

KADE TJAARDA

WORK EXPERIENCE

Financial Advisory Intern - Raymond James

Aug 2025 - Present

Raymond James, Clarksville, TN

- Assist in servicing portfolios totaling over \$100M in client assets, supporting in wealth management strategies
- Utilize Raymond James research tools to screen and evaluate ETFs
- Contribute to improving the CRM system

Insurance Sales Agent

Jun 2025 - Dec 2025

GEICO Local Office, Clarksville, TN

- Licensed Tennessee Property & Casualty producer; quoted auto/home/renters policies and bound coverage compliance
- Manage a full sales pipeline in the agency CRM; prioritized leads, documented outcomes, and scheduled follow-ups
- Leverage cross-selling strategies to expand client portfolios across auto, renters, and home insurance products

Resident Assistant

Jan 2023 - Present

Austin Peay State University, Clarksville, TN

- Create a supportive and inclusive community for over 300 residents by organizing educational and social programs
- Demonstrate strong organizational and communication skills
- Manage and resolved conflicts effectively, utilizing problem-solving techniques
- Develop and maintained detailed records for resident activities and incidents

APSU Summer Internship Program

Jun 2026 - Aug 2025

Austin Peay State University, Clarksville, TN

- Was selected in the pilot program for this internship
- Gained hands-on experience with Daniel Ingram Insurance Agency
- Learned from campus resources and toured small businesses every Friday

EDUCATION

Bachelor in Finance

Aug 2022 - May 2026

(Expected)

Austin Peay State University, Clarksville, TN

GPA 3.89

- Minor in Leadership
- Presidential Emerging Leaders Program (PELP)
- Baptist Collegiate Ministry Leader

LEADERSHIP

Student Managed Investment Fund

Jan 2023 - Present

Larry Carroll's Govs Fund, Clarksville, TN

- Currently serving as president, and was vice-president 2023-2024
- Manage a half million dollar portfolio of ETFs and mutual funds, aligned with IPS and rebalanced quarterly as needed
- Generated a 12% return in 2024, outperforming institutional benchmarks of APSU Foundation

Campus Leader

Aug 2023 - May 2024

Baptist Collegiate Ministry, Clarksville, TN

- Coordinated and facilitated weekly men's ministry gatherings, fostering community and mentorship among college students
- Assisted in planning and executing campus-wide events
- Collaborated with the leadership team to develop outreach strategies

Presidents Emerging Leaders Program (PELP)

Aug 2022 - Present

Austin Peay State University, Clarksville, TN

- Selected as 1 of only 25 students admitted as a freshman into the four-year leadership development program
- Gaining exposure to leadership theory and practice through seminars, workshops, and service initiatives
- Participated in coordinating Poli-Talk, a public panel discussion bringing together leaders in the community

Real Estate Club Treasurer

Sep 2024 - Jan 2026

Austin Peay State University, Clarksville, TN

- Selected as Treasurer for the Real Estate Club, a student organization focused on learning about real estate investing and development
- Participate in monthly meetings with real estate professionals

VOLUNTEER WORK

Mission Trip

Jan 2026

Baptist Collegiate Ministry, Puerto Rico

- Spent a week doing manual labor at a new church camp in Puerto Rico
- Preparing the camp

Yard Clean Up

Jun 2025

Habitats for Humanity, Clarksville, TN

- Through the APSU Summer Internship, I was able to serve with the fellow interns, and clean up a yard for a lady in the community

CERTIFICATIONS

Bloomberg Market Concepts

Oct 2023 - Present

Bloomberg

- Earned the Bloomberg Market Concepts certification, demonstrating validated understanding of core market concepts and achieving recognition for proficiency in financial markets analysis.

Property & Casualty (P&C) Insurance Producer — Tennessee & Kentucky

Jun 2025 - Present

Tennessee Department of Commerce and Insurance, TN

- Earned the Property & Casualty (P&C) Insurance Producer certification for Tennessee and Kentucky, demonstrating skill validation in regulatory compliance and enhancing performance excellence in the insurance industry through measurable service improvements

Securities Industry Essentials (SIE) Exam

Feb 2026 - Present

FINRA

- Completed February 2026
- Entry-level FINRA exam covering securities products, markets, regulation, and industry standards

SKILLS

- **Technical & Analytical:** Bloomberg Terminal, MorningStar, Raymond James CRM, ETF & mutual fund screening, performance benchmarking, Microsoft Excel Experience
- **Finance & Industry Knowledge:** Portfolio management & asset allocation, risk assessment & compliance
- **Professional Strengths:** Business communication & public speaking, Leadership & team collaboration

PUBLICATIONS

1. Bilderback, S., Hampton, M., Diaz Campos, D., Ahlheit, S., Thrash, K., Tjaarda, K., & Black, C. (2026). College majors and earnings: labor market differentials and the role of business education. <https://doi.org/10.1108/jieb-06-2025-0072>