

Effective Budget Preparation Skills

Toronto (Canada)

17 - 21 March 2025

UK Training

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Effective Budget Preparation Skills

Code: FA28 From: 17 - 21 March 2025 City: Toronto (Canada) Fees: 5700 Pound

Introduction

Budget Preparation Skills is a comprehensive program that focuses on the essential skills required to understand the processes of costing and budgeting within organizations. The program is designed to address all the relevant issues concerning cost analysis, budget preparation, and performance measurement. This course is a must for all professionals who need to master their budgetary skills by learning how costs behave so that realistic business plans can be produced.

Course Objectives

- Identify the key factors required to understand business processes
- Develop a proper system of cost analysis for budgeting purposes
- Master the budgeting and financial skills required for better decision-making
- Identify sources of financial and operational data to support the budgeting process
- Learn new best practices to manage organizational performance
- Learn costing and budgeting terminology used in business
- Understand the importance of a well-defined costing and budgeting process
- Determine the full costs of outputs for the goods and services provided
- Master traditional techniques and recent best practices
- Link finance and operation for budgeting purposes and strategy execution
- Learn how to build a comprehensive performance measurement system

Course Content

Day 1

Budgeting and Its Role Within the Management Process

- The role of budgeting within management accounting
- Linking costing and budgeting to strategy and performance measurement
- The process of value creation: implications for budgeting
- What is a budget and why costing is fundamental
- Budgets - the financial expression of the operating plan
- Linking financial and operational issues
- Behavioural implications of budgeting

Day 2

The Framework for Budgeting

A graphic of a chessboard with several chess pieces (a king, a queen, a rook, and a pawn) on it. The board is white and black, and the pieces are gold and silver. The text 'UK Training PARTNER' is overlaid on the board.

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- Elements of the Budgetary Framework
- Key concepts and terminology
- Advantages and disadvantages: critical issues to be discussed
- Overview on the financial statements
- Balance sheet, Income statement and cash-flow statement
- Introducing cost analysis for decision-making
- The importance of understanding full costs

Day 3

Cost Analysis for Budgetary Purposes

- Costing for budgeting: Why?
- Cost terms and purposes
- Fixed and Variable costs
- Cost, profit and volume relationships
- The key concept of contribution margin
- Direct and indirect cost - the avocation problem
- Traditional Methods VS Activity-Based Costing

Day 4

Flexible Budgets and Variance Analysis

- Budgeting for management control purposes
- Describe the difference between a static budget and a flexible budget
- Compute flexible-budget variances and sales-volume variances
- Explain why standard costs are often used in variance analysis
- How to interpret variance analysis
- Integrate continuous improvement into variance analysis
- Is budgeting enough?

Day 5

Beyond Budgeting: Broadening Performance Measurement Systems:

- Shortcomings of traditional approaches to budgeting and measurement
- Linking financial to operational issues
- The Balanced Scorecard and Six-sigma
- Linking Strategy execution to Performance Measurement
- Financial perspective, Customer perspective
- Internal Business Process perspective, Learning and growth perspective
- Developing and adapting the scorecard

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