



**SOUTH DAKOTA BOARD OF REGENTS  
ACADEMIC AFFAIRS FORMS  
New Specialization**

<b>UNIVERSITY:</b>	<b>University of South Dakota</b>
<b>TITLE OF PROPOSED SPECIALIZATION:</b>	<b>Master of Business Administration with Finance Specialization</b>
<b>NAME OF DEGREE PROGRAM IN WHICH SPECIALIZATION IS OFFERED:</b>	<b>Master of Business Administration (MBA)</b>
<b>INTENDED DATE OF IMPLEMENTATION:</b>	<b>8/1/2018</b>
<b>PROPOSED CIP CODE:</b>	<b>52.0801</b>
<b>UNIVERSITY DEPARTMENT:</b>	<b>Accounting and Finance</b>
<b>UNIVERSITY DIVISION:</b>	<b>Beacom School of Business</b>

**University Approval**

*To the Board of Regents and the Executive Director: I certify that I have read this proposal, that I believe it to be accurate, and that it has been evaluated and approved as provided by university policy.*

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Institutional Approval Signature Date  
*President or Chief Academic Officer of the University*

**1. Level of the Specialization:**

Baccalaureate       Master's       Doctoral

**2. What is the nature/purpose of the proposed specialization?**

The Beacom School of Business at the University of South Dakota seeks to add a Finance specialization to meet the growing market demand for graduates with the ability to analyze finance related issues for corporations, and make sound financial decisions. In addition to general business acumen, students and employers increasingly seek specialized knowledge. The general MBA requires students to take two elective courses. A Finance specialization would replace these two electives with three specialized courses. A review of MBA programs with specializations indicate three courses in addition to a core curriculum is common with MBA specialization programs.

**3. Provide a justification for the specialization, including the potential benefits to students and potential workforce demand for those who graduate with the credential.<sup>1</sup>**

The Finance department recently conducted a survey of its students to ascertain whether an MBA specialization in Finance would be of interest among the students. 63 students (34 undergraduate and 29 graduate students) completed the survey. In this survey, nearly 100% of undergraduate students and 98% of graduate students stated finance would be important in their future career. Furthermore, 65% of undergraduate students and 52% of graduate students stated they would be interested in an MBA with a concentration in Finance if it was offered.

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<sup>1</sup> For workforce related information, please provide data and examples; data sources may include but are not limited to the South Dakota Department of Labor, the US Bureau of Labor Statistics, Regental system dashboards, etc.

The US Department of Labor lists a number of occupations related to finance. The largest four finance occupations and their 10 year employment growth expectations are summarized in the table below. All projections were obtained from the Bureau of labor Statistics website: <https://www.bls.gov/ooh/business-and-financial/home.htm>

Occupation	# employed 2016	Projected growth 2016-2026	New jobs added
Financial Managers	580,400	19% (much faster than average)	108,600
Financial Analysts	296,100	11% (faster than average)	32,200
Personal Financial Advisor	271,900	15% (much faster than average)	40,400
Financial Examiners	52,500	10% (faster than average)	5,100

The world of finance is becoming ever more complex and employers are seeking to hire individuals with a finance degree or specialization. The Beacom School of Business recently learned that USD is ranked 3<sup>rd</sup> nationally over the last 10 years for FDIC bank examiner hires. Keeping our curriculum up to date is critical to ensuring our students are adequately prepared for to these positions now and in the future. The proposed MBA Finance Specialization will allow our students to be better prepared to obtain jobs in this rapidly growing industry.

**4. List the proposed curriculum for the specialization (including the requirements for completing the major – *highlight courses in the specialization*):**

Prefix	Number	Course Title <i>(add or delete rows as needed)</i>	Credit Hours	New (yes, no)
<b>Foundation Courses (for students without pre-requisites):</b>				
ACCT	520	Foundations of Accounting	3	no
BADM	505	Foundations of Finance	3	no
BADM	520	Foundations of Calculus and Statistics for Business	3	no
BADM	525	Production and Operations Management	3	no
BADM	580	Foundations of Management and Marketing	3	no
ECON	580	Foundations of Economics	3	no
<b>Foundation Courses Subtotal</b>			<b>18</b>	
<b>Advanced Courses for MBA</b>				
ACCT	781	Managerial Accounting	3	no
BADM	710	Managerial Finance	3	no
BADM	720	Quantitative Analysis	3	no
BADM	760	Operations Management	3	no
BADM	761	Leadership Development	3	no
BADM	762	Business and Its Environment	3	no
BADM	770	Managerial Marketing	3	no
BADM	780	Strategic Management	3	no
ECON	782	Managerial Economics	3	no
FIN	711	Investment Analysis & Portfolio Management	3	no
<b>Select two finance approved electives (six credits)</b>				
FIN	519	Advanced Financial Analysis and Modeling	3	yes
FIN	512	Security Analysis	3	no
FIN	513	Advanced Corporate Finance	3	no

FIN	514	Financial Derivatives	3	no
FIN	515	Financial Institutions	3	no
FIN	516	Commercial Bank Management	3	no
FIN	517	International Finance	3	no
FIN	590	Seminar	3	no
FIN	712	International Financial Management	3	yes
<b>Advanced Courses Subtotal</b>			<b>36</b>	

Total number of hours required for completion of specialization  
Total number of hours required for completion of degree

9
36 - 54

## 5. Delivery Location<sup>2</sup>

**A. Complete the following charts to indicate if the university seeks authorization to deliver the entire program on campus, at any off campus location (e.g., UC Sioux Falls, Capital University Center, Black Hills State University-Rapid City, etc.) or deliver the entire program through distance technology (e.g., as an on-line program)?**

	Yes/No	Intended Start Date
<b>On campus</b>	No	Fall 2018

	Yes/No	If Yes, list location(s)	Intended Start Date
<b>Off campus</b>	No		

**B. Complete the following chart to indicate if the university seeks authorization to deliver more than 50% but less than 100% of the certificate through distance learning (e.g., as an on-line program)?<sup>3</sup>**

	Yes/No	If Yes, identify delivery methods	Intended Start Date
<b>Distance Delivery (online/other distance delivery methods)</b>	Yes		Fall 2018

**6. Additional Information:** *Additional information is optional. Use this space to provide pertinent information not requested above. Limit the number and length of additional attachments. Identify all attachments with capital letters. Letters of support are not necessary and are rarely included with Board materials. The University may include responses to questions from the Board or the Executive Director as appendices to the original proposal where applicable. Delete this item if not used.*

<sup>2</sup> The Higher Learning Commission (HLC) and Board of Regents policy requires approval for a university to offer programs off-campus and through distance delivery.

<sup>3</sup> This question responds to HLC definitions for distance delivery.