Finance, MS

Acquire the skills and expertise employers seek. With the degree, you'll be prepared for a range of career opportunities.

Program Description

Degree Awarded: MS Finance
In only nine months, students in the MS program in finance develop deep expertise in corporate finance and asset or portfolio management and are equipped with the tools needed to manage complex financial institutions. The program is one of the few advanced finance degrees offered by a top-ranked business school, providing a foundation in business and finance. Students have access to world-renowned faculty, motivated classmates and personalized career resources.

Faculty members bring cutting-edge research and decades of real-world experience into the classroom. Classes are offered full-time, during the week, utilizing a lock-step course format allowing students to build on concepts throughout the program. Upon completion of the program, students can graduate with a Chartered Financial Analyst® designation.

Curriculum, schedule and format, faculty and a top-ranked business school: It all adds up to a degree with real value. The W. P. Carey Master of Science in finance delivers the financial qualifications increasingly sought by employers within the corporate finance industry.

As a STEM-designated master's degree, the program allows eligible graduates on student visas access to an Optional Practical Training extension for up to 36 months, helping international students gain additional skills and experience in the U.S.

At a Glance

- College/School: W. P. Carey School of Business
- Location: Tempe campus
Concurrent Program Options

Students can choose to create their own concurrent degree combination to match their interests by working with their academic advisor during or after their first semester of study. Some concurrent combinations are not possible due to high levels of overlap in curriculum; students should speak with their academic advisor for more details.

This degree is also offered as a concurrent program with an integrated major map with the following:

W. P. Carey MBA - Full-Time Program  
Compare Programs

Degree Requirements

32 credit hours including the required capstone course (FIN 575)

Required Core (26-27 credit hours)
ACC 502 Financial Accounting (2.5 or 3)  
FIN 502 Managerial Finance (2.5 or 3)  
FIN 509 Quantitative Methods in Finance I (3)  
FIN 525 Investment Strategies (2.5)  
FIN 530 Derivatives (2.5)  
FIN 535 Quantitative Methods in Finance (3)  
FIN 545 Advanced Corporate Finance (2.5)  
FIN 550 Fixed Income (2.5)  
FIN 560 International Finance (2.5)  
FIN 565 Risk Management in Banks and Financial Institutions (2.5)

Other Requirement (2.5 credit hours)
FIN 555 Entrepreneurial Finance (2.5) or FIN 591 Topic: AI and Machine Learning Applications in Finance (2.5)

Electives (0-1 credit hours)

Culminating Experience (2.5 credit hours)
FIN 575 Finance Capstone (2.5)

Additional Curriculum Information
To account for the difference in the numbers of credit hours offered in the core courses, one credit hour of electives may be required.

For other requirements, substitutions may be allowed with approval of the academic unit.

The schedule follows the seven-week quarterly schedule of the MBA program.
Admission Requirements

Applicants must fulfill the requirements of both the Graduate College and the W. P. Carey School of Business.

Applicants are eligible to apply to the program if they have earned a bachelor's or masters degree from a regionally accredited institution in business and management, economics, statistics, computer science or other types of science, engineering, technology and mathematics degree areas.

Applicants must have a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.00 (scale is 4.00 = "A") in the last 60 credit hours or 90 quarter hours of their first bachelor's degree program, or applicants must have a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.00 (scale is 4.00 = "A") in an applicable master's degree program.

All applicants must submit:

1. graduate admission application and application fee
2. official transcripts
3. GMAT or GRE test scores
4. one letter of recommendation
5. short answer questions
6. current resume
7. proof of English language proficiency

Additional Application Information

An applicant whose native language is not English must provide proof of English proficiency regardless of current residency.

There are two main audiences for the master's degree program: first, recent undergraduates from business, economics or related majors or from programs where quantitative skills have been emphasized; and second, career advancers who have strong quantitative skills and seek to adapt those skills to be more competitive in the job market. Career advancers must be able to commit to a full-time plan of study; the program may not cater to working professionals as it is currently designed.

This program is appropriate for students who have completed undergraduate programs with quantitative underpinnings, at either ASU or other universities.

The letter of recommendation should comment on the student's motivation, commitment, achievements, work experience and opportunity for success in the program.

Complete application instructions may be obtained from the department's website.

Application Deadlines
Career Opportunities


The Master of Science program in finance includes the essential academic preparation for students who are interested in pursuing professional careers in corporate finance, risk management, money management, financial planning, investment banking, consulting or real estate.

Career examples include:

- budget analyst
- financial analyst
- financial manager
- investment specialist

Contact Information

WPC Graduate Programs | MCRD 350
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Admission Deadlines