SUGGESTIONS AND RESOURCES FOR FINANCIAL REGULATORY INTERNSHIPS

FEDERAL FINANCIAL REGULATORS

The financial services industry is regulated by a broad array of federal and state government agencies, as well as by several self-regulatory organizations ("SRO"). The following is a list of federal agencies and other federally-created organizations that regulate or impact the financial services industry:

Agency Name	**Agency Function**
Commodities Futures Trading Commission (CFTC)	The CFTC is an independent agency that regulates, along with the SEC, many aspects of the derivatives market. In particular, it oversees market activities in agricultural and financial commodities. It also provides oversight to the markets by ensuring that the exchanges and self-regulatory organizations have sufficient regulations in place, and that those regulations are enforced.
Consumer Financial Protection Bureau (CFPB)	The CFPB's central mission is to make markets for consumer financial products and services work for Americans — whether they are applying for a mortgage, choosing among credit cards, or using any number of other consumer financial products.
Department of Justice (DOJ)	Department components to consider include the Civil Division, the Criminal Division, and the U.S. Attorney's Offices. These components are generally responsible for investigating and enforcing financial fraud, anti-money laundering, and consumer protection statutes, among others. *In addition to Washington DC, internships may be available within the 94 U.S. Attorneys' Offices as well as other Department field offices nationwide.*
Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC)	The FDIC is an independent agency that was created to help guarantee the stability of the financial system. It insures deposits in banks and thrift institutions. It has the authority to manage bank failures. *In addition to the Washington DC headquarters, the Legal Division has offices in Boston, New York City, Atlanta, Chicago, Kansas City, MO, Dallas, Memphis, and San Francisco, CA that may hire legal interns.*
Federal Financial Institutions Examination Council (FFIEC)	The Council is a formal interagency body empowered to prescribe uniform principles, standards, and report forms for the federal examination of financial institutions by the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System (FRB), the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC), the National Credit Union Administration (NCUA), the Office of the Comptroller of the Currency (OCC), and the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau (CFPB) and to make recommendations to promote uniformity in the supervision

	of financial institutions. *Does not appear to have an established internship program, so interested students should check with member institutions.*
Federal Housing Finance Agency (FHFA)	The FHFA is an independent regulatory agency responsible for the oversight of vital components of the secondary mortgage markets—the housing government sponsored enterprises of Fannie Mae, Freddie Mac and the Federal Home Loan Bank System. It is a member agency of the Financial Stability Oversight Council.
Federal Reserve System ("The Fed")	The Federal Reserve serves as the central banking system for the U.S. It oversees monetary policy and regulates the banking system, and monitors systemic risk in the financial marketplace. It shares responsibilities with state and federal supervisors, including overseeing both the operations of foreign banking organizations in the U.S. and the establishment, examination, and termination of branches, agencies, commercial lending subsidiaries, and representative offices of foreign banks in the U.S. The Federal Reserve System has three components: the Federal Reserve Board (FRB), the regional Federal Reserve Banks (FRBNY, FRBSF, etc.), and the Open Market Committee.
Financial Stability Oversight Council (FSOC)	The FSOC is a council of regulators established by Dodd-Frank. They are authorized to identify and monitor systemic risks to the U.S. financial system, to coordinate regulatory reporting and rulemaking, and respond to emerging threats to U.S. financial stability. It is chaired by the Treasury Department, and other member agencies include: Board of Governors Federal Reserve System; Commodity Futures Trading Commission; Consumer Financial Protection Bureau; Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation; Federal Housing Finance Agency; National Credit Union Administration; Office of the Comptroller of the Currency; Securities and Exchange Commission. *Does not appear to have an established internship program, so interested students should check with member institutions.*
Federal Trade Commission (FTC)	The FTC enforces credit laws at non-banking institutions, including consumer finance companies and credit bureaus.
National Credit Union Administration (NCUA)	The NCUA is an independent federal agency that charters and supervises federal credit unions. It insures deposits at federal credit unions and many state-chartered credit unions. *The Student Intern Program is managed by the Office of Minority and Women Inclusion (OMWI) and selects its interns through a number of partner organizations.*

U.S. Department of the Treasury: Financial Crimes Enforcement Network (FinCen)	FinCen administers the Bank Secrecy Act ("BSA") and is charged with safeguarding the financial system from the abuses of financial crime, including terrorist financing, money laundering, and other illicit activity has delegated authority to issue regulations requiring financial institutions to keep records and file reports on certain financial transactions.
U.S. Department of the Treasury: Office of Comptroller of the Currency (OCC)	The OCC charters, regulates, and supervises all national banks. The OCC also supervises the federal branches and agencies of foreign banks.
U.S. Department of the Treasury: Office of Foreign Assets Control (OFAC)	OFAC administers and enforces economic and trade sanctions against targeted foreign countries, terrorism sponsoring organizations, and international narcotics traffickers ("OFAC Sanctions").
Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC)	The SEC is an independent agency that holds primary responsibility for enforcing federal securities law and regulating the securities industry, the nation's stock and options exchanges, and other electronic securities markets in the U.S. The SEC administers federal securities laws that protect investors in securities markets and ensure that investors have access to disclosure of all material information concerning publicly traded securities. It also regulates firms engaged in the purchase or sale of securities, people who provide investment advice, and investment companies. *The SEC hires legal interns across the country, in Washington DC as well as its regional offices in Atlanta, Boston, Chicago, Denver, Fort Worth, Los Angeles, Miami, New York, Philadelphia, Salt Lake and San Francisco*
Financial Industry Regulatory Authority (FINRA)	FINRA is a private corporation that represents and regulates all stock and bond brokerage firms and their employees. It has more than 4,750 firms are members, with 634,000 employees registered to sell securities. It also administers background checks and licensing exams, regulates securities trading and monitors how firms comply, and provides information for investors. Firms and brokers that do business in the U.S. must be licensed and registered by FINRA. *Finra has 16 regional offices and may offer internships in Atlanta. Boca Raton, Boston, Chicago, Dallas, Kansas City, Los Angeles, New York, Rockville MD, and Washington, DC*
National Futures Association	This organization regulates the managed futures industry. It regulates 4,200 firms and has 55,000 employees who work on the

	different futures exchanges. It administers background checks and licensing exams, regulates futures trading and monitors how firms comply, and provides information for investors. *Offers compliance specific internships; has offices in Chicago and New York*
Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (PCAOB)	The PCAOB is a private sector, non-profit corporation established by Congress. Oversees the audits of public companies in order to protect investors and advance the public interest in informative and reliable audit reports. The PCAOB also promotes investor protection by overseeing the audits of broker-dealers. *Offices in NY and DC*

STATE FINANCIAL REGULATORS

State bank regulators oversee state-licensed and state-chartered financial institutions such as bank branches, trust companies, and credit unions. A comprehensive 50 state summary of state banking regulatory agencies can be found on the Conference of State Bank Supervisors, at: https://www.csbs.org/about/what/pages/directory.aspx

State securities regulators enforce state securities laws ("blue sky" laws) by overseeing securities transactions within their state. A comprehensive list of state securities regulatory agencies can be found on the North American Securities Administration Association's website at: http://www.nasaa.org/about-us/contact-us/contact-your-regulator.

In addition, State Attorneys General can become involved, along with the SEC, in regulating financial institutions, especially in states with a large financial industry, such as New York.

TRADE AND INDUSTRY ASSOCIATIONS

There are numerous trade an industry associations representing members in the financial services sector. The following is a non-exhaustive list:

American Association of Bank Directors (DC): Banking trade association which exclusively serves individual directors rather than their financial institutions.

American Bankers Association (DC): Represents banks of all sizes on issues of national importance for financial institutions and their customers. Brings together all categories of banking institutions, including community, regional and money center banks and holding companies, as well as savings associations, trust companies and savings banks.

American Financial Services Association (DC): The national trade association for market funded providers of financial services to consumers and small businesses.

Bank Administration Institute (Chicago, IL): A professional organization devoted exclusively to improving the performance of financial services companies through strategic research and information, education and training.

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Bank Insurance & Securities Association (DC): Fosters the full integration of securities and insurance businesses with depository institutions' traditional banking businesses. Participants include executives from the securities, insurance, investment advisory, trust, private banking, retail, capital markets and commercial divisions of depository institutions.

Commercial Finance Association (NY): The trade group of the asset-based financial services industry, with members throughout the U.S., Canada and around the world.

The Conference of State Bank Supervisors (DC): Nationwide organization of financial regulators from all 50 states, the District of Columbia, Guam, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands. Has summer law internships in DC Office.

Consumer Bankers Association (DC): Represents retail banking issues.

Financial Services Forum (DC): An organization of chief executive officers of major U.S. financial services firms dedicated to the execution and coordination of activities designed to promote the development of an open and competitive financial services industry.

Futures Industry Association (DC): Association representative of all organizations that have an interest in the futures market.

International Swaps and Derivatives Associations (NY): The association's primary purpose is to encourage the prudent and efficient development of the privately negotiated derivatives business. Has over 850 member institutions from 67 countries. These members comprise of a broad range of derivatives market participants, including corporations, investment managers, government and supranational entities, insurance companies, energy and commodities firms, and international and regional banks. In addition to market participants, members also include key components of the derivatives market infrastructure, such as exchanges, intermediaries, clearing houses and repositories, as well as law firms, accounting firms and other service providers.

Investment Adviser Association (DC): The IAA serves members as the only organization that exclusively represents the interests of SEC-registered investment advisory firms before Congress, the SEC, CFTC, and other regulators.

Investment Company Institute (DC): Global association of regulated funds, including mutual funds, exchange-traded funds (ETFs), closed-end funds, and unit investment trusts (UITs) in the United States and similar funds offered to investors in jurisdictions worldwide.

Mortgage Bankers Association of America (DC): Represents the real estate finance industry.

National Association of Federal Credit Unions (Arlington, VA): Trade association that exclusively represents the interests of federal credit unions before the federal government and the public.

North American Securities Administration Association (DC): A voluntary organization of securities regulators whose aim is to protect investors who buy securities or investment advice by educating the public, investigating violations of state and provincial law and filing enforcement actions. Membership includes securities regulators from all 50 U.S. states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands, Canada and Mexico.

Options Industry Council (Chicago, IL): Nonprofit association created to educate the investing public and brokers about the benefits and risks of exchange-traded options.

Retirement Income Industry Association (Boston, MA): Financial services industry association focusing on the financial and public policy issues related to the income needs of retirees. Members include insurance companies, banks, securities firms and others.

Securities Industry and Financial Markets Association (NY & DC): SIFMA is the voice of the U.S. securities industry. Represent the broker-dealers, banks and asset managers.

The Financial Services Roundtable (DC): A forum for U.S. financial industry leaders working together to determine and influence the most critical public policy concerns related to the integration of the financial services.

The Hedge Fund Association (NY): An international not-for-profit association of hedge fund managers, service providers and investors formed to unite the hedge fund industry and add to the awareness of the advantages and opportunities in hedge funds.

EXCHANGES

A current list of exchanges registered with the SEC under Section 6(a) of the Exchange Act as national securities exchanges is maintained at: https://www.sec.gov/divisions/marketreg/mrexchanges.shtml

CAPITOL HILL

Internships may be available in the offices of individual offices of House and Senate members, with the various House and Senate committees (such as the House Committee on Financial Services and the Senate Committee on Finance); in the Leadership Offices (Majority and Minority Leaders, Speaker of the House, etc.), with various party offices, and in the Executive Offices.

GLOSSARY OF TERMS

Banking

Private-sector organizations within the banking sectors of the financial services industry include the following types of business enterprises:

Commercial Banks (aka Retail Banks): Financial intermediaries that accept deposits and make loans; act as a payment agents on financial transactions; may issue credit cards. Commercial banks serve both corporate and individual customers.

Investment Banks: Engage in a wide variety of financial transactions such as buying and selling assets and acting as financial consultants to companies; do not accept deposits or make loans. Raise capital for businesses and provides service and financial advice to corporations. Assist customers with M&A transactions, issuing securities, and providing other advice to corporations related to their financing. Earn money through charging fees and commissions for their business.

Nonbank Financial Institutions: Institutions that are not technically banks, but provide many of the same services. These include credit unions and savings & loans (aka thrifts.) Primarily serve individuals of average means (as opposed to corporations or high-net-worth individuals) and offer lower borrowing rates and higher interest on deposits. Credit unions typically are organized as non-profit cooperatives, and historically have limited their membership to a particular group (although this is changing.) Savings & loans are typically privately or mutually owned.

Securities

Private-sector organizations within the securities sector of the financial services industry include the following types of organizations:

Brokerages/Broker-Dealers: Act as intermediaries to facilitate securities transactions by buying and selling securities such as stocks and bonds; a “full service” brokerage may also provide financial advice to and portfolio management for investors. A broker-dealer is a type of brokerage that executes trades both on behalf of its clients (the “broker” function) as well as on its own behalf (the “dealer” function.)

Asset Management/Investment Management Companies: Corporation or trust through which individuals invest in diversified, professionally managed portfolios of securities by pooling their funds with those of other investors; mutual funds are an example.

Hedge funds: Pools of invested money that buy and sell stocks and bonds and many other assets, including precious metals, commodities, foreign currencies, and derivatives (contracts whose prices are derived from those of other financial instruments). Hedge funds are limited to qualified investors with high net worth. The aim of a hedge fund is to provide the highest investment returns possible as quickly as possible. Before the 2008 financial crisis, hedge funds could fairly have been described as “unregulated mutual funds,” but recent changes to the law have imposed significant additional regulations.

Private equity funds: Generic term describing a few related but different approaches to investing directly in either private companies or publicly traded companies that “go private” as a result of a private equity transaction. Unlike hedge funds, which focus on short-term profits, private equity funds focus on the long-term potential of the portfolio of companies they hold an interest in or acquire. Like hedge funds, they are subject to relatively new federal regulatory legislation.

Exchanges: The marketplace in which financial instruments, such as stocks, bonds and commodities, are traded by individuals, corporations, governments, and other organizations. Core function of an exchange is to ensure fair and orderly trading, as well as efficient dissemination of price information. Can be a physical location or an electronic platform.