

Finance & Consulting Resources & Tips

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RESOURCES

Primary CareerEd Resources

- [Student-Careers Listserv](#) - Jobs/Internships/Events directly from employers
- [Finance and Consulting FAQ](#)
- [Interstride](#) - Consulting & Finance Opportunities for International & Domestic Applicants
- [Consulting: Navigating the Recruitment Process](#)
- [Finance for Frosh/Soph](#)
- [Consulting for Frosh/Soph](#)

Handshake Job & Internship Listings and Events

- [Handshake](#)
- [Consulting Full-Time Jobs](#)
- [Consulting Internships](#)
- [Finance Full-Time](#)

- [Finance Internship](#)
- [Upcoming Finance & Consulting Events](#)

External Resources

- [Wall Street Oasis - Internship Application Tracker](#) 2026 (soph & juniors)
- [Management Consulted Job Board](#)
- [Upcoming Management Consulting Events and Application Deadlines](#)
- [Management Consulted: Case Interview Practice](#)
- [MCList](#)
- Practice Consulting Cases
 - [A.T. Kearney Case Book](#)
 - [Bain Practice](#)
 - [BCG Practice](#)
 - [Deloitte Practice](#)
 - [McKinsey Practice](#)
 - [PWC Access Your Potential](#)
- [Wall Street Prep: Top 10 Investment Banking Interview Questions](#)
- [Wall Street Oasis: Investment Banking Interview Questions](#)
- [AmplifyME Investment Banking Daily Newsletter](#)

Student Group Resources

- [Stanford Smart Women Securities](#)
- [Stanford Consulting](#)
- [Stanford Finance](#)
- [Stanford Women in Business](#)

TIPS SECTION

Getting Started

Know The Dates And Timelines

While most industries do the majority of their recruiting during the school year, **finance and consulting start recruiting for summer over the previous summer! Fall recruitment can finish before school starts.** In fact, some finance and consulting firms start recruiting during the spring a year in advance!

Many firms usually have multiple deadlines for applications. Sometimes there are spots open the entire time. Sometimes applications are reviewed on a rolling basis. [Attending events](#), reviewing [finance](#) and [consulting](#) websites or listings, and asking recruiters will provide you individual firm information.

While the largest recruitment season occurs in the summer and early fall, positions are posted all year round and sometimes even reposted if they aren't filled or there is a renege. Regardless of your class year, you can look ahead to the coming quarters and find an opportunity for you!

And if you need help with applications, networking, interviews, or anything else, [we'll be here at CareerEd happy to help!](#)

Organizing Your Search

With so many opportunities out there, you might be looking at everything and wondering how you're going to manage everything. Here at CareerEd, we're working with firms to try and balance the events and interviews to make sure there are no (or as little) overlaps as possible. Even with that in mind, there are still going to be many events to attend and many positions to apply to, so it's important to get organized.

As you're finding and applying to various positions, you can [use a template](#) to organize your search. Listing what companies/positions you've found, their due dates, and what your next steps are. You can also create additional sheets for upcoming events. And as you're writing new resumes and cover letters, keep them organized in folders on your computer or Drive. Being organized with your search is going to make it much easier (and help you practice skills that will help you thrive in your next position).

Research Companies

Whether you're preparing for a career search, career fair, or an interview, it's important to [do your research](#) in advance. Discover what you can about the company and position. Talk to people who work or have worked there in the past. Learn about trends happening in the industry. We have some helpful resources for [finance](#) and [consulting](#) to help you on your way.

What Experiences Are Employers Looking For?

Wondering whether what you're doing during the summer will make you a good fit for finance or consulting? The good news is, employers do not expect student applicants to have years of consulting or finance experience! That is why many have robust on-boarding and training programs. Instead, they are typically looking for high-potential candidates that demonstrate certain skills and strengths. You will know what types of skills because they are listed in the internship or job description, and/or mentioned on the employer's website! You can also learn more about the requirements of the position through [informational interviews and networking](#).

Those skills that finance and management consulting roles require are typically "transferable" such as intellectual curiosity, quantitative abilities, problem solving or critical thinking, leadership and teamwork skills, and interpersonal abilities. Because these skills can be demonstrated through a variety of experiences, you do not need to major in any one subject, pursue just one type of internship, and/or join only one type of club.

If you're wondering about what types of experiences those can be, check out [this article about the range of experiences that you can include in your resume](#) and [this article about how to frame some of these experiences](#).

What Should I Be Doing To Get A Fin/Con Position?

The skills required for finance and management consulting are typically "transferable" such as intellectual curiosity, quantitative abilities, problem solving or critical thinking, leadership and teamwork skills, and interpersonal abilities. Because these skills can be demonstrated through a variety of experiences, you do not need to major in any one subject, pursue just one type of internship, and/or join only one type of club.

While having **some** relevant experience will no doubt help you (examples include: relevant major such as MS&E or Economics, relevant internships, or [relevant student org such as those listed here](#)), exactly how you gain this experience can be unique to you! So, feel free to explore and pursue your interests,

while considering how you will tell your story to demonstrate your relevant skills and strengths to potential employers.

Finding Opportunities

Follow Companies You're Interested In

As you work your way through your job search, it's a great idea to follow employers you're interested in on [Handshake](#) and [LinkedIn](#). By following companies, you'll be notified whenever they post a new internship, job, or event, helping you stay informed and updated about what companies you're interested in are doing. Following makes your job search that much easier.

Frosh Or Soph?

As you're searching for opportunities in finance and consulting, it is very common to reach the bottom of a listing and see it's only for juniors and/or seniors. Employers are mainly looking to fill these positions either as full-time positions or to transition interns into full-time employees. But what can frosh and soph students do?

Of course, you can always [build your skills by doing other experiences](#). But if you're interested in internships, there are several ways to get them:

- You can look for [specific internships](#) that are open to frosh/soph.
 - You can also search those terms on Handshake, LinkedIn, or Google.
 - And check out [our guide](#), [this consulting list](#), and [finance list](#) for more firms and opportunities.
- Network with alumni, professors, or contacts at firms you're interested in.
- [Attend events and interact](#) with recruiters.

Handshake Posted Positions

When you're looking for available positions in Handshake, it's important to do a bit of digging.

1. Handshake gives you access to all [posted positions](#) and we've specified by industries and full-time/internships.
2. Be sure to check where the company is asking you to apply. Some will ask you to apply through their website as their application is unique.
3. Employers are hosting events now and will continue to do so through the summer and fall. Some employers are posting external links to their positions in their events. For companies you're interested in, [search for their events](#), too, and you might find a job.

It's Not Only About Internships And Jobs

As some students finalize their summer plans, many others grow more anxious around finding opportunities.

Whether you're looking to craft your resume or looking to gain experience this summer, it's great to remember that it's not only about working at a company. Alternative experiences can be easily overlooked when we put resumes together or planning for the summer, but they can be leveraged to acquire and show off some of your best skills.

Check out [this article about the range of experiences that you can include in your resume](#) and [this article about how to frame some of these experiences](#).

Application Tips

What If I Don't Have The "Right" Experience To Work In Finance Or Consulting?

Mythbusting: There is no such thing as the "right" experience. Rather than looking for people with specific majors, internships, or clubs, firms are more interested in your skills. And even more so with your transferable skills.

When applying for a position, notice two things. 1) Most programs highlight onboarding and training programs to teach you. 2) Read the list of skills and tasks listed and notice how broad they are – you likely have a lot of them: intellectual curiosity, quantitative abilities, problem solving or critical thinking, leadership and teamwork skills, and interpersonal abilities.

Because these skills can be demonstrated through a variety of experiences, you do not need to have majored in any one subject, taken any specific type of internship, and/or joined that perfect club to get a position. Instead, highlight what you've done and how you'll benefit them.

You Have More Experience Than You Realize

You might be feeling insufficient if you're lacking finance or consulting experience. While being able to demonstrate you have experience or an interest through classes, clubs, or previous internships certainly helps, you have much more experience and skills that the firms want to see than you realize.

Both industries place a heavy emphasis on research, analyzing data, collaborating, strong communication skills (written and verbal), and presenting abilities to name a few. If you look at a job description for these positions, you'll find each of these skills highlighted. And you've definitely gained them through classes, clubs, previous internships, and plenty of other places. [On your resume](#), share examples of how you gained and put these skills into practice.

Bonus Tip: You should do this in any job. Rather than focusing on what you're missing, start focusing on the transferable skills you do have and what you can gain next!

Networking

Networking Is Key

Networking is a powerful tool within your career search. Networking will help you learn more about industries, companies, and positions; more easily make informed decisions; and can even help you get a job or internship. In fact, up to 85% of jobs and opportunities are found through networking connections.

Some great ways to find people are through [Stanford Alumni Mentoring](#), where alumni have signed up to mentor and talk to students; the [Stanford Alumni Directory](#) or [LinkedIn](#), where you can find employees, recruiters, and alumni to invite for informational interviews. You can also network at Stanford: head over to office hours with your professors and TAs, head to a club session and meet new people, or chat with your fellow dorm or classmates about their experiences. You could even start by talking with your friends and family!

Reaching Out To Recruiters

As you're thinking about who to network with, you might be wondering who else you can talk to besides alumni. Someone that may come to mind are recruiters. But before you do, think about what questions you have.

For recruitment or application questions: If you have a question about the recruitment process, application or interview process, and/or specific job postings, a campus recruiter is a great person to contact. Before you do, be sure to research the question online so you don't ask something readily available (review Handshake, job listings, and the employer website). To find their information, you can check [Handshake employer profiles](#), either researching an employer or through their job listing, and use the contact information provided to email the employer. You can also attend [events](#) that the employer is hosting to meet their recruiters and employees.

For career exploration, industry-focused networking, and general questions: For career exploration questions (examples: learning about a particular role or industry, general career guidance, and related), we recommend reaching out to Stanford alumni. Many alumni are eager to help Stanford students explore career paths and opportunities. For some tips on using the [Stanford Alumni Mentoring](#) site and [LinkedIn](#), be sure to check out [this video](#).

Interviews

Finance And Consulting Interviews

For both industries, there are two types of interview questions you'll receive: behavioral (tell me about yourself; what's your biggest weakness) and technical/case (what is the difference between investment and commercial banking; where can virtual meeting companies cut costs). We have [FAQs](#) for both interviews.

For finance, you can see what the interviews will be like for fields and positions on [Streets of Wall](#). We pulled out [several examples](#) for you all as well. For consulting, you can check out [Management Consulted](#) for practice cases and interview questions and to practice answering them.

When it comes time to practice, check out [Big Interview](#), or even use networking connections you have made or will make through [SAM](#), LinkedIn, or elsewhere to practice some answers.

Positions With Attached Interviews

With recruitment ramping up and applications due dates happening now, some firms are attaching interviews directly to their positions. When a recruiter attaches an interview to their posted position on Handshake, they're making it very clear that they want Stanford students to apply. They want to hire you. And that interview is a great way for you to shine to a recruiter. You can find [upcoming interviews on Handshake!](#)

Offer Guidelines

Need Help Making Decisions?

As you wrap up interviews and start to receive offers, it's time to start making your decision! Sometimes, making a decision on an offer is easy. Other times, it can be really difficult. When making a decision starts to grow challenging, it's [time to back up and start asking questions](#). Try reframing how you're thinking about the decision and talk to those you trust. You got this!

Recruitment Guidelines

If you've received an offer, or are waiting to hear back from firms you've interviewed with, you should feel proud of your hard work. Sometimes, though, you may feel like your offer has come too soon or that you need more time. To balance between student and employer needs, Stanford University has [recruiting guidelines](#) that say companies should give students two weeks to make their decision. If you need more time than that, there are steps to take to [ask for additional time to make your decision](#).

If you have questions, concerns, or need help with this process, [please reach out to us here at CareerEd](#). We're here to help and advocate for you.

Additional Resources

Need Funding For An Unpaid Opportunity?

While there are many paid opportunities within finance and consulting, you may have found one that sounds awesome and is actually unpaid. It can be difficult to find a faculty member to help provide credit for an internship, but there are other ways to fund your experience. [Our fellowship program](#) accepts applications all year round to provide funding for students pursuing unpaid internships. For more details about the stipend amounts, eligibility requirements, and application details, make sure to [check out our website](#).

Should I Disclose?

Choosing to disclose a disability and/or learning difference to a potential employer comes with many considerations and might even be an overwhelming decision. If you're wondering what to do, [check out CareerEd's page on accommodations during the hiring process](#) for helpful tips and FAQs to help guide how you can approach this and similar situations.

Take Breaks

Congratulations on reaching the end of this resource! That is a huge accomplishment and deserves both celebration and a moment to breathe and rest. [Taking breaks from working](#) has been shown to make people happier, decrease stress, and improve sleep. Even [short breaks](#) throughout the day make a big difference.