

CISA® – Certified Information Systems Auditor

Plan and run risk-based IT audits with confidence, and prepare for the CISA exam with structured practice.

DURATION

4 days · 32 hours

LEVEL

Advanced

CURRICULUM

16 modules · 7 labs

DELIVERY

Live online, Onsite,
Corporate

Course overview

Information systems auditors give boards and regulators an honest view of whether technology is controlled, secure and delivering value. That takes more than knowing frameworks: you need to plan an engagement around risk, gather sufficient evidence, judge whether controls are designed and operating well, and report findings that management will act on. This four-day course builds that way of thinking.

The plan follows the five domains of the CISA job practice. Day one covers the audit process itself: standards, risk-based planning, sampling, evidence and reporting. Day two looks at governance and management of IT, including strategy, policies, risk management, outsourcing and performance measurement. Day three examines how systems are acquired, developed and implemented, and then turns to operations, incident handling and business resilience. Day four is devoted to the protection of information assets, from identity and access to network, cloud and data security controls.

Each topic is anchored in a practical exercise. You will draft an audit plan for a mid-sized organisation, test a change management process, assess a disaster recovery arrangement and evaluate access controls from sample evidence. These workshops mirror the scenario-style questions you will meet in the exam, where the best answer depends on the auditor's role and independence.

Exam technique runs through the whole course. Every domain ends with practice questions and a discussion of why the distractors are wrong, and the final session includes a timed mock exam with a review of weak areas and a personal study plan for the weeks before you sit the exam.

This course is aligned to the CISA exam as published by ISACA. Always confirm the current job practice, eligibility rules and exam fee on the ISACA website before booking.

Highlights

- 32 hours of live, trainer-led sessions
- Covers all five CISA job practice domains
- Audit case workshops built around realistic organisations
- Daily practice questions with explained answers
- Full-length mock exam with domain-wise review

What's included

- Trainer with hands-on IT audit and assurance experience
- Domain-by-domain plan aligned to the CISA job practice
- Case workshops: audit planning, control testing and reporting
- Practice questions with explained answers every day
- Timed mock exam with domain-wise feedback
- Guidance on the experience requirement and application process
- Course completion certificate from Ace Skills Consulting

- Post-training doubt support while you prepare

Who this course is for

Who should attend

- IT and internal auditors
- IT risk and compliance professionals
- Information security analysts moving into assurance
- Consultants in audit and advisory practices
- IT managers responsible for control environments

Prerequisites

- Working knowledge of IT infrastructure and business applications
- Exposure to audit, risk, control or security work is strongly recommended
- Certification requires relevant work experience as defined by ISACA

Detailed curriculum — 4 days, 32 hours, 16 modules, 7 hands-on labs

Day 1 The Information System Auditing Process

8 hours

1.1 Audit standards and ethics

- ISACA standards, guidelines and code of ethics
- Types of audits and assessments
- Audit charter and independence
- Business processes and controls

1.2 Risk-based audit planning

- Risk assessment for audit planning
- Using frameworks to structure the work
- Audit scope and objectives
- Audit programmes and resourcing

LAB Draft a risk-based audit plan for a fictional retailer · 60 min

1.3 Fieldwork and evidence

- Sampling methods
- Data analytics and CAATs
- Evidence collection and reliability
- Control self-assessment

1.4 Reporting and follow-up

- Communicating findings
- Follow-up activities
- Writing actionable recommendations
- Quality assurance of the audit function

LAB Turn raw observations into audit findings · 40 min

Day 2 Governance and Management of IT

8 hours

2.1 IT governance

- Governance vs management
- Policies, standards and procedures
- IT strategy and alignment
- Organisational structure and segregation of duties

2.2 IT risk and resources

- Enterprise risk management
- Vendor and outsourcing management
- IT resource and portfolio management
- Laws, regulations and contracts

LAB Assess a third-party outsourcing arrangement · 45 min

2.3 Performance and quality

- IT performance monitoring and reporting
- Maturity and capability models
- Quality management
- Data governance basics

2.4 Domain practice

- Domains 1–2 practice questions
- Reviewing distractors and auditor perspective

LAB Timed question set: governance · 30 min

Day 3 Acquisition, Development, Operations and Resilience

8 hours

3.1 Systems acquisition and development

- Business case and feasibility
- Requirements and controls in design
- Post-implementation review
- Project governance and SDLC approaches
- Testing and implementation reviews

3.2 Change and configuration

- Change, configuration and release management
- Emergency changes
- Migration and data conversion controls

LAB Test a change management process from sample tickets · 45 min

3.3 IT operations

- IT service management practices
- Job scheduling and operational logs
- Problem and incident management
- Database and asset management

3.4 Business resilience

- Business impact analysis
- Business continuity and disaster recovery plans
- Backup and recovery strategies
- Testing recovery arrangements

LAB Evaluate a disaster recovery plan against a BIA · 40 min

Day 4 Protection of Information Assets and Exam Readiness

8 hours

4.1 Security frameworks and privacy

- Information asset security frameworks
- Physical and environmental controls
- Privacy principles
- Security awareness

4.2 Access and network controls

- Identity and access management
- Cloud and virtualisation considerations
- Network and endpoint security
- Encryption and key management

4.3 Monitoring and response

- Security event monitoring
- Evidence collection and forensics basics
- Incident response management
- Data loss prevention

LAB Review user access evidence and report exceptions · 45 min

4.4 Exam readiness

- Exam structure and time management
- Weak-area review and study plan
- Full-length mock exam

Skills and tools

Skills you will build

IT audit planning

Risk-based auditing

Control testing

Audit sampling

Audit reporting

IT governance

Vendor risk

SDLC controls

Change management review

Business continuity

Disaster recovery

Access control review

Information security controls

Tools used in class

Spreadsheet-based audit workpapers

Sample control matrices

Practice question bank

Certification exam

This course is aligned to the exam below and prepares you for it. The exam itself is booked and taken with the vendor.

Exam	Certified Information Systems Auditor (CISA)
Exam code	CISA
Questions	150
Duration	240 minutes
Passing score	450 / 800 (scaled)
Format	Multiple choice
Delivery	Online proctored, Test centre
Official page	https://www.isaca.org/credentialing/cisa

Exam skill areas covered

Information Systems Auditing Process

Information Systems Controls: Development and Implementation

Information Systems Controls: Monitoring and Maintenance

Information Systems Controls: Design and Testing

Information Systems Controls: Business Resilience

Exam details are pending verification. Confirm the current exam code, format and fee on the official vendor page before booking.

Frequently asked questions

Can I take the CISA exam without audit experience?

Yes, you can sit the exam first. ISACA requires relevant work experience before it grants the certification, and some education or other credentials may count as waivers, so check the current rules on the ISACA website.

Is the exam fee included in the course?

No. You register and pay for the exam directly with ISACA, and the fee differs for ISACA members and non-members.

Is this course suitable for people from a finance audit background?

Yes. Many participants come from financial or internal audit. We explain the technology concepts in plain language and connect them to audit methods you already know.

How should I prepare after the course?

We give you a study plan based on your mock exam results. Most learners combine it with regular practice questions over the following weeks.

Can you run this course for our internal audit team?

Yes. Request a corporate quote for a private batch, and we can use case studies closer to your industry.

Book a batch or talk to an advisor

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