

# DUSTIN

P R A T T

PORTFOLIO  
MANAGER



**Current Location:**

North Sioux City, SD

**Graduation Year:** 2009, 2011

**Major:** Business

**Degree:** Bachelor of  
Administration, Master of  
Business Administration

**Employer:** Avalon Capital  
Group

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UNIVERSITY OF  
SOUTH DAKOTA  
ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

## ALUMNI CAREER SPOTLIGHT

### ASK THE ALUM

**Provide a brief job description. In your own words, what do you do on a daily basis?**

In a family office you wear a number of hats. My primary responsibilities involve monitoring, sourcing and active due diligence of our hedge fund, fixed income and cash portfolios. However, a significant portion of my role involves working on private investments, which may include everything from initial market research to active day to day management of subsidiary companies.

**What skills are most important for you to be successful in your position?**

It's a mix between analytical skills (Excel, financial modeling, understanding of financial statements) and self-driven curiosity. Investment opportunities don't immediately present themselves and often require a deeper dive to really find opportunities and/or uncover hidden risks and avoid certain investment.

**What do you like best about your job?**

Avalon and the family office dynamic allows for new opportunities every day. It is usually far from boring and I enjoy encountering new challenges and opportunities.

**What is the most challenging part of your job?**

The biggest challenge is also what I like best about the role – it is always something new. The double-edged sword may take a lot more work, but may also be that much more rewarding.

**What is one piece of advice you would offer alumni looking to enter your career or industry?**

Never stop learning! There are some tremendous post graduate accreditations (CAIA, CFA, etc.) that can really help advance your career. Additionally, meeting with people in the industry, reading industry books and actively keeping up on financial news will all help you advance.