



Financial Career Insight Series: Financial Market Placements

The Investment Banking and Asset Management sectors are amongst the most competitive industry sectors to enter into in the whole of the UK. So much so that Investment Banks and other top 'City' financial employers can pick and choose their candidates often receiving 200 applications per position! Top financial employers historically, but less so now, have a first preference for or 'target' the top academic institutions in the country including Oxford, Cambridge, Imperial College, LSE.

The competition is less fierce, however, for a financial 'year in industry' or 'placement'. This is because the 'target' universities do not offer such a year as part of their degree structures. Therefore, although the 'financial placement sector' is still very competitive, it is not 200:1 for every place and students are not competing against peers from Oxford and Cambridge universities. This therefore represents a smart route into the financial industry for any student interested in this sector and on a placement course.

Once a placement position is secured with a financial employer, it is our experience that with 10 or 12 months financial experience 'under one's belt', a suitably motivated student can successfully compete with any student from any university, including the 'target' universities, for internships and graduate programmes. Indeed, performing well on a placement can lead directly to a graduate programme offer.

Major Investment Banks and Investment Managers offering placement year opportunities over the last couple of years include:

- Bank of America Merrill Lynch
- Barclays
- Blackrock
- BNP Paribas
- Citi
- Credit Suisse
- Fidelity
- Goldman Sachs
- JP Morgan
- Lloyds Banking Group
- Macquarie
- M&G Investments
- Morgan Stanley
- Nomura
- Rothschild
- Royal Bank of Canada

- Russell Investments
- Schroders
- SMBC Bank
- UBS Asset Management (*Multiple schemes*)
- Credit Agricole
- Lazard

Less well-known financial employers previously offering a placement year include:

- AJ Bell (*Independent Financial Advisor*)
- AON (*Investment Consultant*)
- Architas (*Investment Manager*)
- Boxington (*M&A*)
- Brown Brothers Harriman (*Investment Management*)
- Catalyst (*Financial Consultancy*)
- Conoco (*Energy Trader*)
- Duff & Phelps (*Credit Ratings*)
- Hargreaves Lansdown (*Independent Financial Advisor*)
- Pictet (*Swiss Wealth Manager*)
- RWE (*Energy Trader*)
- St James Place (*Wealth Management*)
- Valentine Thomas & Partners (*Asset Management Recruitment*)
- World First (*International Money Transfer*)
- 4CAST (*Economics Forecaster*)

Applications for less well-known companies will close later in the year than for the major financial firms.

See the full list of Placement opportunities in Appendix A

With any of the large financial employers listed above there will be a number of placement schemes to choose from. UBS Asset Management has, in the past, offered a particularly wide range of placement schemes and it is recommended it should be included in your target list of financial firms applied to.

For any firm offering a placement scheme, research what each division does, which division might suit your skills and interests and which division might provide the greatest chance of success. Equities and Fixed Income might be more familiar to you but what is Primary Risk, Fund Treasury or Operations Management? The greatest opportunity to you might well be in the less well-known business divisions. The number of applications for these will certainly be less than the better known divisions.

Furthermore, you may decide that investment management as a career does not interest you so you are not going to apply to investment management firms. This would be a mistake as all such firms offer multiple schemes across their business e.g. Schroders is one of the UK's most well-known

investment management firms and they offer a 'year in industry' scheme. The firm offers multiple placement opportunities including:

- Investment
- Accounting & Finance
- Sales & Marketing
- Technology
- Compliance

Therefore, financial market sector firms are worth considering no matter what your career interests are at this stage.

The financial market sector is notorious for early applications. Some of these placement schemes will open for application in the middle of August! An application in September or October is required. Research ahead of this is needed. It is preferable, therefore, if your research is conducted during the summer at the end of your first year and indeed to use your careers team during the summer vacation to prepare.

APPENDIX A – Expected Placement schemes for application Michaelmas term 2025

Accenture	Consulting Industrial Placement 2026 - 2027
ADM	Trading Intern
Allianz Insurance	Actuarial 1 year Placement - Summer 2026
AlphaSights	Placement, Client Service, 2026
Aon	Industrial Placement Programme 2026
Aspect Capital	Compliance Placement
Aviva Investors	Placement Year 2026
AXA Investment Managers	12-month placement 2026-2027
BAE Systems	Undergraduate Finance
Bank of America	12 Month Industrial Placement 2026 Analyst
Bank of England	Industrial Placement Programme
BBVA	CIB Internship London
BDO Global	2026 Industrial Placement Programme
Belmond	Finance Intern
Berenberg	12 Month Industrial Placement, Tax
BlackRock	2026 Placement Program - EMEA
BNP Paribas	Long Term Internship 2026
BNY Mellon	GCM University Programme Placement 2026
Boeing	Finance Intern - 12 Month Internship 2026
BP	One Year Internship - Trading & Shipping
Castleton Commodities International	Principal Investing - Placement Year Intern
Caterpillar	Finance Placement Student
CBRE	2026 Industrial Placement - Real Estate
Centrica	Finance Year In Industry Programme

Clairfield	Corporate Finance Analyst - Student Placement
Collins Aerospace	Finance Industrial Placement
Cooper Parry	Corporate Finance Placement Student
Crédit Agricole	12 Month Internship
Davy	Placement/Intern Students 2026/2027
DCL Insurance	Insurance Placement
Deloitte	Industrial Placement 2026
Evelyn Partners	Placement Programme - July 2026
Evercore	2026 Private Funds Group - Industrial Placement
ExxonMobil	Industrial Placement - Global Trading
EY	Industrial Placements 2026
Forvis Mazars	Audit Industrial Placement
FTI Consulting	2026 Industrial Placement Year
General Electric	GE Aerospace Finance - 12 Month Placement
Glencore	2026 Industrial Placement Programme
Goldman Sachs	Work Placement Programme
Government Economic Service	Sandwich Student Placement Scheme
Grant Thornton	12 Month Placement
GSK	Finance Industrial Placement, UK 2026
haysmacintyre	Placement Year, September 2026
HSBC	UK Industrial Placement
IBM	IBM Internships - 2026 start
IK Partners	ESG Data Analyst Intern
ING	Coverage Banking Internship Program (Sep-26 - 12 months)
Isio	Industrial Placement
J.P. Morgan	Markets Analyst Program – 12 Month Internship
Jefferies	2026 Risk Management Analyst - 12 Month Placement
KBRA UK	Intern, Business Development
Knight Frank	Rural Placement Year
KPMG	Graduate One Year Business Placement - Tax
Lazard	2026-2027 Industrial Placement Programme
Legal & General	Group Data Science Industrial Placement 2026
Lloyds Banking Group	Industrial Placement
Loomis Sayles	Industrial Placement Student - 12 months
LVMH	Finance Intern
Marsh McLennan	1 Year Placement Programme - Consulting
MBDA	Finance - Undergraduate Placement
Menzies	Placement Programme - August 2026
MHA	12-month Restructure & Recovery Placement
Moody's	Intern - Relationship Management (12-month contract)
Morgan Stanley	2026 Industrial Placement Programme
Morgan Stanley	2026 ISG CRT Industrial Placement

Morgan Stanley	2026 Industrial Placement Programme
Müller	Finance - 13-Month Placement
National Highways	Year In Industry - Finance
Natixis	Internship (12 month)
NatWest Markets	Risk - 12 Month Internship
NBCUniversal	Production Finance Intern
Nomura	Risk Industrial Placement 2026
NPL	Economics Sandwich Placement Student
Oakwell Sports Advisory	Placement Analyst - Summer 2026 Start
Orbis	UK Business 12-month Placement
Orbis	Industrial Placement Programme
Oxford Economics	Industrial Year Placement
PA Consulting	Consulting Industrial Placement
Penfida	Covenant Placement 2026/27
PGIM	12-month Internship in Real Estate Equity
Piper Sandler	2026 - Student Placement - Industrial Placement
PKF Littlejohn	12 Month University Placement - Actuarial
PwC	Undergraduate Placement, 2026
Qube RT	Industrial Placement - Data Engineering & Analytics
Quilter Cheviot	Early Careers Programme - Investment Management
RBC Capital Markets	2026 Global Markets - University Placement
Red Bull	Finance Student Placement
RSM UK	Placement Programme - August 2026
Samsung	Emerging Talent - Finance Placement
Savills	2026 Sandwich Placement
Schroders	2026 Placement Year Programme
Seraphim Space	Investment Intern
Silverpeak	12 Month Placement 2026
SMBC	2026-2027 Industrial Placement Programme
St James's Place	Year Placement
St. Modwen	Asset Management, Investment Placement Year
State Street	Undergraduate Macro Strategy Internship
StepStone Group	Industrial Placement - Infrastructure & Real Assets
Susquehanna International Group	Quantitative Internship: Summer 2026
Tarmac	Year in Industry - Finance Internship
TJX	Finance Placement Programme (2026)
TowerBrook Capital Partners	Private Equity Portfolio – Generalist Intern
TPT Retirement Solutions	Investment Internship
Triodos Bank	Internship 2026 - 2027
Turner & Townsend	Year Placement 2026
UBS	12 Month Industrial Placement Programme
UPS	Global Treasury Industrial Placement Year

Ureenco	Finance University Placement Student
Vanguard	Investment Strategy Group Intern (12 month)
Virgin Media O2	Finance Intern
Vodafone	Business Industrial Placement Programme 2026
Wellington Management	2026 Industrial Placement Internship Programme
Wilmington Trust	GCM Intern
Zurich Insurance	Industrial Placement Programme 2026