

Contact: Rachel Boon

**REQUEST TO SUSPEND ADMISSIONS TO THE MASTER OF SCIENCE IN FINANCE AT
THE UNIVERSITY OF IOWA**

Action Requested: Consider approval of the request by the University of Iowa to suspend admissions to the Master of Science in Finance program in the Tippie College of Business.

The Council of Provosts and Board office staff reviewed the proposal and recommend approval.

Description of program. The Master of Science in Finance program is a three-semester, STEM-designated program that was first offered in Fall 2018. The program requires a minimum of 45 semester hours (s.h.) of graduate credit, which includes a nine s.h. finance core, business communication and professional development courses, an experiential capstone experience and four elective choices. Students have the opportunity to enroll in a combined degree program with the M.S. of Business Analytics and current University of Iowa undergraduate students may also apply to a combined accelerated graduate degree program or U2G (undergraduate-to-graduate degree program).

Reason for proposed suspension. The Tippie College of Business is requesting temporary suspension of admissions to the M.S. in Finance. The college is exploring the development of an online option for the M.S. in Finance.

Five-year trend in enrollments and graduations.

	Applications	Enrollment	Graduations
2024	83	31	N/A
2023	96	47	41
2022	131	44	40
2021	124	51	22
2020	93	32	40

Effect on current students. Any current applicants or admitted students for fall 2025 will be notified of the admissions suspension (if approved) and refunded any fees. Additionally, they will be offered an option to apply for the M.S. of Business Analytics Program on-campus instead.

Impact on resources. If approved, the M.S. in Finance will have decreased enrollment. Faculty effort would be reallocated toward the growing population of undergraduate finance majors and minors as well as the development of a potential online learning center. Collegiate staff already support multiple degree programs, so the suspension of admission for the on-campus M.S. in Finance would not result in any staff reductions as other programs are growing.

Impact on workforce. Tippie offers a wide range of programs related to workforce needs in this area. This suspension is temporary while the college explores the development of an online modality for the M.S. in Finance which will serve populations across the state of Iowa and beyond.

Alternative programs. Iowa State University has a 30 s.h. full-time on-campus M.S. in Finance program. There were 36 students in ISU's program in Fall 2023.

Timeline for suspension. This is expected to be a one-year suspension while the college assesses the online program option.