

# MASTER OF SCIENCE IN FINANCE

The master of science in finance (MSF) program builds on a bachelor or master of business administration degree or a degree in another quantitative discipline. It emphasizes both financial theory and quantitative methods in financial management.

Students engage in applied research and modeling, using large professional databases and computer software packages. They explore the international and regulatory dimensions of finance while focusing on risk management, financial engineering, banking, corporate finance and portfolio analysis and management.

Students pursuing an MSF degree may choose between the intensive program and the regular program. Under the intensive program, students take four classes per semester to complete the degree in 12 months, including a summer session. The regular program, which is highly recommended, paces classes over a period of 24 months, including two summer sessions.

There are no majors in this degree program. However, students with strong backgrounds in particular subject areas may petition to waive a required course and replace it with an elective approved by the program director.

Visit the program website (<http://business.gwu.edu/programs/specialized-masters/m-s-in-finance/>) for additional program information.

## ADMISSIONS

**Admission deadline\*:** Applications are reviewed on a rolling basis. Candidates seeking financial assistance and international students requiring visas are encouraged to apply early. Only completed applications, with all required materials, will be considered for admission.

International Students Application Deadlines (for students currently outside the U.S.)

Spring: November 1st

Fall: June 1st

International Transfer Student Application Deadlines (for students currently living in the U.S. who do not require a student visa)

Spring: December 1st

Fall: July 1st

**Standardized test scores:** Either the Graduate Admissions Management Test (GMAT - institution code QK4-4F-64) or the Graduate Records Exam (GRE - institution code 5246) are optional and may be waived based on work experience

**Recommendations:** Two (2) recommendations required:

**Prior academic records:** Transcripts are required from all colleges and universities attended, whether or not credit was earned, the program was completed, or the credit appears as transfer credit on another transcript. Unofficial transcripts from all colleges and universities attended should be uploaded to your online application. Official transcripts are required only of applicants who are offered admission.

International applicants should upload only the English-language version of their transcripts.

**Statement of purpose:** In an essay limited to 500 words, discuss your long-term and short-term professional objectives and how your past experiences have contributed to and defined these objectives. Include in your statement why you want to pursue a graduate business degree at this point in time. You may also include your related qualifications, including collegiate, professional, and community activities, and any other substantial accomplishments not already mentioned in the application. You may explain any academic inconsistencies as part of your statement or as an addendum.

**Additional requirements:** A current resumé is required

**Prerequisite:** A Bachelor's degree from an accredited university with credit hours in:

- Advanced Mathematics (6 credits; 3 credits must be in Calculus)

- Microeconomics (3 credits)

- Macroeconomics (3 credits)

- Financial Accounting (3 credits)

- Managerial Finance (3 credits)

- Statistics (3 credits)

Additional coursework, degrees, and/or work experience in these five areas are considered favorably in the selection process.

**International applicants only:** Please follow this link - <https://graduate.admissions.gwu.edu/international-student-application-requirements> (<https://graduate.admissions.gwu.edu/international-student-application-requirements/>) - to review the International Applicant Information carefully for details on required documents, earlier deadlines for applicants requiring an I-20 or DS-2019 from GW.

\* Prospective candidates for fellowships/assistantships must submit a completed application packet (including test scores) by January 15. Later applications will be considered if funds are still available.

**Supporting documents not submitted online should be mailed to:**

The GW School of Business

Attn: Graduate Admissions  
2201 G Street, NW, Suite 550  
Washington, DC 20052

**Contact for questions:**

gwmsf@gwu.edu ~ 202-994-8880 (phone)  
9:00 am - 5:00 pm, Monday through Friday

## REQUIREMENTS

Code	Title	Credits
<b>Required:</b>		
FINA 6271	Financial Modeling and Econometrics	
FINA 6272	Global Financial Markets	
FINA 6273	Cases in Financial Management and Investment Banking	
FINA 6274	Corporate Financial Management and Modeling	
FINA 6275	Investment Analysis and Global Portfolio Management	
FINA 6276	Financial Engineering and Derivative Securities	
FINA 6277	Comparative Financial Market Regulation and Development	
FINA 6278	Financial Theory and Research	
FINA 6279	Real Estate Finance and Fixed-Income Security Valuation	
FINA 6280	Financial Institution Management and Modeling	
FINA 6281	Cases in Financial Modeling and Engineering	
FINA 6282	Advanced Financial Econometrics and Modeling	

## COMBINED PROGRAMS

### Combined programs

- Dual Master of Business Administration and Master of Science in Finance (<http://bulletin.gwu.edu/business/dual-mba-and-finance-ms/>)
- Dual Bachelor of Science with a major in finance and Master of Science in Finance (<http://bulletin.gwu.edu/business/dual-bs-ms-finance/>)