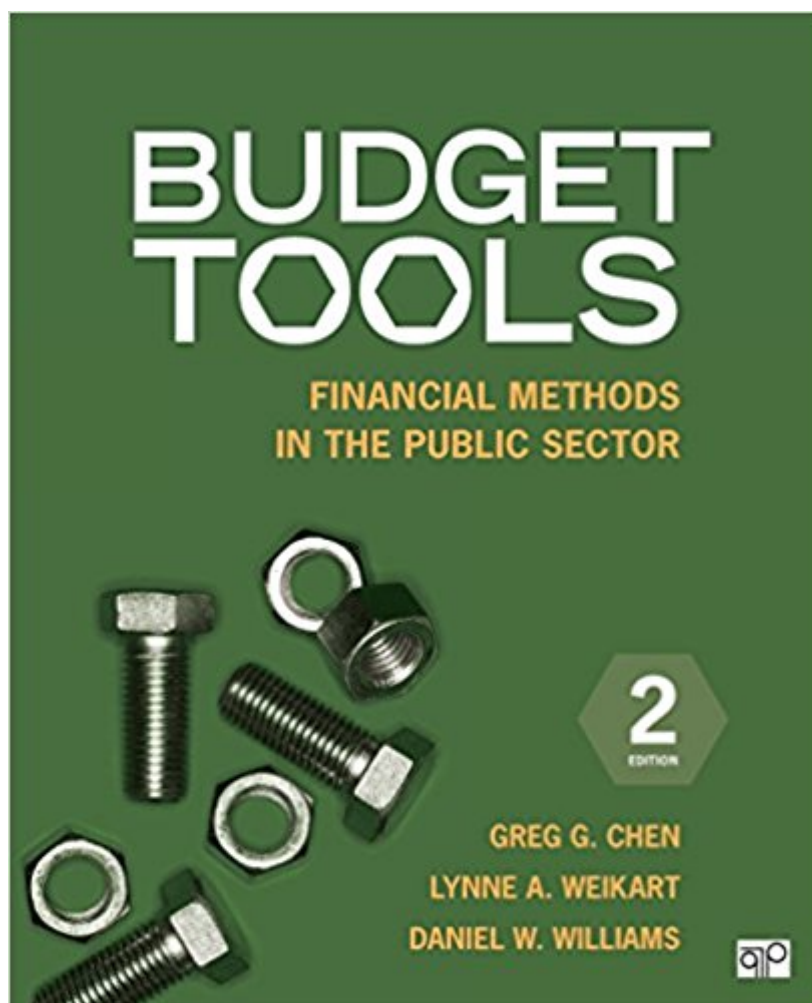


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# Budget Tools; Financial Methods In The Public Sector



## Synopsis

The thoroughly updated and expanded *Second Edition* of Greg G. Chen, Lynne A. Weikart, and Daniel W. Williams' *Budget Tools: Financial Methods in the Public Sector* brings together scores of exercises that will take students through the process of public budgeting, from organizing data through analysis and presentation. This thoroughly revised text has been restructured so it now has 30 compact modules to focus on individual skills and enhance flexibility, and is reorganized to cover more straightforward skills early in the book and more complex tools later on. Using budgets from all levels of government as well as from nonprofit organizations, the authors give students the opportunity to work with real budgeting data to cover a range of topics and skills. *Budget Tools* provides instruction in the techniques and implementation of budgeting skills at a granular level to support a wide range of approaches to teaching the subject.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Greg G. Chen is associate professor at Baruch College School of Public Affairs, City University of New York. He was a manager of the budgeting and financial reporting department in the Ministry of Finance, and budget manager and senior policy adviser for the Premier's Office of British Columbia, Canada, before taking his professorship in the United States. He had previously been an associate dean in the College of WISCO in China. Professor Chen conducts research and publishes papers in the areas of budgeting and financial management for nonprofit organizations and governments,

program evaluation and cost-benefit analysis of diverse public programs, and comparisons of the health care systems and finance in Canada, the United States, and China. Lynne A. Weikart was associate professor at Baruch College School of Public Affairs, City University of New York, until her retirement. She is currently a practitioner in residence at James Madison University, where she teaches budgeting and financial management. Before her academic career, she held several high-level government positions, including budget director of the Division of Special Education in New York City (NYC) public schools and executive deputy commissioner of the New York State Division of Human Rights. For several years, she also served as the executive director of a nonprofit, City Project, a progressive fiscal think tank focused on reforming NYC's resource allocation patterns. Weikart's current research focuses on resource allocation in urban areas as well as on urban finance, and she has published many articles on these subjects. She is author of *Follow the Money: Who Controls New York City Mayors?* (2009) and the coauthor with Greg Chen of *Budgeting and Financial Management for Nonprofits* (2012). The latter was CQ Press. She won the Luther Gulick Award for Outstanding Academic from the New York Metropolitan Chapter of the American Society for Public Administration in 2001. Daniel W. Williams has taught budgeting at Baruch College since 1995. His research includes budgeting, forecasting and the history of public administration. Before his academic career, Williams spent nineteen years with the Virginia Medicaid program, including nine years as the Budget Director of the Virginia Department of Medical Assistance Services. For five years he served on a local Community Board in Manhattan, where he was for three years the chair of the budget committee. He has received the Abraham J. Briloff Prize in Ethics, Baruch College, and the Outstanding Paper Award 2002-2003, *International Journal of Forecasting* (with Don Miller).

This is a well structured book. Simple to follow the flow and the concepts. However, the book references exercises which don't exist in the text nor are on the book's webpage at Sage. The previous edition had a CD. Does this one? There is no mention anywhere of any access to the referred to exercises. This is a huge problem. Our professor is sending us the exercises, which she has access to via her instructor's webpages. What is this about? Why is there no reference anywhere to how students are supposed to get the exercises? If our professor was not giving us the exercises, I would rate this book a "0" or a "1".

This was an optional book for one of my courses, and I am so happy that I chose to get it. It will be one that I keep and refer to in the future, I am sure. It gives definitions, examples, and formulas. It,

honestly, seems more helpful in the real world than our required text was. My classmate is going to purchase it too even though we've finished that class.

This book is a portal to hell. I'd be very careful around it. I go to a Catholic University so we always had enough holy water to spritz it.

Makes a boring and tedious subject easy to understand. Great for non finance or accounting people.

I purchased this book for a Master's level course. My expectations, since this book is about budgeting, were low of course. Instead, what I found was a well-written book with many real-world examples of the covered concepts. The author did a great job of making the content interesting. This is a book that you will want to keep after your course, as it has great material on a this complex topic.

This book was required for my budgeting course. I found it to be very confusing and not worth the read. You are better off finding other resources to find your information.

Provided the info I was looking for regarding cost accounting. An easy read with the essential basics for public sector budgets.

Book is good, but took forever to be delivered. That reflects on the seller though. Not the author.

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