



FINANCE & ACCOUNTING

FA61 Financial Decision Making

In today's volatile and performance-driven environments, finance professionals must go beyond traditional reporting to make informed, agile decisions that guide business success. This course equips mid-level finance managers with the practical tools and frameworks needed to support operational and strategic financial decisions. From managing budgets and financial plans to evaluating cost efficiencies and assessing risk, delegates will enhance their ability to support cross-functional teams and contribute to wider organisational goals. The course offers a pragmatic and applied focus, bridging financial acumen with real-world decision-making. Participants will explore budgeting, forecasting, capital investment, risk analysis, and performance measurement, all underpinned by hands-on exercises and interactive case studies. By course completion, delegates will be positioned to influence financial outcomes more confidently and make decisions that drive operational value.

Course Information

Duration: 5 days

London (£4950): 19th January 2026, 13th April 2026, 8th June 2026, 27th July 2026, 9th November 2026, 18th January 2027

Companies nominating 3 or more delegates to attend the same programme will enjoy a special discount on the course fees.

Upon completion of one of our CPD certified courses, delegates will be awarded both an LMC certificate and a CPD certificate. No examination required.

Who is the course suitable for?

This course is designed for finance professionals working at mid-management level with responsibility for budgetary control, operational planning, and financial implementation. Delegates typically work as part of cross-functional teams and support the execution of long-term financial strategies. Ideal participants include those in financial planning and analysis (FP&A), business partnering, divisional finance, or cost control roles. The course is suitable for professionals from both public and private sectors, seeking to sharpen their decision-making and broaden their operational impact.

Course profile

The Operational Role of Finance

- Understanding the interface between strategy, finance and operations
- Interpreting key financial reports and operational performance metrics
- Supporting decision-making through management accounting tools
- Linking financial objectives to operational KPIs
- Aligning finance with cross-functional team goals

Budgeting and Forecasting for Control and Agility

- Designing budgets to support accountability and responsiveness
- Implementing rolling forecasts and dynamic planning models
- Analysing variances and identifying root causes of deviations
- Managing cost centres and supporting budget holders
- Leveraging tools for scenario planning and stress testing

Cost Management and Resource Allocation

- Analysing cost structures and identifying cost-saving opportunities
- Applying activity-based costing (ABC) in operational settings
- Understanding cost behaviour and breakeven points
- Allocating resources efficiently across departments or projects
- Monitoring overheads and operational efficiency

Capital Investment and Financial Justification

- Appraising operational projects using NPV, IRR and Payback
- Presenting business cases with financial and strategic justification
- Evaluating asset replacement, outsourcing, and expansion decisions
- Considering qualitative and risk-based factors in financial appraisals
- Aligning investment decisions with cash flow constraints

Driving Performance through Financial Insight

- Supporting teams with financial insight and business partnering
- Turning data into action: dashboards, reports, and visualisations
- Presenting financial decisions to non-finance colleagues

- Managing upwards: influencing senior decision-makers
- Embedding a culture of accountability and financial awareness

Competencies

At the end of the course, delegates will be able to:

- Translate financial information into actionable operational insight
- Build and manage budgets aligned with strategic priorities
- Evaluate resource allocation and cost efficiency across operations
- Apply investment appraisal techniques in operational settings
- Analyse risks and assumptions in financial planning
- Support decision-making through dynamic forecasts and KPIs
- Collaborate effectively as a finance partner within cross-functional teams
- Present and justify financial decisions to non-finance stakeholders

Course Booking

Call us: +44 (0) 207 724 6007

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www.lmcuk.com

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