

Budgeting and Accounting Skill Badge (ISBFIN)

Build practical budgeting, accounting, and financial reporting skills for a career in property management.

Course description:

Learn how to create budgets, monitor property performance, understand cash flow, and make informed financial decisions for real-world properties; no prior experience required.

Newly revised in 2026, the IREM Budgeting and Accounting Skill Badge is an introductory property management finance course designed for professionals who want to build confidence in budgeting, accounting, cash flow analysis, and financial reporting. Through practical, real-world examples, you'll gain the foundational skills needed to understand how properties perform and how to manage them more effectively.

You'll focus on the financial tasks property managers perform every day, including reviewing reports, setting financial goals, evaluating budgets, and identifying opportunities to improve net operating income (NOI).

By connecting budgeting and accounting fundamentals to property performance, this course helps you use financial data to support stronger decision-making on the job.

Confident financial decisions start here.

Master the financial fundamentals every property manager should know.
Earn the IREM® Skill Badge: Budgeting & Accounting.

Only \$99/member



Who should earn the Budgeting and Accounting Skill Badge?

- New property management professionals learning financial basics
- Site staff or assistants expanding into budgeting responsibilities
- Career changers exploring property management
- Students interested in real estate management careers



Scan to register!

What will I learn?

By the end of this property management finance course, you'll be able to:

- Set property financial goals aligned with owner objectives and current market conditions
- Understand and apply core accounting principles used in property operations
- Interpret key financial performance metrics, including effective gross income (EGI), net operating income (NOI), and cash flow
- Develop, evaluate, and monitor property budgets
- Forecast financial performance and identify opportunities to improve property results

What's the difference between a Skill Badge and an IREM certification?

An IREM Skill Badge is a short, focused course designed to help you build a specific property management skill in a self-paced online format. Skill Badges can typically be completed in just a few hours and are ideal for professionals who want practical, job-ready knowledge they can apply immediately.

IREM certifications are more comprehensive and require multiple courses, experience, and demonstrated competency across a broader range of property management topics.

The Budgeting and Accounting Skill Badge is a great starting point if you're new to property management finance or want to strengthen your budgeting and accounting skills before pursuing an IREM certification. Professionals seeking more advanced financial analysis and certification pathways may continue to FIN402 or pursue the ARM® or CPM® certifications.

How long will it take to complete? This self-paced online Skill Badge will take approximately 6-8 hours.	Is there a test? There's a 50-question online test after you complete the course content.	Cost: \$99 / members \$129 / non-members
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What do I get after I pass the test?

Upon successful completion, you'll earn an IREM Skill Badge, a digital credential that demonstrates foundational knowledge in budgeting, accounting, financial reporting, and property management finance.

Can I use the Budgeting and Accounting Skill Badge lesson for training staff?

The Budgeting and Accounting Skill Badge can be delivered in classroom or customized training formats, making it an ideal solution for onboarding new property management staff, upskilling teams, or introducing real estate finance concepts in academic programs. Contact irempartners@irem.org to get started.

Prove your expertise with these recommended Skill Badges:

Building DEI Skill Badge  Building DEI Skill Badge Elevate your property and empower your career with best practices in diversity, equity, and inclusion. Be a DEI champion and support diversity in the workplace. \$29 Member/\$129 Non-member	Fair Housing Now available in Spanish Skill Badge  Fair Housing Property managers need clear policies related to Fair Housing. IREM's Fair Housing Skill Badge provides real-life scenarios to enhance property operations and reduce risk. \$29 Member/\$129 Non-member	Maintenance and Risk Management Skill Badge  Maintenance & Risk Management Learn best practices and action steps for running a comprehensive maintenance and risk management program to reduce potential loss. \$29 Member/\$129 Non-member	Leasing Skill Badge  Leasing IREM's Leasing Skill Badge will teach you key leasing strategies for all property types – commercial and residential – so that you can gain verified expertise in this important area. \$29 Member/\$129 Non-member
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