CONCEPT

University Financial Management Course: Funding Models, Academic Costing and Income Diversification

19 – 23 April 2027
London - Central London four-star



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Ref: 1687_26430 **Date:** 19 – 23 April 2027 **Location:** London - Central London four-star **Fees:** 23000 SAR

Introduction:

University financial management, covering funding models, academic costing and income diversification, is a 1-week course for staff who run university finance, college resources and institutional planning, ending with a University Financial Sustainability Plan for a case university. Many institutions depend on one public or tuition stream, cannot state what a degree programme or research project really costs, and allocate budgets by history rather than by activity. Nominees already prepare budgets, approve spending or lead faculties, and the course works through modelling builds on teaching, research and income data. CoreConcept Training Center delivers this university financial management course.

Course Objectives:

- Analyse a university income base and compare input-based, formula and performance-based funding models against institutional strategy
- Calculate the full cost of degree programmes and research projects using activity-based costing and academic time allocation
- Design an internal budget allocation model that links college and service budgets to student load, research activity and overhead drivers
- Evaluate endowment, waqf, tuition and executive-education income options with spending rules, pricing logic and contribution margins
- Build a financial sustainability dashboard that tracks liquidity, operating surplus, cost recovery and income concentration for executive review
- Prepare a University Financial Sustainability Plan that sets funding, costing, allocation and income targets for a case university

Target Audience:

- Staff responsible for university finance, treasury and financial reporting who prepare institutional budgets and forecasts
- Staff responsible for leading colleges and faculties who hold budget authority and must justify programme resources
- Staff responsible for academic and administrative affairs at vice-rector level who approve allocation rules and investment cases
- Staff responsible for institutional planning and performance who model student load, staffing and space needs
- Staff responsible for advancement, endowment and waqf funds who grow donated and invested income
- Staff responsible for executive education, continuing education and commercial units who price and market fee-earning offers

Course Outline:

Day 1: University Finance Landscape and Income Base Diagnosis

- Institutional Income Map by Public, Tuition and Third-Stream Sources
- Input-Based Versus Output-Based Public Funding Formula Comparison
- Performance-Based Funding Indicators for Completion, Graduate Employment and Research
- Cost Behaviour Analysis of Academic Staff, Facilities and Services
- Financial Health Baseline Using Five-Year Trend Ratios

Day 2: Academic Costing Models and Full Economic Costing

- Activity-Based Costing Cost Pools and Cost Drivers for Universities
- TRAC-Style Academic Time Allocation Survey Design and Validation
- Full Economic Costing of Research With Indirect Cost Recovery
- Cost per Student Credit Hour by Programme and Level
- Shared Service Overhead Attribution for Libraries, IT and Estates

Day 3: Internal Budget Allocation and Resource Planning

- Incremental, Formula and Responsibility-Centre Allocation Models Compared
- Student Load Weighting Matrix for Teaching Budget Distribution
- Central Levy and Participation Fee Design for Service Units
- Rolling Multi-Year Financial Forecast for Colleges and Institutes
- Capital Budgeting and Space Utilisation Charging for Teaching Facilities

Day 4: Income Diversification, Endowment Stewardship and Financial Risk

- Endowment Total Return Approach and Smoothed Spending Rule
- Waqf Fund Structuring, Nazir Trusteeship and Restricted Gifts
- Tuition Pricing Elasticity and Scholarship Discount Rate Analysis
- Executive Education Contribution Margin and Breakeven Pricing Model
- Financial Sustainability Dashboard With Liquidity and Concentration Alerts

Day 5: Modelling Build for the University Financial Sustainability Plan

- Case University Income Base and Funding Formula Exposure Review
- Case Programme Costing Model With Cross-Subsidy Mapping
- Case Allocation Model Recalibration Across Three Colleges
- Case Income Diversification Scenarios With Endowment and Fee Streams
- University Financial Sustainability Plan Completion and Executive Board Presentation

Skills You Will Gain:

- Funding Formula Interpretation
- Activity-Based Academic Costing
- Research Indirect Cost Recovery
- Budget Allocation Model Design
- Endowment Spending Policy
- Waqf Fund Stewardship
- Tuition and Fee Pricing
- Financial Sustainability Monitoring

Why Attend This Course:

- Deliver a University Financial Sustainability Plan to the university council and finance committee for use in the next budget round and income strategy review
- Decide which programmes, research centres and fee-earning units cover their full cost and which need redesign or cross-subsidy limits
- Avoid deficits, cash shortfalls and under-recovered research overheads that arise when budgets follow history instead of cost drivers
- Coach college finance officers and budget holders to use the costing templates, allocation matrix and dashboard built during the course

Conclusion:

Once back, the participant gives the university council, finance committee and college deans a University Financial Sustainability Plan that shows the true cost of programmes and research, a revised allocation model and a costed set of income diversification options. The finance office uses it to set budget envelopes, price fee-earning offers and frame endowment and waqf spending policy. After the first budget round under the plan, the unit should compare forecast against actual cost recovery and income concentration, then recalibrate the drivers and weights.

Frequently Asked Questions FAQ:

What should participants know before the university financial management course?

Participants should already prepare, approve or manage budgets in a university or college and be comfortable with spreadsheets and basic financial statements. Bringing recent income, staffing and student load figures from their own institution makes the costing and allocation models more useful.

How does university financial management training differ from a general academic leadership or public budgeting course?

This course concentrates on the money side of a university: funding formulas, full costing of teaching and research, internal allocation models and new income streams. Academic leadership courses focus on governance, strategy and staff, while public budgeting courses address ministries and agencies rather than universities.

Why does university financial management rely on activity-based costing of programmes and research?

Activity-based costing shows what each programme and research project actually consumes in academic time, space and services. Without it, universities subsidise loss-making activities unknowingly, under-recover research overheads and set tuition or executive-education prices that do not cover cost.

What do participants take back from the university financial management course?

Participants return with a University Financial Sustainability Plan for a case university, plus reusable templates: a programme costing model, a budget allocation matrix, an endowment spending rule calculator, a fee pricing model and a financial sustainability dashboard.