



FINANCE

FINANCE COVERS A BROAD RANGE OF ROLES THAT FACILITATE VARIOUS TRANSACTIONS AND RELATED ACTIVITIES. EXPLORE OPTIONS AND RESOURCES TO TARGET YOUR SEARCH.

INTERNSHIP RECRUITMENT ROADMAP

AUGUST

- Join Finance Association
- Understand roles you are interested in and skills needed
- Determine fit with lifestyle and hierarchy
- Gain industry knowledge
- Recruiting timeline will vary based on target

- Talk to second years
- Outline your value proposition
- Attend info sessions and get contacts
- Know your target. IB is structured and starts early. Corporate opportunities can be found at diversity conferences. Others won't recruit until late spring. Build a strategy with an advisor

OCTOBER

- Conduct coffee chats
- Further refine interview skills and know when your targets typically recruit
- Ace Finance and Accounting

- Master technical and behavioral interviews
- Apply according to industry cycles - do not miss deadlines
- If a later cycle, continue networking to be ready for spring

DECEMBER

- Manage interview schedules
- Send prompt thank you notes
- Discuss offers and acceptance deadlines with career advisor

JANUARY

Managing and Creating Capital

Finance is present and central to all industries and companies. It is difficult to provide one profile due to the varied opportunities. Attention to detail, analyzing data at an high level, and managing risk is key to success.

Financial Services: The sell-side includes investment banks, sales and trading, and research. The buy-side includes investment management, private equity, private wealth management, real estate, and insurance.

Corporate Finance: This includes the finance division of a large company that oversees the financial health and needs of an organization to run and grow a business.

Institutional Investors: Endowments, foundations, pension funds, family offices, and hedge funds invest money on behalf of clients.

Other areas to consider include commercial banking, mortgage and credit card companies, credit rating agencies, and regulators. A variety of positions exists within these finance entities.

TYPICAL PROFILE

STRONG METRICS

680+ GMAT and 3.5+ GPA are highly desirable, but this will vary based on your target and role. Some groups may have higher requirements, others none at all. GMAT may also be preferred over GRE. Generally, the more competitive the program/role, the higher the requirements.

FINANCE LEADERSHIP PROGRAMS

Some organizations have leadership development programs. These roles are very selective, but the intent is to create future finance leaders within the company. Programs will typically rotate candidates through various programs and assignments, while also giving unprecedented access to leadership. Requirements usually include excellent undergrad (yes, undergrad) GPA, GMAT, and technical interview performance.

M.A. Wright Fund

Rice Business is home to the M.A. Wright Fund, which is entirely student run. First-year students are invited to apply and interview for a position. During the selection process, candidates research and analyze a publicly-traded company and make a buy, hold or sell recommendation. Joining the fund is an excellent opportunity to gain hands-on experience to develop and apply effective stock analysis and portfolio management risk and return techniques. You will experience using extensive data sources and powerful analytical tools such as Bloomberg, FactSet and @Risk to conduct sophisticated risk and return analysis. The Wright Fund can show your interest in finance for future interviews and give you an opportunity to try your hand at analysis and put financial theory in practice. The fund is a two-semester commitment. Students perform intensive research and analysis of individual stocks, making transaction recommendations under the guidance of faculty member Jill Foote, CFA, Ph.D., Director of the Fund.

CDO Career Community Page: <https://cdo.business.rice.edu/channels/financial-services/>

Finance Association: <https://jones.campusgroups.com/finance/about/>

Finance Faculty: <https://business.rice.edu/faculty-research/research/finance>

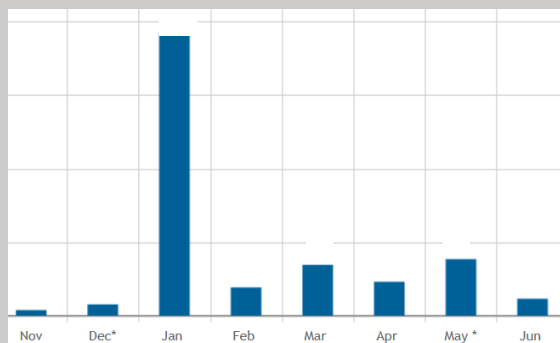
Rice Business Finance Center: <https://business.rice.edu/facility/rice-business-finance-center>

Forte Foundation Primer on Finance Roles: http://www.fortefoundation.org/site/PageServer?pagename=industries_finance

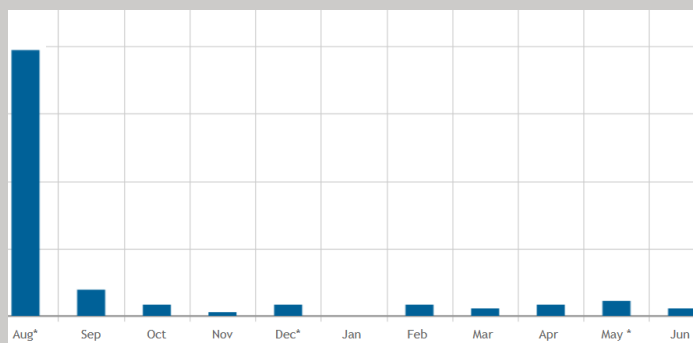
Do I Need a Finance Background?

Internships are not necessarily required, but those with finance experience are more competitive for full time roles. This is especially true if you are pivoting. Excel in finance and accounting courses, and volunteer to stretch those finance muscles on ad hoc projects if you do not have an internship or background in finance. Be sure your story of why you want to move into finance from a different background is strong and your skill sets align with their goals.

INTERNSHIP OFFER TIMELINE



FULL TIME OFFER TIMELINE



RECRUITING AS A SECOND YEAR

Didn't get your #1 opportunity?

Refocus on companies that will enhance your finance skill set. If there was a gap in your profile, use the summer to learn new skills, such as Python or FactSet, to give yourself an edge as you apply to full time roles.

Didn't do an internship?

Be sure to network and build relationships if you did not do an internship. They need to understand why this makes sense for you and understand your story. You also need to be able to communicate your finance related skills.