



DIFFERENCE BETWEEN IT PROJECT MANAGER AND BUSINESS PROGRAM MANAGER



INFORMATION TECH. PROJECT MANAGER

vs.

BUSINESS PROGRAM MANAGER

NATURE OF WORK

An IT PM's work is tactical and detailed. He/she defines and keeps track of project scope, requirements, and deadlines.

NATURE OF WORK

A business PM's work is more strategic and high-level. He/she ensures that a project is aligned with business objectives.

LEVEL OF RESPONSIBILITY

Usually, an IT PM is directly involved in only one project at a given time.

LEVEL OF RESPONSIBILITY

A business PM is simultaneously involved with different teams and multiple projects.

STAKEHOLDER/RESOURCE MANAGEMENT RESPONSIBILITY

An IT PM assigns tasks to the resources and manages their availability and workload. He/she is also responsible for hiring and firing project team members.

STAKEHOLDER/RESOURCE MANAGEMENT RESPONSIBILITY

A business PM is more concerned about project outcomes and doesn't get into the details of how things are getting done at an individual team member level. He/she can't hire or fire team members without seeking help from the IT PM.

RELATIONSHIP WITH OTHER TEAMS

An IT PM, by virtue of being responsible for one particular team, has an indirect relationship with other teams and may not know how to manage them.

RELATIONSHIP WITH OTHER TEAMS

A business PM can manage multiple teams handling different projects and is vested with the power to direct them.

KNOWLEDGE REQUIREMENT + RISK MANAGEMENT

An IT PM must possess technical knowledge and be equipped to suggest technical solutions to the team to manage risks.

KNOWLEDGE REQUIREMENT + RISK MANAGEMENT

A business PM may or may not possess technical knowledge but must have business domain knowledge. He/she can escalate and delegate technical risks for resolution.

BUDGET MANAGEMENT RESPONSIBILITY

An IT PM tracks project spends to ensure that there are no budget overruns.

BUDGET MANAGEMENT RESPONSIBILITY

A business PM defines the budget for several projects under a business program and can realign resources between projects to ensure business finances don't take a hit.

TIME AND OUTCOME MANAGEMENT RESPONSIBILITY

An IT PM deals with shorter timelines and stringent deadlines. He/she is concerned about on-time delivery of IT products to finish a project.

TIME AND OUTCOME MANAGEMENT RESPONSIBILITY

A business PM manages long-term program deadlines encompassing several projects. The success of a business program depends on how well each project is completed.

GOVERNANCE METHOD

An IT PM engages with all levels of management leaders for decision-making, and can also take decisions to solve any technical problem in a project.

GOVERNANCE METHOD

A business PM engages with senior-level management for decision-making.