If you have an interest in understanding how financial markets work, and how experts do analysis to make investment decisions, you ought to check out the Financial Markets Finance major.

This intensive academic and experiential major prepares students for careers in the financial services industry. Classroom instruction is combined with independent laboratory activities, including the management of the "Bulldog" Investment Fund.

**Why UMD**

- Students gain exclusive, 24/7 access to the Wells Fargo Financial Markets Lab, a state-of-the-art lab designed to replicate a real-world investment setting, where they make strategic investment decisions to manage a portfolio of more than $1 million.
- A non-traditional learning environment offers students the opportunity to apply fundamental, technical, and quantitative analysis techniques.
- The program encourages the development of a student’s own approach towards analyzing investment options within the financial markets.

**Acquired Skills**

- Develop skills in investment analysis and be able to evaluate the appropriateness of investments in a broad range of portfolio applications.
- Design strategies for managing investments, while being mindful of the importance of making sound and ethical financial decisions.
- Apply best practices to create, evaluate, and rebalance investment portfolios to achieve desired outcomes.

**Career Possibilities**

The Financial Markets Finance major prepares students for a variety of careers within the broad fields of portfolio management and the management of financial institutions. Skills gained in the major can be directly applied in positions such as Securities Trader/Analyst, Bonds/Common Stocks/Private Placements, Investment Banker, and Asset/Money/Portfolio Management.

**Scholarships**

Students with a major in LSBE are eligible to apply for more than 120 scholarships, with the total scholarship amount in excess of $200,000 annually.

**Student Clubs**

The Investment Club is committed to furthering students' interest in investments and finance. The club brings professional and academic speakers to campus, takes part in a virtual stock exchange contest, and work towards making professional connections in the business world.

**Faculty Highlights**

The Financial Markets program is managed by Professor
Joe Artim. As the director of the program, he teaches finance courses, coordinates the J-term practicum, and assists students in networking activities. He works closely with the Program's Investment Oversight Committee to help students manage the Bulldog Fund. Artim spent more than a dozen years working in industry in the United States and abroad as a trader and portfolio manager.

**Requirements**

Freshmen and transfer students are typically admitted as pre-business students for all BBA majors. Admission to candidacy status, which allows access to upper division LSBE classes, typically occurs at the junior level when students have successfully completed all pre-major (pre-candidacy) course requirements and met all of the GPA standards.

Students apply for admission to the Financial Markets major during the spring semester of their junior year. Admission is based on an interview and review of previous academic record. Applicants are reviewed and selected according to their skills, academic qualifications, and "fit" with the program in terms of career goals and interests.

**Graduate Report**

Recent UMD Graduates Job Placement Data & Employers

Here's a sampling of positions Financial Markets Finance B.B.A. grads have attained six months to one year after graduation.

- Equity Researcher - Bank of America Merrill Lynch, London, United Kingdom
- Analytics Representative - Bloomberg, New York, NY
- Investment Trading Specialist - Carlson Capital Management, Northfield, MN
- High Yield Associate Research Analyst - Columbia Threadneedle Investments, Minneapolis, MN
- Financial Analyst - U.S. Bank, Richfield, MN
- Wealth Advisor Client Associate - Wells Fargo, Seattle, WA
- Loan Administrator - Wilmington Trust, Minneapolis, MN

For more data see the [Financial Markets Finance B.B.A.](http://d.umn.edu/career-internship-services/choosing-major/what-are-recent-grads-doing/graduate-follow-major/financial-markets-finance).