

## **Key Takeaways from “Introduction of Project Management” – Course 1 of IBM IT Project Manager**

This course provided a comprehensive introduction to project management. You learned what project management is, its benefits, and the constraints it helps manage. You also learned the role played by project managers and how recent trends, such as remote work, have shaped modern project management.

The course covered opportunities for different careers within project management and discussed jobs across different industries and experience levels, as well as the various technical and soft skills required for project management work.

In particular, key takeaways from this course include that:

- Project management applies knowledge, skills, and tools to projects to produce value, manage budgets and timelines, improve productivity, address risks, and increase customer satisfaction.
- Successful project management controls project scope, schedule, budget, risk, quality, resources, and maintains positive working relationships with stakeholders.
- A project is unique, temporary, completable, and measurable, while a program is a collection of large, long-term, general, and strategic projects. A portfolio is an ongoing collection of projects and programs aligned with an organization's strategic objectives.
- Project managers drive time, quality, and resources and use Waterfall, Critical Path, Critical Chain, Agile, Lean, and Six Sigma methodologies.
- Recent project management trends include the use of AI, project management software, data analytics, remote teams, hybrid methodologies, and an emphasis on soft skills.
- Practical technical skills for project managers include knowledge of project management methodologies, business administration, and software and information technology.
- Valuable soft skills for project managers include communication, time management, problem-solving, interpersonal and leadership skills, and self-motivation.
- Project managers are responsible for project planning, execution, monitoring and reporting, post-project evaluation, and project closing.

- Project management employment in the construction, engineering, IT, finance, healthcare, and manufacturing industries
- Is expected to increase consistently over the next ten years across the construction, engineering, IT, finance, healthcare, and manufacturing industries.
- IT project managers have unique responsibilities, such as implementing IT strategy, managing IT resources, and communicating with IT managers, employees, and clients.
- Becoming a project manager may require a degree, specific certifications, and years of experience, with entry-level, mid-level, and senior executive roles available, including project coordinator, project manager, senior project manager, program manager, portfolio manager, director of project management, and chief operating officer.