

Work Scope

A financial analysis study project can include a wide range of tasks, but has the capability to hone in on specific topics. Some of the most common uses of a financial analysis is to provide a risk assessment of a company and what untapped opportunities it may not be taking advantage of. Using company data, financial analysts can also forecast future sales growth and project the profitability of new products and services.

Outcomes

At the completion of the project, a formal presentation and report will be given, containing all analyzed data and methodologies employed during the study. While the precise outcome will largely be dependent on the type of project completed, examples of outcomes include updated, well maintenance company data files, recommendations for investors, or other means to obtain capital, and an in-depth analysis on company standings and associated risk. Clients receive all original digital files (typically Word, Excel, and PowerPoint).

Client Involvement

Light. To achieve the best possible result, we will keep in contact with you through periodic emails and at least 4-6 meetings over the 13-week project time-frame. Meetings can take place in-person or over the phone and are typically less than one hour in duration. The purpose of our ongoing communication with you, is to align your goals and the intern's work to actively ensure the final product will meet your needs. We understand the sensitive nature of the information you share with us and you can expect the utmost professionalism in keeping your confidences.

Methodology

Financial Analysis studies are conducted primarily using in-house data so that all forecasts and recommendations can be made specifically for you. However, if the project requires a broad understanding of the total market then data will also be gathered through trusted online resources, as well as the data made public by competing firms in the same industry.

While there are many components of a financial analysis, most include an evaluation of current company data and industry trends to answer a specific question. A company may want to forecast profit after introducing a new product or service, or may be looking for a way to acquire capital and need to present the company to potential investors to get the best deal.

Time

Approved projects will fit a 13-week time frame and have about 40 hours per week of meaningful project work. Projects run on the academic calendar and start:

Early January, Early September, and Mid April

Past Project Examples

RBDC student teams undertook a project that began as an exercise to model the long-term costs of storing and retaining data with new optical media formats. The model was expanded to include other media types such as public cloud service providers (AWS, Azure, Google Cloud), as well as traditional magnetic media like LTO Tape and HDD. The team researched all cost elements associated not only with purchasing the infrastructure (or subscriptions in the case of cloud) that was needed, but all costs associated with them. Labor costs, energy costs, floor space, asset depreciation, asset maintenance (hardware and software), off-site storage fees, licensing fees, migration and remastering, and several other costs were factored into each media option that was researched. In addition to the implementation of these costs, inflation rates and price erosion were applied where applicable, changing the cost (up or down) in the model for its duration.

Researchers created a sales tool for the client that helped calculate the costs of running a virtualized environment. The goals of the project included: 1) A "Do it Yourself" approach to virtualized machines, where the client would implement and manage their own infrastructure 2) A Modern Platform, with converged infrastructure 3) Public cloud service providers such as AWS and Azure. The tool is used to show the total cost of ownership over a "contract term", between 3-5 years. In addition, training material on the tool was issued to company sales associates so that it could be used most effectively.

Price

\$3,500 with negotiable payment terms.

Leverage Financial Insights

If you want to accelerate business growth through rigorous financial analysis, reach out and set up a free consultation.

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The Research and Business Development Center (RBDC) is a 501 (c) 3 non-profit that is a key partner of BYU-Idaho in providing meaningful work experience for students to better prepare them for careers and life. Connecting students with clients to work on projects that deliver value to both student and client is central to our mission.