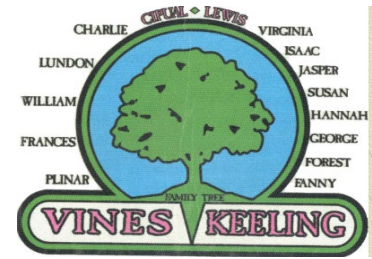


ApprenticeshipUSA Chat Sheet



August 2025

Monthly Newsletter for H.S. Students – Financial Services

What is the Financial Services Industry?

The financial services industry is a broad sector of the economy that manages money. It includes a wide range of organizations that handle financial transactions and provide financial products and services. Some of the main components of this industry are:

- **Banks:** Institutions that take deposits, make loans, and offer other financial products like checking and savings accounts.
- **Investment Firms:** Companies that manage and invest money for clients, including managing portfolios of stocks, bonds, and other assets.
- **Insurance Companies:** Businesses that provide risk management through policies that protect against financial loss from events like accidents or illness.
- **Real Estate Firms:** Businesses that facilitate buying, selling, and renting properties.
- **Accounting Firms:** Companies that provide financial services like auditing, tax preparation, and bookkeeping.

Why is Financial Services Important?

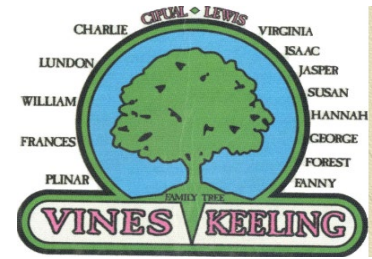
Financial services is crucial because it **acts as the engine of the global economy**. It facilitates the flow of money, which allows businesses to grow, individuals to save and invest for the future, and governments to fund public projects. Financial services offers a wide range of career paths, from banking, and investment to insurance and financial planning. Financial technology (Fintech) is rapidly changing the industry. Think of Zelle and Venmo.

What are the Benefits of a Career in the Financial Services Industry?

The Financial Services industry offers a variety of rewarding career paths, and the job outlook for these positions is positive in the coming 24 months. The industry is constantly growing, ensuring job stability and high demand for qualified workers. This is a sample of occupations with good future job prospects and average starting annual pay in parenthesis (...):

- 1) **Bank Teller** - (\$40,000/year) w/HS Diploma + Certification;
- 2) **Accounting Clerk**- (\$47,500/year) w/HS Diploma + Certification;
- 3) **Loan Processor Assistant** - (\$47,500/year) w/HS Diploma + Certification;
- 4) **Administrative Assistant** - (\$42,000/year) w/HS Diploma + Certification.

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How to Prepare for a Career in the Financial Services Industry?

If you are interested in a career in the Financial Services industry, there are a few different ways you can get started. Focus on math, economics, and critical thinking skills which are valuable across roles. Research to learn about different sectors like Fintech, Investment banking, and mortgages.

Another approach is an Apprenticeship. Go to the **ApprenticeshipUSA** link for more information[click the blue] (<Homepage | Apprenticeship.gov>). There, you will find Apprenticeship Programs and on-the-job training opportunities which can take 1 to 2 years of hands-on and classroom training with pay. Let me know if you have questions or need assistance.

For local in-person support you can use your area **American Job Center (AJC)** [click the blue] (<American Job Center Finder | CareerOneStop>). Simply enter your Zip code to find your nearest AJC.

Conclusion

The Financial Services Industry is positioned to expand and offer exciting careers for motivated individuals. Remember, the journey to becoming a Financial Services professional begins now, so start actively preparing and exploring your options.

Additional Tips for High School Students

- Take advantage of career counseling services at your high school. Your high school counselors can help you to learn more about different career options, including Financial Services industry careers.

Tip for recent High School graduates looking for a change:

- Check out the American Job Center (AJC) above...a great resource!
- **How to Work Better:** (Tips from Chester, England)
 - 1) Do One Thing at a time;
 - 2) Know the Problem;
 - 3) Learn to Listen;
 - 4) Learn to Ask Questions;
 - 5) Distinguish Sense from Nonsense;
 - 6) Accept Change is Inevitable;
 - 7) Admit Mistakes;
 - 8) Say it Simple;
 - 9) Be Calm;
 - 10) Smile.