

Consider the CFO –

The CFO is charged with managing the financial assets and resources of the organization. Nowadays, skilled CFOs generally hold a MBA and almost always carry a CPA designation as well. The CFO ensures the company is always financially well positioned and functioning at its financial optimum. A shrewd CFO also recognizes the value of staying nimble and flexible, as the CFO is continually on the lookout for viable financial opportunities and will proactively spearhead financial initiatives that prove complimentary to the organization's business strategies. A competent CFO carries a breadth and depth of knowledge that affords the organization a high level of comfort and confidence; as the CFO consistently demonstrates mastery of the role in leading and directing the highest-priority financial initiatives and ensuring the highest ROI. A savvy CFO achieves and accomplishes on a broad base level that ranges anywhere from providing day-to-day financial analysis and reporting, to IPO's and taking a company public.

Position: CFO

Typically Reports to: The CEO or COO

Role:

1. The CFO is charged with managing the financial assets and resources of the organization; leading and directing the work of others to ensure the organization realizes the highest ROI.

Job:

1. Focus on directing, developing and managing the organization's overall financial policies and overseeing all financial resources and functions; including accounting, budgeting, cost-accounting, credit, finance, investing and ROI, insurance, and tax and treasury matters for the organization
 - a. Financial Policies
 - b. Financial Goals
 - c. Financial Objectives
2. Execute highest-priority financial initiatives to ensure the organization's long-term financial strategies are achieved; make certain all financial resources are properly aligned for maximum effectiveness and efficiency, design and coordinate accounting and statistical data for reporting purposes, and assure all financial assets are properly invested for maximum ROI

Responsibilities:

1. Ensuring financial growth and increased profitability
2. Achieving short-term and long-term financial goals and objectives
3. Demonstrating mastery of financial analysis, cost accounting and general accounting concepts, practices, tools, systems and procedures
4. Assuring corporate adherence to generally accepted accounting rules and laws, and company-wide adherence to corporate financial guidelines

Footnote:

CFO is a "niche role" comprised of very focused and narrowly specific job duties and responsibilities. With such being the case, some organizations might opt to outsource the strategic elements of the CFO role, and provide day-to-day lower-level accounting support within the organization's internal job structure.