

Financial Planning for Municipal Utilities

Course Length: 1.5 Days

The financial health of the utility is a key component of providing reliable service to your customers. Financial planning is critical to the current and future success of municipal utilities. In this highly interactive course, participants learn methods used to improve bond ratings, the amount of cash reserves the utility should maintain, key financial targets to monitor, methods to get rate changes approved by the governing body and practical ways to develop a rate plan for the utility. The course wraps up with a mock financial planning exercise where participants practice presenting rate changes to a governing body.

Course Highlights

- Learn key areas for improving or maintaining utility bond ratings
- Identify the three essential financial targets a utility should monitor to help ensure current and future financial stability
- Discover how utilities achieve the proper balance between their financial health and minimizing rate impacts on customers
- Master techniques for presenting rate adjustments to governing bodies and securing approval
- Learn how to determine the amount of revenue to recover in rates
- Identify the amount of bond proceeds needed to fund a capital improvement program and maintain the financial stability of the utility
- Discuss common cross subsidies that occur between city departments and the impact on electric utilities
- Methods to determine the amount of cash a utility should hold in reserve
- Identify appropriate methods to recognize operating income targets for not-for-profit utilities
- Understand how to develop long-term financial plans and rate tracks to achieve utility financial targets
- Learn methods to achieve the proper balance between maintaining the financial health of the utility and minimizing rate impacts on customers
- Practice developing and presenting rate changes to governing bodies

Who Should Attend

This intensive and interactive course is designed for utility personnel involved in financial planning, including general managers, finance and accounting personnel, and rate analysts.