KPMG

Technology Graduate Programme

Business area	Technology – Financial Modelling
Length of programme	Three years
Qualifications you'll work for	CIMA or CFA depending on the team you join
Location	London and Bristol. Please search website for latest location availability
Entry requirements	As a general rule, you'll be expected to meet the following requirements: - Minimum grade B GCSE* Maths & English Language - Minimum of 300 UCAS Tariff points(*) - Minimum 2:1 degree in a STEM, Economics or Finance specific subject

Note: (a) Or equivalent.
Please note that we only consider a candidate's top 3 A-level grades and do not accept General Studies.

Due to the nature of the work, applicants applying to our Bristol office should either hold or be capable of obtaining UK security clearance.

Within our recruitment process, we look for more than just your academic results. This wider perspective helps us ensure that we are giving you the best opportunity to demonstrate your potential. We assess your application against KPMG's Global Behavioural Capabilities and a number of other metrics including technical background and/or experience, to build our confidence in whether you will be a success at KPMG.

Our Financial Modelling practice helps clients utilise information to answer their business questions, by integrating large volumes of data from disparate sources and applying subject matter knowledge and technical expertise to build models. We work across all sectors and support the strategic direction of the whole business or parts of a business through a variety of capabilities.

Our clients depend on models to make critical financial and business decisions. The models we build provide numerous benefits, deep insights into data, efficient automation of processes, and dynamic analysis of options and opportunities. High quality, robust modelling reduces the potential of misapplying business logic or encountering data errors, and decreases the risk that organisations will make poor decisions.

Our three year graduate programme is designed to offer you the exposure and support you need to secure a successful career in Financial Modelling. You will develop core consulting and technology skills, whilst building models across a broad range of tools such as Excel, VBA, SQL, Qlikview, Tableau, Power BI and etc.

In depth

As a graduate, you'll follow a structured programme working with a range of clients and technologies. Highly diverse, this work will span the delivery lifecycle, from initially shaping a project through its design to technical delivery.

During the programme, you'll also benefit from a number of training modules designed to develop your productivity and technical skills.

As you progress, your Performance Manage will work with you to identify your goals and tailor any additional training you might need.

We will provide plenty of support and a blend of development opportunities to help you achieve your potential – including client work and the chance to gain technical qualifications specifically suited to the client work you will deliver.

Solving a broad mix of challenges for our clients, Financial Modelling is a dynamic, fast-paced place to be. Combining expertise from across our FS, IGH and Corporates Modelling teams, we deliver tailor-made advice to all of our clients.

Who we're looking for

People who excel within Financial Modelling are passionate about continually adapting their skills and knowledge to find solutions that meet our clients' needs. We also ask for a keen interest in technology and business issues, as well as good communication skills and the desire to take on early responsibility.

Whilst you don't necessarily need to be a technical guru we are looking for individuals who have a keen interest in Financial Modelling and typically come from STEM, Economics or Finance backgrounds. Most importantly, you'll have an appetite to learn about Financial Modelling and how we can best support our clients.

We encourage applicants who are interested in a career in Financial Modelling and display a willingness to learn new technical roles. All graduates get the chance to acquire and deepen technical skills and build a rewarding career.

What to Expect

You will add value to our clients and business from day one. No two projects will be the same, so you'll need the flexibility to work across different roles with a diverse range of people and clients. We work across three coverage areas: FS, Corps and NM.

Financial Services (FS)

We help banking, insurance and investment management clients use advanced modelling techniques to make better decisions.

Corporates (Corps)

We provide tools to help our clients confidently address strategic and operational challenges.

National Markets (NM)

We help clients analyse options, plan and appraise high-value bids, and optimise resource allocation.

A career in Financial Modelling will result in two skill profiles, 'financial modelling & valuations' and 'data modelling & analytics'. During your career pathway you will also acquire cross-pillar skills from other pathways to enable you to have a thorough understanding of the work the Financial Modelling capability performs for clients.

Modelling and Analytics

In 'financial modelling & valuations' we scope, design, build and test bespoke complex models to help our clients make informed decisions. These models incorporate financial, statistical and mathematical calculations using various tools and leveraging data from different sources.

Alongside this we have a proven methodology and proprietary tools (developed in-house) for reviewing and validating models to provide confidence in its use.

In 'data modelling & analytics' we deliver data & analytics services to enable data-driven decision making using multiple platforms, including Access, SQL, C#, R and Alteryx. Alongside this we have a proven methodology for developing visual reports and dashboards. Using our reporting solutions delivery methodology, we design, build and deploy high-impact visual reports and dashboards with a focus on information and interface design. These are developed across a range of platforms including Qlikview, Tableau, Power BI and SQL Server.

The project, client and role combinations are almost endless. Which means you'll work with a wide variety of people across KPMG – from other graduates to Partners.

This exposure provides access to the unrivalled knowledge you need to build your own skills, as well as deliver to our clients. Learning and applying the latest technologies, you'll be expected to pick up essential information quickly about the UK firm and industry that you're working in, as well as the basics of Financial Modelling.

Why Financial Modelling?

As one of the fastest growing areas of KPMG, it's a great place to develop your modelling skills, business understanding, consultancy skills and career. The breadth of our work, expertise and clients means there's always the chance to learn new things. We'll also provide a strong support network for you to maximise every opportunity that comes your way.

Training and Development

Training will continue throughout your career at KPMG but during your first couple of years, we focus on equipping you with further technical and industry knowledge. The exact shape of your training will be influenced by the type of work you're engaged in, but will involve learning market-leading technologies and industries, and formal training on a number of delivery and consulting approaches. We'll also assign you to projects that put your formal training to practical use.

Plus we offer on-the-job coaching, the chance to study for relevant industry qualifications and access to wide-ranging training that will help you to manage your time, influence stakeholders, manage finances and lead others.

You may also have the opportunity to study for CIMA or CFA, depending on the team you join. Both are industry accredited qualifications focusing on finance and accounting concepts that will help you through your graduate programme and into your future career.

Please see case studies below.

Name	: Dilveer
Business Area	: Financial Modelling
Based	: London

The recruitment process

I joined the UK firm in September 2015. The recruitment process for this intake was similar to other consulting firms and spanned a large amount of time. However, my interviewers were very welcoming and willing to talk again after I received my offer. This helped prepare me for joining the firm. Since joining, the firm have taken on feedback provided by graduates and have completely transformed the recruitment process so it is more streamlined and fun by creating Launch Pad.

Why KPMG?

Before applying, I was looking to get into the banking and insurance industry. KPMG has a good reputation as one of the big 4 consulting firms with some of the biggest clients in the market. The exposure and client interaction that a graduate within Financial Services Modelling gets is great and has come with that steep learning curve on the industry, exactly what I was looking for.

Qualifications and support

The Financial Modelling team may give you the opportunity to study for professional qualifications. I personally have chosen to focus on my projects and learn on-the-job. The team itself provide a great support network to learn from each other, from lunch and learns to detailed feedback.

Day-to-day

Projects can vary so much so it is difficult to describe a typical day. Generally you will be working on a model build or a model review. Model reviews require a lot of detail orientated review of another model. Model build can vary from building a database, a dashboard, a traditional financial model or a business case model.

My advice

Get to know your peer group within the wider advisory team. They are your most important network and will help you as you encounter new challenges from project to project. Work aside, they will also be a lot of fun as you go through your graduate pathway.

Working with clients

Working with clients is a great experience. Often you will have to work hard at maintaining a good relationship with clients as they will be your key source of information as you begin to support them through the project.

Social life

There is a good work life balance at KPMG, whether you are a budding graduate or a parent with children. There are lots of events you can join, but I personally think your "KPMG social life" starts with your peer group.

Further career opportunities at KPMG

The managers within the modelling team are great at helping you focus your career. Your performance manager will help guide you as you work your way up the career ladder, but they will also help you find those opportunities outside of the pathway if there is something you are passionate about.

Name	: Sam
Business Area	: Financial Modelling – Financial Services
Based	: London

The recruitment process

My recruitment process began in 2015 when I was part of the Vacation Programme. The process was very well organised and I enjoyed the opportunity to be interviewed by directors. My final interview was very informal and felt like a conversation where I was able to speak about topics that I was interested in, rather than answering a list of questions. This differed to other firms as some of my other interviews felt very impersonal.

Why KPMG?

During the course of my internship I was impressed by the values that KPMG has and how we stick to them in every aspect of the business. Both in interactions with clients, but also in the way that we treat our employees. Everyone is valued, and everyone is important. Even as an intern I never felt that I was marginalised or not listened to, I felt as through I was an important part of the business. I work here because KPMG is a responsible firm which cares about its staff.

Qualifications and support

In Financial Modelling you may have the option to complete qualifications which are fully funded by the firm which is a great opportunity. There are also opportunities to take internal training courses in new technologies and techniques to further your development. I have felt fully supported and able to ask questions of anyone in my team if I am unsure about something.

Day-to-day

In my first year, my day-to-day has consisted of anything from helping with the running of the Vacation Programme in my department, to building new modelling tools. The variety of work is great and you will rarely have two days which are the same. Recently I have been working on a complex remediation engagement while helping to organise a team away day!

My advice

Ask for help. If you are not sure about how to do something it is better to ask than to not do something correctly. Additionally, never underestimate the value of a strong network. Get to know everyone on your team and make an effort to meet colleagues in other areas of the business. You never know what opportunities might come up!

Working with clients

Working with clients is a steep learning curve as you have to be able to read their expectations and align yourself with their culture. It can be daunting when you first start but having the skills to build relationships with clients is invaluable. Even as a junior colleague you will have opportunities to interact with very senior client stakeholders.

Social life

There is a very strong social culture at KPMG. There are a huge number of social events, and we have a social committee who organise events for our team. Our team has a band which have played at social events and we have been for karaoke nights together!

Further career opportunities at KPMG

KPMG is such a large firm that you can move into almost any sector or industry if you look for it. You are actively encouraged to find something you enjoy doing at the firm and moving to another team for a secondment is very common and even encouraged.

FAQ's

Will I work with other teams?

Absolutely. The programme is part of a much wider function within KPMG. Working with teams across KPMG to deliver truly bespoke technology solutions, you'll gain a broader understanding of the role that our clients' technology functions play within their business. You may also get the opportunity to work on projects in other teams where you can utilise the skills you have developed or gained through training will also help you become a more rounded individual and increase your internal and external networks.

What types of clients might I work with?

Our clients tend to include organisations that are undergoing rapid growth, experiencing technology issues or using large, complex information systems.

Will I get the opportunity to work in different business areas of the wider KPMG UK firm?

As a professional services firm, KPMG support their clients in a variety of different ways and as you develop skills on your graduate programme, you will often find yourself working on projects with colleagues from other areas of the firm. Opportunities for you to work on projects in other teams where you can utilise the skills you have developed or gained through your studies will also help you become a more rounded individual and also increase your internal and external networks.

How are projects organised?

We assemble teams with appropriate skills at bid stage or select them to meet specific client requirements for ongoing projects. The teams are led by an engagement manager and partner, who allocate work and the time spent.

Is there much travel involved in the role?

Our work takes us to where our clients are, so we spend a lot of time working at their offices. That means there will be travel involved – it's unlikely that you'll be going to the same office every day of the year, so be prepared to frequently change your routine.

What happens after I finish my Graduate Programme?

Given our amazing growth, you'll be supported to progress and have a really varied career in Modelling, as you build specialist skills and broad consulting

Contact us

T: +44 (0) 800 328 5764
E: ukfmgraduate@kpmg.co.uk

kpmgcareers.co.uk