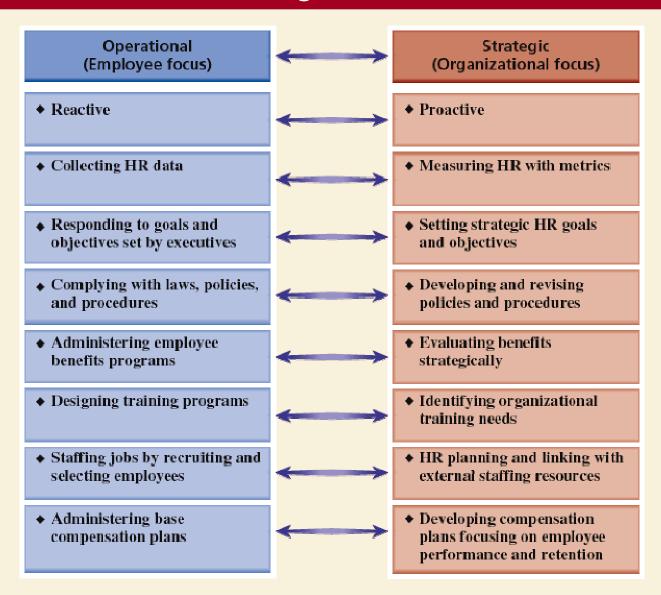


Figure 1-6

New Approaches to HR Management

Collaborative HR

- ➤ The process of HR professionals from several different organizations working jointly to address shared business problems.
 - ❖ Firms benefit from the expertise of other firms, without having the time and expense of developing some of their own HR practices.



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HR Technology

- Human Resource Management System (HRMS)
 - ➤ An integrated system providing information used by HR management in decision making.
 - ➤ Purposes (Benefits) of HRMS
 - Administrative and operational efficiency in compiling HR data
 - Availability of data for effective HR strategic planning
 - > Uses of HRMS
 - Automation of payroll and benefit activities
 - EEO/affirmative action tracking
 - HR Workflow: increased access to HR information
 - Employee self-service reduces HR costs.

Uses of an HRMS

• HRMS

- > Bulletin boards
 - What information will be available and what is information needed?
- > Data access
 - To what uses will the information be put?
- ➤ Employee self-service
 - Who will be allowed to access to what information?
 - Web-based services and access
- Extended linkage
 - When, where, and how often will the information be needed?

Ethics and HR Management

Firms with High Ethical Standards

- > Are more likely to reach strategic goals.
- > Are viewed more positively by stakeholders
- > Are better able to attract and retain human resources.

Ethics and Global Differences

- ➤ Different legal, political, and cultural factors in other countries can lead to ethical conflicts for global managers.
- Foreign Corrupt Practices Act (FCPA)
 - Prohibits U.S. firms from engaging in bribery and other practices in other countries.

HR's Role in Organizational Ethics

- HR management plays a key role as the "keeper and voice" of organizational ethics.
- What is Ethical Behavior?
 - > What "ought" to be done.
 - Dimensions of decisions about ethical issues in management:
 - Extended consequences
 - Multiple alternatives
 - Mixed outcomes
 - Uncertain consequences
 - ❖ Personal effects

Examples of Ethical Misconduct in HR Activities

Types of Misconduct	Examples of Employee, Supervisor, and Managerial Behavior
Compensation	Misrepresenting hours and time worked
	Falsifying expense reports
	 Personal bias in performance appraisals and pay increases
	Inappropriate overtime classifications
Employee Relations	• Employees lying to supervisors
	• Executives/managers providing false information to public, customers,
	and vendors
	◆ Personal gains/gifts from vendors
	 Misusing/stealing organizational assets and supplies
	◆ Intentionally violating safety/health regulations
Staffing and Equal Employment	Favoritism in hiring and promotion
	Sexual harassment
	• Sex, race, and age discrimination in hiring, discipline, and termination

HR's Role in Organizational Ethics (cont d)

Responses to Ethical Situations

- ➤ Are guided by values and personal behavior "codes" that include:
 - Does response meet all applicable laws, regulations, and government codes?
 - Does response comply with all organizational standards of ethical behavior?
 - Does response pass the test of professional standards for ethical behavior?

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Ethical Behavior and Organizational Culture

Organizational Culture

- > The shared values and beliefs in an organization
- > Common forms of unethical conduct:
 - Lying to supervisors
 - Employee drug use or alcohol abuse
 - Falsification of records

Fostering Ethical Behavior

- > A written code of ethics and standards of conduct
- > Training on ethical behavior for all employees
- > A means for employees to obtain ethical advice
- > Confidential reporting systems for ethical misconduct

HR Management Competencies and Careers

Important HR Competencies

- ➤ Strategic contribution to organizational success
- ➤ Business knowledge of organization and its strategies
- ➤ Effective and effective delivery of HR services
- Familiarity with HRMS technology
- ➤ Personal credibility

HR Management as a Career Field

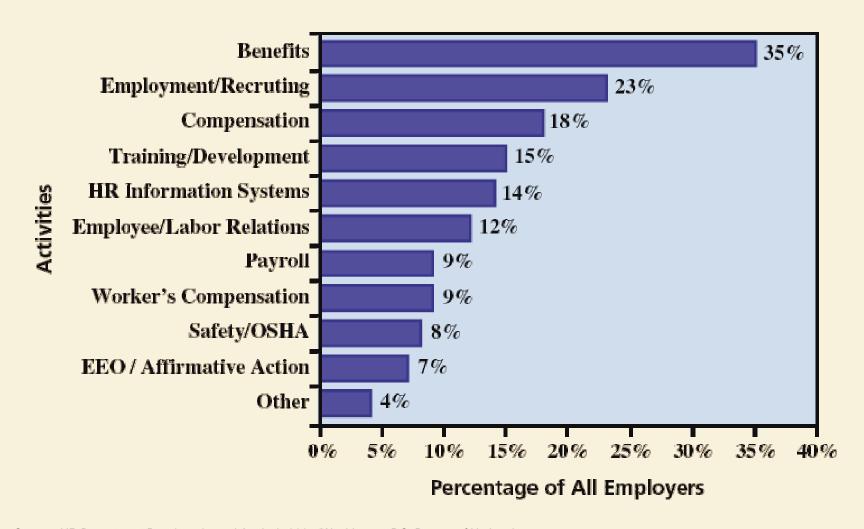
HR Generalist

> A person with responsibility for performing a variety of HR activities.

HR Specialist

➤ A person with in-depth knowledge and expertise in a limited area of HR.

HR Specialists



Source: *HR Department Benchmarks and Analysis 2004* (Washington, DC: Bureau of National Affairs, 2004), 119. To purchase this publication and find out more about other BNA HR solutions visit http://hrcenter.bna.com or call 800-372-1033. Used with permission.

HR Certification

The Human Resource Certification Institute offers three types of professional certifications for HR generalists.

PHR Certification	SPHR or GPHR Certification
Complete at least 2 years of exempt-level	◆ Complete at least 2 years of exempt-level (professional)
(professional) HR experience	HR experience (recommended: 6-8 years).
(recommended: 2-4 years).	
 Pass the PHR certification exam. 	Pass the SPHR or GPHR exam.
Students may take and pass exam, and receive	
certification after 2 years of experience.	

Details on these certifications are available from the Human Resources Certification Institute, www.hrci.org.

GPHR Certification

- Global Professional in Human Resources (GPHR) certification subject areas:
 - Strategic international HR management
 - Organizational effectiveness and employee development
 - ➤ Global staffing
 - > International assignment management
 - Global compensation and benefits
 - ➤ International employee relations and regulations

Other HR Certifications

- Certified Compensation Professional (CCP), sponsored by the World at Work Association
- Certified Employee Benefits Specialist (CEBS), sponsored by the International Foundation of Employee Benefits Plans
- Certified Benefits Professional (CBP), sponsored by the WorldatWork Association
- Certified Performance Technologist (CPT), co- sponsored by the American Society for Training & Development and the International Society for Performance Improvement
- Certified Safety Professional (CSP), sponsored by the Board of Certified Safety Professionals
- Occupational Health and Safety Technologist (OHST), given by the American Board of Industrial Hygiene and the Board of Certified Safety Professionals
- Certified Professional Outsourcing, provided by New York University and the Human Resource Outsourcing Association