

Certification in Sustainable Finance

The Certification of Professional Achievement in Sustainable Finance prepares students to meet the growing demand for professionals who understand and can apply the fundamentals of both corporate sustainability and finance. Courses cover environmental risk management, the environmental, social, and governance issues that affect capital markets, project finance, sustainable investing, green and carbon accounting, and environmental markets.

The certification program is offered on the Columbia University campus, and provides both full-time and part-time options, as well as evening classes. Students will learn traditional financial and accounting tools supplemented with sustainability-specific methods and topics. The certification program equips graduates with the practical information and tools they need to understand the impact of environmental sustainability in corporate financial management and in financial markets and enable them to prepare for and manage the consequences of both.

The certification comprises courses that cover concepts at the intersection of sustainability and financial management, such as sustainability economics, investment, accounting, risk management, and communication. Students will gain a foundation in the core concepts of corporate finance and an understanding of the sustainability drivers in finance. Students will also learn to analyze the non-financial metrics of sustainability ventures.

FACULTY

Course instructors include both expert faculty and practitioners, who are leaders in their respective fields of sustainable finance, economics, accounting, corporate sustainability, and environmental markets, and risk management.

STUDENTS

The Certification in Sustainable Finance is geared to professionals with a strong interest in sustainability and finance. The Certification is well-suited to practitioners in one or both of these areas, who desire formal training in sustainable finance, but also to professionals who aspire to enter this field. The certification is applicable to industries such as energy, financial services, real estate development, technology, transportation, and utilities.

The Certification may be taken as a complement to other graduate degree programs, including the Master of Science in Sustainability Management, or it can be taken as a stand-alone program.

All courses are offered in the evening to accommodate the schedules of students working full-time. The certification can be completed through part-time or full-time enrollment. Students enrolled on a part-time basis can complete the certification requirement in as many as four semesters. Students enrolled on a full-time basis can complete the certification requirements in one semester.

CURRICULUM

The Sustainable Finance Certification requires the successful completion of 12 credits or four 3-point courses from the following course offerings.

- Sustainable Finance
- Financing the Clean Energy Economy
- Global Environmental Markets
- Cost Benefit Analysis
- Sustainable Investing and Economic Growth
- Energy Markets and Innovation
- Energy and Sustainable Development
- Financing Natural Infrastructure
- ESG Investing and Responsible Investment Practices
- Solar Project Development
- The Certification of Professional Achievement in Sustainable Finance prepares
- Green Accounting
- The Business and Ecology of Sustainable Forestry

COMMUNITY

The students who enroll in the Sustainable Finance Certification are members of the Earth Institute, the School of Professional Studies, and the greater Columbia University community. The Earth Institute reaches across the University to draw and integrate expertise from numerous academic disciplines, in order to propose solutions to some of the world's most pressing problems. The Earth Institute comprises two dozen research centers, and it is affiliated with more than 30 academic programs. Students who pursue the Certification have access to the Institute's leading experts in the field of sustainability, as well as the rest of the University's world renowned faculty. The students study alongside a new generation of problem solvers who are enrolled in the Earth Institute's academic programs. All students have access to the Earth Institute's Professional Development program and the hundreds of extracurricular activities that the Institute organizes each year.

The certification program equips graduates with the practical information and tools they need to understand the impact of environmental sustainability in corporate financial management and in financial markets and enable them to prepare for and manage the consequences of both.



TO APPLY

Admission to the program is highly selective. Prospective students interested in learning more about the program are encouraged to meet with the director, the associate director, and the faculty.

Application Deadlines

- **Fall enrollment: May 15th**
- **Spring enrollment: November 1st**

For more information about the Certification in Sustainable Finance, please visit

earth.columbia.edu/sustainable-finance

Office of Admissions

Mail Code 4119
203 Lewisohn Hall
2970 Broadway
New York, NY 10027-6902
212-854-9666
apply@sps.columbia.edu

Allison Ladue

Associate Director
M.S. In Sustainability Management
The Earth Institute
Columbia University
212-851-9361
aladue@ei.columbia.edu

THE EARTH INSTITUTE
COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY

 COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY
School of Professional Studies