Economics

Business Career Center Fast Facts

Economics is considered to be the most quantitative social science. It is the study of mankind’s efforts to obtain the goods and services required for survival, reasonable comfort, and, when possible, affluence. Economics is also the study of the competitive and cooperative behavior of persons in resolving conflicts of interests that arise because of scarcity.

The W. P. Carey business degree in economics provides a solid foundation for further professional study in economics and business, as well as law, public administration, and health sciences. Students of this program will learn the skill of abstraction, deductive skills, diagrammatic skills, mathematical skills, and the "economic way of thinking."

Undergraduate economics majors are among the highest-paid new college hires. The national average starting salary for an economics graduate ranges from $48,000 to $68,000. Moreover, employment of economists is expected to grow 6 percent through 2024.

Pursue diverse career opportunities

- Actuary
- Bank examiner
- Bank research analyst
- Benefits administrator
- Business manager
- Claims examiner
- Commodities analyst
- Commodities trader
- Controller
- Cost analyst
- Credit officer
- Demographer
- Insurance agent or broker
- International trade specialist
- Investment banker
- Investment counselor
- Labor relations specialist
- Property manager
- Purchasing agent
- Securities broker
- Statistician
- Underwriter

Map your future in economics

Business economist

Analyze economic problems and communicate with others inside and outside of the firm. Focusing on microeconomics, study the supply and demand decisions of individuals and firms, such as how profits can be maximized and how much of a good or service customers will demand at a certain price. Focusing on macroeconomics, study historical trends in the whole economy and forecast future trends in areas such as unemployment, inflation, economic growth, productivity, and investment.

Government economist

Collect and analyze data on the production, distribution, and consumption of commodities produced in the U.S. and overseas. Assess economic conditions in the U.S. or abroad in order to estimate the economic effects of specific changes in legislation or public policy. Advise policymakers in areas such as telecommunications deregulation, Social Security revamping, the effects of tax cuts on the budget deficit, and the effectiveness of imposing tariffs on imported steel. Analyze various datasets to project future spending needs.

Academic economist

Function primarily in the areas of teaching and research, usually in a university setting. Be responsible for undergraduate and graduate education in economics and related subjects. Engage in research of either a theoretical or applied nature, with successful research leading to publication of books and articles in professional journals.
Add Value to Your Degree

As a W. P. Carey student, your classroom experience is just one part of your preparation for a successful career. A variety of extracurricular opportunities provide you with practical, real-world experiences to complement your classroom studies.

Student Economics Association (SEA)
studenteconomicsassociation.com

The SEA is open to all students with an active interest in economic issues and problems. Its main objective is to promote extracurricular activities that enhance the ASU learning experience.

Arizona Council on Economic Education (ACEE)
azecon.org

The ACEE’s mission is to help Arizona students develop economic ways of thinking and problem solving that they can use in their lives as knowledgeable consumers, savers and investors, productive members of the workforce, responsible citizens, and informed participants in a global economy.

Contact

Visit wpcarey.asu.edu/sos to schedule an appointment with your advisor or career coach.

Peterson Institute for International Economics (IEE)
piee.com

The Peter G. Peterson Institute for International Economics is a private, nonprofit, nonpartisan research institution devoted to the study of international economic policy.

American Economic Association (AEA)
aeaweb.org

Organized in 1885, the AEA issues publications on economic subjects and encourages economic research and freedom of economic discussion.