



NYU

**ROBERT F. WAGNER GRADUATE
SCHOOL OF PUBLIC SERVICE**

**Course Waiver Policy:
CORE-GP 1021 Financial Management**

There are a number of waiver options for CORE-GP 1021. Please read these options carefully to see which option might apply to you.

Waiver Policy Options

1. Students who have completed coursework **prior to their matriculation at Wagner** in Budgeting (including time-value-of-money concepts), Accounting, Government Accounting, and Nonprofit Accounting within the last five years with a grade of B+ or better in each course are eligible to waive CORE-GP 1021. (Incoming students rarely meet the conditions for this option.)
NOTE: YOU MUST MEET ALL OF THESE REQUIREMENTS TO WAIVE THE COURSE, NOT JUST A MAJORITY OF THESE TOPICS.
2. Students who have completed coursework **prior to their matriculation at Wagner** in Accounting, Government Accounting, and Nonprofit Accounting within the last five years with grades of B+ or better, but have *not* taken Budgeting, may take the first half of CORE-GP 1021 as a 1.5-credit Independent Reading (INDEP-GP 1900) in lieu of taking the full COREGP 1021 course. In this case you would register for an Independent Reading corresponding with the first half of the course, when you would be required to fully participate, complete all assignments, and take the midterm exam. (Incoming students rarely meet the conditions for this option.)

Students who have completed Budgeting (including time-value-of-money concepts) within the 5 years **prior to their matriculation at Wagner** with a grade of B+ or better, but have not had Accounting, Government Accounting, or Nonprofit Accounting may take the second half of CORE-GP 1021 as a 1.5-credit Independent Reading (INDEPGP 1900) in lieu of taking the full CORE-GP 1021 course. In this case you would register for an Independent Reading corresponding with the second half of the course, when you would be required to fully participate, complete all assignments, and take the final exam. (Incoming students occasionally meet the conditions for this option.)

PLEASE NOTE: For a student eligible to waive one half of CORE-GP 1021, enrollment in an Independent Reading for the other half of the course is only available in the fall and summer terms and in an online modality. If your program's specialization includes any course that lists CORE-GP 1021 Financial Management as a pre- or co-requisite, and if you intend to waive all or half of CORE-GP 1021, then you must submit your waiver request before the start of your first fall term in order to ensure standard progression in your specialization. If you are

considering waiving CORE-GP 1021, please speak with your Student Services program advisor to ensure that you are able to waive the course in a timely manner.

3. Students who have real-world experience (as opposed to specific coursework), or who have taken these courses more than 5 years prior to their matriculation at Wagner, or who have earned less than a B+ in any of these courses, may sit for a **waiver exam** (see below for details).

Updated: 4/7/2026

Waiver Based on Prior Coursework

To request a course waiver, submit the specific materials outlined below. Students may submit only one request to waive Financial Management. Please note that all waiver requests must include the following:

- Memo describing how the course(s) you took cover all the main topics in CORE-GP 1021. Please include the following in your memo:
 - ✓ Your full name
 - ✓ Your University ID# (N#)
 - ✓ Your email address
 - ✓ Name of university
 - ✓ Name of course as listed on your transcript
 - ✓ Course number & section
 - ✓ Semester and year course was taken. (If your prior coursework is over five years old, you cannot qualify for waiver consideration through coursework.)
 - ✓ Grade received in the course. (If your grade is less than a B+, you cannot qualify for waiver consideration through coursework.)
- Copies of supporting documentation
 - ✓ Complete syllabus. If syllabus from the semester and year you took the course is not available, you may attach a more recent syllabus with a note from the school/instructor explaining that the course content has not changed.

Please note: If your coursework is over five years old and/or the grade was NOT a B+ or better, you do not qualify for a prior coursework waiver.

To submit your course waiver request, gather the specific materials outlined in the policies above, then complete the CORE-GP 1021 [Course Waiver Request form](#) and attach the documentation in a single pdf document. (the form will only allow one attachment) Make sure to only submit complete waiver requests - incomplete requests cannot be processed.

If you did not submit an official transcript with the relevant course(s) to NYU Wagner Admissions, please contact Wagner Student Services for instructions.

If you have questions, you can contact Wagner Student Services at wagner.studentservices@nyu.edu.

Waiver Exam (In Person via NYU Brightspace)

The Financial Management waiver exam is administered in person at the NYU Wagner Building under proctored conditions. Students must bring their own laptops to access and complete the exam.

The Waiver Exam for CORE-GP 1021 has two modules:

- **Module I** covers the material in the first half of the course: budgeting and time-value-of-money concepts. You will be given two hours to complete this module.
- **Module II** covers material in the second half of the course: accounting, government accounting, and nonprofit accounting. You will be given two hours to complete this module.

You must earn a grade of 70 out of 100 or better to pass a module. If your grade on a waiver exam module is below 70, you would benefit substantially from taking the course. The CORE-GP 1021 course is the foundation for the other courses in the finance specialization. Thus, students who want to pursue the finance specialization should consider taking CORE-GP 1021 if their score is less than 85.

- **If you pass both modules**, you may waive CORE-GP 1021.
- **If you pass Module I only**, then you may take the second half of CORE-GP 1021 as a 1.5 credit Independent Reading (INDEP-GP 1900) in lieu of taking the full CORE-GP 1021 course. In this case you will be required to submit all assignments from the second half of the course, and to take the final exam.
- **If you pass Module II**, then you may take the first half of CORE-GP 1021 as a 1.5-credit Independent Reading (INDEP-GP 1900) in lieu of taking the full CORE-GP 1021 course. All homework and assignments from the first half of CORE-GP 1021 are required, and the CORE-GP 1021 midterm exam will serve as the final exam for the 1.5-credit course.
 - **PLEASE NOTE: For a student eligible to waive one half of CORE-GP 1021**, enrollment in an Independent Reading for the other half of the course is only available in the fall and summer terms and in an online modality. If your [program's specialization](#) includes any course that lists CORE-GP 1021 Financial Management as a pre- or co-requisite, and if you intend to waive all or half of CORE-GP 1021, then you must take the waiver exam before the start of your first fall term in order to ensure standard progression in your specialization.. If you are considering waiving CORE-GP 1021, please speak with your [Student Services program advisor](#) to ensure that you are able to waive the course in a timely manner.

You may take Module I, Module II, or both modules. If you choose to sit for only one of the two modules, you forfeit the opportunity to sit for the other module at a later time. A failed waiver exam module may not be retaken. If you choose to sit for both modules, it must be done in one sitting, with a brief break between the two modules.

The rules of the exams are as follows:

- In person exam taken via NYU Brightspace
- 2 modules make up one test
- Each module is 1 hour and 40 minutes long
- May use a calculator that has time value of money
- One sheet, one-sided of hand-written notes allowed; no books
- May only take exam once

To prepare for the exam, students are encouraged to review the syllabus for the course (available on the [Wagner website](#)) and to review the course textbook, which is available at the NYU Professional Bookstore and on reserve at the NYU Bobst Library. There is also a practice exam available on the [Course Waiver Page](#).

To RSVP for a waiver exam, complete the Waiver Exam RSVP Form on the [Course Waiver Page](#).

If you have questions, please contact wagner.studentservices@nyu.edu.

Category	NYU Wagner	Your course work
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<p>Course Description</p>	<p>In this introductory core course in financial management, students will learn the fundamentals of budgeting and accounting for public, health, and not-for-profit organizations. Through readings, lectures, real-world case studies, and assignments, students will gain an understanding of how to use financial information in organizational planning, implementation, control, reporting, and analysis. In addition, students will develop their spreadsheet skills by using Microsoft Excel to perform financial calculations and create financial documents.</p> <p>The first half of the course focuses on managerial accounting, a set of tools used by managers for internal planning, implementation, and control. Topics in this portion of the course include operating budgets, cash budgets, break-even analysis, cost allocation, variance analysis, the time value of money, capital budgeting, and long-term financing.</p> <p>The second half of the course focuses on financial accounting, a set of tools used by managers and external observers for reporting on and analyzing an organization's financial position and performance. Topics in this portion of the course include the preparation and analysis of financial statements (balance sheet, activity statement, and cash flow statement), ethics in financial management, government accounting, and government financial condition analysis.</p>	
<p>Course Objectives</p>	<p>By the conclusion of the semester, students will learn to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Prepare organizational budgets on the accrual and cash bases of accounting. 2. Make resource allocation and pricing decisions using break-even analysis, the time value of money, cost allocation, and variance analysis. 3. Prepare balance sheets, activity statements, and cash flow statements using Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP) for not-for-profit and healthcare organizations and analyze these statements. 	

	<p>4. Interpret and analyze governmental financial statements that have been prepared on the accrual and modified accrual bases of accounting.</p> <p>5. Use Microsoft Excel to prepare financial statements and perform financial analyses.</p>	
<p>Typical Course Topics</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Operating Budgets, Cash Budgets, Flexible Budgets, & Capital Budgeting • Break-Even Analysis • Cost Allocation • Variance Analysis • Time Value of Money • Long-Term Financing • Balance Sheets • Activity Statements • Accounting for Not-For-Profit and Health Organizations • Ethics in Financial Management • Cash Flow Statements • Financial Statement Analysis • Budgeting and Accounting for State and Local Governments • Government Financial Condition Analysis 	