Description of the Field

Corporate or Public Finance: Positions include financial analysis, cash management, credit management, budget analysis, investment management, investor relations, financial reporting, payroll, real estate, and risk management. These role can be found in private businesses of all sizes, state and local government entities, federal agencies, non-profits and foundations.

Banking—Commercial, Private and Retail: Positions include corporate credit analysis, commercial and industrial lending, trust and private wealth management, capital services and mergers & acquisitions, mortgage loans, loan origination and packaging, branch management, operations, cash management, credit scoring and risk management, financial analysis, private banking and bank examiners with the regulatory agencies. These roles can be found in commercial banks, private banks, credit unions, savings banks, mortgage banks, and regulatory agencies such as the Federal Reserve Bank, Federal Deposit Corporation, and Office of the Comptroller of the Currency.

Personal Financial Planning: Positions include sales, customer services, operations, portfolio management, financial advising, insurance advising. These roles can be found in brokerage firms, trust companies, financial partnerships, multi-line insurance firms and with sole practitioners.

Investment Banking: Positions include corporate financial analysis, mergers & acquisitions, equity and debt, institutional and retail bond and equity sales, business valuation, trading, venture capital fund management and private equity. These positions can be found in investment banks and financial services firms.

Money Management: Positions include research, trading, marketing, portfolio management and hedge fund and mutual fund management. These roles can be found in portfolio management firms, commercial banks, investment banks, asset and investment management firms.

Explore Finance

The finance program addresses issues in the financial services and securities area, including topics related to high technology firms, large corporations, and entrepreneurial companies. The finance program is designed to provide students with in-depth exposure to the background necessary for entry-level positions in various areas of financial management. Students study financial management, money and capital markets, investments and derivative securities, and financial institutions. Students in the program benefit from access to the Burridge Center and the CU Real Estate Center.

Make sure to make an appointment with me at www.colorado.edu/business/careeradvising for career guidance, resume/cover letter review and internship and job search help.

Top Hiring Companies

- Arrow Electronics
- DaVita
- Deloitte
- Encana
- EY
- Fidelity Investments
- FirstBank
- Goldman Sachs
- JP Morgan
- KPMG
- Phillips 66
- Shell
Emphasis Guide: Finance

Prepare for Your Internship or Job Search

Resources:
- [Resume Templates and Examples for Finance Students](#)
- [How to Write a Cover Letter and Examples for Finance Students](#)

Recruiting Schedule:

Finance internships and full-time recruiting is spread almost evenly over both the fall and spring semesters for positions beginning in the summer. Positions are posted as early as September 1st with interviews in October. In the spring, recruiting starts mid-January and runs through mid-March. Exception: Sophomores will usually not be recruited until March or April. Internships during the summer before senior year can potentially turn into full-time offers.

Organizations to Join

Professional:
- [American Finance Association](#)
- [Association for Financial Professionals](#)
- [Certified Financial Planner](#)
- [Financial Management Association](#)
- [Financial Planning Association](#)
- [National Association of Personal Financial Advisors](#)
- [National Banking and Financial Services Network](#)
- [Society of Financial Services Professionals](#)
- [Real Estate Investment Society](#)

On-Campus:
- Attend Career Fairs
- Talk with your faculty about career goals
- Attend all info sessions/tabling events with recruiters
- Meet with your academic and career advisors to make sure you are on track for internship and job recruiting

The most competitive finance students have a couple of internships on their resume before they graduate, one at the very least. Work experience in the finance field cannot be replaced with only coursework and a good GPA. While a high GPA is mandatory for some areas (3.5+ for Investment Banking and Consulting) a 3.2 will qualify you for most positions.

Consider adding a dual emphasis in Accounting if you are interested in Corporate Finance, M&A, valuation or investment banking. Consider adding a Quantitative Finance Certificate if you are interested in trading, asset management or quantitative risk management. A computer science minor from the Engineering School or Information Management classes through Leeds will set you apart technically. Excel, VBA, SQL, R, C++ and MatLab are frequently requested. Consider supplementing your exposure to Excel in your classes with additional self-guided training.