

IPSAS-BASED BUDGET PREPARATION, VARIANCE ANALYSIS, AND EXPENDITURE REPORTING



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TRAINING CENTER



Introduction

IPSAS-Based Budget Preparation, Variance Analysis, and Expenditure Reporting Training Course prepares public sector finance professionals to plan, monitor, and report expenditure using accrual-based international standards. Participants work through the IPSAS framework, budget preparation on an accrual basis, commitment and expense recognition, variance analysis, and expenditure reporting as one connected discipline. The programme links statutory appropriation control with the accounting standards that govern how public money is recognised and reported. As a result, learners gain a method aligned to international public sector practice. Furthermore, the course strengthens technical accuracy, analytical rigour, and audit-ready reporting.

IPSAS-Based Budget Preparation, Variance Analysis, and Expenditure Reporting Course Objectives

- Explain the IPSAS framework and accrual-based public sector accounting.
- Apply accrual, matching, and recognition principles to public expenditure.
- Prepare budgets consistent with IPSAS presentation and disclosure requirements.
- Apply appropriation, virement, and commitment control discipline.
- Recognise expenses and liabilities correctly under IPSAS.
- Analyse budget variances using price, volume, and efficiency decomposition.
- Apply root cause analysis and the 5 Whys to expenditure deviations.
- Prepare in-year expenditure monitoring and execution reports.
- Prepare IPSAS-compliant financial statements with notes and disclosures.
- Respond to audit findings and oversight queries with clear evidence.

Course Methodology

- Interactive sessions built on IPSAS and public expenditure cases.

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- Workshops on budget preparation, expense recognition, and variance analysis.
- Group exercises on appropriation control, execution reporting, and disclosure.
- Hands-on practice with IPSAS statements, commitment ledgers, and variance reports.
- Simulation of a budget execution review and an audit query response.
- Facilitator coaching and peer review on personal public finance plans.

Who Should Take This Course

- Public sector accountants and finance officers.
- Government budget officers and expenditure analysts.
- Ministry, agency, and municipal finance managers.
- Internal auditors reviewing public expenditure.
- Public sector accountants preparing IPSAS statements.
- Consultants advising governments on IPSAS adoption and reporting.

IPSAS-Based Budget Preparation, Variance Analysis, and Expenditure Reporting Course Outlines

Day 1: The IPSAS Framework and Public Sector Accounting

- The IPSAS framework and its relationship to IFRS.
- Accrual versus cash-based accounting in the public sector.
- Core recognition principles: accrual, matching, and prudence.
- Elements of public sector financial statements: assets, liabilities, revenue, and expenses.
- Chart of accounts design for IPSAS-compliant reporting.





- Transition and first-time adoption considerations.
- Case discussion: an entity that reported on cash and could not explain its liabilities.

Day 2: Budget Preparation on an IPSAS Basis

- Aligning the budget with IPSAS presentation and classification.
- Expenditure classification: functional, economic, and programme.
- Revenue budgeting from taxes, grants, and transfers under IPSAS recognition rules.
- Capital budgets and asset recognition thresholds.
- Provisions, contingencies, and their budget treatment.
- Medium-term expenditure frameworks (MTEF) and programme budgeting.
- Workshop: preparing an IPSAS-aligned budget for a department.

Day 3: Commitment Control, Recognition, and Appropriation

- Appropriation authority, warrants, and release of funds.
- Virement, re-appropriation, and supplementary budget rules.
- Commitment accounting and obligation tracking.
- Expense recognition timing and period cut-off controls.
- Accruals, prepayments, and matching adjustments at period end.
- Segregation of duties and internal control over expenditure.
- Exercise: recording commitments and expenses across a period close.

Day 4: Variance Analysis and Expenditure Monitoring

- In-year expenditure monitoring and execution reporting.
- Variance classification: underspend, overspend, and timing effects.

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- Price, volume, and efficiency variance decomposition.
- Root cause analysis and the 5 Whys for expenditure deviations.
- Distinguishing one-off effects from structural trends.
- Re-forecasting and revised outturn preparation.
- Simulation: investigating a significant overspend and reporting findings.

Day 5: Expenditure Reporting, Disclosure, and Audit

- Preparing statements of financial performance and financial position under IPSAS.
- Notes, disclosures, and accounting policy presentation.
- Segment reporting and programme-based expenditure disclosure.
- Reconciliation between budget and financial statements.
- Responding to audit findings and public accounts committees.
- Transparency, records management, and data protection obligations.
- Capstone: presenting an IPSAS-based budget and expenditure report.

Conclusion

By successfully completing IPSAS-Based Budget Preparation, Variance Analysis, and Expenditure Reporting, participants will gain a practical command of IPSAS accrual accounting, budget preparation, commitment control, and expenditure reporting. They will acquire skills in expense recognition, variance analysis, IPSAS-compliant disclosure, and audit-ready reporting that support accountable public financial management. Gentex Training Center designs the programme to help public finance professionals apply international standards with confidence.





FAQs

Q1 What is the "IPSAS-Based Budget Preparation, Variance Analysis, and Expenditure Reporting" course about?

It prepares public sector finance professionals to plan, monitor, and report expenditure using accrual-based international standards. The course spans the IPSAS framework and public sector accounting, budget preparation on an IPSAS basis, commitment control, recognition and appropriation, variance analysis and expenditure monitoring, and expenditure reporting, disclosure and audit.

Q2 What are the key benefits of the "IPSAS-Based Budget Preparation, Variance Analysis, and Expenditure Reporting" course?

You gain a method aligned to international public sector practice. The course improves accrual recognition accuracy, strengthens appropriation and commitment discipline, sharpens variance investigation, and gives you IPSAS-compliant reporting and disclosure that withstand audit and oversight.



Q3 What skills will I gain from the "IPSAS-Based Budget Preparation, Variance Analysis, and Expenditure Reporting" course?

You will develop four core skills: IPSAS framework application and accrual accounting, IPSAS-aligned budget preparation and classification, commitment control with expense recognition, and variance analysis with IPSAS-compliant expenditure reporting and disclosure.

Q4 What tools, methods, or standards are covered in the "IPSAS-Based Budget Preparation, Variance Analysis, and Expenditure Reporting" course?

The course covers the IPSAS framework and its relationship to IFRS, accrual versus cash-based accounting, accrual, matching and prudence principles, the elements of public sector financial statements, chart of accounts design, first-time adoption considerations, functional, economic and programme expenditure classification, revenue recognition for taxes, grants and transfers, capital budgets and asset recognition thresholds, provisions and contingencies, medium-term expenditure frameworks (MTEF), programme budgeting, appropriation authority and warrants, virement and re-appropriation rules, commitment accounting, expense recognition timing and period cut-off controls, accruals and prepayments, segregation of duties, in-year expenditure monitoring and execution reporting, variance classification, price, volume and efficiency variance decomposition, root cause analysis and the 5 Whys, re-forecasting and revised outturn preparation, statements of financial performance and financial position, notes and accounting policy disclosure, segment and programme reporting, budget-to-statement reconciliation, and audit and public accounts response practice.



Q5 How is the "IPSAS-Based Budget Preparation, Variance Analysis, and Expenditure Reporting" course applied in real-world practice?

Participants apply it to real work such as preparing an IPSAS-aligned departmental budget, recording commitments and expenses through a period close, monitoring expenditure mid-year, investigating a significant overspend, and preparing IPSAS-compliant statements with disclosures for audit. The same methods support MTEF planning and budget-to-statement reconciliation.