

ACCOUNTING VS FINANCE

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Focuses on recording, classifying, and interpreting financial transactions.

Definition

Concentrates on managing assets and liabilities, making investment decisions, and studying market trends.

Prepares financial statements.

Manages bookkeeping, accounts payable/receivable, and financial record-keeping.

Core Functions Manages budgets and financial planning. Evaluates investment opportunities, conducts risk analysis, & makes strategic financial decisions.

Historical in nature, dealing with past transactions and financial events.

Focus on Time

Forward-looking, concentrating on future financial planning, investment, and risk management

Broad, covering all financial transactions within an organization.

Scope

Strategic, focusing on optimizing the financial health and wealth of the organization.

Generates reports for internal and external stakeholders, ensuring accuracy & compliance.

Reporting

Produces reports for management, investors, and regulatory bodies, focusing on financial strategy and decision-making.

Uses standardized principles and accounting standards.

Tools and Techniques

Involves financial modeling, forecasting, and various valuation techniques.

Careers include roles such as CPA, auditor, or forensic accountant.

Career Paths Careers span financial analyst, investment banker, financial planner, and risk manager.

Governed by accounting standards like GAAP.

Regulation

Adheres to regulatory frameworks and financial market rules.

Provides accurate and reliable financial information for decision-making.

Main Goal

Maximizes shareholder value, manages risks, and ensures financial sustainability.