BELK COLLEGE OF BUSINESS
NIBLOCK STUDENT CENTER

QUEEN CITY CAREER GUIDE
ECONOMICS

WHAT IS ECONOMICS?

ECONOMICS IS THE STUDY OF HOW INDIVIDUALS, BUSINESSES, GOVERNMENTS, AND SOCIETIES MAKE DECISIONS ABOUT THE ALLOCATION OF SCARCE RESOURCES. Economists analyze data, incentives, and market behavior to understand how choices affect individuals, organizations, and economies. Economic principles are used to evaluate issues such as consumer behavior, employment, inflation, taxation, international trade, public policy, and business strategy. The insights gained through economics help organizations make informed decisions in an increasingly complex and interconnected world.

ECONOMICS INDUSTRIES

ECONOMIC CONSULTING. Advise corporations, law firms, and government agencies on business strategy, litigation support, regulatory issues, and public policy. Economic consultants use data analysis, forecasting, and economic modeling to support decision-making.

GOVERNMENT & NON- PROFIT. Conduct research and statistical analyses related to public policy, labor markets, economic development, education, healthcare, and other societal issues. Economists work at the federal, state, and local levels, as well as for nonprofit and advocacy organizations.

CORPORATE & FINANCIAL SERVICES. Use economic analysis, forecasting, and quantitative methods to evaluate market conditions, consumer behavior, industry trends, and business performance. Professionals may support strategy, risk management, investment decisions, pricing, and operations.

EDUCATION, LAW, & PUBLIC POLICY. Teach economics, conduct research, or apply economic principles to legal and policy issues. Economics provides strong preparation for graduate study in law, public policy, business, and related fields.

PREPARING FOR YOUR CAREER...

AS CITED BY TOP AREA RECRUITERS, YOU WILL NEED:

- Strong analytical, quantitative, and research skills
- The ability to interpret data and identify relationships, trends, and patterns
- Critical thinking and evidence-based problem-solving skills
- Strong written and verbal communication skills
- The ability to communicate complex ideas to diverse audiences
- Proficiency in Excel and data analysis tools
- Experience working with data, statistics, and economic research methods

ADVANCED DEGREES

MS, Economics at UNC Charlotte: concentrations in Quantitative Methods in Economics, Quantitative Financial Economics, Urban Economics and Real Estate, Financial Management, and Applied Economic Analysis. Students will be prepared for analytical and management positions in the public or private sector. Early entry is available, which can be a great way to save time and money on your graduate program by starting as early as your junior year. For more info: www.msecon.charlotte.edu

JD (Law School): Admission to law school is determined by college GPA and score on the Law School Admissions Test (LSAT). UNC Charlotte offers pre-law support including Pre-Law 101 and LSAT 101, and you can find information about preparing for law school and join the listserv: https://advising.charlotte.edu/pre-law/

You might enjoy economics if you enjoy challenging the status quo; you have superb math skills; you enjoy finding connections among ideas; you can see the big picture; you rely on research and data to make decisions; you're always asking "what if..?"

RIGHT NOW IN ECONOMICS

Economics professionals are expected to understand how current events, policy decisions, and market conditions shape economic outcomes.

Stay informed through resources such as the BEA, Federal Reserve, IMF World Economic Outlook, and our College's Economic Forecast.

QUICK FACTS
FOR ECONOMISTS:
FIELD GROWTH:
+1% NATIONALLY

NC SALARY RANGE: $35,460- $224,270
MEDIAN NATIONAL INCOME: $115,440
THIS DATA REFLECTS ALL WORKERS AND LONG-TERM EARNING POTENTIAL.

MOST ECONOMISTS NEED A MASTER'S DEGREE OR HIGHER; BACHELOR'S-LEVEL ECONOMIST POSITIONS ARE LIMITED. ECONOMICS GRADUATES ALSO PURSUE ANALYST, CONSULTING, FINANCE, MANAGEMENT, AND RESEARCH ROLES THAT OFTEN REQUIRE A BACHELOR'S DEGREE.

UNC CHARLOTTE GRADS

60.63% of Charlotte Economics graduates 1-5 years out are employed in economics or related occupations, including analyst, consulting, management, finance, and research roles. They reported an average salary of $74,000. *Lightcast Data, 2021-2026

GET INVOLVED!
STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS & PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

Student Opportunities

Organization- Economics Club

Honors Society- Omicron Delta Epsilon - Economics majors with 3.0 GPA

Professional Organizations

American Economic Association

National Association for Business Economics

Charlotte Economics Club

Charlotte Chamber of Commerce

North Carolina Economic Developers Association

National Economic Association - Caucus of Black Economists

WHO HIRES UNC CHARLOTTE ECONOMICS MAJORS?

Bank of America
WELLS FARGO
TIAA
Vanguard
UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA CHARLOTTE
us bank
COMPASS GROUP
Uwharrie BANK

Internships make candidates more competitive in the job market, and many employers hire entry level positions from their internship programs. More information can be found at belkcollege.charlotte.edu/internships

SAMPLE JOB TITLES IN ECONOMICS

Economist • Economic Research Analyst • Policy Analyst
Labor Analyst • Data Analyst • Market Analyst
Business Analyst • Financial Analyst • Economic Adviser
Quantitative Researcher • Forecaster