

## Requirements for Admission

The Academy of Finance is available to all students. Students must have/complete the following to be a part of this program:

- ◆ Application (located at <http://sandersonhs.wcpss.net> - click on Academy of Finance link on left side then select forms)
- ◆ Teacher recommendation (located at <http://sandersonhs.wcpss.net> - click on Academy of Finance link on left side, then select forms)
- ◆ Academic record demonstrating:
  - Average to above average grades
  - Positive attitude & eagerness to learn
  - Honesty
  - Excellent attendance & punctuality
- ◆ Commitment to the program
- ◆ Interview by the Program Director

Application and Teacher Recommendation are due by \_\_\_\_\_.

Students will be notified of acceptance by e-mail or telephone by \_\_\_\_\_.

Wake County Public School System programs are staffed and offered without regard to race, gender, age, color, religion, national origin, citizenship status, political affiliation, or disability.

## Did you know...

Sanderson High School's AOF

- ◆ Fulfills Wake County's desire for small learning communities
- ◆ Meets the national initiative for financial literacy
- ◆ Has an active Advisory Board
- ◆ Has a strong involvement with the business community and SHS Business Alliance
- ◆ Is incorporated as a nonprofit organization 501 (c)(3)
- ◆ Has active parent support; parents volunteer on AOF Action Committees
- ◆ Students take one college class at Wake Tech; after that they can take another class at NC State (classes are in finance or economics)
- ◆ Provides professional paid internships for each student
- ◆ Students take several classes together as a cohort group (travel with each other throughout their high school careers)
- ◆ Infused academic financial-related matters into other courses such as Algebra, English and Social Studies
- ◆ Students course registration receives prioritization

WAKE COUNTY  
PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM



Academy of Finance  
Sanderson High School  
5500 Dixon Drive  
Raleigh, NC 27609



*Sanderson High School's*

*Academy  
of  
Finance*



**Member of National  
Academy Foundation**

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<http://sandersonhs.wcpss.net>

## What is the Academy of Finance?

Established in 1982, the Academy of Finance introduces students to broad career opportunities in the financial services industry and, in the process, equips them to make sound choices for the future. A member program of the National Academy Foundation, the Academy of Finance operates as a “school within a school” and is located in high schools nationwide. North Carolina hosts only nine Academy of Finance institutions. Sanderson High School supports the only Academy of Finance in Wake County.

## AOF Features

- ◆ Six- to eight-week paid internships at banks, brokerage houses, financial exchanges, insurance companies, accounting firms, and government agencies the summer before senior year.
- ◆ An introduction to all facets of the financial services industry and exposure to current technology through field trip, job shadowing and mentoring.
- ◆ Offers a way for students to earn college credits while in high school - and the opportunity to attend conferences, trade shows, and college fairs.
- ◆ Enhanced opportunities for employment after graduation.

## AOF Benefits

- ◆ Nearly 90% of Academy students graduate from high school
- ◆ More than four out of five go on to two- or four-year colleges
- ◆ Students receive special graduation ceremonies, awards and scholarship opportunities
- ◆ Graduates acquire the problem solving and teamwork skills necessary to succeed in higher education and beyond
- ◆ Graduates are more prepared for employment and have more positive career outcomes



Kevin Schmidt of WakeMed is outlining to AOF member Chris Phan, what he should be doing for the Academy. WakeMed is a valuable AOF partner.



Bill Sigmon, Regional Manager of Kennedy Office Supply, is telling Academy Seniors at the Career Fair about his job responsibilities and offers tips for becoming a top salesman.

## Student Meetings and Student Dress

AOF members are expected to attend the monthly meeting, Academy Nights, and electronic meetings. AOF members wear their AOF shirts every Wednesday. Members are expected to wear professional dress to monthly meetings and Academy Nights.

## Internship

During the summer between their junior and senior years, Academy students complete a 200-hour on-the-job paid internship in the financial services industry. Local employers evaluate and select students for these paid internships. The Academy assists students in obtaining their internship.

## Enrichment Activities

In addition to specialized courses and the summer internship, Academy of Finance students have the opportunity to attend seminars and field trips on financial and career oriented subjects. Seminar Topics/Trips may include:

- ◆ Introduction to Financial Analysis
- ◆ Resume/Portfolio Preparation
- ◆ Interview Skills
- ◆ Negotiation Skills
- ◆ Richmond Federal Reserve
- ◆ Senior Trip to New York City Financial District

## Certification

Students who complete all the requirements will receive a Certificate of Financial Studies in addition to their high school diploma.

## Scholarships

The Academy awards scholarships every year based on grades, participation, community service, and overall business attitude.

*Students discover the connections between what they learn in school and the larger world. They learn skills and self confidence, but they also learn about opportunities and making choices. Transition to adult life is easier.*

## Required AOF Courses

9th Grade: Computer Applications

10th Grade: Computerized Accounting I

11th Grade: Economics and Finance & Banking and Credit

12th Grade: Securities & International Finance (One Semester) and Wake Tech Community College Macroeconomics Course

*Students must successfully complete their required core courses as well as the dynamic curriculum developed by the National Academy Foundation. In order to continue in the Academy program, students must maintain high academic standards in all classes.*

## Business Advisory Board

Jim Angell\*  
Attorney  
Howard, Stallings, From &  
Hutson, PA

Mark Coburn\*  
VP Loan Services  
State Employees Credit Union

Tammy Flanagan  
CPA Internal Audit Dept.  
First Citizens Bank

Janet Fox  
President  
ACH Investment Group, Inc.

Mitch Perry\*  
Head of Financial Planning  
Progress Energy

Kevin Schmidt  
Director Financial Planning  
& Reimbursement  
WakeMed

Bill Sewell  
First Vice President  
Smith Barney

Bill Sigmon\*  
Regional Manager  
Kennedy Office Supply

\*Mark Coburn is Chairman of the Board

\*Mitch Perry is Vice-Chair

\*Cindi Peeler is Secretary

\*Tammy Flanagan is Treasurer (and AOF graduate)

\*Bill Sigmon is our Golf Event Coordinator

\*Jim Angell is representing the NC Association of CPAs



Class of 2006 Academy of Finance Seniors at the annual spring golf tournament.