

## Financial Planning (Online) Course Guide

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The VU Block Model®

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Student support network

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Course summary

- ◆ Master of Financial Planning
  - ◆ Graduate Diploma in Financial Planning
  - ◆ Graduate Certificate in Financial Planning
- 

Entry requirements

- ◆ FEE-HELP
  - ◆ Advanced standing
- 

Course pathways

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# Master of Financial Planning

Includes information on:

- ◆ Graduate Certificate in Financial Planning
- ◆ Graduate Diploma in Financial Planning
- ◆ Master of Financial Planning

UNIQUELY  
YOU

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# The VU Block Model®

Feel confident and engaged in your studies with our unique and award-winning VU Block Model®. VU is the first university in Australia, and the largest in the world, to deliver courses through this innovative teaching model, inspired by similar successful models across North America and Europe.

## Our VU Block Model® explained

At most universities, you would usually study four subjects at the same time, similar to high school. With the VU Block Model®, you study one subject at a time, meaning you can focus your efforts, master your skills, and receive real-time feedback before moving on to the next subject.

### Accelerated

Accelerate your learning by studying part-time as you progress through six blocks per year, in seven-week study periods – with a break between blocks.

### Flexible

Plan your studies over the course of the year to fit into your life, so you can manage study along with work, family and everything else important to you.

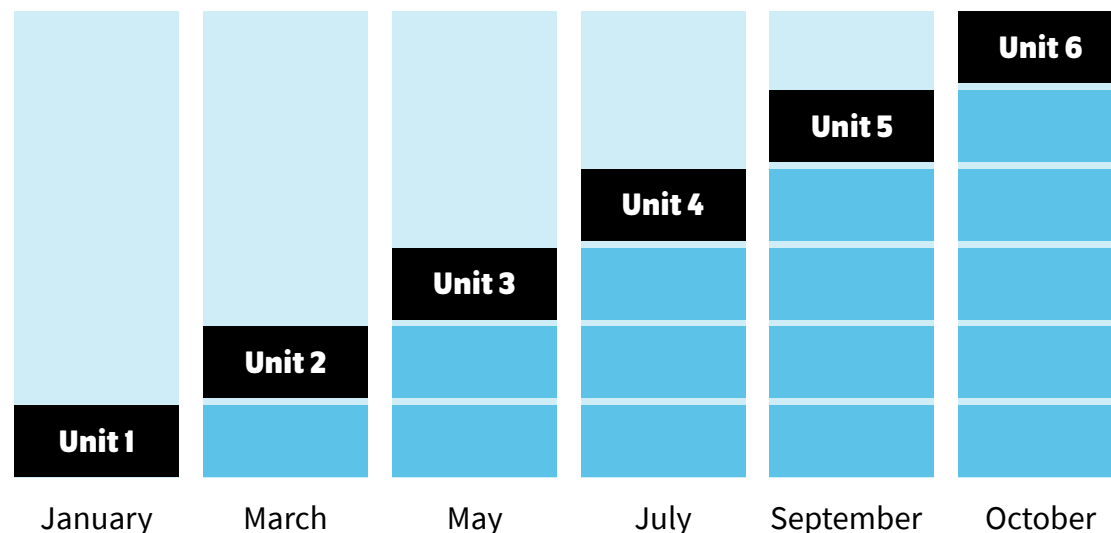
### Focused

Focus on one unit at a time rather than juggling multiple topics at once, to maximise focused and deeper learning. Choose to take a break if needed or complete all units consecutively. It's up to you.

### Supported

Receive the one-on-one support you need to succeed with VU Online's academic and administrative support – available seven days a week.

## Six units over one year - study one unit at a time



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# Student support network



**Experience four layers of online academic and non-academic student support seven days a week.**



### Unit Facilitator

Provides 1:1 academic support via phone, email or SMS seven days a week and in the evenings.



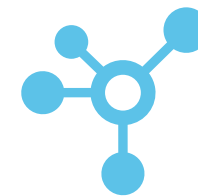
### Unit Coordinator

Delivers live weekly online office hours and fortnightly teaching seminars.



### Student Success Advisor

On hand Monday to Friday via phone and email, to help students with any non-academic queries and assist with administrative processes such as enrolment and degree pathing.



### Personalised support

A network of personalised IT, library, language, literacy and numeracy support, and counselling services available to all students.

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VU's model of dedicated, prompt and responsive support seven days a week sets us apart from any other university in Australia.

Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat	Sun
		Office hour*	Seminar**			
✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Online Facilitator seven days						
✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Unit Coordinator seven days						
✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
Student Success Advisor - Monday to Friday						
✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Network support seven days						

\* Live weekly office hour. \*\* Live fortnightly seminar.

## Got questions?

Get in touch with our enrolment team.

Schedule a call

## Ready to apply?

Begin your postgraduate journey with VU Online and apply today.

Apply now

# Course summary

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### Master of Financial Planning

VU Online's Master of Financial Planning is designed for students who want to commence or progress their careers in financial planning. Our Master's program will provide in-depth knowledge and skills to help you stand out as an expert financial adviser. The Master of Financial Planning gives students a thorough understanding of the ethical and professional capacities required of financial planning advisers. Students will build a holistic view of the requirements of an accredited financial planner and the ability to provide appropriate and regulation compliant financial planning advice in Australia. Students can enhance their foundational knowledge of financial planning and build advanced skills, allowing them to successfully navigate an ever-evolving landscape. This course, delivered entirely online, prepares you for advanced roles in public health, whether you're looking to enhance your existing experience or seeking new career opportunities.

Whether you are an experienced financial planner or financial adviser who wants to remain competitive in a changing industry, or you want to pivot to a new career in finance, VU Online's Master of Financial Planning will help you succeed.

### Duration

2 years, part-time<sup>^</sup>

### Study periods

January, March, May, July, September, October

### Units (12 in total)

- ◆ Principles of Financial and Investment Planning
- ◆ Superannuation and Retirement Wealth Planning
- ◆ Risk Management Insurance and Estate Planning
- ◆ Taxation Law of Australia (Bridging)
- ◆ Professionalism and Ethics (Bridging)
- ◆ Financial Advice Corporation and Commercial Law (Bridging)
- ◆ Behavioural Finance and Wealth Management Applications (Bridging)
- ◆ Financial Plan Construction and Client Management
- ◆ Corporate Finance
- ◆ Art and Practice of Leadership
- ◆ Business Consulting
- ◆ Accounting and Financial Management

### Fees

\$3,115 - \$4,155 per unit\*

### Total cost

**\$41,540 total\***

**FEE-HELP is available to eligible students.**

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## What you will learn

- ◆ Analyse economic, legislative, and related risks to ensure the sustainability of financial plans.
- ◆ Communicate and advise clients effectively on their financial options.
- ◆ Utilise financial planning software to deliver tailored financial advice.
- ◆ Advocate for strategies that integrate behavioural finance and compliance with best interest obligations.
- ◆ Address the complex needs of clients while adhering to ethical and regulatory standards in financial planning.
- ◆ Evaluate laws and codes of ethics impacting the professionalization of financial planning.
- ◆ Demonstrate initiative and leadership with integrity in a dynamic work environment.
- ◆ Conduct a substantial research project on sustainable, socially responsible financial planning practices.

*\*FAAA members can access a discount of 15% to VU Online's Financial Planning courses. This discount can apply to some or all units. 2026 student fees are shown and are subject to change.*

*^Duration is dependent on student's study path and unit availability. Please reach out to a Student Enrolment Advisor to discuss your study path.*

## Graduate Diploma in Financial Planning

The Graduate Diploma of Financial Planning is an FAS-approved course, recognised as a pathway towards becoming a registered financial planner. Graduates will meet the education standards set by FAS, with further requirements such as the National Adviser Exam and a Professional Year (for new entrants) needed for full registration. While studying with VU, you'll also build industry-ready skills that strengthen your expertise and help progress your career.

## Duration

16 months, part-time<sup>^</sup>

## Study periods

January, March, May, July, September, October

## Units (8 in total)

- ◆ Principles of Financial and Investment Planning
- ◆ Superannuation and Retirement Wealth Planning
- ◆ Risk Management Insurance and Estate Planning
- ◆ Taxation Law of Australia (Bridging)
- ◆ Professionalism and Ethics (Bridging)
- ◆ Financial Advice Corporation and Commercial Law (Bridging)
- ◆ Behavioural Finance and Wealth Management Applications (Bridging)
- ◆ Financial Plan Construction and Client Management

## Fees

\$3,115 per unit\*

## Total cost

**\$24,920 total\***

**FEE-HELP is available to eligible students.**

## What you will learn

- ◆ Analyse economic, legislative, and related risks to the sustainability of financial plans.
- ◆ Communicate effectively to inform and advise clients on financial matters.
- ◆ Utilise financial planning software to enhance the provision of financial advice.
- ◆ Advocate strategies that integrate behavioural finance and comply with best interest obligations.
- ◆ Address complex client needs while adhering to ethical and regulatory standards in financial advice.
- ◆ Evaluate laws and ethical codes impacting the professionalisation of financial planning.

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- ◆ Demonstrate integrity and respect when providing financial planning advice.
- ◆ Conduct a research project on sustainable and ethical financial planning practices, generating and evaluating complex ideas.

*\*FAAA members can access a discount of 15% to VU Online's Financial Planning courses. This discount can apply to some or all units. 2026 student fees are shown and are subject to change.*

*^Duration is dependent on student's study path and unit availability. Please reach out to a Student Enrolment Advisor to discuss your study path.*

## Graduate Certificate in Financial Planning

The Graduate Certificate of Financial Planning develops knowledge and practical skills in key areas of financial planning. It also provides a direct pathway into the Graduate Diploma of Financial Planning – an FAS-approved course recognised as meeting the education standards required to become a registered financial planner. While studying with VU, you'll build industry-ready skills that strengthen your expertise and support your career progression.

### Duration

8 months, part-time<sup>^</sup>

### Study periods

January, March, May, July, September, October

### Units (4 in total)

- ◆ Principles of Financial and Investment Planning
- ◆ Superannuation and Retirement Wealth Planning
- ◆ Risk Management Insurance and Estate Planning
- ◆ Taxation Law of Australia (Bridging)

### Fees

\$3,115 per unit\*

### Total cost

**\$12,460 total\***

**FEE-HELP is available to eligible students.**

### What you will learn

- ◆ Analyse economic, legislative, and related risks to the sustainability of financial plans.
- ◆ Communicate effectively to inform and advise clients on financial matters.
- ◆ Optimise financial planning software and contemporary applications to enhance the advice process.
- ◆ Advocate strategies that integrate behavioural finance and comply with best interest obligations.
- ◆ Address complex client needs while adhering to ethical and regulatory standards in financial advice.
- ◆ Evaluate laws and ethical codes that influence the professionalisation of financial planning and the social good from quality advice.

*\*FAAA members can access a discount of 15% to VU Online's Financial Planning courses. This discount can apply to some or all units. 2026 student fees are shown and are subject to change.*

*^Duration is dependent on student's study path and unit availability. Please reach out to a Student Enrolment Advisor to discuss your study path.*

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# Entry requirements

## Master of Financial Planning

Completion of an Australian Bachelor degree (or equivalent) in a similar discipline.

**OR**

Completion of an Australian Graduate Certificate (or equivalent) in a similar discipline.

**OR**

Completion of an Australian Bachelor degree (or equivalent) in any discipline and five (5) years of managerial experience.

**OR**

Applicants without an undergraduate qualification may be admitted to the Graduate Certificate (in the same discipline) based on approved work experience. Upon completion of the Graduate Certificate, graduates will be eligible for admission to this course with credit granted for completed units.

## Graduate Diploma in Financial Planning

Completion of an Australian Bachelor degree (or equivalent) in a similar discipline.

**OR**

Completion of an Australian Graduate Certificate (or equivalent) in a similar discipline.

**OR**

Applicants with a minimum five (5) years approved work experience will be considered for admission to this course.

## Graduate Certificate in Financial Planning

Completion of an Australian Bachelor degree (or equivalent) in a similar discipline.

**OR**

Applicants with a minimum five (5) years approved work experience will be considered for admission to this course.

## FEE-HELP

You may be eligible for the Australian Government's loan scheme, FEE-HELP. The loans are available to assist eligible full-fee-paying students with the cost of a university program. It can cover all or part of the tuition. To determine your eligibility, visit the FEE-HELP website.

## Advanced standing

Thinking of applying for credit (advanced standing)?

Advanced standing is an assessment process used to recognise the skills and knowledge you have acquired, either through study or life/work experience, by matching it with the content of units within your course. If you've already completed any of the units in the course in which you are enrolling, or their equivalent, you may be eligible for advanced standing.

## Exit option

Students have the option to exit with a Graduate Diploma in Financial Planning (8 units) if they choose not to complete the full master's degree.

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## Graduate Certificate in Financial Planning

4 Units  
8 months part-time

Upon completion of these four units, you will obtain your Graduate Certificate in Financial Planning and can continue your studies to earn a Master of Financial Planning.



## Graduate Diploma in Financial Planning

4 Units  
8 months part-time

Upon completion of these eight units, you will obtain your Graduate Diploma in Financial Planning and can continue your studies to earn a Master of Financial Planning.



## Master of Financial Planning

+4 Units  
2 years part-time

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# Why study with VU Online?

## Reputable, industry connected

Earn a globally ranked Tier 1 MBA\*, engaging in a curriculum designed in partnership with the University's industry advisory groups.

## Develop practical skills

Just like in the real world, you'll focus on experiential learning – learning by doing – via scenarios, case studies, self-determined assessments and unit content that is highly relevant to your work life.

## No text books, no exams

All course readings and assessments are available digitally via the VU Library, so there are no textbooks to purchase and no exams.

\*CEO Magazine Global Rankings (2023)

## Small class sizes

All units maintain a 25:1 student-teacher ratio that ensures you receive the one-on-one attention you need.

## Personalised 1:1 online academic support

Unparalleled support from specialist academics is available seven days a week including evenings.

“The Master of Public Health prepared me for a meaningful career by giving me a strong foundation in a variety of public health areas. The support and encouragement I received from my academics enabled me to enter the workforce with total confidence in my knowledge and abilities”.



**Alice Cronin**  
Master of Public Health Graduate

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# Career-based teaching and learning

The online units have been designed from the ground up with a career-centred approach, spanning:



## Overarching learning outcomes:

Click on each unit in the following pages to find out more about what you will learn.



## Self-determined assessments:

Students share examples from their own professional lives and participate in collaborative online sessions where discussion and debate can thrive - just as it would in a classroom.



## Interactive activities:

The material in each unit includes activities designed to bring students together in a virtual environment that fosters creativity and a sense of personal connection.

## Experience a deeper, more active and enjoyable learning experience.

**Got questions?**

Get in touch with our enrolment team.

Schedule a call

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## Career outcomes

Gain the skills and accreditation needed to thrive in a career in financial planning. Whether you are currently a financial planner who wants to progress in your industry, or you want to move into a new career in a growing field, VU Online will help you succeed. Potential careers include middle to senior management roles in the financial planning industry.

### Typical job roles

- ◆ Financial Adviser
- ◆ Financial Planner
- ◆ Insurance Adviser
- ◆ Superannuation Consultant
- ◆ Risk Adviser
- ◆ Business Development Manager
- ◆ Client Service Officer

## Units in brief

Principles of Financial and Investment\*

Superannuation and Retirement Wealth\*

Risk Management Insurance and Estate\*

Taxation Law of Australia (Bridging)\*

Professionalism and Ethics (Bridging)\*\*

Financial Advice Corporation and Commercial Law (Bridging)\*\*

Behavioural Finance and Wealth Management Applications (Bridging)\*\*

Financial Plan Construction and Client Management\*\*

Corporate Finance

Art and Practice of Leadership

Business Consulting

Accounting and Financial Management

\* Graduate Certificate in Financial Planning units

\*\* Graduate Diploma in Financial Planning units



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# How to apply



## Ready to get started? Follow these simple steps.

### 1. Gather your documents

To complete your application, you will need the following documents:

- ◆ Certified copies of your academic transcript(s) or certificate(s) of completion.
- ◆ A copy of your current CV, which includes your current Position Description (PD), supporting letter from your employer outlining your duties, responsibilities and the duration of your employment/volunteer work.

### 2. Speak with our Student Enrolment Advisors

Once you're ready to take the next step and start your application, our Student Enrolment Advisors are here to help.

**Our team is available to assist you every step of the way:**

Monday, Tuesday and Friday:

9am – 6pm (AEST)

Wednesday and Thursday:

9am – 7pm (AEST)

**Contact us:**

1300 682 051

futurestudy@online.vu.edu.au

### 3. Submit your application online

Apply online directly via our Admissions Centre. You will receive an email to confirm your application and to advise whether you need to provide any additional information.



### How long does it take to complete an application?

Your application will take approximately 15 minutes to complete. Once you have submitted, you can expect to hear from us within 5 business days.

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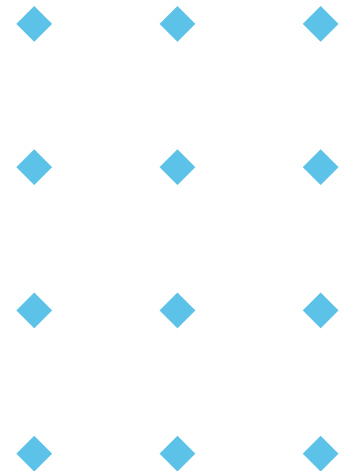
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## Contact us

**Our Student Enrolment Advisors are ready to answer any questions you may have about online study at VU and the Master of Financial Planning, Graduate Diploma and Certificate courses, including:**

- ◆ Enrolments and eligibility
- ◆ Study and course pathways
- ◆ Fitting study into your schedule
- ◆ Navigating the application process



### Got questions?

Get in touch with our enrolment team.

[Schedule a call](#)

### Ready to apply?

Begin your postgraduate journey with VU Online and apply today.

[Apply now](#)