

National 5 SfW Financial Services (Course Code: C220 75)

SCQF Level 5 (24 Credit Points)

Why study SfW Financial Services?

People working in the finance sector help individuals, firms and organisations to keep track of their money and to save, spend and invest it wisely. This has always been one of the strongest areas of the Scottish economy, and in 2008 Scotland had the second highest number of banking headquarters in Europe, after London.

However, the sector has been severely affected by recent global problems. As a result there is some uncertainty about employment prospects in, for example, banking. Fortunately, despite job cuts in the high street banks, there has been an expansion of other financial services within Scotland.

Financial Services offers good opportunities for students who enjoy:

- number work
- working with the public
- explaining complex matters in simple terms

Career Pathways

To see what career areas this subject could lead to and the routes to get there, download and view these career pathways:

[Finance](#)

What do I need to get in?

Entry is at the discretion of the school or college, however you would normally be expected to have attained one of the following, or equivalent:

- **National 4 English**

What will I study?

The course is made up of four compulsory units, each one taking 40 hours of study:

- Introduction
- Personal Financial Awareness
- Building Positive Relationships with Customers and Colleagues
- Employability Skills

You will learn about

- regulatory requirements within the sector

- the issues of borrowing, saving and debt
- customer relations and effective working relationships
- organisations, products and services in the financial sector
- employability skills relevant to the sector, particularly self-presentation

Where will I take the course?

You will usually train at a local college. Training sessions will take place for a set number of hours and weeks during term time.

Work experience/placements

You may be able to arrange a related work experience placement by speaking to your pastoral care or guidance teacher in school.

How will I be assessed?

Assessment in this Course will be based on a range of practical workshop activities, supported by assessor observation checklists and candidate self-checking of quality.

In the Employability Skills Unit, candidates will carry out self-evaluation on a range of skills, review their progress and identify action points.

Study Materials

What can I go on to next?

You may be able to progress to:

Employment /Training

- A Modern Apprenticeship in Providing Financial Services leading to a professional qualification such as the Chartered Insurance Institute (CII) Certificate in Insurance.

Further/Higher Education

- A one year full time National Certificate (NC) or National Qualification (NQ) in finance such as Accounting or Finance at a local college of further education.

Further study, training or employment in:

- Administration and Management
- Finance