GOVERNMENTAL FINANCE ONLINE COURSE: Intermediate Budget

Intermediate Budget — Learning Objectives

Lesson 1 — The Context of Local Government Budgeting

Learning Objectives:
• Explain the difference between budgeting in government and private sectors
• Define “budget structure” and recognize different options of structuring a budget
• Recall how environmental factors impact public budgeting

Lesson 2 — Performance Measurement

Learning Objectives:
• Understand how performance measures can benefit governments
• Distinguish between performance measurement and performance measures
• Explain how performance measures should be linked to budgets
• Recall the types of performance management methods
• Be able to recognize sources for performance measurement data

Lesson 3 — Revenue Analysis and Forecasting

Learning Objectives:
• Explain the difference between quantitative and qualitative forecasting methods
• Recall the basic considerations governments should make when deciding how to pay for services
• Summarize the importance of revenue diversification
• List the types of local government revenue

Lesson 4 — Property Taxes

Learning Objectives:
• Summarize the advantages of property taxes
• List the key players in property tax and millage setting process
• Define millage rate and explain how it is used
• Distinguish state and local role in property tax process
• List the possible legal requirements of the property tax process

Lesson 5 — Expenditure Analysis and Forecasting

Learning Objectives:
• List the components that should be examined when forecasting operating expenditures
• Summarize the factors to consider when budgeting for the replacement/acquisition of capital assets
• Explain the importance of long-range planning and making the analysis of non-current liabilities part of the annual budget process
Lesson 6 — Communicating the Budget and the Budget Document

Learning Objectives:
• Explain the purpose of the budget document
• List different ways the budget document may be communicated
• Understand the requirements of the GFOA Distinguished Budget Presentation Awards Program

Lesson 7 — Monitoring the Budget

Learning Objectives:
• Explain the importance of budgetary monitoring
• Summarize methods to diagnose and manage fiscal distress

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For more information about Governmental Finance Courses, contact us at questions@georgiacenter.uga.edu or by telephone at +1-706-583-0424.