

# Financial & Investment Analysts

A guide for newcomers to British Columbia



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## Contents

1. Working as a Financial and Investment Analyst .....	2
2. Skills, Education and Experience.....	6
4. Applying for a Job .....	10
5. Getting Help from Industry Sources .....	11

## 1. Working as a Financial and Investment Analyst

### [NOC 1112]

#### *Job Description*

Working as a **Financial Analyst** you:

- evaluate financial risk, prepare financial forecasts concerning capital management, and write reports and recommendations
- evaluate investment projects
- advise on and participate in the financial aspects of contracts and calls for tender
- act as liaison between company and investors
- prepare a regular risk profile for debt records
- assist in preparing operating and investment budgets

As an **Investment Analyst** you:

- collect and analyze financial and investment information about companies, stocks, bonds, and other investments using economic forecasts and other financial reports and publications
- provide investment advice and recommendations to clients, senior company officials, pension fund managers, securities agents and associates
- prepare company, industry, and economic outlook reports

Source: WorkBC Career Profile <http://workbc.ca/Careers> [search NOC 1112]

## **Industry Overview**

Industry experts predict there will be 890 job openings for Financial and Investment Analysts from 2015-2025. Vancouver is the financial capital of the province, and 79% of the people who work in this industry are located in the lower Mainland.

## **Job Outlook in BC**



Chart from WorkBC

WorkBC provides job openings in BC regions from 2015-2025:

<b>Region</b>	<b>Expected # of Job Openings</b>	<b>Average Annual Employment Growth</b>	<b>Expected Increase in Employment</b>
Vancouver Island	140	1.3%	40
Lower Mainland / Southwest	740	1.4%	280

You can learn more about working as a Financial and Investment Analyst in BC from:

- **WorkBC Career Exploration**, <http://workbc.ca/Careers> [search NOC 1112]
- **Career Cruising database** [Profiles for Investment Advisor & Research Analyst, Financial]  
 Available from the VPL Digital Library | Explore our Digital Library page  
<http://www.vpl.ca/digital-library/career-cruising>

### ***Types of Employers***

***Financial analysts*** are employed by a wide range of establishments throughout the private and public sector, including:

- banks & trust companies
- brokerage houses
- insurance & underwriting companies
- investment companies
- manufacturing firms
- utility companies

***Investment analysts*** are employed primarily by brokerage houses and trust companies. You may also be self-employed. Some investment analysts, particularly those who are self-employed, visit clients in their homes.

## **Salary**

The median annual salary for Financial and Investment Analysts in BC is between \$70,180. Your earnings are often made up of a base salary plus a performance bonus. Your income varies depending on the number and type of clients you have, where you work, and your commission compensation.

The Canadian Securities Institute (CSI) reports that most investment advisors can earn at least \$100,000 after 3 to 5 years. However, compensation is closely tied to the rise and fall of markets and the strength of the economy.

Sources: WorkBC & Career Cruising

Job Bank Canada website provides hourly wages for financial and investment analysts in following regions:

Location	Wage (\$/hr)		
	Low	Median	High
<b>British Columbia</b>	21.00	33.65	49.45
<a href="#">Lower Mainland - Southwest Region</a>	18.46	32.21	52.88
<a href="#">Vancouver Island and Coast Region</a>	21.00	33.65	49.45

Source: [https://www.jobbank.gc.ca/wage-outlook\\_search-eng.do?reportOption=wage](https://www.jobbank.gc.ca/wage-outlook_search-eng.do?reportOption=wage)

## **Working Hours**

Financial and Investment Analysts work long hours, generally between 9 and 12 hours a day, or 50 to 65 hours a week.

Young analysts often work weekends, and even experienced analysts may work one weekend a month. Those analysts who are facing deadlines may work more than 65 hours in a week.

Source: Career Cruising

## 2. Skills, Education and Experience

### *Skills*

- Good with people and customer service
- Oral and written communication skills
- Presentation skills
- Analytical and Problem solving
- Job task planning and organizing
- Math skills and significant use of memory
- Financial computer programs
- Self-motivated
- Work well under pressure

### *Education and Experience*

A bachelor's degree in commerce, business administration, or economics, and on-the-job training and industry courses and programs are usually required.

You *may* also need:

- A Master's degree in finance or in business administration (MBA) (concentration in finance).
- Chartered Financial Analyst (CFA) designation, available through a program conducted by the Institute of Chartered Financial Analysts in the United States (<https://www.cfainstitute.org>)
- Canadian Investment Manager (CIM) designation from the Canadian Securities Institute (CSI) (<https://www.csi.ca>)

### *Qualifications*

This occupation does **not** require certification in **British Columbia**.

### **3. Finding Jobs**

You'll find job advertisements in local newspapers, trade journals, and electronic sources, as well as through professional associations' publications.

#### ***Local Newspapers***

You can look at the *Vancouver Sun* and *The Province* at Vancouver Public Library for free. Check the job postings daily, the careers section in the *Vancouver Sun* on Wednesdays and Saturdays and in *The Province* on Sundays.

#### ***Job White Pages***

- Available in print at the Central Library or online at ***Job Freeway.com***  
<http://www.vpl.ca/digital-library/jobfreewaycom>  
Available from the VPL Digital Library | Explore our Digital Library page  
***NOTE:*** *You can only access this database from the Central Library or VPL branch libraries. Access is NOT available from home or outside the Library.*

#### ***Online Job Postings***

- **BCJobs.ca**  
<http://www.bcjobs.ca/>
- **Hays Recruiting Experts**  
<http://www.hays.ca/>
- **Indeed.com**  
[http://ca.indeed.com/advanced\\_search](http://ca.indeed.com/advanced_search)
- **Robert Half Finance & Accounting**  
<http://www.roberthalf.ca/>

### ***Professional Associations' Career Resources***

- **Alternative Investment Management Association (AIMA) Canada**  
<https://www.aima.org/global-network/canada/jobs-in-canada.html>

### ***Identifying the Right Position***

When you browse job advertisements, you'll find a range of different job titles that are relevant.

#### **For financial and investment analysts look for these related job titles**

- analyst, investments or securities
- economic analyst, financial services
- finance officer
- financial analysis consultant
- investment consultant
- money market analyst
- portfolio manager
- research analyst, securities
- securities research analyst
- senior financial analyst
- senior investment officer

You may also want to look at these related jobs:

- economic development officers, NOC 4163 (included with business development officers and marketing researchers and consultants)
- economists, NOC 4162
- securities agents, investment dealers and brokers, NOC 1113

Source: NOC <http://noc.esdc.gc.ca/English/NOC/welcome.aspx?ver=16>

### ***Creating a List of Potential Employers***

You can use directories to produce lists of employers who work in the financial services industry in Vancouver or the Lower Mainland. Contact them directly to find out if they're hiring.

- **Financial Services Canada**

Available at the Central Library, 332.1025 F49

- **Reference Canada**

<http://www.vpl.ca/digital-library/reference-canada>

Click on "Start Search" beside Canadian Businesses, then select the "Advanced Search" button. Select both "Keyword/SIC/NAICS" under Business Type and "City" under Geography. In the top search box enter "financial" and click LOOKUP. Select the appropriate headings. Lower down, select the Province, choose the cities, and click the "View Results" button.

Available from the VPL Digital Library | Explore our Digital Library page

**NOTE:** *You can access this database from a Library computer. If you are using a computer from outside the Library, you will need a Vancouver Public Library card to login to this database. After clicking on the database name, you will be asked to enter your library card number and PIN (usually last four digits of your telephone number).*

- **Bank Directories**

Available at the Central Library, 332.105 P76

## 4. Applying for a Job

In Canada, employers usually expect to receive a resume or curriculum vitae and a cover letter that identifies the position you are applying for and summarizes your relevant experience.

Use the library catalogue, <http://vpl.bibliocommons.com/> to find books on writing resumes and cover letters specific to your industry.

To learn about applying for jobs in Canada, use the following pathfinders which are available in print at the Central Library or online at <http://skilledimmigrants.vpl.ca/>.

- **Writing Resumes and Cover Letters**  
Go to <http://skilledimmigrants.vpl.ca>  
[Search Writing Resumes and Cover Letters]
  
- **Getting Canadian Work Experience**  
Go to <http://skilledimmigrants.vpl.ca>  
[Search Getting Canadian Work Experience]
  
- **Networking for Employment**  
Go to <http://skilledimmigrants.vpl.ca>  
[Search Networking for Employment]
  
- **Learn More About Working in BC and Canada**  
Go to <http://skilledimmigrants.vpl.ca>  
[Search Learn More About Working in BC and Canada]

## **5. Getting Help from Industry Sources**

### ***Industry Associations***

Associations and organizations for financial and investment analysts in BC and Canada provide assistance to individuals. Some require paying a fee for membership.

- **AIMA Canada, the Canadian chapter of the Alternative Investment Management Association (AIMA)**

<http://www.aima-canada.org/>

- **Canadian Securities Institute**

<https://www.csi.ca/>

This organization offers the Canadian Securities Course and other courses for the securities industry

- **CFA Institute**

<http://www.cfainstitute.org>

This American organization administers the Chartered Financial Analyst (CFA) designation to applicants from all over the world

- **Chartered Alternative Investment Analyst Association (CAIA)**

<http://www.caia.org/>

### ***Industry Journals***

Search the Vancouver Public Library catalogue for journals related to your profession. Examples at the Central Library:

- **Canadian MoneySaver**

Available at the Central Library, 332.024 C212

Also available online at: <http://www.canadianmoneysaver.ca/>

- **Advisor.ca**

<http://www.advisor.ca/>

- **Financial Post Magazine**

Available at the Central Library, 332.05 F4912

***Questions? Please ask the Information Staff in the Central Library,  
Vancouver Public Library or telephone 604-331-3603.***

*Please note that the information in this guide is also available online through the  
Skilled Immigrant InfoCentre website at <http://skilledimmigrants.vpl.ca/> .*