



FINANCIAL ACUMEN: FP&A ESSENTIALS SERIES

FP&A Essentials

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COURSE LENGTH

Five 2-Hour Virtual Sessions or
One and a Half-Days In Person

DESCRIPTION

The financial planning and analysis profession has experienced rapid growth over the past decade, and there is a significant amount of knowledge required to perform at the highest level. Finance professionals who are able to transform data into actionable knowledge are in demand. In this five-part course, explore key topics in FP&A that will help you excel in your job and drive the organization's future growth.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

- Address the way the strategic value proposition interacts with the specifics of the organization
- Learn about the factors that influence product demand and pricing, types of cost, cost allocation and cost-volume-profit analysis
- Determine crucial aspects and analyze information
- Discover what is needed to assemble data and build forecasts that drive the various functions in an organization
- Learn how to interpret and use financial projections
- Review best practices and understand how to use relative, absolute and mixed references

AGENDA

- Session 1: Strategy, organization, industry
 - FP&A's connection to overall strategy
 - Strategy development
 - Interactions between industry, value drivers, and business strategy
 - Links between strategy and the modeling process
- Session 2: Planning and analysis of budgets
 - Demand and price elasticity
 - Cost behavior patterns
 - Cost classification
 - Cost-volume-profit analysis, scenarios and sensitivity analysis
 - Variance analysis of budget and actual results
- Session 3: Overall modeling process
 - The process of determining the desired outputs, gathering data
 - Identifying outliers in the data
 - Refining assumptions and scope
 - Developing scenarios
 - Analyzing risks and opportunities
 - Model building and design

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- Session 4: Building financial projections
 - Forecasting methods
 - Financial statement projections
 - Valuing projects
- Session 5: Worksheet & worksheet functions
 - Syntax for common worksheet functions
 - Pivot tables
 - Arrays and array formulas
 - Data validation
 - FP&A exam spreadsheet functionality