



Financial Management for Non-financial Managers Program

19 – 23 October 2026
Vienna (Austria)



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Introduction

This Financial Management for Non-financial Managers program provides a clear and practical understanding of financial management for non-financial managers working across different organizational levels. It bridges the gap between operational responsibilities and financial decision-making by simplifying complex financial concepts into actionable knowledge. Participants will learn how financial data influences business performance and strategic direction. The course emphasizes interpreting financial statements, managing budgets, and evaluating financial risks in a managerial context. It strengthens the ability to communicate effectively with finance teams and senior leadership. Learners will develop confidence in using financial information to support planning, control, and decision-making processes within their departments.

Targeted Groups

This Financial Management for Non-financial Managers program targets professionals seeking knowledge and skills:

- Department managers are responsible for budgeting and cost control decisions.
- Project managers handle financial planning and resource allocation.
- Supervisors are involved in tracking operational performance.
- Team leaders need basic financial literacy for reporting.
- Business owners without a formal finance background.
- Administrative managers oversee expenditures and procurement.

Course Objectives

Participants will achieve the following objectives by completing the Financial Management for Non-financial Managers course:

- Understand the core principles of financial management and how they apply to non-finance roles in organizational settings.
- Interpret key financial statements, including balance sheets, income statements, and cash flow reports, with confidence.
- Develop the ability to manage budgets effectively and align financial planning with operational goals.
- Strengthen skills in cost control, expense monitoring, and identifying financial inefficiencies within departments.
- Apply financial ratios and performance indicators to evaluate business performance and support decision-making.
- Enhance understanding of corporate finance basics, including revenue, profit margins, and cost structures.
- Build capability to communicate financial insights clearly with finance departments and senior leadership.
- Improve analytical thinking in evaluating investment decisions, risk factors, and resource allocation.
- Gain practical awareness of financial planning cycles and reporting requirements.
- Support strategic decision-making using financial data interpretation and managerial accounting principles.

Targeted Competencies

Participants will gain the following competencies during the Financial Management for Non-financial Managers program:

- Ability to read and interpret financial statements accurately for managerial use.
- Strong understanding of budgeting principles and financial planning processes.
- Competence in analyzing costs and identifying areas for financial improvement.
- Skills in monitoring cash flow and ensuring operational financial stability.
- Ability to apply basic financial ratios for performance evaluation.
- Improved decision-making using financial data and reporting insights.
- Understanding of cost structures and their impact on profitability.
- Capability to collaborate effectively with finance teams.
- Strengthened financial awareness for strategic and operational management decisions.

Studying Scenarios

In this Financial Management for Non-financial Managers training, participants develop skills through the following scenarios:

- Real-world budgeting challenges require allocating limited resources across departments.
- Case studies on interpreting financial reports to identify performance gaps.
- Situations involving cost overruns and corrective financial actions.
- Decision-making exercises based on profitability and investment evaluation scenarios.
- Operational planning simulations integrating financial constraints and business goals.

Course Content

Unit 1: Introduction to Financial Management for Non-Finance Managers

- Understanding the role of financial management in business operations and decision-making.
- Overview of financial management for non-financial managers in modern organizations.
- Key financial concepts every manager should know for effective leadership.
- The difference between financial accounting and managerial accounting in practice.
- Importance of financial literacy in improving organizational performance.
- Relationship between finance functions and operational departments.
- Introduction to financial terminology used in corporate environments.
- How financial decisions influence business sustainability and growth.
- Core principles of corporate finance basics for managerial roles.
- Link between strategic planning and financial control systems.
- Role of managers in supporting financial discipline across teams.

Unit 2: Understanding Financial Statements and Reporting

- Structure and components of the balance sheet explained for managers.
- Interpreting income statements for profitability analysis and performance tracking.
- Understanding cash flow statements and liquidity management concepts.
- Relationship between financial statements and business decision-making.
- Identifying key financial indicators within company reports.
- Reading and analyzing profit and loss statements effectively.
- Understanding financial reporting cycles and internal reporting systems.
- Importance of accuracy in financial data interpretation.
- How financial reports support managerial accounting decisions.
- Practical use of financial statements in operational management.
- Common errors in reading financial reports and how to avoid them.

Unit 3: Budgeting and Financial Planning

- Fundamentals of budgeting for managers in operational environments.
- Steps in preparing and managing departmental budgets effectively.
- Linking budgeting processes to strategic organizational goals.
- Forecasting techniques for financial planning and resource allocation.
- Monitoring and controlling budget variances in real time.
- Importance of cost estimation in financial planning cycles.
- Role of managers in maintaining budget discipline.
- Tools and techniques for effective financial planning and control.
- Budget approval processes and organizational governance structures.
- Aligning operational activities with financial constraints.
- Importance of financial forecasting in decision-making.

Unit 4: Cost Control and Performance Management

- Understanding cost structures and their impact on profitability.
- Techniques for cost control in operational management.
- Identifying fixed and variable costs in business environments.
- Methods for reducing operational inefficiencies and waste.
- Performance measurement using financial and non-financial indicators.
- Cost-benefit analysis in managerial decision-making.
- Evaluating departmental performance through financial metrics.
- Understanding break-even analysis and its managerial applications.
- Monitoring operational expenses for financial efficiency.
- Role of managers in driving cost optimization strategies.
- Improving profitability through effective resource utilization.

Unit 5: Financial Decision Making and Business Analysis

- Using financial data to support managerial decision-making processes.
- Evaluating investment opportunities using basic financial principles.
- Risk assessment in financial planning and business operations.
- Understanding financial ratios for evaluating business performance.
- Strategic decision-making based on financial analysis.
- Linking operational decisions with financial outcomes.
- Understanding revenue generation and profit optimization strategies.
- Introduction to managerial accounting tools for decision support.
- Assessing the financial feasibility of business projects and initiatives.
- Communicating financial insights to stakeholders effectively.
- Developing financial awareness for long-term business sustainability.

Final Insights & Key Takeaways

This course equips non-financial professionals with essential financial management skills to interpret data and support informed business decisions. It strengthens financial awareness, directly improving budgeting, cost control, and strategic planning across organizational functions.