



Australian Government

Department of Finance



# Accounting & Finance Month - October

## 2024 | Q4 PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

During October 2024 the [APS Academy](#) (the Academy) in conjunction with the Department of Finance (Finance) will present Accounting and Finance Month, which will include a number of courses and events focusing on the accounting and finance profession.

A detailed schedule for the month can be found in this flyer.

The Academy will also have a resources toolkit on its website in early October with useful links for accounting and finance professionals in the APS.

Listed in this flyer are events coming up during the month of October. In addition, The Academy's October newsletter will include articles of interest for accounting and finance professionals.

**Registrations are not required for the training sessions, unless stated otherwise.**

## Additional Resources

Please use the below links and contacts for further learning & development channels available for entities:

1. [APS ACCOUNTING AND FINANCE PROFESSION RESOURCES](#)
2. [DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE LEARNING & SUPPORT](#)
3. [APS ACCOUNTING AND FINANCE PROFESSIONAL NETWORK GOVTEAMS COMMUNITY](#)
4. [APSAFTRAINING@FINANCE.GOV.AU](mailto:APSAFTRAINING@FINANCE.GOV.AU)
5. [FINANCIALSTEWARDSHIPFORUM@FINANCE.GOV.AU](mailto:FINANCIALSTEWARDSHIPFORUM@FINANCE.GOV.AU)

## TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

*Registrations are not required, unless stated otherwise*

### CHANGES TO FAIR VALUE REQUIREMENTS 2024-25

½ DAY | IN-PERSON EVENT ONLY – 1 Canberra Avenue, Forrest ACT 2603

[Click here to register](#) - \*\*limited places\*\*

*The requirements for fair value in the public sector are changing for 2024-25. It is important for entities to be on top of these changes well before 30 June 2025. This interactive workshop will introduce the changes and the group will consider worked examples.*

**Please note this session is limited to 20 attendees with a maximum of 2 per entity. Additional workshops will be convened if demand exceeds capacity.**





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**3 OCTOBER**  
**9:30AM**

### **GUIDANCE ON CARETAKER CONVENTIONS**

**Presented by the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet**

1 HOUR | VIRTUAL EVENT

[Click here to join at event time](#)

*This session will be presented by Alex Philp, Assistant Secretary, Parliamentary Liaison Officer and David Belgrove, Assistant Secretary, Parliamentary and Government Branch at the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet. During the caretaker period, the ordinary business of government continues. This presentation provides guidance around the appropriate handling of business by Australian Government agencies during the caretaker period*



**14 OCTOBER**  
**10:00AM**

### **CAPITAL BUDGETING AND RMG-124 UPDATE**

1 HOUR | VIRTUAL EVENT

[Click here to join at event time](#)

*This training will be presented by the Department of Finance. This session will provide an overview of key changes in the recently updated Resource Management Guide (RMG) 124 Capital budgeting by Commonwealth entities in the general government sector, and discuss the rules and requirements for the management and reporting of capital or noncurrent asset funding.*



**14 OCTOBER**  
**2:00PM**

### **ROLE OF THE PARLIAMENTARY BUDGET OFFICE**

**Presented by the Parliamentary Budget Office**

1 HOUR | VIRTUAL EVENT

[Click here to join at event time](#)

*This session will be presented by Lewis Conn, Assistant Parliamentary Budget Officer and Gareth Tunks, Assistant Parliamentary Budget Officer at the Parliamentary Budget Office (PBO) and will provide APS accounting and finance professionals with an opportunity to understand the role of PBO within the APS and its purpose in informing the parliament of budget proposals put forward by the government of the day as well as the unique role it plays during election time.*



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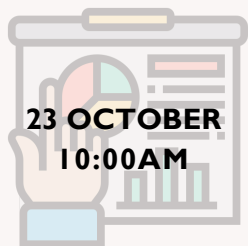


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*Registrations are not required, unless stated otherwise*



### AN OVERVIEW OF GOVERNMENT FINANCE STATISTICS

**Presented by the Australian Bureau of Statistics**

1 HOUR | VIRTUAL EVENT

[Click here to join at event time](#)

*This session will be presented by Scott Richards, Manager, Senior Data Analyst, Jane White, Assistant Director and Sabrina Zheng, Assistant Director from the Government Finance Statistics Section at the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS). Government Finance Statistics (GFS) is the framework used for the collection, compilation, and presentation of fiscal statistics of public sector entities. The ABS plays a key role in classifying units, stocks, and flows within GFS, ensuring consistency and accuracy of public sector estimates across macroeconomic statistics. This session will outline the scope and context of GFS, differences between GFS and accounting standards, and how GFS fits into and impacts the National Accounts.*

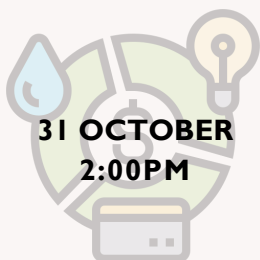


### MACHINERY OF GOVERNMENT (MOG) GUIDE AND MOG CHANGES

1 HOUR | VIRTUAL EVENT

[Click here to join at event time](#)

*This session will be presented by the Department of Finance. This session aims to familiarise attendees with the MOG principles, operational protocols and implementation timeframes. MoG changes may occur with minimal notice or limited time for preparation.*



### BUDGET 101

1 HOUR | VIRTUAL EVENT














[Click here to join at event time](#)

*This session will be presented by the Department of Finance. This session will provide a conceptual overview of the Budget process and how key budget processes and products work together to culminate in a budget update. It includes an explanation of new policy proposals and decision making, estimate variations, the Central Budget Management System, the role of Agency Advice Units and other key roles within the Department of Finance.*



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ONLINE COURSES		PAID COURSES	
 <b>20 MINS PER MODULE</b>	<b>TURNING DATA INTO INFORMATION</b> Available anytime   14 modules available <a href="#">Online Course</a>	 <b>1 OCT</b>	<b>REPORT WRITING IN THE APS</b> Face to Screen Course <a href="#">Register Online</a>
 <b>45 MINS</b>	<b>DATA LITERACY</b> Available anytime   5 modules available <a href="#">Online Course</a>	 <b>3 OCT</b>	<b>ESSENTIAL WRITING FOR EXECUTIVE LEVELS</b> Face to Screen Course <a href="#">Register Online</a>
 <b>20 MINS PER MODULE</b>	<b>DIGITAL PRESERVATION SKILLS FOR AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT</b> Available anytime   5 modules available <a href="#">Online Course</a>	 <b>9 - 16 OCT</b>	<b>DELIVERING GREAT POLICY FOUNDATIONS</b> Face to Screen Course <a href="#">Register Online</a>
 <b>30 MINS</b>	<b>WRITING EFFECTIVE EMAILS IN THE APS</b> Available anytime <a href="#">Online Course</a>	 <b>10 OCT</b>	<b>BRIEFING AND RESPONDING TO APS DECISION MAKERS</b> Face to Screen Course <a href="#">Register Online</a>
 <b>20 MINS</b>	<b>APS INDUCTION - MONEY AND RESOURCES</b> Available anytime <a href="#">Online Course</a>	 <b>15 OCT</b>	<b>ESSENTIAL WRITING FOR APS 5-6</b> Face to Screen Course <a href="#">Register Online</a>
 <b>30 MINS PER MODULE</b>	<b>CLIMATE RISK OPPORTUNITY MANAGEMENT PROGRAM</b> Available anytime   3 modules available <a href="#">Online Course</a>	 <b>15 - 16 OCT</b>	<b>CRAFTING QUALITY NEW POLICY PROPOSALS</b> Face to Screen Course <a href="#">Register Online</a>
 <b>60 MINS</b>	<b>PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT ELEARNING MODULE</b> Available anytime <a href="#">Online Course</a>		



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## MASTERCRAFT SERIES

### CFO CONVERSATIONS – FINANCIAL SUSTAINABILITY

#### PANEL DISCUSSION

1 HOUR 30 MINS | VIRTUAL EVENT ONLY

[Register now on APSLearn](#)

A Mastercraft Series featuring a panel of experts from both the public and private sector, is set for 22 October between 3:00 pm and 4:30 pm. The conversation will focus on financial sustainability in the public sector, addressing subjects such as financial strategy, long-term planning, financial risks and financial governance.

- Gain insights into views and insights and practical and effective approaches implemented by senior Chief Financial Officers in the APS
- Understand the bigger picture to make more informed decisions that contribute to long-term sustainability
- See how a robust financial governance framework enhances transparency and accountability



22 OCTOBER  
3:00PM



#### Lasantha Samaranayake (Facilitator)

##### Assistant Secretary, Accounting and Frameworks, Department of Finance

Lasantha Samaranayake is the Assistant Secretary of the Accounting and Frameworks Branch in the Department of Finance (Finance). Lasantha has also worked as the Assistant Secretary in the Grants Policy Branch and as the Chief Financial Officer at Finance. Prior to joining Finance, he was the Chief Financial Officer at the National Library of Australia where he oversaw financial planning and management, providing strategic financial direction to achieve library's priorities and enhance financial viability and good governance.

Lasantha has over two decades of experience working in financial roles across various APS entities including at the Department of Social Services, the then Department of Communications and the Arts, the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade and the Australian National Audit Office.

Lasantha is a Certified Public Accountant and has extensive knowledge of accounting principles and frameworks.



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## MASTERCRAFT SERIES – PANEL MEMBERS



### **Brad Medland FCA (Panellist)**

#### **Chief Financial Officer, Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade**

Brad Medland is the Chief Financial Officer at the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT). Initially working as a Chartered Accountant in both Sydney (1995-1999) and London (1999-2003), Mr Medland joined the Australian Public Service (APS) in 2003 at the Department of Finance before moving to the Department of Industry in 2005. He was promoted into the role of Chief Financial Officer for both the Department of Industry (2011) and the Department of Infrastructure (2019) before joining the DFAT in 2022.

Throughout Mr Medland's twenty-year career in the APS he has delivered numerous Portfolio Budgets and Mid-Year Economic and Fiscal updates, including three Budgets in the last two years for DFAT; over twenty audited financial statements and has been involved in over twenty Machinery of Government changes including the consolidation of abolished departments.

Mr Medland has overseen organisational and transformational change in both the private and public sectors throughout his career, which has spanned close to thirty years. He is passionate about challenging the status quo and looking for opportunities to continuously improve the services delivered and the systems that underpin them. He is conscious that engaged staff are essential to the provision of high-quality services, and nurturing talent is critical to stewardship.



### **Rob Hanlon (Panellist)**

#### **Chief Finance Officer, Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water**

Robert is the Chief Finance Officer at the Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water - a new department established on 1 July 2022. Prior to this, he was the CFO at the Department of Industry, Science, Energy and Resources.

With over 20 years in both the private and public sector, Robert has amassed experience across a range of industries, including Business and Personal lending with the National Australia Bank Ltd and Business Advisory and Taxation services with Deloitte.

Robert joined the Australian Public Service in 2007 and has held executive level positions at Australian Financial Security Authority, the Department of Human Services, the Department of Environment and Energy, and the Department of Industry, Science, Energy and Resources.

Robert is a Chartered Accountant and a Fellow of Certified Practising Accountants Australia. He holds a Masters of Business Administration and Bachelor of Commerce degree and is a graduate of the Institute of Australian Company Directors.



### **Erin Adams FCPA (Panellist)**

#### **Divisional President ACT, CPA Australia**

Erin is proud to serve as CPA Australia's ACT Divisional President for 2024, as well as chairing the Council of Presidents, an advisory committee to the Board of CPA Australia. With a genuine passion for supporting small businesses, Erin works as Xero's Product Compliance and Industry Engagement Manager for Australia and New Zealand, where she helps bridge the gap between government, legislation, and Xero's small business products, particularly in the areas of Tax and Payroll.

In addition to her role at Xero, Erin is also a Director of DSPANZ, representing Digital Service Providers across Australia and New Zealand. With experience spanning accounting firms and businesses of different sizes, she is grateful for the opportunities to contribute to both the accounting and tech industries.

Most importantly, Erin treasures her role as a Bonus Mum to Isla and a puppy Mum to Snowy.