

# Undergraduate Programs in Finance





# A leader in online learning since 1998

To learn more about undergraduate programs in finance, visit: worldcampus.psu.edu/ugfinance

#### **Table of Contents**

Online Programs in Finance3-4	Why Penn State?
Undergraduate Certificate in Financial Planning5 Bachelor of Science in Finance6–7	Frequently Asked Questions
Extracurricular Opportunities Online8	



"Students enrolled in the finance program have the opportunity to explore all facets of finance, from investments to corporate finance, from portfolio management to financial planning. Faculty members bring academic training and industry experience to a theory-to-practice focus in the program, preparing finance majors for exciting jobs after graduation—and the opportunity to prepare for key financial designations."

 Dr. Greg Filbeck, CFA, FRM, CAIA, CIPM, PRM Samuel P. Black III Professor of Finance and Risk Management
 Director, Black School of Business
 Penn State Erie, the Behrend College

### Online Programs in Finance

Whether you are new to the field of finance or looking to advance as a professional in the field, Penn State's undergraduate finance programs delivered online through Penn State World Campus can provide you with a quality education to bolster your credentials. You have the flexibility to study around your schedule—when and where it is convenient for you—without sacrificing meaningful interactions with expert faculty and fellow students.

The required finance courses are taught by experienced Penn State faculty who hold professional designations such as CFP®, CFA®, CPA, or attorney, along with other professional licenses in insurance and securities. You are assured of receiving the most up-to-date instruction in the full range of financial planning topics, with the same rigorous and rewarding course work you would expect from in-residence programs.





#### Your Future in Finance

By successfully completing the Undergraduate Certificate in Financial Planning or the Bachelor of Science in Finance, you can satisfy the educational requirements of certificates needed for certain careers in this field. When you complete the certificate program, you can meet the requirements and be better prepared to sit for the Certified Financial Planner® (CFP) Exam. By acquiring the bachelor's degree, you will meet the education prerequisites to take both the CFP Exam and the Chartered Financial Analyst® (CFA) Exam.

#### Career Opportunities for Graduates

With an education in finance from Penn State World Campus, you can be prepared to work with diverse management groups, marketing professionals, accountants, and others who depend on finance professionals to achieve their economic goals. You may use your knowledge and skills to work in such careers as:

- Chartered Financial Analyst
- finance manager
- credit analyst
- risk analyst
- **underwriter**
- > securities analyst
- financial consultant

- > Certified Financial Planner
- portfolio manager
- financial examiner
- > treasurer
- > banking officer





# Undergraduate Certificate in Financial Planning

The Undergraduate Certificate in Financial Planning is offered online through Penn State World Campus in an 18-credit program with six required courses. It is presented in a time frame having fixed start and end dates. If you want to pursue additional education in the future, you may be able to apply credits you earn in this program toward a bachelor's degree.

Successful completion of the online certificate satisfies all the education requirements for CFP certification, and can prepare you to take the CFP Certification Examination.

The education and examination components are two of the core prerequisites to obtain full CFP certification.

#### Curriculum

#### Courses in this program include:

#### Personal Financial Planning:

Developing financial plans including cash budgets, credit purchases, investments, and insurance.

#### Investment and Portfolio Analysis:

Investment and risk, types of security investments, sources of investment information, the broker, the stock market, portfolio management.

#### Retirement Planning:

Qualified and nonqualified plans, characteristics, provisions, regulations administration, application approach with case studies.

#### worldcampus.psu.edu/finplan

### Bachelor of Science in Finance

The Bachelor of Science in Finance is a 120-credit online program designed to provide you with a solid foundation in the principles of finance and its major areas: financial management, investment and portfolio management, financial institutions, and financial planning.

This is one of only a few undergraduate finance degree programs delivered fully online and accredited by the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business (AACSB).

The elite AACSB accreditation, awarded to less than 5 percent of business schools worldwide, is the highest recognition that a business school can receive. This seal of excellence signifies to recruiters that you've received a superior education from a program that has met the industry's most stringent educational standards.

worldcampus.psu.edu/bsfinance





#### Curriculum

Our curriculum presents the principles of finance while exposing you to a diverse portfolio of courses. Students of this program will graduate from one of only three Pennsylvania colleges accepted into the Chartered Financial Analyst (CFA®) Institute University Recognition Program. This status is granted to degree programs that incorporate at least 70 percent of the CFA® Program Candidate Body of Knowledge (CBOK), offering you excellent preparation for the CFA exams.

#### Courses in this program include:

# Financial and Managerial Accounting for Decision-Making

Introduction to the role of accounting numbers in the process of managing a business and in investor decisionmaking.

#### **Financial Statement Analysis**

The exploration of conventional and advanced methods of analyzing financial statements, including the assessment of earnings quality.

#### **Corporation Finance**

Nature of finance function; risk and return concepts; working capital; dividend policies; mergers; security markets; forecasting capital requirements; raising capital; and planning profits.



# Extracurricular Opportunities Online

An education through Penn State World Campus encourages you to explore your talents beyond the classroom. While progressing through your bachelor's degree program, you will have the opportunity to participate in extracurricular activities traditionally offered only to resident students. By taking part in these offerings, you can further enhance your knowledge and demonstrate to employers that you are motivated to acquire experience in the finance field while pursuing your education.

#### **Extracurriculars include:**

- > Intrieri Family Student Managed Fund
- Investment Research Challenge Team
- > Financial Management Association
- > Financial Planning Club
- > Finance Speaker Series
- > Spring Student Trip

To learn more about these opportunities, visit:

worldcampus.psu.edu/finopp



### Why Penn State?

#### Proven Leadership in Online Education

#### Online Delivery Experience— Penn State World Campus

In 1892, Penn State founded one of the nation's first correspondence courses. Over the years, our distance education options have evolved to include technology-enhanced learning, culminating in the foundation of Penn State World Campus in 1998. As a pioneer in distance learning, we understand the needs of off-campus students.

#### Our courses are:

- designed around best practices in online delivery
- > taught by faculty with experience teaching in an online environment
- created using technology to support successful learning outcomes, not just convenience

#### **A Fully Supported Education**

When you think of online education, you may feel like you are on your own, but that cannot be further from the truth. Our team of career academic advisers and help-desk support is vested in your success. Through Penn State World Campus, you will have access to student support services just like our students do on campus.

#### Our student services include:

- > new student orientation
- academic advising and career counseling resources
- a nationally recognized research library
- > technical help desk
- > tutorials

#### An Exceptional Student/Alumni Body

Whether you take our courses online or in a traditional classroom, as a "Penn Stater" you:

- become part of an institution with more than 150 years of excellence in teaching, research, and service
- join a global community of exceptional adult learners from all 50 states, more than 60 countries, and every continent
- become part of a proud worldwide network of nearly 700,000 alumni and, upon your graduation, you can choose to join the largest alumni association in the world, with more than 174,000 members

## Frequently Asked Questions

#### How much is tuition?

Tuition is based on cost-per-credit, which may vary based on your program of study. Tuition rates are assessed every semester of enrollment. As a student, you may incur additional charges, such as credit-by-examination, exam proctor, and transcript fees, during your course of study. Please visit our website for the most up-to-date tuition rate.

# Does Penn State World Campus offer financial aid?

World Campus makes many options available to help you pay for your education. Full- and part-time degree-seeking students are eligible for federal student aid. We also have different options to help you, such as deferred payment plans, third-party payments for employed professionals, and military payment options.

# What does the online classroom look like?

Our philosophy for designing online courses: Use the latest technology

to best deliver the content in the most flexible way while keeping the technology transparent to you.

We use one centralized platform where you can log into your classroom. There you can get assignments, interact with faculty and peers, reply to message boards, and do more.

# How long will it take me to finish my program?

This answer varies for each student. There are many factors (e.g., transfer credits, course load per semester) that influence how long it will take. Depending on the program, some students are able to complete 12 credits every year—others more than 20 credits. You will work closely with an adviser to determine the best course of action for you to complete the program.

To obtain additional information, visit worldcampus.psu.edu

## **Begin Your Application Today**

#### How to Begin

 For the Undergraduate Certificate in Financial Planning, visit: worldcampus.psu.edu/finplan.

For the Bachelor of Science in Finance, visit:

worldcampus.psu.edu/bsfinance.

2. Click the "Apply Now" button to access your application.

# General Admission Requirements

To apply to either program, you need to be a high school graduate or have obtained a GED.

#### **Deadlines**

Please visit your program's "How to Apply" page for application deadlines.

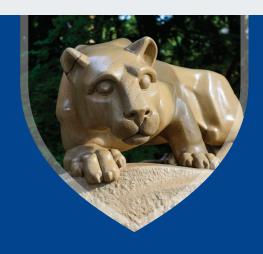
# Necessary Documentation for Application Portfolio

- Official high school transcripts or GED transcript
- Official military transcripts (if applicable) and/or official college or university transcripts, if you attended another institution
- > TOEFL or IELTS score (if applicable)

Please visit our website for a more detailed description of the requirements and application procedure: **worldcampus.psu.edu/admissions** 

### Did You Know?

- Penn State credits and degrees earned online are identical to those earned on campus, but provide the flexibility to complete course work at times and places convenient for you.
- Penn State World Campus is consistently ranked in the top 10 by *U.S. News & World Report* for having the best online bachelor s programs.



### For More Information

#### Contact Us

pennstateonline@psu.edu worldcampus.psu.edu 800 252 3592 (toll free within the United States) 814 863 5403 (local and international) 814 865 3290 Fax

#### **Admission Services Hours**

814 863 5386

8:00 a.m. 8:00 p.m. ET, Monday Thursday 8:00 a.m. 5:00 p.m. ET, Friday Closed, Saturday and Sunday

#### **Penn State World Campus**

The Pennsylvania State University 128 Outreach Building University Park, PA 16802

