

Middle School Career Investigations

Finance Pathways

Menu



With the Finance Career Cluster, there are five pathways: Accounting, Banking Services, Business Finance, Insurance, and Securities and Investments. Click on each of the buttons to learn more about each pathway. Make sure to visit each one.

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Accounting Description

Accounting Pathway

Job Description

- ✓ Record, classify, summarize, analyze, and communicate a business's financial information and business transactions for use in management decision-making
- ✓ Includes such activities as bookkeeping, systems design, analysis, and interpretation of accounting information.

Professionals in the Accounting Pathway record, classify, summarize, analyze, and communicate a business's financial information and business transactions for use in management decision-making. Accounting includes such activities as bookkeeping, systems design, analysis, and interpretation of accounting information.

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Accounting Careers

Accounting Pathway

Sample Careers



- Accountant
- Accounting Clerk
- Controller
- Cost Analyst
- Management Accountant
- Merger and Acquisitions Manager
- Personal Financial Advisor
- Revenue Agent
- Tax Accountant

Some of the different careers in the Accounting Pathway include Accountant, Accounting Clerk, Controller, Cost Analyst, Management Accountant, Merger and Acquisitions Manager, Personal Financial Advisor, Revenue Agent, and Tax Accountant.

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Accounting Education and Salaries

Accounting Pathway

Education and Salaries

Accountant	Personal Financial Advisor
Bachelor's Degree	Bachelor's Degree
Average Salary \$84,740	Average Salary \$123,730

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Most careers in the Accounting Pathway require at least a Bachelor's Degree, but there is a range in salaries. An Accountant requires a Bachelor's Degree to enter the field. They have an average salary of \$84,740. A Personal Financial Advisor also requires a Bachelor's Degree. The average salary for a Personal Financial Advisor is \$123,730.

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Banking Services Description

Banking Services Pathway

Job Description

- ✓ Accept deposits, lend funds, and extend credit
- ✓ Includes such activities as cash management, short-term investments, mortgages and other loans, credit cards, and bill payment
- ✓ Delivered via traditional means and newer ventures, like insurance companies, brokerage houses, and the internet

Professionals in the Banking Services Pathway accept deposits, lend funds, and extend credit. Banking services include cash management, short-term investments, mortgages and other loans, credit cards, and bill payment. Banking services are delivered via a number of different institutions, from commercial banks and other traditional means, like savings and loans associations, credit unions, and local banks to newer ventures through insurance companies, brokerage houses, and the Internet.

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Banking Services Careers

Banking Services Pathway

Sample Careers

Account Executive
Bill and Account Collector
Branch Manager
Compliance Officer
Credit Analyst
Debt Counselor

Financial Manager
Loan Officer
Personal Financial Advisor
Teller
Title Researcher

Some of the different careers in the Banking Services Pathway include Account Executive, Bill and Account Collector, Branch Manager, Compliance Officer, Credit Analyst, Debt Counselor, Financial Manager, Loan Officer, Personal Financial Advisor, Teller, and Title Researcher.

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Banking Services Education and Salaries

Banking Services Pathway

Education and Salaries

Bank Teller	Financial Manager
Associate Degree On-the-Job Training	Master's Degree
Average Salary \$30,750	Average Salary \$159,800

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There is a range in educational requirements and salaries in the Banking Services Pathway. Bank Tellers require an Associate Degree, as well as on-the-job training. They have an average salary of \$30,750. A Financial Manager requires a Master's Degree. The average salary for a Financial Manager is \$159,800.

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Business Finance Description

Business Finance Pathway

Job Description

- ✓ Manage policy and strategy for different sources of funding, budgeting, acquisition and investment, financial planning, funding, dividends, and taxation

Professionals in the Business Finance Pathway function in a company to manage policy and strategy for different sources of funding, budgeting, acquisition and investment, financial planning, funding, dividends, and taxation.

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Business Finance Careers

A graphic with a teal background. At the top, the text "Business Finance Pathway" is written in large white font. Below this, a white rectangular box contains the heading "Sample Careers" in bold black font. Underneath the heading, two columns of career titles are listed in black text. The background of the white box features faint illustrations of a laptop, a calculator, and various documents.

Business Finance Pathway

Sample Careers

- Auditor
- Bill and Account Collector
- Cash Manager
- Cost Analyst
- Economist
- Financial Analyst
- Management Accountant
- Project Manager
- Revenue Agent
- Shipping and Receiving Clerk
- Tax Accountant
- Tax Preparer

Some of the different careers in the Business Finance Pathway include Auditor, Bill and Account Collector, Cash Manager, Cost Analyst, Economist, Financial Analyst, Management Accountant, Project Manager, Revenue Agent, Shipping and Receiving Clerk, Tax Accountant, and Tax Preparer.

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Business Finance Education and Salaries

Business Finance Pathway

Education and Salaries

Revenue Agent	Auditor
Associate Degree On-the-Job Training	Bachelor's Degree
Average Salary \$52,330	Average Salary \$84,740

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There is a range in educational requirements and salaries in the Business Finance Pathway. Revenue Agents require an Associate Degree, as well as on-the-job training. They have an average salary of \$52,330. An Auditor requires a Bachelor's Degree. The average salary for an Auditor is \$84,740.

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Insurance Description

Insurance Pathway

Job Description

- ✓ Protect individuals and businesses from financial losses by delivering services that transfer risk from an individual or business to an insurance company

Professionals in the Insurance Pathway protect individuals and businesses from financial losses by delivering services that transfer risk from an individual or business to an insurance company.

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Finance Pathways

Insurance Careers

A graphic with a teal background and white text. The title "Insurance Pathway" is at the top in large white font. Below it, a white box contains the heading "Sample Careers" and two columns of job titles. The background of the white box features faint illustrations of a laptop, a calculator, and hands holding documents.

Insurance Pathway

Sample Careers

Actuary	Customer Service Representative
Benefits & Job Analysis Specialist	Insurance Appraiser
Claims Adjuster	Insurance Processing Clerk
Claims Clerk	Insurance Sales Agent
Claims Examiner	Risk and Insurance Manager
Compliance Officer	Underwriter

Some of the different careers in the Insurance Pathway include Actuary, Benefits and Job Analysis Specialist, Claims Adjuster, Claims Clerk, Claims Examiner, Compliance Officer, Customer Service Representative, Insurance Appraiser, Insurance Processing Clerk, Insurance Sales Agent, Risk and Insurance Manager, and Underwriter.

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Insurance Education and Salaries

Insurance Pathway

Education and Salaries

Customer Service Representative	Compliance Officer
High School Diploma On-the-Job Training	Bachelor's Degree
Average Salary \$34,390	Average Salary \$74,550

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There is a range in educational requirements and salaries in the Insurance Pathway. Customer Service Representatives require a high school diploma, as well as on-the-job training. They have an average salary of \$34,390. A Compliance Officer requires a Bachelor's Degree. The average salary for a Compliance Officer is \$74,550.

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Securities Description

Securities and Investments Pathway

Job Description

- ✓ Work for brokerage firms, investment banks, and stock exchanges
- ✓ Support the flow of funds from investors to companies and institutions
- ✓ Services include financial planning, asset management, hedge fund management, and custody services

Professionals in the Securities and Investments Pathway work for brokerage firms, investment banks, and stock exchanges, all of which support the flow of funds from investors to companies and institutions. Related services include financial planning, asset management, hedge fund management, and custody services.

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Securities Careers

Securities and Investments Pathway

Sample Careers

- Financial Analyst
- Fund Manager
- Personal Financial Advisor
- Real Estate Developer
- Securities and Commodities Sales Agent
- Tax Preparer

The infographic features a teal background with a white box containing the text. The background also includes faint illustrations of financial documents, a calculator, and hands holding a tablet.

Some of the different careers in the Securities and Investments Pathway include Financial Analyst, Fund Manager, Personal Financial Advisor, Real Estate Developer, Securities and Commodities Sales Agent, and Tax Preparer.

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Securities Education and Salaries

Securities and Investments Pathway

Education and Salaries

Tax Preparer	Securities and Commodities Sales Agent
Associate Degree On-the-Job Training	Bachelor's Degree
Average Salary \$37,770	Average Salary \$93,040

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There is a range in educational requirements and salaries in the Securities and Investments Pathway. Tax Preparers require an Associate Degree, as well as on-the-job training. They have an average salary of \$37,770. A Securities and Commodities Sales Agent requires a Bachelor's Degree. The average salary for a Securities and Commodities Sales Agent is \$93,040.