

CASE STUDY



CHALLENGE

Grant Thornton, a global professional services firm, sought a cohesive, skills-focused leadership development program to build client-centric managers capable of delivering personalized experiences to clients. Previous programs were a series of disconnected sessions, lacking the structured focus to truly build skills, peer connections, and a network of support.

- BUSINESS CHALLENGE Leadership Development
- INDUSTRY Professional Services
- NUMBER OF LEARNERS 550
- L&D STRATEGY Cohort-based Learning

LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT: DRIVING ENGAGEMENT & PERFORMANCE THROUGH DIGITAL INNOVATION

By partnering with Intrepid, Grant Thornton transformed its Manager Development Program (MDP), achieving a 90% attendance rate, 83% completion rate, and NPS score of 53. The Intrepid platform streamlined the yearlong learning journey, reduced administrative overhead, and supported the firm's digital badging program to drive engagement. This scalable approach now sets a benchmark for impactful leadership development.

To address this, a centralized platform was needed to enable the year-long learning journey and power cohort-level activities with feedback and coaching so managers could advance together. The platform also promoted engagement (initially hovering at 50%) by allowing for better progress tracking to increase both learner participation and senior leader support.



SOLUTION

In partnership with Intrepid, Grant Thornton revamped its Manager Development Program (MDP) with targeted enhancements:

- Centralized Platform & Badging: The Intrepid platform allowed for a single digital hub that makes it easy for participants to find and track materials, especially asynchronous activities and on-the-job experiences to earn a program digital badge.
- Career-Aligned Learning Journeys: Program structure aligned with career milestones, guiding participants from new manager to experienced manager and ultimately senior manager or director.
- Peer Collaboration & Continuous Feedback:
 Cohort-based activities and discussion board assignments created frequent feedback loops that fostered a collaborative learning environment, enhancing engagement and accountability.
- Optimized Schedule: Spaced learning journey with live sessions in fall and self-study in the spring aligned with business cycles to maintain steady participation and engagement.
- Interactive Coaching: Self-study modules paired with role-play during live, virtual sessions built essential coaching and feedback skills that increase coaching effectiveness and employee satisfaction.

RFSULTS

The enhancements made to Grant Thornton's Manager Development Program produced measurable results:



Attendance Rate:

Restructured scheduling achieved 90% attendance across live, virtual sessions.



Badge Completion:

Digital badging boosted program completion from 36% to 83%; badge earners showed higher billable hours and improved feedback scores.



NPS Score

Maximizing live, virtual time with interactive role-playing raised the overall Net Promoter Score to 53, well above the target of 30.



Skill Rating:

Content relevancy and skill impact scored 4.4+ out of 5.



Leadership Buy-In:

Increased senior leader visibility and quarterly progress tracking drove stronger program support and engagement.

These results underscore the program's impact and scalability for leadership development.



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Amy Happ, Director of Leadership Development and Learning Innovation

With Intrepid's platform, we transformed our Manager Development Program into a seamless, engaging journey, where participants could access everything they needed in one place, driving both accountability and real impact.



READY TO ACHIEVE SIMILAR SUCCESS WITH MANAGERIAL DEVELOPMENT?

See how to get started with a collaborative learning program to make an impact with your leadership development strategy.

Chat with a learning advisor today!



