

What is upReach's Banking & Finance Springboard Programme?

upReach's Banking & Finance Springboard programme is a 3 year programme of personalised careers support, designed to help eligible university students looking to apply to roles in the Banking & Finance sector.

The aims of the programme are to help you explore your career options, increase your employability, widen your professional network, and - ultimately - to secure top opportunities within the sector.

Am I eligible for this programme?

upReach is a social mobility charity, and our objective is to support students from under-represented backgrounds. This means every student we support (we call them "upReach Associates") must meet our general eligibility criteria.

To become an upReach Associate on this particular programme:

University: You must currently be an undergraduate that is in full-time study. This programme is open to students at any UK university.

Degree year: This programme is suitable for students who are in their first, second or penultimate year of study, although please note that we will give priority to students in their first year at certain points of the year.

Degree subject: We encourage students from any degree background to sign up. There is no need to be studying a finance, economics or numerical degree to be eligible for this programme - what's most important to us is your interest in the Banking & Finance sector, not your existing knowledge.

A-level grades: To be eligible for this programme, you need to have achieved AAB at A-level.

Please note we consider grades on a **contextual basis**, meaning we also take into account factors such as the school you attended or the area you live in. We believe this gives us a better indication of your true academic potential.

All applicants complete our REALRating form, which will tell you your contextual grades. For example, if you achieved a B in A-level Maths, you may find that your contextual grade is actually an A, once your background is taken into consideration. We will consider your REALRating result when determining your eligibility.

What does it involve?

When joining the programme, you'll be matched with a dedicated [upReach Programme Coordinator, who will get to know you and be on-hand to provide ongoing 1-to-1 support throughout your time with us.

They'll be able to give you extensive support at each stage of the job application process, including:

- Reviewing your applications and cover letters for opportunities in the Banking & Finance sector
- Reviewing your CV and offering feedback
- Mock job interviews, and;
- Assessment centre preparation

As well as support from your upReach Programme Coordinator, you'll also have access to:

- Exclusive work experience opportunities
- Exclusive employer events, like insight days to help you learn more about different companies
- Extensive online resources, including guides to different employers, practise online tests, and career courses to help you understand the Banking & Finance sector in more depth
- Daily 'Video Forums' (webinars) to help you build your employability skills
- Opportunity to be matched with a professional mentor from the Banking & Finance sector