Discover USF's MS in Financial Analytics

UNIVERSITY of
SOUTH FLORIDA
Muma College of Business

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About the Program

The Master of Science in Financial Analytics, housed in the Kate Tiedemann School of Business and Finance, equips aspiring finance leaders with practical skills to thrive in a rapidly evolving industry. This STEM-designated degree covers essential financial concepts crucial for innovative decision-making. Graduates are prepared for careers in investment analysis, portfolio management, banking, corporate finance, financial services, risk management, and Fintech. Ideal for those aiming for senior roles, the curriculum also provides the foundation necessary to successfully obtain professional certifications such as the CFA, CFP®, CTP and ChFC®.

"I chose to pursue my MS in Finance from USF to further develop my knowledge and skillset and to advance in my professional career in the financial industry,"

– Scott Casimiri '16 MS, director of fixed income compliance at Raymond James.

MS in Financial Analytics Concentrations

Financial Analysis Concentration

This concentration prepares students for a professional career in financial analysis or asset management. Potential jobs include investment analyst, security analyst, credit analyst, and portfolio manager.

Financial Planning and Wealth Management Concentration

This concentration prepares students for a career in financial planning, wealth management, and financial advising. Potential careers include financial planner, private wealth manager, and financial advisor.

Fintech Concentration

Fintech Concentration prepares students for a career in financial technologies. Targeted career examples include blockchain expert, cybersecurity analyst, and risk control manager.

Finance Research Concentration

Finance Research Concentration prepares students for a career in financial research. Career examples include academic research, quantitative analyst, and big data analyst.

Curriculum Requirements

All full-time students can finish in three semesters, and part-time students are required to take at least two courses per semester to complete the coursework in five years.

A student who does not have an undergraduate degree in business must complete the following business foundation courses with a grade of B or higher prior to enrolling in any core or elective course.

Business Foundation
(0-6 Credit Hours)

FIN 6406 - Financial Management
FIN 6505 - Investment Concepts
QMB 6305 - Managerial Decision Analysis

These courses can be waived, with the permission of the program director, if the student earned an A or B in these courses or equivalent courses at an AACSB-accredited institution within five years of entering the MSFA program. The University of South Florida Muma College of Business is an AACSB-accredited institution.

Core Courses
(15 Credit Hours)

FIN 6775 Programming for Fintech
FIN 6246 The Financial System and Fintech Innovation
FIN 6455 Financial Modeling and Analytics
FIN 6515 Quantitative Investments
FIN 6416 Advanced Financial Management

To satisfy the remaining 15 credit hours, students will select a concentration area to focus their degree. The concentration consists of 9 or 12 credits of required coursework with the remaining hours from the list of approved supporting electives for that concentration. Courses listed outside of the provided supporting electives will need to be approved by the advisor in advance.

Concentration Required Courses (9 or 12 Credit Hours)

Financial Analysis (3 credit hours each)

- FIN 6465 - Financial Statement Analysis
- FIN 6537 - Financial Options and Futures
- FIN 6500 - Applied Security Analysis

Fintech (3 credit hours each)

- FIN 6779 Fintech and Payment Technologies
- QMB 6304 Analytical Methods for Business
- FIN 6778 Quantitative Analytics for Finance

Financial Planning and Wealth Management (3 credit hours each)

- FIN 6121 Fundamentals of Insurance and Financial Planning
- FIN 6133 Retirement Planning
- TAX 6446 Estate and Income Tax Planning
- FIN 6150 Advanced Financial Management for Planners

Finance Research (3 credit hours each)

- FIN 6804 - Theory of Finance
- ECO 6405 - Mathematical Economics I
- ECO 6424 - Econometrics I

Supporting Concentration Electives (3 or 6 Credit Hours)

Supporting concentration electives are selected in consultation with the faculty director and program administrator. Approved lists will be provided.

How to Apply

Applications must be submitted online at grad.usf.edu and are evaluated as they are received. Admissions decisions are usually made within four weeks. Non-USF transcripts must be submitted with application.
Application deadlines are:
Fall Start: June 1
Spring Start: October 15
Summer Start: February 15

Financial Aid

USF and the Muma College of Business offer a number of scholarships, graduate teaching assistantships, tutoring opportunities, and student excellence grants to Tampa campus students. Please visit the USF Financial Aid website at *usf.edu/finaid* for other sources of financial assistance.

LEARN MORE AT *usf.to/MSFA*

APPLY TODAY *grad.usf.edu*

Admission Requirements

USF MSFA admission considers each applicant holistically. To be eligible, candidates must provide:

- GMAT score of 550 or higher, or an equivalent GRE score. Applicants with lower GMAT/GRE scores may be admitted if the application as a whole convinces the committee that the applicant warrants an admission to the major.
- International students from non-English-speaking countries must have a minimum TOEFL score of 550 on the written test, 213 on the computer-based test, or 79 on the Internet-based test. Review all international requirements at usf.to/InternationalGrad.

The admission requirements now include GMAT/GRE waivers:

- Applicants holding a bachelor's degree with a cumulative GPA of 3.5 or better from USF or one of its peer/aspirant universities.
- Applicants who passed Level 1 of the CFA exam as evidenced by an attached letter from the CFA Institute.

For applicants with a three-year bachelor's degree from an accredited institution, the following requirements need to be met in addition to those listed above:

- Minimum GMAT score of 650 with a minimum score of 25 on the verbal portion, or a minimum GRE score of 321 with a minimum score of 150 on verbal reasoning.
- Transcript evaluation from a NACES member is required if the three-year bachelor's degree is from Non-Bologna Accord Institutions and is less than 120 hours.