

**Please describe your short term career goals.**

Over the last six years, I have had a ‘holistic’ professional experience in finance. I say ‘holistic’ because my projections, analysis, and 200+ rows in Excel don’t flow predominantly from analyst reports. They are equally rooted in my interaction with relevant departments - including engineers on the plant floor - in the organization and external partners such as suppliers and customers. In my current role at Greencore, for example, I work with Engineering and Operations teams to prepare annual operating plan, which includes opex, capex, capacity plan, and KPIs. On the external front, I regularly interact with our (B2B) customers, which helps me assess market conditions realistically.

Getting my hands dirty with real situations and in the plant (hands literally get dirty here) has provided me better understanding of the mapping of real-world inputs on to otherwise esoteric, lifeless formulae in finance.

I like finance function and want to continue there. Specifically, post-MBA, I want to work in a financial services firm on the corporate banking side.

**Comments:** The applicant’s seemingly common background in finance is differentiated by focusing on the real feel of numbers by the virtue of working with different functions within the organization and external stakeholders. In most cases, such differentiating points don’t just leap out from the resume. They need to be disinterred through reflection and brainstorming. And this is just one way to differentiate. Bottom line: “Ask yourself why B-schools would prefer me over others if I don’t stand out from other applicants with similar backgrounds?”

On career goals specifically, lack of credible and logical articulation of post-MBA goals can kill an application. Here are few examples that show the thought you need to give to career goals: [1](#), [2](#), [3](#), and [4](#)