

Academy of Finance

Northeast High School of St. Petersburg, FL

<http://www.northeast-hs.pinellas.k12.fl.us/CentrOfFinance.htm>

Why consider Banking?

Ask about banking and your local branch bank immediately comes to mind. It is where we save, conduct financial transactions and obtain loans. Branches are important but are only one side of this dynamic industry. Banking is much more. For example:

- Bankers are on the leading edge of community development. They identify, evaluate, and fund opportunities to make communities grow and prosper.
- Bankers are business analysts and financial problem solvers. They analyze, evaluate, and structure funding for business expansions, real estate developments, office parks, shopping plazas, small business opportunities, etc.
- Bankers are international trade experts.

Students will learn business skills to prepare for the future, learn money management by making better financial decision, and practice real-life workplace applications. All students will learn, work as a team, develop personal excellence, show civility to all, and give back to the community.

The program gives high school students an opportunity to learn about and prepare for college careers in business and finance. Emphasis is placed on a college preparatory curriculum that is directly linked to the business world.

The Academy of Finance focuses on broad, transferable skills and stresses understanding and demonstration of financial industry elements such as: accounting, financial planning; management; banking, credit, economics; money management, technology; investments, and insurance. AOF establishes an on-going relationship that involves corporate executives, school personnel, parents and students, and results in paid internships, scholarships, and employment opportunities.

Northeast High School Academy of Finance Courses

Financial Operations (Grade Level 10 or 11, one term. Prerequisites or co-requisites: Business Systems Technology). This course introduces basic financial topics in: economics, principles of banking and credit, bank regulations, credit, money management, employability skills, the role of the Federal Reserve System, and international trade. Students will have an opportunity to job shadow and visit local businesses.

Financial Accounting (Grade Level 11 and 12. One term. Prerequisites: Business Systems Technology). Studies include the accounting cycle for business, special journals, ledgers, payroll, taxes, business ethics, and the financial statements.

Financial Computing (Grade Level 11 or 12. Two to four terms. Prerequisite: Financial Operations). Provides student with real hands-on experiences in the on-campus Viking Branch Credit Union an affiliate of Achieva Credit Union). Students must interview for a position in the branch. Positions include: Branch Manager, Assistant Manager, Head Teller, Teller, Member Service Advisor, Auditing Team member or Marketing Team member. Students must complete training with Achieva Credit Union during the summer .

Financial Planning (Grade Level 11 or 12. One term. Pre- or co-requisite: Completion of Financial Operations, Financial Accounting, and Financial Computing). Students create financial plans to help them reach specific goals. Students develop an awareness of the importance of organization, planning, and researching for a financially successful future. Projects include: budgeting for college, purchasing your dream home, buying your first car, investments, scholarship applications, starting a business and planning for your future

Financial Internship (One Term. Prerequisite: Completion of at least two required AOF courses and instructor approval.) Paid summer internship course offers students hands-on applications through employment with a local financial service firm. Students will have an opportunity to demonstrate human relations, communications, and computational skills necessary for employment in the financial industry.

This course enhances competencies developed through classroom instruction. Students must complete a minimum of 144 hours within the financial service industry. Internship may be continued through senior year. Students must maintain a record of hours worked and complete a report on their internship.

The Academy of Finance will:

Make you aware of career opportunities in the financial field

Provide the skills necessary to work in the financial service industry

Increase your knowledge and appreciation of basic financial concepts

Provide hands on experience by working in a real branch of a credit union.

Help you understand the relationship between the economic system and the world of finance.

Provide you with an opportunity for scholarships after high school.

Help you develop skills in order to work as an efficient team member.

Give you an opportunity to acquire a paid internship in which you will apply and extend what you have learned in class to the real world.

Help you prepare for college programs in finance and business.

St. Petersburg College

<http://www.spjc.edu/>

Inter-institutional Articulation Agreement between the Pinellas County School Board and the St. Petersburg College District Board of Trustees has been approved for Finance

<http://www.spcollege.edu/sacs/compliance/SPC-Pinellas%20Articulation%20Agreement%202006-2007.doc>

The Board and the College agree to provide acceleration opportunities for Pinellas County students through the Dual Credit (Academic Dual Credit, Technical Dual Credit, and Early Admission), Advanced Placement, International Baccalaureate, and the Fast Track (Three-Year Baccalaureate) Programs. These programs allow qualified students to earn credits toward their high school diplomas and college degrees at the same time through special allowances authorized by the Legislature and the State Board of Education. Students participating in Dual Credit, Early Admission, or Fast Track BA programs must demonstrate sufficient pre-collegiate preparation on a college placement test that assesses basic computation and communication skills.

The School-to-Work and Tech Prep Education Programs are planned as a more appropriate alternative to the current "general studies" option that provides little or no opportunity for employment or further education. The course of studies include a planned sequence of courses that will be taught in the Pinellas County Schools and at the Pinellas Technical Education Centers or St. Petersburg College and leads to a certificate, degree, continuing education, and/or employment;

Degrees: *Financial Services AS program*

Course examples: Financial Accounting, Managerial Accounting, Microcomputer Applications, Macroeconomics, Microeconomics, Applied Calculus and Elementary Statistics

Bachelor Applied Science in Banking (BANK-BAS)

For AS degree holders, an additional 15-21 general education credits are required to complete the thirty-six (36) general education requirement of St. Petersburg College.

Course examples: Principles of Commercial Bank Management, Financial Management, Introduction to Credit Analysis and Loan Structures, Leadership and Management Practices, Bank Operations and Management, Sales, Negotiating and Relationship Management, Advanced Legal Environment of Business, and Global Information Systems.

Students completing this innovative (*BANK-BAS*) program will be prepared for careers in a variety of banking and financial services environments. Graduates will be prepared for potential positions such as: Asset Managers, Banking Center (Branch) Managers, Commercial Bankers/Lenders, Credit Analysts, Financial Analysts, Financial Planners, Investment Bankers, Loan Officers, Mortgage Lenders, Operations Managers, and Private Wealth Managers.

Awards:

2005 National Employer Partnership Recognition Award

Achieva Credit Union and the Northeast High School and Viking Branch Credit Union

The program met the following criteria:

- 1) demonstrated leadership in the academy's career field;
- 2) exemplifies the characteristics of a professional within the academy's career field;
- 3) has made the greatest improvements in attitude and achievement;
- 4) participated fully in the academy through coursework, employment programs, and other academy-related programs;
- 5) demonstrated good conduct and a positive attitude;
- 6) made a significant contribution to her academy and community.

2005 National Tech Prep Award

Northeast High School's Center of Finance was recognized by the National Tech Prep Network (NTPN) as one of three winners of the 2004 Caterpillar inc. Exemplary Worksite Learning Award (EWSLA) in Minneapolis, MN in October of 2005. This announcement was made during NTPN's annual membership luncheon at its national convention. The Exemplary Worksite Learning Awards were established by NTPN in 1994 to recognize Tech Prep consortia that have established successful worksite learning experiences for students. Award winners are evaluated on curricular activities, program goals and objectives, professional development for educators and employer partners, employer involvement and measurable benefits to business partners and the community.