

Governor's STEM Academy Brief



Office of Career and Technical Education

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The purpose of the monthly brief is to provide information, resources, and a networking vehicle to support the STEM (science, technology, engineering, and mathematics) Academies in Virginia.

FINANCIAL CLUSTER PROSPECTS:

The *Finance* Cluster, which employed slightly more than 154,000 Virginians in 2012, is expected to employ over 19,000 more workers in 2022. There are many dynamic careers in finance for people who are good with numbers and acute attention to detail. The best prospects are for college graduates who have sales ability, customer-service skills, and knowledge of a wide range of insurance and financial services products. The highest growth rate is projected in the Securities and Investments pathway through 2022, while the Accounting pathway is projected to see the highest growth in the number of new jobs – nearly 7,000 jobs – by 2022.

| Selected Occupation(s) | 2013 Median Wage | 2022 Projected Employment | Predominant Level of Education | Employed in Virginia 2012 |
|---------------------------------|------------------|---------------------------|--|---------------------------|
| Financial Managers | \$126,430 | 16,141 | Bachelor's degree or more & work experience | 14,750 |
| Financial Analysts | \$81,340 | 11,354 | Bachelor's degree or more | 9,434 |
| Financial Services Sales Agents | \$57,610 | 6,247 | Bachelor's degree or more & training; Certification | 5,382 |
| Insurance Clerks | \$34,890 | 5,314 | Some college; Associate degree & training; Certification | 4,821 |
| Credit Authorizers | \$28,360 | 925 | Some college; Associate degree | 960 |

FINANCE CAREER CLUSTER

Classroom Resources

- [Federal Reserve Education.org](#) presents finance-related teaching materials searchable by audience, type, topic, standard, and reserve bank.
- [Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond: For Teachers](#) includes lesson plans, activities, and other teaching aids.
- [Teaching Money Virginia](#), sponsored by Financial Institutions for Financial Literacy, features classroom resources linked to Virginia's Economic and Personal Finance competencies.
- [JMU Center for Economic Education: Links to Lessons](#) is a collection of economic literacy lessons developed for the Shenandoah Valley of Virginia.
- [Virginia Council on Economic Education](#) includes information about teacher workshops, as well as K-12 classroom resources for economics and personal finance.
- [Econedlink](#) is the Council for Economic Education's source for internet-based K-12 lesson materials.
- [Practical Money Skills for Life](#), from VISA, is a source of lesson plans, articles, and other resources for educators.
- [Teaching Economics As If People Mattered](#) is a collection of five economics high-school lesson plans from United for a Fair Economy.

- [Foundation for Teaching Economics](#) includes lessons organized by themes (e.g., “Economics of Disasters” and “Economics, Water Use, and the Environment”).
- In [Newspapers in Education: Finance—It's Personal](#), the Washington Post offers interdisciplinary lessons with a focus on personal finance.

Financial Careers

- [Center for Professional Development: Career Field—Finance](#) includes general, professional, and educational links related to finance as a career field.
- [American Institute of CPAs](#) presents CPA career paths and related career information for students.
- [American Economic Association](#) provides an introduction to economics and economics careers.
- [U.S. News and World Report Careers: Best Business Jobs](#) features a variety of business careers, many directly involved in finance.
- [Bureau of Labor Statistics: Occupational Outlook Handbook—Economist](#) presents “Quick Facts” about economists and the work they do.
- [Bureau of Labor Statistics: Occupational Outlook Handbook—Business and Financial Occupations](#) lists a job summary, entry-level education, and average pay for a variety of financial occupations.
- [Careers in the Military—Finance and Accounting Specialists](#) is a starting point to find military training opportunities in all branches of the U.S. Armed Forces.

Finance News

- [NPR: Your Money](#) includes financial news and features related to business and economy, as well as links to Planet Money podcasts.
- [The New York Times: Your Money](#) is a source of news and feature articles about money-related topics.
- [Finance & Development](#) is the online news magazine of the International Monetary Fund.
- [Wall Street Journal](#) offers finance-related news as well as general news.
- [Bloomberg Business Week](#) is an online magazine presenting financial news and other news from a business perspective.

Virtual Currency

- [Virtual Currency Today](#) and [Mobile Payments Today](#) are sources of news and other information about bitcoins, digital wallets, and other virtual currencies.
- [Money's Edge](#) presents news about crowdfunding, internet lending, digital payments, and personal finance in the “online internet financial industry.”
- [IRS: Virtual Currency Guidance](#) is a resource for citizens seeking information on federal tax implications for virtual currency transactions.

Cybersecurity in the Finance Sector

- [Financial Services Cybersecurity & Privacy Publications](#) is a source of research reports from Pricewaterhouse Coopers related to the issue of cybersecurity in the financial industry.
- [Wall Street Journal: Digital Privacy](#) (WSJ news articles)
- [Wall Street Journal Custom Studios: Broader Perspectives—A Cybersecurity and Privacy Hub](#) (Sponsored by Pricewaterhouse Coopers)

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