



Ops 4: Fixed Fee Estimating + Automatic Change Orders

Estimate Hours with Less Risk

Three-Point (PERT) per task: Expected Hours = (Optimistic + 4×Most Likely + Pessimistic) ÷ 6
Risk Buffer: Low 10% · Med 20% · High 30% (on hours).

Fixed Fee Pricing

Fixed Fee = (Estimated Hours × (L ÷ U)) ÷ (1 – GM) + Pass-throughs

Change Order Triggers

Trigger when any occurs: requirements change; new stakeholder; unforeseen condition; **Hours Spent** ≥ 70% while % **Complete** < 70%.

PM Automation (Asana/ClickUp + Harvest/Clockify)

When trigger fires → auto-create task “Prepare CO Options”, notify owner + client, insert email template.

■ How J&B; LLC can help

- Build your estimating template (PERT + buffer)
- Wire rules that flag overrun and draft CO emails
- Train PMs to enforce scope without drama

Key Takeaway: Estimating + automation protects margin and avoids awkward surprises.

Try It Yourself

Pick your next project and rough in the estimate & triggers.

Task	Opt (O)	Most (M)	Pes (P)	Expected ((O+4M+P)/6)	Risk %	Budget Hours
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____

Reflection

- Where do we underestimate most often? _____
- What change/order trigger will save us first? _____

■ **Action Step:** Add a 70% hours / <70% complete trigger in your PM tool today.