



Financial Analysts

Occupational Profile

WHAT THEY DO

Conducts quantitative analyses of information affecting investment programs of public or private institutions. Belongs to the Finance cluster and Accounting pathway.

IS THIS FOR YOU?

Work Interests are described in the following categories (compatible with Holland's Model) by people who tend to succeed in this career:

- **Conventional** – You are an "organizer". Keeping things neat and organized is important to you. You like working with charts and reports, and work well with power and authority.
- **Investigative**—You are a "thinker". When you have a problem, you like to analyze it and look at different ways to solve it. You like to work by yourself, and you don't like explaining your ideas to other people.
- **Enterprising** – You are a "persuader". You like to sell things or ideas. Prestige and power are important to you. You like to use your language skills to convince other people of your ideas.

Work Values are aspects of work that are satisfying to you. The following work values are generally associated with this career.

- **Achievement** – It's very important to you that your work allows you to use your best abilities. You want to see the results of your work and get a feeling of accomplishment.
- **Independence** – It's very important to you that your work allows you to make decisions on your own. You want to try out your own ideas and work with little supervision.

Aptitudes reflect a person's ability to acquire skills and knowledge. The following aptitudes are important for success in the career:

- **General Learning Ability**
- **Verbal Aptitude**
- **Numerical Aptitude**
- **Clerical Perception**

SKILLS YOU NEED

Basic Skills:

- Reading Comprehension
- Active Listening
- Writing
- Speaking
- Mathematics
- Critical Thinking
- Active Learning
- Learning Strategies
- Monitoring

Transferable Skills (applicable in other careers): High level

- Examining and evaluating financial records
- Giving advice on financial matters
- Planning and administering budgets
- Preparing and organizing numerical records
- Preparing financial reports
- Processing data on computers

Workplace Skills:

High level

- Judgment and Decision Making
- Management of Financial Reports
- Time Management

Medium level

- Complex Problem Solving
- Coordination
- Management of Personnel Resources
- Operations Analysis
- Persuasion
- Service Orientation
- Social Perceptiveness
- Systems Analysis
- Systems Evaluation

Additional skills for this occupation may be found at <http://www.iowaworkforcedevelopment.gov/career-exploration-resources>

ESTIMATED & PROJECTED EMPLOYMENT

Occupational Title	2012 Estimated Employment	2022 Projected Employment	2012-22 Employment Change	Annual Growth Rate (%)	Total Annual Openings
Total, All Occupations	1,758,205	1,955,480	197,275	1.1	61,665
Business & Financial Operations Occupations	76,000	87,095	11,095	1.5	2,625
Financial Analysts	1,935	2,275	340	1.8	80

Source: <http://www.iowaworkforcedevelopment.gov/occupational-projections-0>

2015 WAGE & SALARY (\$)

Occupational Title	Average Wage	Average Salary	Entry Wage	Entry Salary	Experienced Wage	Experienced Salary
Total, All Occupations	19.77	41,122	9.55	19,858	24.88	51,755
Business & Financial Operations Occupations	29.32	60,979	17.62	36,642	35.17	73,147
Financial Analysts	36.85	76,648	23.13	48,117	43.71	90,914

Source: <http://www.iowaworkforcedevelopment.gov/occupational-projections-0>

EDUCATION & TRAINING

Education
Bachelor's Degree

Work Experience
None

Job Training
None

Many positions require a bachelor's degree in a related field, such as accounting, business administration, economics, finance, or statistics. Employers often require a master's in business administration (MBA) or a master's degree in finance. Knowledge of options pricing, bond valuation, and risk management are important. The Financial Industry Regulatory Authority (FINRA) is the main licensing organization for the securities industry. It requires licenses for many financial analyst positions. Most of the licenses require sponsorship by an employer, so companies do not expect individuals to have these licenses before starting a job. Certification is often recommended by employers and can improve the chances for advancement. An example is the Chartered Financial Analyst certification from the CFA Institute, which financial analysts can get if they have a bachelor's degree, 4 years of experience, and pass three exams. Financial analysts can also become certified in their field of specialty. Source:

<http://www.iowaworkforcedevelopment.gov/occupational-projections-0> and <https://secure.ihaveaplaniowa.gov/>

NATIONAL CAREER READINESS CERTIFICATE (NCRC)

Skill	Median Skill Level
Applied Mathematics	n.a.
Locating Information	n.a.
Reading for Information	n.a.



This ACT-developed credential demonstrates achievement and a certain level of workplace employability skills. The greater the score, the greater the skill level (Bronze = 3, Silver = 4, Gold = 5, Platinum = 6).

Source: <http://www.act.org/workkeys/analysis/occup.html>

ADDITIONAL SOURCES:

This workforce product was funded by a grant by the U.S. Department of Labor's Employment and Training Administration. The product was created by the recipient and does not necessarily reflect the official position of the U.S. Department of Labor. The Department of Labor makes no guarantees, warranties, or assurances of any kind, express or implied, with respect to such information, including, but not limited to, accuracy of the information or its completeness, timeliness, usefulness, adequacy, continued availability, or ownership. This product is copyrighted by the institution that created it. Internal use by an organization and/or personal use by an individual for non-commercial purposes is permissible. All other uses require the prior authorization of the copyright owner. This publication was produced by the Labor Market and Workforce Information Division of Iowa Workforce Development. Revisions and/or corrections made when necessary. Inquiries may be directed to Brent Paulson at 515.281.3439 or Brent.Paulson@iwd.iowa.gov. Visit www.iowalmi.gov to obtain the latest workforce data and trends including this document. Published 12/2015.

PRIMARY INDUSTRY SECTORS

(Where are Financial Analysts Employed?)

Insurance Carriers
Credit Intermediation
Securities, Commodity Contracts, Other Financial
Self Employed
Management Of Companies
Computer & Electronic Product Mfg
Professional, Scientific, & Technical
Educational Services

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