Master of Finance
“Whether you are currently employed in the industry or looking to change careers, the Master of Finance program provides you with in-depth knowledge, hands-on modeling, and quantitative skills to help you become a leader in the complex and sophisticated field of finance. We structure the rigorous online courses to build on your foundational knowledge and skill sets, and enable you to interact with outstanding faculty and first-rate peers in a rich learning environment.”

—Dr. Karen Duhala
Professor in Charge, Master of Finance Program

“We’re very pleased to offer our successful Master of Finance program in an online format through Penn State World Campus. This program provides working professionals the flexibility they need to be successful while balancing busy lives. The faculty and staff look forward to working with you and helping you to explore this highly relevant program.”

—Dr. James Nemes
Chancellor and Chief Academic Officer
Penn State’s Master of Finance

This degree is designed for those interested in careers as well-rounded financial professionals in financial management or investment management. The curriculum offers a balance of practical business application and advanced financial theory so that you are able to apply what you’re learning to your current role, and gain the theoretical knowledge you need to address future challenges in the financial marketplace.

The 30-credit online program uses a cohort model in which all students in a cohort progress through the courses together. This model facilitates collaborative teamwork so that you can build relationships and network with other high-caliber professionals in the program. It also allows the program’s content to be integrated across courses so that you can address the same financial scenarios from multiple perspectives.

The first six courses in the program are designed to provide you with a common body of knowledge in finance, with topics centered on:

- financial accounting theory
- quantitative methods
- corporate financial modeling
- financial and speculative markets
- multinational finance

Also, a one-week, on-campus residency enables you to build financial scenarios and analyze the effects through sophisticated simulations.

The next three courses are designed to give you additional expertise in corporate finance and investments.

A 3-credit capstone course provides a culminating experience for you to synthesize your analytical abilities to identify strategies that enhance value creation.

Applicants who have not completed sufficient recent course work in business statistics, financial management/corporate finance, and microeconomics (as determined by a transcript review) will be expected to enroll in online self-paced, noncredit, minicourses prior to the start of the program. These courses are relatively inexpensive and can be completed in a few weeks. The objective is to establish a knowledge baseline and to prepare you for the advanced finance course work, which will better position you for success in the program. For more information on preprogram course work, email mgmtonline@psu.edu.

worldcampus.psu.edu/mfin
Why Penn State?

Proven Leadership in Quality Online Delivery

➤ **Flexibility and Convenience**

Penn State knows that as an adult student, you need flexible and convenient learning options. The online learning format offered by Penn State World Campus makes it possible to fit a graduate education into your life. Though courses have fixed start and end dates with assignment deadlines, you can decide when to do your course work to meet those deadlines.

➤ **Faculty Expertise**

All of the courses in the online program are designed and taught by Penn State professors who teach in the resident program at Penn State Great Valley School of Graduate Professional Studies. The program’s faculty are known for their exceptional credentials, research, and industry experience, which help them understand your academic needs and career interests.

➤ **Reputation**

Having a Penn State degree on your résumé is a great way to broaden your career options and prove to current and potential employers that you are a well-educated professional. No distinction will be made on your official Penn State transcript or diploma that your courses were completed online.

➤ **Learner and Technical Support**

You will interact frequently with faculty and other students. Without having to set foot on campus, you will have access to many of the same support services that resident students enjoy, including advising, course scheduling assistance, and technical support.

➤ **Accreditation**

Penn State is accredited by the Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools and has an outstanding reputation as a research and teaching university. The Master of Finance degree is also AACSB–accredited—the highest standard of achievement for business schools, worldwide.
The online Master of Finance program is composed of 30 credits (10 courses) delivered across six semesters. Each course is offered in a seven-week term, with two courses in the fall and spring semester, and one course in the summer I term. (There are no classes scheduled during the summer II term.)

**Term 1:** **BUSAD 525**—Quantitative Methods in Finance (3 credits)

**Term 2:** **FIN 508**—Analysis of Financial Markets (3 credits)

**Term 3:** **ACCTG 512**—Financial Accounting Theory and Reporting Problems (3 credits)

**Term 4:** **BUSAD 526**—Current Issues in Corporate Finance (3 credits) (includes on-campus residency)

**Term 5:** **FIN 505**—Multinational Managerial Finance (3 credits)

**Term 6:** **FIN 513**—Speculative Markets (3 credits)

**Term 7:** **FIN 532**—Financial Decision Processes (3 credits)

**Term 8:** **FIN 506**—Portfolio Theory and Policy (3 credits)

**Term 9:** **BUSAD 528**—Mergers and Acquisitions (3 credits)

**Term 10:** **BUSAD 585**—Research in Security Valuation, Capstone Course (3 credits)

Many students find that a substantial number of courses in the Master of Finance program are helpful in preparing for examinations required for various professional certifications, such as the Chartered Financial Analyst® (CFA®) certification.
On-Campus Residency Experience

**Hands-On Financial Modeling**

One of the most unique and enriching aspects of Penn State’s online Master of Finance program is the on-campus residency. The financial modeling skills you learn in the residency are an integral part of subsequent courses, and you will benefit greatly from performing these simulations in a live-group format. In this interactive five-day residency, you will:

- work directly with faculty to build financial models and perform financial forecasts
- use a specialized software tool to simulate complex financial scenarios
- analyze a range of financial risk outcomes and the probabilities that they will occur, depending on your assumptions and choice of action

The residency occurs at Penn State’s Great Valley campus near Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, in the middle of the fourth course. This hands-on experience includes course work for BUSAD 526, using both simulated exercises and real-world company financial data.

**Networking Opportunities**

The residency experience allows you to meet face-to-face with your peers for the first time after completing the first three courses together in a virtual environment. The interactions and group assignments during the residency enable you to network with your classmates so you can learn from each other’s professional experiences and areas of expertise.
Admissions decisions for the Master of Finance program are based on the quality of your complete application portfolio.

**Your master’s degree application portfolio must include:**

- completed graduate school application
- official transcripts from each institution attended
- official GMAT or GRE score
- résumé
- one-page statement of intent
- two professional or academic references
- TOEFL or IELTS score, if applicable

To apply or for more information about these application materials and deadlines, visit: [worldcampus.psu.edu/mfin](http://worldcampus.psu.edu/mfin)

**Did You Know?**

- Employment in finance-related occupations is expected to increase through 2024.*
- Penn State World Campus has enrolled students from all 50 states and all 7 continents.


- 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.
For More Information

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

Student Services Hours
(inquiries and registration)
8:00 a.m.–9:30 p.m. ET Monday–Thursday
8:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m. ET Friday
Closed Saturday and Sunday

Admissions Counseling Hours
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

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