

Successfully Manage IT Projects!

Learn about IT Project Management Using AgLearn!

Project management skills are essential for every area of business, including Information Technology. Use AgLearn to discover some ways to effectively manage IT projects.

+ [Executing IT Projects](#) (1 hour)

The execution phase in an IT project is when the work gets going and the plan is transformed into action and results. From the start of this phase, it's important for the project manager to establish regular communications with project stakeholders. This course describes strategies for maintaining a cohesive project team, outlines ways to communicate project information to different stakeholders, and describes how to keep quality on track during the execution phase of a project.

+ [Initiating and Planning IT Projects](#) (1 hour)

During the early stages of a project, a project manager should clarify objectives and requirements and create a project plan. This course describes how to initiate an IT project effectively. It focuses on three key areas of planning: developing a work breakdown structure, schedule planning, and cost planning.

+ [Introduction to IT Project Management](#) (1 hour)

The successful delivery of information technology (IT) projects requires managers to adapt project management processes and tools to account for the specific characteristics of the IT environment. This course describes how IT projects differ from other project types and points to the benefits of applying project management principles to IT projects.

+ [Managing Risks in an IT Project](#) (1 hour)

IT project managers deal with risks every day, including potential cost overruns, schedule delays, design constraints, hardware defects, and software bugs. This course describes the steps in a risk management process for IT projects, from identifying the risks and documenting them to analyzing and developing appropriate and effective responses.

+ [Monitoring and Controlling IT Projects](#) (1 hour)

The aim of project monitoring and control is to compare actual progress and performance against the project plan. An IT project manager must analyze any variances from the plan and identify what actions may need to be taken. This course describes how to monitor the progress of an IT project, analyze variances from the project plan, and control changes that may be requested during a project's life cycle.

+ [Testing Deliverables and Closing IT Projects](#) (1 hour)

Because it's a significant point in an IT project, the closing phase has its own set of processes and activities. When a project manager carries out those activities and processes, he or she can demonstrate that the project goal has been met and provide the team with a sense of accomplishment. This course describes the closing activities for IT projects, covering how to test IT project deliverables to make sure they meet requirements, which activities help close an IT project effectively, and how to set up maintenance and support.

As with all AgLearn resources, these are available to all USDA employees at no cost to you!