

Ryan Pegler

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EDUCATION

University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign: Gies College of Business
Bachelor of Science in Finance and Information Systems

Expected Graduation: May 2026

Bocconi University: Milan, Italy

GPA: 3.66/4.00

Exchange Program: Finance, Technology, and Management Courses

January 2025 – May 2025

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

OpenField

Chicago, Illinois

Founder | CEO

June 2025-Present

- Developed a platform to connect underrepresented collegiate athletes with local businesses for personalized NIL deals
- Built and maintained 150+ strategic relationships with clients, leveraging data insights to drive athlete exposure
- Budgeted, forecasted, and processed payouts for athletes and businesses, ensuring 100% financial accuracy

Prairie Road Partners

Chicago, Illinois

Investment Analyst Intern

May 2024-August 2024

- Executed deal sourcing and proprietary review for 1,000+ companies, leveraging Excel to identify acquisition targets
- Produced 30+ detailed reports leading to actionable insights and strategic recommendations for healthcare acquisitions
- Conducted in-depth market research across multiple sectors, presenting findings that informed investment decisions

Illini Blockchain

Champaign, Illinois

Investment Analyst

January 2024-Present

- Analyzed blockchain-based assets and decentralized finance projects, identifying high-growth investment opportunities
- Developed and presented 10+ research reports on emerging technologies, providing insights into their market impacts
- Engaged in a comprehensive bootcamp process focused on DeFi fundamentals and their real-world applications

LEADERSHIP & INVOLVEMENT

Illinois Sports Consulting Agency

Champaign, Illinois

Consultant

January 2024-May 2024

- Conducted market analysis for a local sports business and proposed strategies which projected 15% sales growth
- Presented actionable data insights to enhance brand visibility and identify cost efficiencies of 5%

HEDGE: Equities, Options, and Alternatives

Champaign, Illinois

Analyst

January 2024-May 2024

- Analyzed equities and derivatives data to gain practical insights into real-world asset performance
- Engaged in weekly interactive lessons on equity valuation, financial markets, and portfolio optimization

Investment Portfolio Organization

Champaign, Illinois

Investment Analyst

October 2023-December 2023

- Selected into premier finance organization to participate in weekly lessons involving professional development, accounting, investment strategies, and company valuation methodologies to enhance investment portfolio management skills
- Delivered weekly market updates and a final stock pitch to faculty while managing a 2nd-ranked investment portfolio

Kappa Delta Rho - ETA Chapter

Champaign, Illinois

Treasurer | Social Chair

September 2022-May 2024

- Re-founded chapter by leading networking events and recruiting 32 members in first year on campus
- Managed a \$10,000+ annual budget while organizing and budgeting for 30+ fraternity events

Special Olympics Illinois

Villa Park, Illinois

Volunteer

November 2021-February 2022

- Coached 20+ participants and officiated games for Special Olympics basketball team, prioritizing their well-being

PROJECTS

Fundamental

Chicago, Illinois

Developer

August 2025

- Built a simplified AI-powered investment platform that tailors stock selections based on personalized market sentiment

Upside

Champaign, Illinois

Developer | Data Analyst

April 2024

- Developed an immersive data-driven model that accurately evaluates draft prospects using machine learning

SKILLS & INTERESTS

Key Skills: Market Research - Data Analysis - Microsoft Suite - Python - SQL - Financial Modeling - Leadership

Career Interests: Investment Management - Asset Management - Data Analytics - FinTech - Quantitative Finance

Other Interests: Basketball - Football - Soccer - Baseball - Golf - Travel - Movies - Coaching