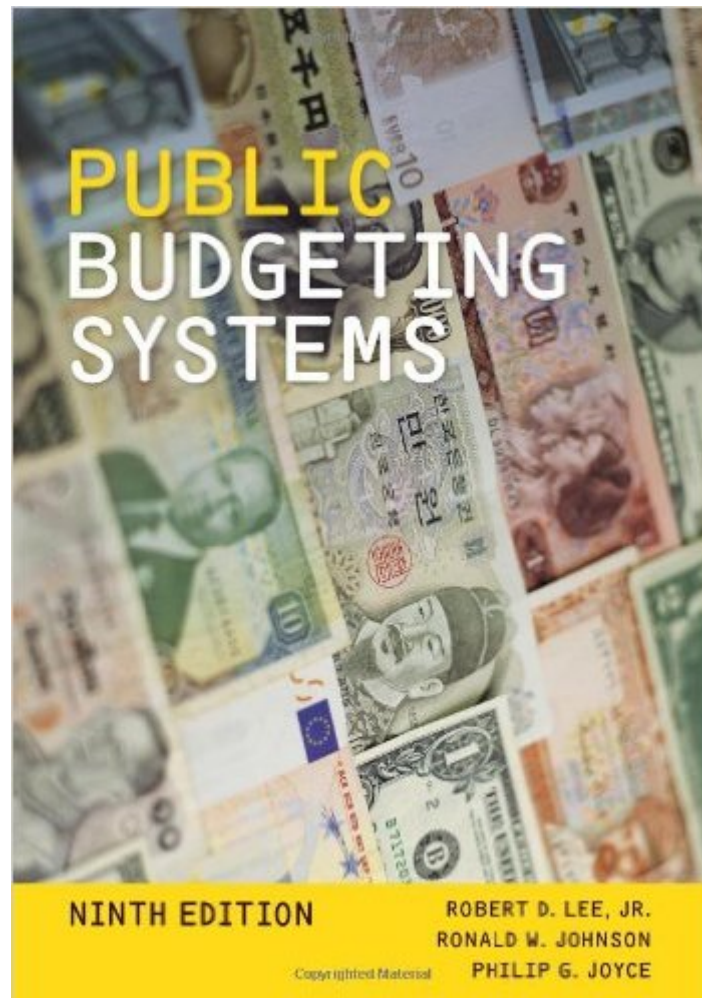


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Public Budgeting Systems



Synopsis

Now in its Ninth Edition, *Public Budgeting Systems* is a complete and balanced reference that surveys the current state of budgeting throughout all levels of the United States government. The text emphasizes methods by which financial decisions are reached within a system as well as ways in which different types of information are used in budgetary decision-making. It also stresses the use of program information, since, for decades, budget reforms have sought to introduce greater program considerations into financial decisions. The Ninth Edition has been updated to give particular attention to several recent developments in public budgeting and finance including:

- Steps that have been taken by governments to battle the effects of the "Great Recession" and to enhance economic recovery. In the US, this includes the actions of the Federal Reserve as well as legislative efforts, such as the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act.
- Significant increase in use of fiscal policy tools to stimulate economic recovery, in contrast to most recent previous 20 year period.
- The federal government's direct role in the operations of the private sector will be explored. The government has become a major stockholder and therefore has a financial stake in seeing that corporations succeed.
- Unprecedented federal deficits, as well as extreme budgetary challenges at the state and local level, including a discussion of causes and possible solutions.
- Other changes during the Obama presidency, including the passage of comprehensive health care reform and changes in the management agenda.
- Continued developments in financial and debt management, including additional GASB requirements and the effects of the recent economic contraction on the borrowing prospects for state and local governments.
- Additional recognition of the effects of the global economy, resulting in an increase in the pages devoted to discussing international examples.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

From the other reviews, it seems clear most people read this as part of a class. My reading was no different. I found the book to be hit and miss. The author does present relevant and important information, but some important ideas are glossed over, while others are restated without examples. There are few moments where real-world mechanics are employed to demonstrate to the reader. The bulk of the books seems theoretical to the reader, and much of this text is already antiquated material. That said, it was worth a read, particularly if you have never owned a business or had real-life experience with budgetary processes. The writing is dry, but it's unlikely that any reader would come away without something useful. (Edited for a typo)

I was assigned this book for a master's level budgeting class, and I can never read more than a few pages without wanting to find something else--ANYTHING ELSE--to do. This is not true of other textbooks I've had in this program. This writing is extremely dry and lacking concrete examples to help readers understand vague concepts. This book could have used a better editor.

The course it was purchased for hasn't started yet. However, I've already begun reading it and find it an easy, well laid out, comprehensible and, to some extent, entertaining book. If the class it is assigned for (Public Finance at Empire State University) can be gauged by this particular resource, I'm in for some fun times ahead!

This is a slightly big book but it does fit the subject covered. One area of improvement that may be needed is the use, or in this case, the lack of, graphics. If you are perfectly content with reading a college textbook with absolutely no pictures or graphics (other than what's on the cover), then this book is for you.

As a professor I am using this textbook in combination with Wang's textbook, Financial Management in the Public Sector: Tools, Applications, and Cases. The Lee, Johnson & Joyce book has solid content and is well written. I think the combination of these two textbooks will work well in

a Master of Public Administration (MPA) core course on public budgeting and financial management. The combination of the two books will help produce the "right" balance of qualitative and quantitative course content.

I used this book for a graduate class in budgeting. The book is extremely dense and dry, which has not been the case for all other text books in my Public Administration program. The author does not highlight useful terms, so it's almost like reading a dense nonfiction on budgeting. I have to agree with another reviewer who said it was, "Dry as a mouth full of saltines".

Very technical, introduces the reader with various Public Budgeting Systems and concepts. It is dry to read but good to read for any policy or public administration student.

Easy to read and follow. not exactly my idea of a page turner, but helped me pass my course :-)

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