WHAT CAN I DO WITH A MAJOR IN … FINANCE

OCCUPATIONAL OVERVIEW:
According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) (2013), “Financial managers are responsible for the financial health of an organization. They produce financial reports, direct investment activities, and develop strategies and plans for the long-term financial goals of their organization.” The BLS includes the following as some of the duties of a financial manager: preparing financial statements; monitoring their organization’s finances to ensure compliance with legal requirements and to find ways to reduce costs; and analyzing market trends and advising management on financial decisions. The BLS lists the following examples of types of financial managers: controllers, finance officers/treasurers, credit managers, cash managers, risk manager, and insurance managers.

EMPLOYMENT REQUIREMENT:
According to the BLS (2013), “a bachelor's degree in finance, accounting, economics, or business administration is often the minimum education needed for financial managers. However, many employers now seek candidates with a master's degree, preferably in business administration, finance, or economics. These academic programs help students develop analytical skills and learn financial analysis methods and software.” Consult O*Net for more information on the specific KSAs (Knowledge, Skill, Ability) that are required for this career.

THE UNIVERSITY OF NEW MEXICO:
The Anderson School of Management at the University of New Mexico offers both a Bachelor of Business Administration with a concentration in Accounting and a Masters of Accounting degree. For more information about these programs, please see the UNM Anderson School of Management website.

INDUSTRIES & TARGET EMPLOYERS:
A variety of employers specifically recruit UNM students and alumni. Consult UNM's Lobo Career Connection for a complete list of employers and current job postings. Speak with a Career Development Facilitator at the UNM Office of Career Services for help with identifying employers or additional resources for your occupation of choice.

SUGGESTED STRATEGIES:
• Gain professional experience in your area of interest through involvement in internships, student employment, Co-ops, and/or volunteer opportunities. Internship opportunities are listed on the Anderson Career Services website and are also sent out through the concentration list-servs.
• Shadow professionals in your field of interest to gain a better understanding of their occupation and to build relationships with professional mentors.
• Take advantage of the many networking opportunities sponsored by Anderson Career Services.
• Get involved on campus through student organizations and campus events. Find organizations and events at the Student Activities Center website.
• Attend career-related campus events such as career fairs, company information sessions, and or career workshops.
• Students who are interested in graduate school should maintain a high undergraduate GPA and develop relationships with faculty and community leaders.
• Speak with mentors and faculty about career opportunities.
• Additional information can be found on your department's website, list-servs, newsletters, and social media sites.
**STATE AND NATIONAL WAGES:**  
Adapted from [Career One Stop 2013](http://www.careerinfonet.org/occ_rep.asp?optstatus=011000000&soccode=113031&id=1&nodeid=2&stfips=35&search=Go)

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**INFORMATIONAL WEBSITES:**

- American Finance Association  
- Association of Finance Professionals  
- Commercial Finance Association  
[https://www.cfa.com/eweb/](https://www.cfa.com/eweb/)
- Financial Management Association  
[http://www.fma.org/](http://www.fma.org/)
- Insurance Information Institute  
[http://www.iii.org/](http://www.iii.org/)
- Financial Industry Regulatory Authority  
- Investment Management Consultants Association  
- International Academy of Financial Management  
- ALPFA  

- University of New Mexico, Anderson School of Management (2013). Retrieved from [http://jobs.mgt.unm.edu/](http://jobs.mgt.unm.edu/)