

Advanced Compensation and Total Rewards Strategy

19 – 23 April 2027
Amsterdam (Netherlands)

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Introduction

The Advanced Compensation and Total Rewards Strategy course focuses on developing advanced capabilities in designing, evaluating, and managing compensation systems that support organizational strategy, workforce performance, and long-term talent retention. Modern organizations require reward systems that go beyond salary administration and address competitiveness, workforce engagement, leadership retention, succession planning, and business sustainability.

This course provides an advanced and integrated understanding of compensation structures, executive rewards, variable pay models, total rewards strategy, workforce cost optimization, and reward governance. It also examines how organizations align compensation frameworks with business objectives, market positioning, performance outcomes, and workforce expectations in complex operational environments.

The course is delivered over five connected days. It begins with advanced compensation strategy and reward governance, then moves into executive compensation and salary structures, variable pay and performance-linked rewards, workforce cost optimization and analytics, and finally reward effectiveness, governance, and strategic improvement.

Course Objectives

By the end of this course, participants will be able to:

- Analyze advanced compensation and total rewards strategies.
- Align reward systems with organizational and workforce objectives.
- Evaluate compensation structures using internal and external benchmarking methods.
- Design executive and leadership compensation frameworks.
- Develop advanced salary grading and pay positioning models.
- Link variable pay and incentives with strategic performance outcomes.
- Evaluate reward competitiveness using market and workforce data.
- Analyze workforce cost drivers and compensation risks.
- Improve reward governance, transparency, and policy consistency.
- Develop long-term retention and reward strategies for critical talent.
- Use compensation analytics to support strategic decision-making.
- Build advanced improvement plans for compensation and total rewards systems.

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A graphic of a chessboard with several chess pieces (king, queen, rook, knight, and pawns) in gold and silver, set against a background of concentric circles.

Course Outlines

Day 1: Advanced Compensation Strategy and Reward Governance.

- Strategic role of compensation in organizational performance.
- Total rewards framework and workforce value proposition.
- Compensation governance and policy alignment.
- Balancing competitiveness, fairness, and cost sustainability.
- Compensation risks and reward-related workforce challenges.
- Advanced compensation strategy case analysis.

Day 2: Executive Compensation and Advanced Salary Structures.

- Designing executive and leadership compensation models.
- Advanced job evaluation and pay positioning methods.
- Building salary architecture and broadband structures.
- Managing pay equity and internal alignment.
- Compensation benchmarking against market practices.
- Practical application on executive compensation design.

Day 3: Variable Pay and Performance-Linked Rewards.

- Strategic incentive and bonus structures.
- Linking rewards with organizational and individual performance.
- Designing short-term and long-term incentive plans.
- Reward differentiation for high-performing and critical talent.
- Managing incentive risks and unintended performance behaviors.
- Practical application on performance-based reward planning.

Day 4: Workforce Cost Optimization and Compensation Analytics.

- Workforce cost analysis and optimization methods.
- Measuring return on compensation investment.
- Compensation analytics and workforce reporting.
- Using data to support reward decisions and forecasting.
- Identifying compensation inefficiencies and cost risks.
- Practical application of compensation cost analysis.

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A graphic of a chessboard with several chess pieces. A large gold king piece is in the foreground, with a silver pawn and a silver knight behind it. The board is checkered, and there are concentric circles in the background.

Day 5: Reward Effectiveness and Strategic Improvement.

- Measuring compensation and reward effectiveness.
- Evaluating employee reward satisfaction and retention impact.
- Reviewing compensation structures and governance practices.
- Developing strategic reward improvement plans.
- Managing future compensation trends and workforce expectations.
- Integrated application linking strategy, rewards, performance, analytics, and workforce outcomes.

Why Attend This Course: Wins & Losses!

- Strengthen advanced compensation strategy capabilities.
- Improve alignment between rewards and business objectives.
- Build more competitive and sustainable reward structures.
- Improve executive and leadership compensation planning.
- Strengthen workforce retention through advanced reward approaches.
- Improve compensation governance and policy consistency.
- Enhance compensation decision-making using analytics and benchmarking.
- Improve control over workforce and reward-related costs.
- Support performance-driven reward systems.
- Strengthen workforce engagement and organizational stability.
- Improve strategic planning for critical talent retention.
- Develop advanced reward improvement frameworks.

Conclusion

The Advanced Compensation and Total Rewards Strategy course provides an integrated framework for managing compensation and rewards at a strategic level. It covers advanced approaches for reward governance, executive compensation, performance-based incentives, workforce cost optimization, analytics, and reward effectiveness measurement.

The program follows a connected sequence that helps participants understand how compensation decisions influence workforce performance, retention, leadership continuity, organizational competitiveness, and long-term sustainability. It also explains how reward systems can be aligned with strategic priorities while maintaining fairness, transparency, and financial control.

By the end of the course, participants will have an advanced understanding of how to design, evaluate, and improve compensation and total rewards systems in complex organizational environments. The course supports stronger workforce planning, improved reward governance, better retention strategies, and more effective alignment between compensation practices and organizational performance outcomes.

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