

Employer Partner Industry Insights

Our employer partners at Synergy Commercial Finance have talked to us about what it takes to succeed in the Finance industry:

What would you say the top 3 skills are to succeed in the Finance industry?

1 – Commercial Awareness – I would say that Commercial Awareness is so important, being able to show that you understand how the world works and how we fit into it is integral. Whatever industry you go into, understand the mechanics around what affects that business and how does that business affect others.

2 – Problem Solving – In the finance sector we need to solve the problems of our customers. Every situation is unique so we can't take a standard "cookie cutter" approach. We have to look at each problem that comes our way and find a unique way to solve it.

3- Communication Skills – It is integral to not only adapt your speaking mannerisms for people of all walks of life but also communication needs to be adapted for face to face, over the telephone or via e-mail to ensure all communication is received as intended. I think we can all think of texts or emails that have been mis-interpreted.

What do you look for in a top candidate, when you recruit?

Problem solving skills. We look for people who are keen to learn and are quick on their feet!

Why do you think work experience is important for college students?

Work experience is so important for students to get a flavour of a company and industry to see if it fits in with their personality.

What is the best thing about working in the Finance industry?

Working in finance has really helped me to speak to a huge variety of people; from people who do not know how an overdraft works through to directors of million-pound businesses. It is rare to be able to meet and speak to people from all walks of life. Whilst on programmes like The Dragons Den, the people in finance can come across as quite stern and unapproachable. I have found it them the complete opposite, people love to help others and encourage people to learn and develop.

Synergy Commercial Finance support students at The Manchester College with fantastic opportunities to gain first-hand experience of the Finance sector and network with professionals.

Further information:

<https://www.afsuk.com/synergy-commercial-finance/about-us/>

<https://icould.com/>

<https://targetcareers.co.uk/>