

Economics Career Development Office Career Options Guide

Federal Reserve and Public Finance

A career in public finance means you will study the economic impact of the government sector in relation to the overall economy. In addition, you will bring your policy, industry, regional, and product expertise to various clients in order to develop and execute innovative and customized solutions to the most challenging financial issues faced in the marketplace. You will serve the public by working with variety of clients including state and local governments; water and power utility systems (municipal and corporate); hospitals and healthcare institutions; not-for-profit institutions such as major universities and colleges, museums and cultural institutions; student loan agencies; state and local housing finance agencies, airports, transit agencies and highway systems.

Recommended Courses (P = Prerequisite)

Advanced Electives in the major

- Econ 390 Contemporary Economic Issues (Macroeconomic forecasting) (P: Econ 410 or con. reg.)
- Econ 410 Introductory Econometrics (P: Econ 310, Math 221)
- Econ 441 Analytical Public Finance (P: Econ 301)
- Econ 464 International Trade and Finance (P: Econ 301, 302)
- Econ 666 Advanced International Finance (P: Econ 301, 302, 310; **B or higher in Math 221**)

Applied Fields in the major

- Econ 300 Introduction to Finance
- Econ 320 Investment Theory
- Econ 330 Money and Banking
 *Also consider taking the Honors calculus sequences Math 275-276 and/or 375-376 instead of 221-222-234.

Suggested Courses outside of the Department of Economics

- Finance 305 Financial Markets, Institutions, and Economic Activity
- Finance 445 Multinational Business Finance
- Finance 610 Bank Simulation and Strategy
- Math 431 Introduction to the Theory of Probability
- Computer Science 302 Introduction to Programming *Also consider a major in Statistics and a certificate or major in Mathematics.

Student Organizations

- Economic Student Association
- Finance and Investment Society

Gain Technical Skills (FREE FOR STUDENTS!)

- DoIT Software Training for Students
- SSCC Training Classes

Job and Internship Search

- BuckvNet
- Federal Reserve Banks
- eFinancial Careers
- Financial Services Crossing

Sample Job Titles

- Research Associate
- Public Finance Specialist
- Financial Analyst
- Budget Analyst
- Junior Consultant
- Assistant Bank Examiner

Additional Resources

- J.P. Morgan Public Finance
- What is the Federal Reserve System?
- Vault Reports (access through Career Insider on BuckyNet homepage)