

# FINANCE



Excellence in Action

## COLLEGE OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

Kent State University's College of Business Administration offers a baccalaureate program called the Bachelor of Business Administration (B.B.A.) degree. Students wanting to expand their knowledge even further can pursue graduate business programs at Kent State leading to the Master of Business Administration (MBA), the Master of Arts in economics, the Master of Science in accounting, the Master of Science in financial engineering or the Ph.D. in business administration.

## ACCREDITATION

Kent State's College of Business Administration is accredited by AACSB International — the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business. Kent State's College of Business Administration is one of only 5 percent of business schools in the world to be accredited by AACSB. Less than one-third of the business schools in the nation meet this organization's rigorous accreditation standards.

Accreditation is important to students because it suggests certain standards of excellence are met. These standards include the credentials of faculty who teach business courses, the resources that are made available to business students (such as computers, software, study areas within the university's buildings, library holdings, etc.), the types of courses that students take for the B.B.A. degree and the finance major and admission requirements to the College of Business Administration.

## THE B.B.A. DEGREE PROGRAM

All qualified students (based on Kent State admission requirements) are admitted directly to a business major (i.e., accounting, business management, computer information systems, economics, entrepreneurship, finance, managerial marketing and marketing). Students who are undecided about a business major should choose "Business-undeclared." During the freshman year, students are introduced to the world of business with a course called Exploring Business. They are also encouraged to take the Introduction to Entrepreneurship course even if they don't want to start their own business. Thinking like an entrepreneur, whether one has his/her own business or not, is important to the success of any organization.

During the freshman and sophomore years, all business majors take an introductory course in each of the basic areas of business (accounting principles, micro and macroeconomics, computer applications, business management, legal and regulatory environment to business, marketing and statistics) along with the Kent Core (humanities, fine arts, social sciences, basic sciences). In the junior and senior years, students take additional core business courses (finance, operations management and business policies) and focus on their major. Internships, business experiences and education abroad are all encouraged.

## ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS FOR THE ADVANCED BUSINESS PROGRAM PROGRESSION REQUIREMENTS

After completing 46 or more credit hours, students must have earned a minimum 2.5 cumulative GPA in addition to earning a minimum C in the Business Finance course and a minimum C in English, communications and mathematics in order to progress in the finance major.

## CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

**Banks, savings institutions, credit unions and finance companies make up a very large group of employers of finance graduates. They offer many career possibilities, including positions in bank management, loan analysis and management and marketing financial products and business services. Insurance, risk management and financial services are also growing areas of career opportunity. Below is a partial list of the many opportunities available in the finance field.**

- **A career in financial management involves forecasting, budgeting, planning and controlling the financial operations of a business.**
- **Financial analysts study and evaluate the financial performance of business for the benefit of managers and investors.**
- **In investment, securities brokers assist investors who buy and sell stocks, bonds, mutual funds and sophisticated investments such as options, futures contracts and derivative securities.**
- **Portfolio managers supervise the investments of major institutions such as nonprofit foundations, pension funds, mutual funds and insurance companies.**
- **Investment bankers help companies raise funds from individual and institutional investors by helping them to sell new issues of stocks and bonds in the financial markets.**
- **Insurance agents market life, property and casualty insurance.**
- **Risk managers help businesses evaluate the need for various kinds of insurance coverage, as well as finding ways for companies to manage and reduce exposure to a wide variety of physical, personal and financial risks.**
- **Personal financial advisors help individuals and families evaluate their financial situation and plan their insurance, investment and retirement programs.**

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## RELATED EXTRACURRICULAR OPPORTUNITIES

Internships are available in finance for top students. It is possible to receive academic credit for an internship as long as the work experience is consistent with what is done in entry-level positions by college graduates. To build connections and to develop organizational and leadership skills, students are encouraged to join the Financial Management Association (FMA). FMA is a professional student organization which promotes extracurricular activities in the field of finance. Students have the chance to interact with faculty and finance practitioners in informal settings. Another student organization that presents considerable appeal to any business major is Delta Sigma Pi; the professional business fraternity is open to all students. In addition, there are more than 100 student organizations offering opportunities to develop finance and general business skills. Finance majors are also active in the Kent Student Credit Union. They are directly involved in loan decisions, portfolio analysis and determinations of costs of capital.

## RELATED ACADEMIC OPPORTUNITIES

Employers and educators recognize the importance of building a strong liberal arts background for business students. Students are encouraged to consider minors offered by Kent State's other colleges and schools. For example, a student may become the financial manager of a police department. A major in finance and a minor in justice studies are very helpful in achieving this goal. Another example is a finance major with a minor in theatre. This combination will prepare a student for a financial manager's position with a theatre company.

The College of Business Administration encourages finance majors to consider a minor in:

- Accounting
- Computer Information Systems
- Economics
- Entrepreneurship
- Healthcare Systems Management
- Human Resource Management
- International Business

- Management
- Marketing

## LEARNING COMMUNITIES

### ACCELERATED BACHELOR OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION (A-BBA)

The Accelerated Bachelor of Business Administration learning community will allow completion of the business bachelor's degree in three years or less, depending on the amount and nature of post-secondary work. Students take classes together while living in the same residence hall. They make immediate connections with their peers, faculty, administration and business professionals and have quick, easy access to advisors.

### ACCOUNTING FRESHMEN INTEREST GROUP (AFIG)

The Accounting Freshmen Interest Group connects incoming freshman accounting majors through shared coursework, tours and specialized activities linking them to Kent State and business communities. Students can choose to live in the residence halls or commute to campus.

### A COMMUNITY OF ENTREPRENEURS (ACE)

A Community of Entrepreneurs offers students an opportunity to connect and work with others who share their enthusiasm for entrepreneurship while living together or commuting. Students have access to resources that can help them create their own business and expand their network.

### COLLEGE OF BUSINESS COLLEAGUES (CBC)

The College of Business Colleagues program strives to encourage professional development and career exploration by offering special programs, seminars, lectures and company tours that provide opportunities for interaction with faculty, professional staff, alumni and business partners. Students can choose to live together or commute to campus.

### THE INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS (IBUS)

The International Business community is open to first-year residence hall and commuter students, in any major at Kent State, who are interested in an opportunity to live among students from different cultures and learn about international business and education-abroad opportunities. The program will include domestic and international students. Students will take several of their courses

together; participate in social events and business programming opportunities, such as speakers and tours; and have opportunities to go on cultural field trips.

## SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

The College of Business Administration offers scholarships to help its students fund their education. To be considered for the junior- and senior-level scholarships, students need to apply the semester prior to their junior or senior year.

To request freshman business scholarship applications, call 330-672-2872.

Other freshman scholarship opportunities are available through the Honors College at 330-672-2312 and the Student Financial Aid Office at 330-672-2972.

### Finance

College of Business Administration  
330-672-2872  
[www.kent.edu/business/undergrad](http://www.kent.edu/business/undergrad)

### Admissions Office

Kent State University  
P.O. Box 5190  
Kent, OH 44242-0001  
330-672-2444  
1-800-988-KENT  
[www.kent.edu/admissions](http://www.kent.edu/admissions)

For information on all of Kent State's degrees and majors, go online to [www.kent.edu/gps](http://www.kent.edu/gps).