Below you will find activities and experiences you, as a student, can participate in to help you explore, prepare, experience, and achieve success in your major and career. Choose and participate in as many as interest you.

### Explore

- Learn how the [Pomerantz Career Center](#) can connect you to major and career exploration resources
- Meet with a [Career Coach](#) at the Pomerantz Career Center to explore occupations in finance and review the outcomes dashboard
- Learn about the [Finance](#) major and connect your [UPO Academic Advisor](#) or your [Pre-Business Academic Advisor](#)
- Explore finance positions in [Handshake](#) or view the outcomes dashboard to learn about career options available
- Register for the Finance Professional Seminar to hear from professionals and learn about finance careers
- Fill out the My Preferences tab on [My Career Path](#) and explore suggested activities
- Explore [finance careers](#) using Pomerantz Career Center major and career resources
- Utilize resources available on the [Finance Department](#) website, within the [TCOB Library](#), [Finance Toolkit](#), [Tippie Toolkit](#), and Pomerantz Career Center resources
- Set up an [informational interview](#) or job shadow with a professional working in finance
- Explore finance [student organizations](#), such as FMA, Real Estate Club, Gamma Sigma Iota, Hawktrade, or InvestHer
- Complete your [Handshake](#) profile, explore current finance positions available to identify interests
**ACTION-ORIENTED FINANCE TIMELINE**

**Prepare**

- Enroll in FIN:3020 (Professional Finance Seminar) to learn more about careers in the Finance field and network with employers
- Join a finance student organizations, such as FMA, Real Estate Club, Gamma Sigma Iota, Hawktrade, or InvestHer
- Utilize resources available on the Finance Department website, within the TCOB Library, Finance Toolkit, Tippie Toolkit, and Pomerantz Career Center resources
- Participate in volunteer experiences related to business or finance, such as budget management for a non-profit
- Attend the Fall and Spring Job and Internship Fairs sponsored by Pomerantz Career Center to learn more about prospective finance employers
- Attend student organization-sponsored job fairs
- Participate in a Mock Interview, Big Interview, or Case Coach to polish your interview skills
- Meet with a Career Coach at Pomerantz Career Center to learn internship search strategies
- Update your My Career Path preferences and explore new suggested activities
- Create your resume using Pomerantz Career Center or VMOCK and highlight your finance courses, projects, and tailor your bullet points to finance
- Have your resume reviewed by a Career Coach or Peer Career Advisor at the Pomerantz Career Center
- Initiate a conversation with your finance faculty to expand your knowledge about the major, industry, and careers
- Start a LinkedIn account and create a profile; get a professional headshot at Tippie or Pomerantz Career Center, and follow finance companies
- Be aware of events offered by the University of Iowa, Tippie College of Business, Pomerantz Career Center, and Handshake
Experience

- Complete your Tippie RISE Requirements
- Participate in at least 2 of the following:
  - Business/Finance internship
  - Finance case study
  - Externship/job shadow/informational interview
  - Alternative spring break
  - Employer-sponsored summer program
  - Part-time/summer job in finance
  - Study abroad/international volunteer or internship experience
  - Finance research opportunity

Take advantage of additional opportunities to gain experience:

- Participate in professional development activities (i.e. Coursera or LinkedIn Learning)
- Participate in a career trek offered by the Pomerantz Career Center or your department for exploration and networking opportunities
- Work in a Student Employment job on or off campus to gain general work experience and see if you can take on finance-related duties
- Take on a leadership role or volunteer for technology responsibilities within a student organization
- Attend workshops/activities sponsored by the Finance Department
- Participate in suggested activities from My Career Path to explore additional opportunities

While you gain experience, continue with the following:

- Collect and keep samples of your work from projects or internships to create a finance portfolio
- Participate in Mock Interviews, Big Interview, or Case Coach to further develop your interview skills
- Update your resume and highlight your finance courses, projects, and tailor your bullet points to finance
- Write a sample cover letter focused on your finance knowledge, skills, and experiences
- Identify and develop your brand through tailoring your resume, cover letter, and portfolio materials to finance
- Attend the Fall and Spring Job and Internship Fairs sponsored by Pomerantz Career Center
- Attend student organization-sponsored job fairs
- View undergraduate career leads to identify opportunities of interest to your career goals
- Use Handshake and other finance-related sites to search for finance internships/jobs
ACTION-ORIENTED FINANCE TIMELINE

Achieve

☐ Plan to invest at least 10 hours a week toward your job search (average student may apply to 50+ positions)
☐ Apply for full-time finance jobs beginning in September – knowing the average search can take 6-9 months
☐ Create an individual job search action plan with clear targets and action steps
☐ Update your Handshake profile and use Handshake to conduct a job search
☐ Create a "saved search" or "search agent" in Handshake, tailored towards your career interest areas in finance
☐ Continue to update and tailor your resume and cover letters to highlight your finance experience and knowledge
☐ Prepare a list of references/seek recommendations from professors and other professionals
☐ Attend Fall and Spring Job and Internship Fairs sponsored by Pomerantz Career Center and connect on LinkedIn with recruiters of employers that are of interest to you
☐ Attend student organization-sponsored fairs and networking events
☐ Attend workshops/activities sponsored by the finance department and seek contact information from speakers
☐ Use LinkedIn to continue connecting with professionals in the finance industry and follow companies of interest
☐ Use LinkedIn to connect to alumni who work for companies that don't traditionally recruit through fairs or postings on campus
☐ Join finance-related professional organizations
☐ View undergraduate career leads to identify opportunities of interest to your career goals
☐ Participate in a Mock Interview, Big Interview, or Case Coach to polish your interview skills
☐ Use Pomerantz Career Center resources to investigate salary ranges for jobs that you are considering
☐ Learn how to use other job search resources, including personal contacts and faculty leads
☐ Once an offer is received, read it carefully, ask questions of the organization's HR contact, consult with a mentor or Career Coach, negotiate any changes in writing, and respond by the deadline