

Course Title: AWS Cloud Finance Management for Finance Professionals

Duration: 3 Days (8 Hours per Day)

Course Objective

This course is designed specifically for Finance, Procurement, PMO, Governance, and FinOps teams who work with cloud-consuming engineering organizations.

By the end of the course, participants will be able to:

- Understand AWS cloud cost drivers
- Read and interpret AWS bills and reports
- Create cloud budgets and forecasts
- Collaborate effectively with architects and engineering teams
- Understand the financial impact of architectural decisions
- Support cloud cost optimization initiatives
- Implement cloud financial governance and FinOps practices

Note: This is not a technical architecture course. It is a finance-focused course that enables finance teams to understand cloud spending and collaborate effectively with technical teams.

Day 1 – Cloud Economics & Cost Visibility

Module 1: Introduction to Cloud Financial Management

- Evolution from CapEx to OpEx
- Traditional IT vs Cloud Economics
- Why organizations move to AWS
- Business value of cloud adoption
- Cloud Financial Management (CFM)
- Role of Finance in cloud transformation

Activity:

- Discussion – How is cloud spending different from traditional IT spending

Module 2: Understanding AWS Services & Cost Drivers

- AWS global infrastructure overview
- Business view of AWS services

Key Services:

- Amazon EC2
- Amazon S3
- Amazon RDS
- AWS Lambda
- Amazon CloudFront

Cost Drivers:

- EC2: Size, runtime hours
- S3: Storage volume, requests
- RDS: DB size, compute
- Lambda: Invocations
- CloudFront: Data transfer

Exercise:

- Identify cost drivers for a sample application

Module 3: AWS Pricing Fundamentals

- Pay-as-you-go pricing
- Free Tier overview
- On-Demand, Savings Plans, Reserved Instances
- Spot Instances
- Volume discounts

Demo:

- AWS Pricing Calculator

Lab 1: Build a Cloud Cost Estimate

- Create EC2 estimate
- Add storage and database
- Generate monthly cost report

Deliverable:

- Monthly AWS cost estimate

Module 4: Billing, Cost Visibility & Reporting

- AWS Billing Dashboard
- AWS invoices interpretation
- Consolidated billing
- Cost categories
- Showback vs Chargeback
- Unit economics

Tools:

- Cost Explorer
- AWS Budgets
- Cost & Usage Reports

Demo:

- Billing Dashboard walkthrough

Lab 2: Analyze an AWS Bill

- Review AWS invoice
- Identify top cost services
- Analyze spending trends
- Create cost summary report

Deliverable:

- Executive Cost Analysis Report

Module 5: Tagging & Financial Accountability

- Importance of tagging
- Cost allocation tags

- Department and project cost tracking
- Governance through tagging

Activity:

- Enterprise tagging strategy design

Day 2 – Cost Optimization for Finance Teams

Module 6: Architecture Decisions & Financial Impact

- Managed vs self-managed services
- Serverless vs traditional architecture
- Cost vs performance tradeoffs
- Financial questions for engineering teams

Case Study:

- Compare 3 AWS architecture approaches

Module 7: Compute Cost Optimization

- EC2 cost drivers
- Rightsizing concepts
- Idle resource elimination
- Auto Scaling benefits
- Savings Plans opportunities
- Licensing impact

Tools:

- AWS Compute Optimizer

Demo:

- Rightsizing recommendations

Lab 3: Rightsizing Analysis

- Analyze utilization reports
- Identify oversized instances
- Calculate savings

Deliverable:

- Cost Optimization Report

Module 8: Storage Cost Optimization

- S3 storage classes
- Lifecycle policies
- Intelligent Tiering
- Glacier archiving
- Snapshot optimization

Demo:

- S3 lifecycle policies

Lab 4: Reduce Storage Costs

- Analyze storage usage
- Apply lifecycle policies
- Estimate savings

Deliverable:

- Storage Optimization Plan

Module 9: Networking & Database Cost Optimization

Networking:

- Data transfer costs
- Egress charges
- Cross-region transfer
- CloudFront optimization

Databases:

- RDS pricing models
- Aurora vs DynamoDB
- Managed vs self-managed DBs

Exercise:

- Optimization from sample AWS bill

Lab 5: AWS Cost Optimization Challenge

Scenario: Company spends ₹20 Lakhs/month

Tasks:

- Compute optimization
- Storage optimization
- Database optimization
- Network optimization

Goal:

- Reduce cost by 15%

Module 10: Introduction to AWS AI/ML Services

- Overview of AI/ML in AWS ecosystem
- Amazon SageMaker (high-level overview)
- Amazon Bedrock (GenAI introduction)
- AWS AI services: Rekognition, Comprehend, Textract
- Cost drivers of AI/ML workloads
- Finance considerations for AI adoption

Activity:

- Discussion on AI workload cost impact

Day 3 – Forecasting & Governance

Module 11: Budgeting & Forecasting Cloud Spend

- Forecasting methodologies
- Budget planning cycles
- Growth projections
- Seasonal workloads
- Variance analysis
- Migration forecasting

Demo:

- Cost Explorer forecasting

Lab 6: Create Cloud Budget & Forecast

- Department budget creation
- Project budget creation
- Forecast future spend
- Budget alerts configuration

Deliverable:

- Annual Cloud Budget Plan

Module 12: Cloud Governance & Cost Controls

- Governance frameworks
- AWS Organizations
- AWS Control Tower
- Cost policies and controls
- Budget enforcement
- Anomaly detection
- Trusted Advisor

Demo:

- Cost checks using Trusted Advisor

Lab 7: Governance Design Workshop

- Cost allocation strategy
- Budget governance model
- Approval workflow
- Monthly review process

Deliverable:

- Cloud Governance Framework

Capstone Project – FinOps Simulation