



RICE | BUSINESS

INVESTMENT BANKING

Investment Banking is a competitive industry with a highly structured recruiting timeline. Partner with the Career Development Office to understand the process.

<https://bit.ly/2sPOKKT>

FIRST YEAR TIMELINE

AUGUST

- Research and understand investment banking
- Read the Vault Guide
- Join the Finance Club
- Attend the CDO Career Conference
- Determine fit with the role, lifestyle, hierarchy, etc.
- Start outlining your value proposition

SEPTEMBER

- Gain industry knowledge - read WSJ, The Economist, Financial Times, etc.
- Info sessions start - RSVP, attend, learn, and network
- Refine resume and pitch - develop coffee chat targets
- Talk with second years to learn and avoid mistakes
- Apply to attend Week on Wall Street (WOWS)
- Attend "Training the Street - Corporate Valuation"

OCTOBER

- Work on interview skills and attend info sessions
- Conduct coffee chats after WOWS - these relationships are crucial to your success
- Build behavioral interview skills by scheduling a mock interview with a CDO advisor or use Big Interview
- Excel in Finance and Accounting
- Attend "Training the Street - Financial Modeling"

NOVEMBER

- Coffee chats and office visits continue, but slow with the holidays
- Practice technical interview questions
- Participate in Alumni Mock Interviews

DECEMBER

- Applications due
- Last push to refine technical and behavioral interview skills - don't completely go on vacation mode
- The majority of firms will select candidates
- Take some time and recharge over the holiday

JANUARY

- Interview well and send thank you notes
- Report all offers to CDO and update OWL-Careers
- Didn't get your #1? Refocus on other opportunities and build skills and experiences that add value. Use the summer to prepare for second year recruiting

SECOND YEAR TIMELINE

SUMMER

- Research firms and continue to build technical skills
- If at a banking internship, have a discussion with your manager about your performance and possibly converting your internship into a full time offer
- Learn transferable skills to be competitive for fall
- Continue with networking and interview preparation

AUGUST

- If you have an offer, report it in OWL-Careers and decide if you want to accept or continue recruiting
- Talk to your advisor about your fall recruiting strategy
- Understand that second year recruiting for banking is more difficult - rely heavily on networking

SEPTEMBER

- Network and apply for available opportunities
- Interview with firms
- Talk with an advisor if you need help weighing offers or need to ask for a deadline extension
- Report all of your offers in OWL-Careers

ASSOCIATE PROFILE

Strong Metrics

680+ GMAT and 3.5+ GPA scores are highly desirable. Some firms may have higher requirements. GMAT typically preferred over GRE.

Communication Skills

Firms will be assessing your ability to present confidently and communicate complex ideas from day one. Display skills that indicate that you will be able to manage relationships effectively and communicate well with clients and your team.

Analytical Skills

Demonstrate and be able to articulate concrete examples of analytical and critical thinking skills. Attend the "Training the Street" workshops to master valuations and financial modeling.

Personal and Team Fit

Current employees will be evaluating if you have what it takes to be a good banker and assessing your fit with their team. Every interaction counts and that is why they want you to do multiple coffee chats and interact with their team - they need to get to know you to determine fit.