

**Meet finance industry leaders at Careers Week events 18 to 22 August**

Economic pressures haven't dampened the demand for specialist skills across the financial services sector, as talent shortages and an ageing workforce continue to drive job growth. For people wanting to move into finance sector jobs, or up-skill and take advantage of the talent shortage, now is the time to get free expert career advice at Kaplan Professional's **Financial Services Careers Week, 18 to 22 August** in Sydney, Melbourne, Brisbane, Adelaide and Perth.

Warren Jacobson, CEO, Kaplan Professional says, "Opportunities in financial services are there for the taking. Careers Week offers a rare chance for participants to learn insider tips from industry experts, employers and recruiters about the personal attributes, skills and qualifications needed to access these opportunities. We are extremely proud of, and grateful for the access we are able to provide candidates, to expert advice from the 'coal face of industry.' It is this same engagement with industry professionals that helps differentiate all of our education programs."

According to Teresa Keown, Senior Recruitment Consultant with Hays and one of the guest presenters in Adelaide, "The number of new jobs registered remains at record levels, the demand for specialist skills is up, and we're doing more overseas campaigning for talent than ever before. Candidates now need to be prepared to move quickly—it is not unheard of for interviews to be booked upon recommendation before seeing resumes, and the turnaround time from viewing resumes to the interview stage has decreased to days rather than weeks."

Ms Keown added, "Employers are targeting candidates with the specialist skills, initiative and ability to seek out solutions to problems. Up-to-date accreditation and financial services qualifications are vital at both entry level and for ongoing career development, and demonstrate a candidate's commitment to the industry and the role they are seeking."

Simon Hutchinson, an Associate Director from Macquarie Banking and Financial Services Group and one of many Sydney guest presenters, says the financial services sector can offer plenty of challenges and rewards for motivated individuals.

"We work in a tough industry with strong competitors and an ever changing landscape that pushes people to be their best at all times. Working in financial services can be very rewarding, challenging the individual to continuously ensure they are up to date on industry trends, are following sound risk management procedures and are continuously improving on their performance. While this industry certainly requires hard work, the satisfaction and reward you can receive from succeeding in a globally competitive environment is enormous."

Teresa Keown and Simon Hutchinson, along with other experts from major firms including Deloitte, Westpac, Commonwealth Bank, AMP, Suncorp, Rabobank, AXA, and Bank of Queensland are participating in free presentations and / or giving expert advice during Careers Week. If you are interested in attending a presentation in Sydney, Melbourne, Brisbane, Adelaide or Perth register now to avoid disappointment, as places are limited.

Go to [www.kaplanprofessional.edu.au/CareersWeek](http://www.kaplanprofessional.edu.au/CareersWeek) or call 1300 135 798 for details of talks and to register.

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