

FINANCE

What can I do with this major?

AREAS

EMPLOYERS

STRATEGIES

CORPORATE AND PUBLIC FINANCE

Financial Analysis
Cash Management
Credit Management
Budget Analysis
Investment Management
Investor Relations
Financial Reporting
Payroll
Benefits
Real Estate
Risk Management

Private businesses of all sizes and types
State and local government entities
Federal agencies including:
 Internal Revenue Service
 Treasury Department
Schools and universities
Non-profit organizations
Foundations
Hospitals

Complete a related internship.
Develop strong computer skills, including
 spreadsheets, databases, and presentation
 software.
Sharp analytical skills are crucial in this industry.
Earn an MBA to reach the highest levels of corporate
 finance.

BANKING

Corporate Credit Analysis
Commercial Lending
Trust Management
Capital Services and Mergers & Acquisitions
Mortgage Loans
Originations and Packaging
Branch Management
Operations
Cash Management
Credit Scoring and Risk Management
Private Banking

Commercial banks
Credit unions
Savings and loan associations
Savings banks
Mortgage banks
Captive finance companies
Regulatory agencies including:
 Federal Reserve, FDIC, OCC, OTS

Develop a solid background in business including
 marketing and accounting.
Get experience through part-time, summer or
 internship positions in a financial service firm.
Develop strong interpersonal and communication skills
 in order to work well with a diverse clientele.

AREAS	EMPLOYERS	STRATEGIES
<u>INSURANCE</u> Claims Analysis Underwriting Risk Management Sales Actuarial Science Loss Control	Life insurance firms Property and casualty insurance firms Commercial banks Savings banks	Complete an internship with an insurance agency. Talk to professionals in the industry to learn more about claims, underwriting, and risk management. Many good, entry-level positions exist in these areas. Initiative and sales ability are necessary to be a successful agent or broker. Develop strong communication skills, as many positions require interaction with others and the ability to explain information clearly and concisely. Take additional statistics classes to prepare for a career in actuarial science. Prepare to take the first in a series of actuarial examinations.
<u>PERSONAL FINANCIAL PLANNING</u> Sales Customer Service Operations Portfolio Management	Brokerage firms Trust companies Financial partnerships Multi-line insurance firms Sole practitioners	Gain experience in sales. Demonstrate a highly motivated and entrepreneurial personality. Research how one obtains the Certified Financial Planner (CFP) designation. Develop a solid personal network.
<u>REAL ESTATE</u> Residential Brokerage Commercial Sales Appraisals Property Management Real Estate Portfolio Management	Real estate brokers Commercial banks Appraisal firms Apartment and condominium complexes Developers Large corporations: real estate departments Real estate investment trusts Mutual funds	Obtain sales experience through part-time, summer or internship positions. Research how to become a real estate broker through the National Association of Realtors. Develop an entrepreneurial spirit. Research apprenticeships in appraisal.

AREAS	EMPLOYERS	STRATEGIES
<u>INVESTMENT BANKING</u> Corporate Financial Analysis Mergers and Acquisitions Equity and Debt Underwriting Institutional Bond and Equity Sales Retail Bond and Equity Sales Business Valuation Business Sale Transactions Currency Trading Derivatives, e.g. options Trading Venture Capital Fund Management New Venture Analysis	Investment banking firms <i>(Changes in laws have created a fluid situation in this industry; Mergers and acquisitions continue to take place.)</i> Financial services firms Insurance firms <i>(The Gramm Leach Bliley Act of 1999 allowed financial services firms to acquire or build investment banking subsidiaries and vice versa.)</i>	An M.B.A. is required to move beyond the entry-level analyst position in investment banking. Investment banking is highly competitive. Be prepared to work many hours of overtime per week, start at the bottom, and pay your dues. Develop strong analytical and communication skills. Cultivate personal ambitiousness. Obtain a Series 7 License for both institutional and retail broker sales positions. Work toward the CFA designation.
<u>MONEY MANAGEMENT</u> Research Trading Marketing Portfolio Management	Portfolio management firms Commercial banks Investment banks Federal Reserve banks Insurance firms	Most positions require an advanced degree in economics, finance or business and many years of financial experience.
<u>ACCOUNTING</u> Corporate or Government Including: Financial Management Financial Reporting Cost Accounting Tax Planning Research	Companies of various sizes, in all industries Federal agencies and departments including: Federal Bureau of Investigation Internal Revenue Service Department of the Treasury Office of Management and Budget Securities Exchange Commission State and local agencies	Sometimes opportunities in accounting exist in government and corporate settings for finance students. Take more than the required amount of accounting classes to supplement finance curriculum. Maintain a strong g.p.a. Complete an internship in a government agency and become familiar with the government application process to work in the public sector.

GENERAL INFORMATION

- Quantitative skills are extremely important. Take additional courses in math, statistics, and accounting.
- Many positions in finance require the ability to analyze and interpret data.
- Develop strong interpersonal and communication skills. Cultivate an eye for detail.
- Gain experience through internships, summer and part-time positions.
- Read the Wall Street Journal and other financial news magazines to stay abreast of current events and to learn more about the industry.
- Join student professional associations in the field of finance.
- Several professional designations and licenses, e.g. Chartered Financial Analyst or Certified Financial Planner, are available to finance professionals working in a particular area. Earning these designations may help one obtain advanced positions.