Certified Project Director (CPD) Prep Training Course

Professional Development Training Course Outline

Category	Project Management	**Duration**	10 Days
Base Fee	$3,000 USD	**Delivery Mode**	Online / On-site Hybrid

Course Introduction

Certified Project Director (CPD) Prep Training Course is designed to prepare senior project leaders, program managers, and executives for high-level project governance, strategic oversight, and enterprise-wide delivery excellence. The course focuses on advanced project leadership competencies, portfolio alignment, benefits realization, governance structures, and executive decision-making required to lead complex, multi-million-dollar initiatives across industries. Participants will develop a strong command of strategic project direction, stakeholder leadership, performance measurement, and organizational transformation using globally recognized project management best practices.

This training emphasizes practical application of executive-level project management frameworks, risk governance, value management, and organizational maturity models. Through structured modules, case studies, and applied exercises, participants gain the skills required to pass CPD certification assessments and to operate confidently as project directors overseeing multiple programs and portfolios. The course equips leaders to drive strategic outcomes, ensure accountability, and deliver sustainable business value in dynamic and complex environments.

Programme Curriculum

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Course Objectives

1. Understand the role and responsibilities of a Certified Project Director.
2. Apply strategic project governance and executive oversight frameworks.
3. Align projects and programs with organizational strategy and objectives.
4. Lead complex project portfolios and enterprise-wide initiatives.
5. Implement benefits realization and value management techniques.
6. Strengthen executive decision-making using performance metrics and dashboards.
7. Manage enterprise-level project risks and assurance mechanisms.
8. Lead senior stakeholders and governance boards effectively.
9. Apply advanced leadership and change management strategies.
10. Establish organizational project management maturity models.
11. Integrate financial oversight and investment appraisal into project direction.
12. Ensure ethical leadership, compliance, and accountability in projects.
13. Prepare effectively for the Certified Project Director examination.

Organizational Benefits

- Improved strategic alignment of projects and portfolios
- Stronger executive oversight and governance structures
- Increased project success rates and value realization
- Enhanced leadership capability at senior management level
- Better risk management and assurance across programs
- Improved decision-making using performance intelligence
- Stronger accountability and transparency in project delivery
- Increased organizational project maturity
- Reduced project failure and cost overruns
- Sustainable delivery of strategic initiatives

Target Audiences

- Senior project and program managers
- Project directors and portfolio managers
- PMO leaders and heads of transformation
- Executives overseeing strategic initiatives
- Consultants in project and program governance

- Risk and assurance professionals
- Public sector project leaders
- Infrastructure and enterprise delivery leaders

Course Duration: 10 days

Course Modules

Module 1: Overview of the Certified Project Director Role

- Definition and scope of the CPD role
- Differences between project manager and project director
- Executive accountability and authority levels
- Strategic leadership responsibilities
- Competency framework for CPD certification
- Case Study: Transitioning from program manager to project director

Module 2: Strategic Alignment and Portfolio Management

- Linking projects to corporate strategy
- Portfolio selection and prioritization models
- Strategic investment decision frameworks
- Managing competing organizational priorities
- Portfolio performance tracking
- Case Study: Portfolio realignment to support corporate growth

Module 3: Project Governance Structures

- Governance principles and operating models
- Roles of boards, sponsors, and steering committees
- Decision escalation and accountability mechanisms
- Governance documentation and controls
- Assurance and compliance frameworks
- Case Study: Governance failure in a large infrastructure program

Module 4: Benefits Realization and Value Management

- Defining measurable project benefits
- Benefits mapping and ownership models
- Tracking value delivery throughout the lifecycle
- Post-implementation reviews
- Linking benefits to strategic outcomes
- Case Study: Benefits realization in a digital transformation program

Module 5: Executive Risk Management

- Enterprise risk management principles
- Strategic, financial, and operational risks
- Risk appetite and tolerance frameworks
- Assurance planning and independent reviews
- Crisis leadership and escalation handling
- Case Study: Managing high-risk projects under executive scrutiny

Module 6: Financial Oversight and Investment Control

- Capital budgeting and investment appraisal
- Cost control and financial governance
- Business case evaluation and approvals
- Managing funding changes and re-baselining
- Financial reporting for executives
- Case Study: Financial recovery of an over-budget program

Module 7: Stakeholder and Board Engagement

- Identifying and mapping senior stakeholders
- Managing board-level communication
- Influencing without direct authority
- Handling political and organizational dynamics
- Building executive trust and credibility
- Case Study: Managing conflicting executive stakeholders

Module 8: Leadership and Executive Decision-Making

- Leadership styles for project directors
- Decision-making under uncertainty
- Delegation and empowerment strategies
- Ethical leadership in complex environments
- Executive resilience and judgement
- Case Study: Leadership decisions during a project crisis

Module 9: Organizational Change and Transformation

- Leading enterprise change initiatives
- Integrating change management with project delivery
- Managing resistance at organizational scale

- Cultural alignment and leadership influence
- Measuring transformation success
- Case Study: Enterprise-wide transformation program leadership

Module 10: Performance Measurement and Reporting

- Executive KPIs and performance dashboards
- Earned value at portfolio level
- Data-driven oversight and forecasting
- Early warning indicators
- Reporting to boards and regulators
- Case Study: Executive dashboard redesign for portfolio oversight

Module 11: Program and Portfolio Assurance

- Independent assurance models
- Audit and review frameworks
- Health checks and maturity assessments
- Managing assurance findings
- Continuous improvement mechanisms
- Case Study: Assurance intervention saving a failing program

Module 12: Legal, Ethical, and Compliance Considerations

- Legal responsibilities of project directors
- Contractual governance and accountability
- Ethical decision-making frameworks
- Regulatory and compliance obligations
- Managing reputational risk
- Case Study: Ethical dilemma at executive project level

Module 13: Organizational Project Management Maturity

- Maturity models and benchmarking
- PMO evolution and executive sponsorship
- Capability development strategies
- Talent and succession planning
- Continuous maturity improvement
- Case Study: Scaling project maturity across an organization

Module 14: CPD Examination Structure and Requirements

- Overview of CPD certification standards
- Examination format and assessment criteria
- Competency mapping to exam domains
- Common pitfalls and preparation strategies
- Study planning and time management
- Case Study: Successful CPD certification journey

Module 15: Integrated CPD Capstone Review

- Applying CPD concepts holistically
- Integrated governance and leadership scenarios
- Mock examination questions and review
- Personal readiness assessment
- Final preparation and confidence building
- Case Study: Executive-level simulation for CPD assessment

Training Methodology

- Instructor-led executive briefings and discussions
- Structured CPD-aligned lectures and frameworks
- Group workshops and scenario-based exercises
- Real-world executive case study analysis
- Mock assessments and exam preparation sessions
- Facilitated peer learning and feedback

Register as a group from 3 participants for a Discount

Send us an email: info@fineskilltrainingcenter.org or call *+254769199797*

Certification

Upon successful completion of this training, participants will be issued with a globally- recognized certificate.

Tailor-Made Course

We also offer tailor-made courses based on your needs.

Key Notes

a. The participant must be conversant with English.

b. Upon completion of training the participant will be issued with an Authorized Training Certificate

c. Course duration is flexible and the contents can be modified to fit any number of days.

d. The course fee includes facilitation training materials, 2 coffee breaks, buffet lunch and A Certificate upon successful completion of Training.

e. One-year post-training support Consultation and Coaching provided after the course.
f. Payment should be done at least a week before commence of the training, to Fineskill Training Center account, as indicated in the invoice so as to enable us prepare better for you.

Upcoming Scheduled Sessions

Start Date	End Date	Location	Price
23 Nov 2026	04 Dec 2026	Online	$2,000
23 Nov 2026	04 Dec 2026	Physical	$3,000
23 Nov 2026	04 Dec 2026	Physical	$6,000
23 Nov 2026	04 Dec 2026	Physical	$6,000
23 Nov 2026	04 Dec 2026	Physical	$12,000
23 Nov 2026	04 Dec 2026	Physical	$9,000
23 Nov 2026	04 Dec 2026	Physical	$12,000
23 Nov 2026	04 Dec 2026	Physical	$12,000

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