



Internship & Career Services Industry Guide: Finance

OVERVIEW

Due to its practicality and limitless applications in a variety of careers, Finance continues to be one of the most popular undergraduate majors in the United States. From analysts, to advisors and consultants, to investment banking and securities trading, those interested in a career in finance enjoy an incredibly robust set of opportunities. With such a broad industry, how do you narrow down what kind of career might be right for you?

What Can You Do Now

Build your network: In the business and financial industries, top company executives and recent college graduates alike all consistently highlight the importance of building a professional network - you never know what kind of relationships could lead to an interview or potential careers!

Next steps:

- Go to career fairs and networking opportunities - bring your updated resume and be ready with an elevator pitch.
- Talk with your academic advisor, career mentor, and professors about your goals and interests. They can often lead you in directions that you didn't even know existed!
- Update your LinkedIn page and connect with peers, managers, coworkers, and others in the business world.
- Apply for internships and try to get as much professional exposure as possible!

Get involved on campus: There are plenty of clubs and organizations to get involved in on campus that can help you build your resume, provide valuable growth experiences, and equip you with knowledge and skills that you can utilize in interviews and the professional world. You don't have to solely be involved in business organizations or be the treasurer of every club you're involved in - employers want well-rounded employees, and you want to be exposed to as many areas of potential growth as possible!

Next steps:

- Consider hobbies, causes, and goals that you are passionate about and find an organization that aligns with these interests. If it doesn't exist, you can create your own!
- Potential business organizations on campus to get involved in include: Alpha Kappa Psi professional business fraternity, Gamma Iota Sigma risk management fraternity, Accounting Club, and Students for the Advancement of Business Leadership (SABL).
- Consider pursuing a leadership role or executive position in an organization. Oftentimes this is a great way to capitalize on your experience in these organizations.

Study Abroad: In an increasingly global business world, employers are often attracted to candidates that have lived in another country and learned how to adapt to a foreign culture. Further, studying abroad provides students with the opportunity to grow by engaging with people of all different backgrounds, gaining independence and adaptability skills, and discovering new passions through cultural exposure.

Next steps:

- Speak with your academic advisor and other students that have been abroad and consider what kind of program might work best for you.
- Go to a Study Abroad call out meeting with the Center for Global Education.

WHAT CAN YOU DO WITH A FINANCE DEGREE?

Beyond just trading stocks on Wall Street or making financial forecasts for a Fortune 500 company, the versatile nature of finance degrees open the door for a variety of exciting potential career paths in a wide range of industries.

Skills/qualifications needed may include: Adaptability, innovative capacity, analytical thinking, strong written and verbal communication skills, technological expertise, mathematical aptitude, global outlook

<i>Business Sector:</i>	<i>Sector Description:</i>	<i>Potential Careers:</i>
Corporate Finance	Corporate finance jobs involve finding and managing capital necessary to run the enterprise while maximizing corporate value and mitigating financial risk. Potential companies to work for range widely in size and function - this might even include non-profits. Main typical functions include creating and implementing company's financial strategy; forecasting profits and losses and preparing financial statements; and working with external auditors.	Financial Analyst Treasurer Investor Relations Manager Credit Manager Real Estate Officer Cash Manager Internal Auditor
Investment Banking	Investment banking is a very time-intensive, competitive industry, but it also provides many rewarding potential career paths. Jobs involve facilitating the issuance of corporate securities and making them available to traders. Additionally, job tasks involve trading securities and providing financial advice to both individual investors and corporations.	Investment Banker Stock Broker Derivatives Trader Equity Research Analyst Managing Director
Financial Planning	In the financial planning industry, professionals specialize in assisting individuals in ensuring present and future financial security through the analysis of client's individual financial goals. The implementation of financial planning involves saving and investing strategies.	Financial Planner Financial Advisor Consultant Wealth Manager
Insurance	Professionals in the insurance industry focus on helping businesses understand and mitigate risk and protect from potential losses. Careers are typically with large insurance companies, but can range in function and capacity.	Insurance Sales Rep Customer Service Rep Actuary Claims Analyst Insurance Agent
Hedge Funds, Venture Capital & Private Equity	Hedge funds are largely unregulated private investment funds that trade a wide variety of assets and securities. Though both hedge funds and private equity funds manage substantial portfolio holdings, on top of fundraising and investing, private equity managers typically also assist portfolio companies in capital growth, managed buyouts and restructurings. Venture Capital funds and professionals typically deal with smaller start-up companies.	Financial Analyst Securities Trader Compliance Officer Marketing Manager Portfolio Manager Interim Executive (for Portfolio Companies) Venture Capitalist

Online Resources:

[Financial Career Options \(forbes.com\)](https://forbes.com)

[Financial Career Resources and Advice \(thebalancecareer.com\)](https://thebalancecareer.com)

[Internship & Career Services: Guide to Professional Success PDF](#)

[Indiana Finance Internships \(indianaintern.net\)](https://indianaintern.net)

[Interactive Corporate Finance Career Path Map \(corporatefinanceinstitute.com\)](https://corporatefinanceinstitute.com)

[The Best Entry Level Finance Jobs for 2018 \(investopedia.com\)](https://investopedia.com)

[The Ultimate Guide to a Career in Finance \(efficientlearning.com\)](https://efficientlearning.com)

[What can you do with a Finance major? \(bestcolleges.com\)](https://bestcolleges.com)