

Career

Paths

FINANCE

A degree in finance equips you with the necessary skills for a successful career in banking, corporate finance, and investments. With a focus on financial decision-making and real-world implications, this program of study explores financial markets, security analysis, risk management, and more.

Corporate & Public Finance

Example Career Paths: Financial Analysis | Cash Management | Credit Management | Budget Analysis | Investment Management | Investor Relations | Financial Reporting | Payroll | Benefits | Real Estate | Risk Management

Potential Employers: Private Businesses | State & Local Government | Internal Revenue Service | Treasury Department | Schools & Universities | Nonprofit Organizations | Foundations | Hospitals

Professional Associations: [Chartered Financial Analyst Institute](#) | [Association for Financial Professionals](#) | [Financial Industry Regulatory Authority](#) | [Society of Financial Examiners](#)

Related Occupations: [Financial Analysts](#) | [Financial Examiners](#) | [Financial Managers](#)

Banking

Example Career Paths: Corporate Credit Analysis | Commercial & Industrial Lending | Trust & Private Wealth Management | Capital Services | Mergers & Acquisitions | Mortgage Loans | Branch Management | Operations | Cash Management | Credit Scoring & Risk Management | Private Banking | Financial Analysis

Potential Employers: Commercial Banks | Credit Unions | Savings & Loan Associations | Savings Banks | Mortgage Banks | Brokerage Firms | Regulatory Agencies

Professional Associations: [American Bankers Association](#) | [Mortgage Bankers Association](#) | [Association for Financial Professionals](#) | [Financial Industry Regulatory Authority](#)

Related Occupations: [Loan Officers](#) | [Financial Analysts](#) | [Financial Examiners](#) | [Financial Managers](#) | [Personal Financial Advisors](#) | [Securities, Commodities, and Financial Services Sales Agents](#)

Insurance

Example Career Paths: Actuarial Science | Risk Management | Loss Control | Underwriting | Claims Analysis | Sales

Potential Employers: Insurance Firms | Insurance Agents & Brokers | Commercial Banks

Professional Associations: [American Academy of Actuaries](#) | [National Association of Professional Insurance Agents](#) | [Insurance Information Institute](#)

Related Occupations: [Actuaries](#) | [Claims Adjusters, Appraisers, Examiners, & Investigators](#) | [Insurance Sales Agents](#) | [Insurance Underwriters](#)

Personal Financial Planning

Example Career Paths: Sales | Customer Service | Operations | Portfolio Management | Financial Advising | Insurance Advising

Potential Employers: Brokerage Firms | Trust Companies | Financial Partnerships | Multi-Line Insurance Firms | Sole Practitioner

Professional Associations: [National Association of Personal Financial Advisors](#) | [Certified Financial Planner Board of Certification](#)

Related Occupations: [Personal Financial Advisors](#) | [Securities, Commodities, and Financial Services Sales Agents](#)

Real Estate

Example Career Paths: Residential Brokerage | Commercial Sales | Appraisals | Property Management | Real Estate Portfolio Management

Potential Employers: Real Estate Brokers | Commercial Banks | Appraisal Firms | Apartment and Condo Complexes | Developers | Real Estate Investment Trusts | Mutual Funds

Professional Associations: [American Society of Appraisers](#) | [National Association of Realtors](#) | [National Association of Residential Property Managers](#) | [National Association of Real Estate Brokers](#)

Related Occupations: [Property Appraisers and Assessors](#) | [Property, Real Estate, & Community Association Managers](#) | [Real Estate Brokers & Sales Agents](#)

Investment Banking

Example Career Paths: Corporate Financial Analysis | Mergers & Acquisitions | Underwriting | Fund Management | Equity & Debt | Bond & Equity Sales | Business Valuation | Currency Trading

Potential Employers: Investment Banking Firms | Financial Services Firms | Insurance Firms | Commercial Banks

Professional Associations: [Investment Banking Council of America](#) | [Chartered Financial Analyst Institute](#) | [Financial Industry Regulatory Authority](#)

Related Occupations: [Financial Analysts](#) | [Financial Examiners](#) | [Financial Managers](#) | [Securities, Commodities, and Financial Services Sales Agents](#)

Preparing for your Career

- Develop quantitative skills through additional courses in math, statistics, and accounting.
- Demonstrate interpersonal and communication skills by having well-rounded experiences outside the classroom.
- Actively participate in student organizations to develop leadership skills & learn to work well with a team.
- Develop skills in the ability to analyze and interpret data.
- Cultivate an eye for detail.
- Pursue internships to learn about the field and gain experience. Consider completing multiple internships during the school year and/or the summer to build more connections.
- Read *The Wall Street Journal* and other financial news magazines to become versed in current events and industry vocabulary.
- Seek leadership roles in finance-specific [College of Business student organizations](#).
- Research professional designations and licenses (e.g. Chartered Financial Analyst or Certified Financial Planner).
- If interested in working for an international corporation, gain language skills and work toward becoming multilingual.
- Conduct informational interviews with professionals in field of interest to learn more about their work and build a network of contacts.

This resource was adapted from What Can I Do With My Major.

For more, visit <https://web.uri.edu/career/wcidwmm/>

WCIDWMM

What Can I Do With This Major? features 100 major profiles with information on common career paths, types of employers that hire in the field, and strategies to maximize opportunities. Scroll to the...

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