Strategic Workforce Planning and Budgeting Training Course

28 Dec 2026 - 01 Jan 2027

Lisbon

4500 € (Per Person)

Ref: #HR9494_165021

Course Introduction / Overview:

This intensive training course provides a comprehensive framework for integrating strategic workforce planning with financial budgeting to drive organizational success. In today's volatile business environment, aligning human capital with corporate objectives is no longer a luxury but a critical necessity. This program moves beyond traditional headcount planning to a more dynamic and predictive approach. Participants will explore the methodologies for forecasting future talent needs, analyzing internal and external labor market trends, and identifying critical skill gaps before they impact performance. Drawing on the principles articulated by thought leaders like John Boudreau in works such as "Beyond HR: The New Science of Human Capital", the course emphasizes making talent decisions based on data and financial rigor. BIG BEN Training Center has designed this curriculum to empower professionals to translate strategic goals into actionable workforce plans and defensible budgets. Delegates will learn to build a compelling business case for human capital investments, ensuring that every dollar spent on talent acquisition, development, and retention delivers a measurable return and supports long-term sustainable growth.

Target Audience / This training course is suitable for:

- Human Resources Directors and Managers.
- Workforce Planning and Analytics Specialists.
- Talent Acquisition and Recruitment Leaders.
- Financial Controllers and Budget Managers.
- Strategic Planning and Corporate Development Professionals.
- Organizational Development Consultants.
- Line Managers and Department Heads involved in headcount planning.
- Compensation and Benefits Managers.

Target Sectors and Industries:

- Technology and Telecommunications.
- Banking, Finance, and Insurance.
- Healthcare and Pharmaceuticals.
- Manufacturing and Engineering.
- Oil and Gas.
- Retail and Consumer Goods.
- Professional Services and Consulting.
- Governmental Agencies and Public Sector Organizations.

Target Organizations Departments:

- Human Resources.
- Finance and Accounting.
- Strategic Planning.
- Operations Management.
- Talent Management and Acquisition.
- Organizational Development.
- All departments involved in operational and strategic planning.

Course Offerings:

By the end of this course, the participants will have able to:

- Develop a strategic workforce plan that directly supports long-term business objectives.
- Master quantitative and qualitative techniques for forecasting talent supply and demand.
- Conduct a thorough skills gap analysis to identify current and future talent needs.
- Create detailed and justifiable HR budgets for recruitment, training, and compensation.
- Model the financial impact of various workforce scenarios and talent decisions.
- Utilize workforce analytics and HR metrics to monitor plan effectiveness and ROI.
- Align talent acquisition and retention strategies with forecasted workforce needs.
- Present a compelling business case for human capital investments to senior leadership.
- Integrate succession planning into the broader strategic workforce plan.
- Implement change management principles to ensure successful plan adoption.

Course Methodology:

The training methodology at BIG BEN Training Center is designed to be highly interactive, practical, and engaging, ensuring that participants can immediately apply their learning in the workplace. This course eschews a purely theoretical approach in favor of a blended learning experience that combines expert-led instruction with hands-on application. Sessions will feature a mix of detailed presentations, real-world case study analyses, and collaborative group exercises where participants tackle complex workforce planning and budgeting challenges. Interactive workshops will provide a platform for delegates to build and critique workforce models and budget proposals in a supportive environment. Ample time is dedicated to facilitated discussions, allowing for the exchange of ideas and best practices among peers from diverse industries. Participants will receive continuous feedback from the instructor to refine their skills throughout the five-day program. The focus is on building practical capabilities, from data analysis and forecasting to strategic communication, empowering attendees to become key drivers of human capital strategy within their organizations.

Course Agenda (Course Units):

Unit One: Foundations of Strategic Workforce Planning

- The evolution from traditional manpower planning to strategic workforce planning.
- The critical link between business strategy and human capital management.
- Understanding the strategic workforce planning framework and process cycle.
- Identifying key stakeholders and establishing a governance structure.
- Defining the scope and objectives of a workforce planning initiative.
- Analyzing the internal and external business environment (PESTLE analysis).
- Conducting a comprehensive SWOT analysis for human resources.

Unit Two: Workforce Analytics, Forecasting, and Gap Analysis

- Introduction to workforce analytics and data-driven HR.
- Techniques for forecasting future workforce demand (trend analysis, regression).
- Methods for analyzing internal workforce supply and talent segmentation.
- Assessing external labor market trends and competitive intelligence.
- Conducting a comprehensive skills gap and competency analysis.
- Developing future-state scenarios to model potential business changes.
- Utilizing technology and tools for effective workforce data management.

Unit Three: Strategic HR Budgeting and Financial Modeling

- The fundamentals of budgeting and financial management for HR professionals.
- Connecting the workforce plan directly to the budgeting process.
- Techniques for personnel cost planning and headcount budgeting.
- Budgeting for key HR functions: talent acquisition, development, and compensation.
- Building a financial model to assess the cost of workforce plans.
- Calculating the Return on Investment (ROI) of human capital initiatives.
- Developing contingency budgets for different workforce scenarios.

Unit Four: Developing and Implementing Action Plans

- Translating gap analysis into actionable talent strategies.
- Designing targeted talent acquisition and sourcing strategies.
- Developing internal talent through training, development, and mobility programs.
- Implementing effective retention and employee engagement strategies.
- Integrating succession planning for critical roles into the workforce plan.
- Creating a detailed implementation roadmap with timelines and responsibilities.
- Establishing key performance indicators (KPIs) and metrics to track progress.

Unit Five: Communication, Change Management, and Future Trends

- Developing a compelling narrative to communicate the workforce plan.
- Presenting the plan and budget for executive-level approval.
- Applying change management principles for successful implementation.
- The role of technology and AI in modern workforce planning.
- Introduction to agile workforce planning for dynamic environments.
- Planning for the future of work, including remote work and the gig economy.
- Final project: Integrating all concepts into a comprehensive strategic plan.

FAQ:

Qualifications required for registering to this course?

There are no requirements.

How long is each daily session, and what is the total number of training hours for the course?

This training course spans five days, with daily sessions ranging between 4 to 5 hours, including breaks and interactive activities, bringing the total duration to 20 - 25 training hours.

Something to think about:

In an era of rapid technological disruption and the rise of the gig economy, how can traditional workforce planning and budgeting models evolve to remain relevant and predictive?

What unique qualities does this course offer compared to other courses?

This course distinguishes itself by holistically integrating the two critical, yet often siloed, functions of strategic workforce planning and financial budgeting. Unlike programs that treat these as separate disciplines, our curriculum is built on the principle that talent strategy is inseparable from financial strategy. We move beyond theoretical frameworks to provide a practical, data-driven methodology for translating business objectives into a fully costed and defensible workforce plan. A key differentiator is the strong emphasis on financial modeling and calculating the ROI of human capital investments, empowering HR and finance professionals to speak the same language and make collaborative decisions. Furthermore, the course is distinctly forward-looking, addressing contemporary challenges such as agile workforce planning, the impact of AI, and strategies for managing a blended workforce of full-time and contingent workers. Participants leave not just with knowledge, but with the practical skills and analytical mindset required to build a resilient, cost-effective, and future-ready workforce that provides a sustainable competitive advantage.