Finance Business Partner (Finance BP)

Toronto (Canada)

14 - 18 June 2027

Finance Business Partner (Finance BP)

Code: FA32 From: 14 - 18 June 2027 City: Toronto (Canada) Fees: 5900 Pound

Introduction

The Finance Business Partner Finance BP plays a critical role in connecting financial management with business strategy and operational decision-making. This practical five-day course develops the financial, analytical, communication, and commercial skills required to become an effective Finance Business Partner.
Participants will learn how to move beyond traditional financial reporting and actively support management in improving profitability, managing performance, evaluating business opportunities, controlling costs, and making better strategic decisions.

Course Objectives

- By the end of this course, participants will be able to:
- Understand the evolving role and responsibilities of a Finance Business Partner.
- Align financial analysis with business strategy and organizational objectives.
- Develop effective budgeting, forecasting, and financial planning techniques.
- Analyze financial and operational performance using relevant KPIs and management information.
- Identify cost-saving and value-creation opportunities.
- Apply financial modelling and scenario analysis to support business decisions.
- Communicate financial information clearly to non-financial managers.
- Influence stakeholders and provide commercially focused financial advice.
- Assess business cases, investments, risks, and strategic opportunities.
- Build a proactive, value-adding Finance Business Partnering approach.

Course Outline

Day 1: The Role of the Finance Business Partner

1. Understanding the evolution from Finance Function to Finance Business Partner.
2. Key responsibilities, competencies, and behaviours of an effective Finance BP.
3. Linking finance strategy with organizational strategy and business objectives.
4. Understanding the commercial drivers of business performance.
5. Building effective relationships with operational and senior management.

Day 2: Financial Analysis, Performance & KPIs

1. Interpreting financial statements for business decision-making.
2. Financial and operational KPIs: selecting measures that matter.
3. Variance analysis and identifying the drivers of performance.
4. Profitability, margins, cost structures, and value drivers.
5. Turning financial data into meaningful management insights.

Day 3: Budgeting, Forecasting & Financial Planning

1. Developing effective budgets aligned with business objectives.
2. Rolling forecasts and forward-looking financial analysis.
3. Scenario planning and sensitivity analysis.

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Email: Sales@blackbird-training.com
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4. Identifying and managing cost pressures and financial risks.
5. Using financial models to support business planning and decision-making.

Day 4: Strategic Decision-Making & Business Partnering
1. Evaluating business cases and investment proposals.
2. Cost-benefit analysis and financial appraisal techniques.
3. Supporting strategic decisions through financial modelling.
4. Identifying opportunities for cost optimization and value creation.
5. Providing commercially focused recommendations to management.

Day 5: Communication, Influence & High-Impact Finance Business Partnering
1. Communicating financial information to non-financial stakeholders.
2. Presenting financial insights with clarity and impact.
3. Influencing stakeholders and challenging decisions constructively.
4. Developing a proactive Finance BP mindset and action plan.
5. Integrating financial, operational, and strategic insights into business recommendations.

Why Attend This Course? Wins & Losses!

Wins

- Become a more commercially focused finance professional.
- Improve the quality and impact of financial recommendations.
- Strengthen budgeting, forecasting, and analytical capabilities.
- Improve communication with senior management and non-finance teams.
- Identify opportunities to improve profitability and business performance.
- Develop stronger stakeholder management and influencing skills.
- Support better strategic and operational decision-making.

Losses

- Without effective Finance Business Partnering, organizations may experience:
- Finance teams becoming focused mainly on reporting rather than value creation.
- Poor communication between finance and operational departments.
- Decisions being made without adequate financial insight.
- Missed opportunities for cost reduction and profitability improvement.
- Ineffective budgeting and forecasting processes.
- Financial information being misunderstood or poorly communicated.
- Limited contribution of finance to strategic business decisions.

Conclusion

Finance Business Partnering requires much more than technical accounting and financial reporting. It requires the ability to understand the business, interpret data, identify opportunities, challenge assumptions, communicate insights, and influence decisions.
This course provides participants with a structured framework for developing these capabilities and becoming trusted financial advisers who contribute directly to organizational performance and strategic success.

Frequently Asked Questions FAQ

1. Who should attend this course?
Finance managers, finance business partners, financial analysts, management accountants, controllers, accountants, FP&A professionals, and finance professionals preparing to move into a business partnering role.

2. Is the course suitable for non-finance professionals?
Yes. Managers and professionals from operational and commercial functions who regularly work with finance can also benefit from the course.

3. What will participants gain from the course?
Participants will develop practical skills in financial analysis, budgeting, forecasting, business case evaluation, KPI analysis, stakeholder management, and strategic decision support.

4. Is the course theoretical or practical?
The course combines core concepts with practical examples, business scenarios, financial analysis exercises, and decision-making applications.

5. How long is the course?
The course is designed as a 5-day professional training program.

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