

FINANCE & ACCOUNTING | COURSE BROCHURE

Advanced Budgeting Training

5 days | Classroom training | English

SMART HORIZON

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Course content

Why attend

Advanced Budgeting Training equips professionals with sophisticated budgeting techniques and analytical skills necessary for effective financial management. Participants will learn to develop, implement, and monitor complex budgets while aligning financial strategies with organisational goals, enhancing their decision-making capabilities in dynamic environments.

Budgeting is a critical function that directly impacts an organisation's financial health and strategic direction. Professionals often face challenges such as forecasting inaccuracies, resource allocation inefficiencies, and the need for real-time financial insights. Mastering advanced budgeting techniques allows participants to address these issues effectively, ensuring that budgets are not only accurate but also strategically aligned with business objectives. By developing these skills, professionals can enhance their ability to allocate resources efficiently, respond to market changes, and support organisational growth through informed financial planning. This training empowers participants to take ownership of the budgeting process, fostering a culture of accountability and financial discipline within their teams.
Participants will engage in practical exercises that simulate real-world budgeting scenarios, enabling them to develop skills in variance analysis, zero-based budgeting, and financial modelling. By practising these techniques, attendees will enhance their ability to make informed financial decisions, optimise resource allocation, and drive organisational performance. This training equips professionals with the tools to effectively communicate budget proposals, justify financial decisions to stakeholders, and implement strategic initiatives that support long-term success. Ultimately, mastering advanced budgeting prepares participants to navigate the complexities of financial management in a competitive landscape.

Professional Problems This Course Is Designed to Solve

• Difficulty translating subject knowledge into practical workplace decisions.
• Inconsistent approaches to the activities covered in the course outline.
• Lack of a structured plan for applying and reviewing new skills.

Course methodology

The course employs a blend of case studies, hands-on workshops, and simulations to build participants' budgeting capabilities. Each session includes practical exercises where attendees will analyse financial data, develop budget proposals, and present their findings. Participants will produce detailed budget reports, variance analysis documents, and financial models, providing tangible evidence of their learning and application of advanced budgeting techniques. Collaborative group work will facilitate peer learning, allowing participants to share insights and strategies that can be applied in their own organisations. This approach reinforces the practical relevance of the training and ensures that participants leave with actionable skills that can be implemented immediately in their roles.



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Course objectives

By the end of this course, participants will be able to:
• Analyse complex financial data to identify trends and variances in budget performance.
• Construct detailed budget forecasts using advanced modelling techniques and historical data.
• Justify budget allocations based on strategic priorities and organisational goals.
• Evaluate the effectiveness of budgeting processes and recommend improvements.
• Design and implement zero-based budgeting approaches for specific projects or departments.
• Assess risk factors in budgeting and develop contingency plans to mitigate financial uncertainties.

Target audience

This course is suitable for:
• Financial Analysts responsible for budget preparation and monitoring.
• Finance Managers overseeing departmental budgets and financial performance.
• Project Managers requiring detailed budgeting for project planning and execution.
• Business Unit Leaders involved in strategic financial decision-making.

Target competencies

Participants will develop competencies in:
• Advanced financial analysis and reporting skills.
• Proficiency in financial modelling and forecasting techniques.
• Ability to align budgeting processes with strategic objectives.
• Expertise in variance analysis and performance evaluation.
• Skills in zero-based budgeting and resource allocation.
• Capability to develop risk management strategies in budgeting.

Course outline

Day 1: Foundations of Advanced Budgeting

Applied activity: Participants will analyse a fictional company's historical financial data to identify trends and variances. They will prepare a report summarising their findings and recommendations for future budgeting, focusing on strategic implications and potential adjustments to improve financial outcomes.
Output: A detailed variance analysis report with actionable insights and recommendations.

09:00–09:54	Overview of advanced budgeting concepts and frameworks, including strategic alignment.
09:54–10:48	Understanding the role of budgeting in strategic planning and resource allocation.



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10:48–11:00	Key principles of financial forecasting and analysis for accurate budgeting.
11:00–11:30	**Coffee break**
11:30–12:12	Key principles of financial forecasting and analysis for accurate budgeting. (continued)
12:12–13:06	Introduction to variance analysis and its importance in performance measurement.
13:06–14:00	Tools and software for advanced budgeting processes and their applications.

Day 2: Building Effective Budget Models

Applied activity: Using a provided dataset, participants will create a comprehensive budget model for a new product launch, considering various cost factors, revenue projections, and potential market fluctuations. They will present their model to the group, justifying their assumptions and methodologies.
Output: A complete budget model with supporting documentation and a presentation.

09:00–09:54	Techniques for constructing detailed budget forecasts using advanced methodologies.
09:54–10:48	Utilising historical data for accurate financial modelling and projections.
10:48–11:00	Incorporating market trends and economic indicators into budget development.
11:00–11:30	**Coffee break**
11:30–12:12	Incorporating market trends and economic indicators into budget development. (continued)
12:12–13:06	Developing flexible budgets that can adapt to varying operational scenarios.
13:06–14:00	Best practices for budget documentation, presentation, and stakeholder engagement.

Day 3: Implementing Zero-Based Budgeting

Applied activity: Participants will work in teams to develop a zero-based budget for a fictional department, justifying each line item based on current needs, strategic goals, and expected outcomes. They will present their budget to the class, addressing potential challenges and stakeholder concerns.
Output: A zero-based budget proposal with detailed justifications and a presentation.

09:00–09:54	Principles and benefits of zero-based budgeting (ZBB) in organisational contexts.
09:54–10:48	Steps for implementing ZBB effectively across departments or projects.
10:48–11:00	Identifying and justifying budget needs from a zero-based perspective.
11:00–11:30	**Coffee break**
11:30–12:12	Identifying and justifying budget needs from a zero-based perspective. (continued)



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12:12–13:06	Engaging stakeholders in the ZBB process to ensure buy-in and transparency.
13:06–14:00	Monitoring and adjusting ZBB outcomes based on performance metrics.

Day 4: Risk Management in Budgeting

Applied activity: Participants will analyse a case study of a budgeting failure, identifying key risks and proposing a comprehensive risk management plan to prevent similar issues in the future. They will discuss their findings in groups, focusing on practical applications of their proposed solutions.
Output: A risk management plan addressing identified budgeting risks and proposed mitigation strategies.

09:00–09:54	Identifying financial risks in budgeting processes and their potential impacts.
09:54–10:48	Developing risk assessment frameworks to evaluate budget-related uncertainties.
10:48–11:00	Creating contingency plans to address budget variances and unexpected changes.
11:00–11:30	**Coffee break**
11:30–12:12	Creating contingency plans to address budget variances and unexpected changes. (continued)
12:12–13:06	Integrating risk management into budgeting strategies for enhanced resilience.
13:06–14:00	Case studies on budgeting failures and lessons learned for future improvement.

Day 5: Integrated Budgeting and Performance Management

Applied activity: Participants will develop a performance management dashboard that integrates budget data with key performance indicators, simulating a presentation to senior management. They will discuss the implications of their findings and how to improve future budgeting processes based on performance metrics.
Output: A performance management dashboard prototype with accompanying presentation materials.

09:00–09:54	Linking budgeting to performance management systems for cohesive strategy execution.
09:54–10:48	Using KPIs to measure budget effectiveness and operational performance.
10:48–11:00	Creating dashboards for real-time budget monitoring and reporting.
11:00–11:30	**Coffee break**
11:30–12:12	Creating dashboards for real-time budget monitoring and reporting. (continued)
12:12–13:06	Communicating budget performance to stakeholders effectively and transparently.
13:06–14:00	Continuous improvement in budgeting practices through feedback and analysis.

The timings provided are estimates and may vary depending on the number of participants and the discussions taking place during the



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sessions. They are indicative only and do not constitute a binding commitment.

Dates, venues and fees

Current published course plans. Fees are per participant in GBP, excluding unconfirmed taxes.

Venue	Start date	End date	Fee (GBP)
Singapore Confirmed dates	16 Nov 2026	20 Nov 2026	**£2,820.–**
Online Confirmed dates	16 Nov 2026	20 Nov 2026	**£1,250.–**
London Confirmed dates	7 Dec 2026	11 Dec 2026	**£2,450.–**
Online Confirmed dates	7 Dec 2026	11 Dec 2026	**£1,250.–**
Dubai Confirmed dates	14 Dec 2026	18 Dec 2026	**£3,150.–**
Online Confirmed dates	14 Dec 2026	18 Dec 2026	**£1,250.–**
Frankfurt Confirmed dates	4 Jan 2027	8 Jan 2027	**£2,650.–**
Online Confirmed dates	4 Jan 2027	8 Jan 2027	**£1,250.–**



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Dates, venues and fees (continued)

Venue	Start date	End date	Fee (GBP)
Barcelona Confirmed dates	11 Jan 2027	15 Jan 2027	**£2,840.-**
Online Confirmed dates	11 Jan 2027	15 Jan 2027	**£1,250.-**
Kuala Lumpur Confirmed dates	18 Jan 2027	22 Jan 2027	**£1,450.-**
Online Confirmed dates	18 Jan 2027	22 Jan 2027	**£1,250.-**
Paris Confirmed dates	1 Feb 2027	5 Feb 2027	**£2,860.-**
Online Confirmed dates	1 Feb 2027	5 Feb 2027	**£1,250.-**
Istanbul Confirmed dates	15 Feb 2027	19 Feb 2027	**£2,650.-**
Online Confirmed dates	15 Feb 2027	19 Feb 2027	**£1,250.-**
Amsterdam Confirmed dates	1 Mar 2027	5 Mar 2027	**£2,540.-**



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Dates, venues and fees (continued)

Venue	Start date	End date	Fee (GBP)
Online Confirmed dates	1 Mar 2027	5 Mar 2027	**£1,250.-**
Singapore Confirmed dates	15 Mar 2027	19 Mar 2027	**£2,820.-**
Online Confirmed dates	15 Mar 2027	19 Mar 2027	**£1,250.-**
Vienna Confirmed dates	22 Mar 2027	26 Mar 2027	**£2,940.-**
Online Confirmed dates	22 Mar 2027	26 Mar 2027	**£1,250.-**
London Confirmed dates	5 Apr 2027	9 Apr 2027	**£2,450.-**
Online Confirmed dates	5 Apr 2027	9 Apr 2027	**£1,250.-**
Dubai Confirmed dates	19 Apr 2027	23 Apr 2027	**£3,150.-**
Online Confirmed dates	19 Apr 2027	23 Apr 2027	**£1,250.-**



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Dates, venues and fees (continued)

Venue	Start date	End date	Fee (GBP)
Frankfurt Confirmed dates	3 May 2027	7 May 2027	**£2,650.-**
Online Confirmed dates	3 May 2027	7 May 2027	**£1,250.-**
Rome Confirmed dates	10 May 2027	14 May 2027	**£2,450.-**
Online Confirmed dates	10 May 2027	14 May 2027	**£1,250.-**
Kuala Lumpur Confirmed dates	17 May 2027	21 May 2027	**£1,450.-**
Online Confirmed dates	17 May 2027	21 May 2027	**£1,250.-**
Paris Confirmed dates	7 Jun 2027	11 Jun 2027	**£2,860.-**
Online Confirmed dates	7 Jun 2027	11 Jun 2027	**£1,250.-**
Istanbul Confirmed dates	21 Jun 2027	25 Jun 2027	**£2,650.-**



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Dates, venues and fees (continued)

Venue	Start date	End date	Fee (GBP)
Online Confirmed dates	21 Jun 2027	25 Jun 2027	**£1,250.-**
Amsterdam Confirmed dates	5 Jul 2027	9 Jul 2027	**£2,540.-**
Online Confirmed dates	5 Jul 2027	9 Jul 2027	**£1,250.-**
Rome Confirmed dates	12 Jul 2027	16 Jul 2027	**£2,450.-**
Online Confirmed dates	12 Jul 2027	16 Jul 2027	**£1,250.-**
Singapore Confirmed dates	19 Jul 2027	23 Jul 2027	**£2,820.-**
Online Confirmed dates	19 Jul 2027	23 Jul 2027	**£1,250.-**
London Confirmed dates	2 Aug 2027	6 Aug 2027	**£2,450.-**
Online Confirmed dates	2 Aug 2027	6 Aug 2027	**£1,250.-**



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Dates, venues and fees (continued)

Venue	Start date	End date	Fee (GBP)
Dubai Confirmed dates	16 Aug 2027	20 Aug 2027	**£3,150.-**
Online Confirmed dates	16 Aug 2027	20 Aug 2027	**£1,250.-**
Frankfurt Confirmed dates	6 Sept 2027	10 Sept 2027	**£2,650.-**
Online Confirmed dates	6 Sept 2027	10 Sept 2027	**£1,250.-**
Cape Town Confirmed dates	13 Sept 2027	17 Sept 2027	**£1,890.-**
Online Confirmed dates	13 Sept 2027	17 Sept 2027	**£1,250.-**
Kuala Lumpur Confirmed dates	20 Sept 2027	24 Sept 2027	**£1,450.-**
Online Confirmed dates	20 Sept 2027	24 Sept 2027	**£1,250.-**
Paris Confirmed dates	4 Oct 2027	8 Oct 2027	**£2,860.-**



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Dates, venues and fees (continued)

Venue	Start date	End date	Fee (GBP)
Online Confirmed dates	4 Oct 2027	8 Oct 2027	**£1,250.-**
Istanbul Confirmed dates	18 Oct 2027	22 Oct 2027	**£2,650.-**
Online Confirmed dates	18 Oct 2027	22 Oct 2027	**£1,250.-**
Amsterdam Confirmed dates	1 Nov 2027	5 Nov 2027	**£2,540.-**
Online Confirmed dates	1 Nov 2027	5 Nov 2027	**£1,250.-**
Singapore Confirmed dates	15 Nov 2027	19 Nov 2027	**£2,820.-**
Online Confirmed dates	15 Nov 2027	19 Nov 2027	**£1,250.-**
Cape Town Confirmed dates	22 Nov 2027	26 Nov 2027	**£1,890.-**
Online Confirmed dates	22 Nov 2027	26 Nov 2027	**£1,250.-**



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Dates, venues and fees (continued)

Venue	Start date	End date	Fee (GBP)
London Confirmed dates	6 Dec 2027	10 Dec 2027	**£2,450.-**
Online Confirmed dates	6 Dec 2027	10 Dec 2027	**£1,250.-**
Dubai Confirmed dates	13 Dec 2027	17 Dec 2027	**£3,150.-**
Online Confirmed dates	13 Dec 2027	17 Dec 2027	**£1,250.-**

Plan your next step

Dates, availability, exact venue, taxes, inclusions and payment terms require written confirmation. This brochure is not a quotation, registration, booking confirmation or visa invitation. Participants receive a Smart Horizon UK certificate of attendance; programmes are not externally accredited and do not award a professional qualification or designation. Confirm arrangements before booking travel.

For group or in-house training, contact our learning team to discuss your objectives and delivery arrangements.

Contact Smart Horizon

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View the latest course details online