

Graduate Profile – Michael Evans

Stream: Finance

Program Intake: 2008

Degree: Bachelor of Commerce/Law

Position Prior to Graduate Role: Liquor Assistant



1. Why did you select to apply to the Woolworths Limited Graduate Program?

Woolworths are an interesting collection of businesses and I was interested in viewing the company from an angle other than store operations. The program has given me a wide range of experience across the Woolworths Group, which by virtue of the group's size has been a real help to my own professional development.

2. What personal and professional skills have you developed since joining the program?

Personally I have grown in the areas of oral communication, time-management and tolerance. Professionally I have learnt to deal with the day to day office environments (and its wide range of personalities, processes and policies) and developed a better capacity to manage expectations.

3. How would you describe the culture and working environment within your area of work?

We have a strong work ethic but are not afraid to share a laugh. Our team works closely together, given the nature of our work it is important that skills and knowledge are shared and not limited to one team member. In this way we are able to constantly share our ideas which ultimately results in improved and more efficient execution of our key deliverables.

4. What have you learnt about Woolworths Limited and your Division that you did not previously know?

Plenty! Working in Finance you are exposed to the core financial structure of the business and the wider Woolworths Group, whilst constantly looking at new performance metrics. You also gain a much greater understanding of the retail industry in general, and in my current role the consumer electronics industry in particular.

5. Describe what the program has looked like so far.

I have spent a year as a Business Analyst in Supermarkets and am about to complete a year at Dick Smith as a Commercial Analyst. I have had a wide range of responsibilities from providing financial support to trading teams in Supermarkets to developing and instituting new management reporting at Dick Smith.

6. What advice would you give others considering applying for the program? Who would you recommend the program to?

The finance program is well-suited to those who are analytically minded and are looking to gain some excellent industry experience in the finance domain. If you have an interest in retail and are looking to kick-off your career in finance then this is the program for you!