

The NSA Leadership Certificate Program at NSA Aspire 2024



Session 3: Decision-Making and Problem Solving in Accounting Management(1 hour)

Session Schedule:

- 20 minutes of lecture
- 10 minutes of Q&A
- 10-minute exercise
- 10 minutes of discussion
- 10 minutes of summary and closing

Session Description:

In this session, we will explore the decision-making and problem-solving processes within accounting firms while focusing on the concept: "Begin with the End in Mind" from Stephen Covey's 7 Habits. Effective decision-making and problem-solving are essential skills for accounting leaders, and this session will provide practical guidance to enhance these abilities.

Agenda:

1. Lecture (20 minutes):

- Introduction to the importance of decision-making and problem solving in the accounting profession.
- Explanation of Stephen Covey's Habit 2: "Begin with the End in Mind."
- Discussion of how Habit 2 applies to decision-making and problem solving within accounting firms.
- Real-world examples of effective decision-making in accounting.

2. Q&A (10 minutes):

- Participants will have the opportunity to ask questions about decision-making, problem-solving, and Habit 2.
- Facilitator will address queries and provide strategies for making sound decisions in the accounting context.

3. Exercise (10 minutes):

- Participants will engage in a practical exercise related to decision-making.
- The exercise may involve case studies or scenarios where participants must make decisions and solve problems using the principles of Habit 2.
- Participants will reflect on their decision-making approaches and identify areas for improvement.

4. Discussion (10 minutes):

- Small group discussions or breakout sessions (if applicable) to share insights and experiences from the exercise.
- Participants will discuss common challenges they face in decision-making and problem solving within the accounting profession.
- Sharing of best practices and strategies for effective decision-making and problem solving.

5. Summary and Closing (10 minutes):

- Recap of key takeaways from the lecture, exercise, and discussions.
- Emphasis on the importance of aligning decisions with long-term goals and strategic planning in the accounting profession.
- Announcement of homework or pre-session reading assignments related to Habit 2.
- Encouragement for participants to apply decision making principles in their daily strategic and problem-solving activities.

By the end of Session 3, participants will have gained valuable insights into effective decision-making and problem-solving practices in accounting, and practical exercises to improve these skills. The session will conclude with a commitment to making well-informed decisions and solving problems that align with their accounting firm's goals and vision.