

CISM® – Certified Information Security Manager

Lead information security as a business function — and prepare for the ISACA CISM exam with a manager's perspective.

DURATION

4 days · 32 hours

LEVEL

Advanced

CURRICULUM

11 modules · 4 labs

DELIVERYLive online, Onsite,
Corporate

Course overview

Information security managers sit between technical teams and senior leadership. They set direction, manage risk to an acceptable level, run the security programme and lead the response when incidents happen. CISM is ISACA's certification for that role, and its questions are written from the perspective of a manager balancing security with business objectives. This four-day course prepares you to think and answer in that way.

Day one covers information security governance: organisational culture, legal and regulatory requirements, roles and responsibilities, strategy, frameworks and metrics. Day two focuses on information security risk management, from assessing threats and vulnerabilities to selecting risk responses, monitoring risk and reporting it to leadership.

Day three addresses the information security programme: developing and managing the programme, aligning it to frameworks, building controls, managing third parties, defining metrics and running awareness. Day four covers incident management — readiness, business continuity and disaster recovery plans, incident response, communication and post-incident review — and closes with an exam-readiness session.

Discussions use practical cases from organisations in India and the Gulf, and each domain ends with practice questions and discussion of why the best answer is best. This course is aligned to the CISM exam and prepares you for it. ISACA has announced an updated outline effective 3 November 2026, so confirm which outline applies to your exam date on the ISACA website before booking.

Highlights

- 32 hours of live, manager-focused preparation
- All four CISM domains with case discussions
- Governance, risk, programme and incident management
- Question technique for ISACA-style scenarios
- Weekday and weekend batches in IST and Gulf Time

What's included

- All four CISM domains with case discussions
- ISACA-style question technique
- Governance and metrics templates
- Risk assessment and treatment exercises
- Incident and continuity planning workshop
- Study plan for the weeks after the course
- Course completion certificate from Ace Skills Consulting

Who this course is for

Who should attend

- Information security managers and aspiring managers
- Security consultants and advisers
- IT risk and compliance professionals
- Senior security engineers moving into management

Prerequisites

- Experience in information security, including security management (ISACA sets the exact experience requirement for certification)
- Familiarity with security concepts and terminology

Detailed curriculum — 4 days, 32 hours, 11 modules, 4 hands-on labs

Day 1 Information Security Governance

8 hours

1.1 Enterprise governance

- Organisational culture
- Organisational structures, roles and responsibilities
- Legal, regulatory and contractual requirements

1.2 Security strategy

- Developing an information security strategy
- Strategic planning, budgets and resources
- Governance frameworks and standards
- Business case development

LAB Draft a security strategy outline for a case organisation · 45 min

1.3 Metrics and reporting

- Key goal, performance and risk indicators
- Domain practice questions
- Reporting to the board

Day 2 Information Security Risk Management

8 hours

2.1 Risk assessment

- Emerging threat and vulnerability landscape
- Risk appetite and tolerance
- Risk assessment and analysis

LAB Assess and rank risks in a case scenario · 40 min

2.2 Risk response

- Risk treatment options
- Control selection
- Risk ownership and accountability
- Risk monitoring and reporting

2.3 Third-party risk

- Vendor risk assessment
- Domain practice questions
- Contracts and assurance

Day 3 Information Security Programme

8 hours

3.1 Programme development

- Programme resources and frameworks
- Control design and implementation
- Policies, standards and procedures
- Architecture alignment

3.2 Programme management

- Awareness and training
- Third-party security management
- Integrating security into business processes
- Programme metrics and continuous improvement

LAB Design a security metrics dashboard for leadership · 40 min

Day 4 Incident Management & Exam Readiness

8 hours

4.1 Incident readiness

- Incident response plan
- Business continuity and disaster recovery plans
- Business impact analysis
- Testing and exercises

LAB Incident response tabletop exercise · 50 min

4.2 Incident operations

- Incident classification and escalation
- Investigation and evidence
- Communication with stakeholders and regulators
- Post-incident review

4.3 Exam readiness

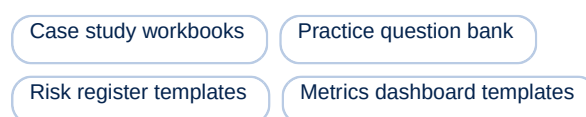
- ISACA question technique
- Cross-domain practice set with review
- Study plan and outline update guidance

Skills and tools

Skills you will build



Tools used in class



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	CISM – Certified Information Security Manager
Exam code	CISM
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/cism

Exam skill areas covered

Information Security, Governance
Information Security Program Management

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

Frequently asked questions

Is the CISM exam outline changing?

Yes. ISACA has announced an updated CISM outline effective 3 November 2026. Check which outline applies to your exam date on the ISACA website; we update the course to match.

What is the exam format?

The exam has 150 multiple-choice questions over four hours, with a passing scaled score of 450 on a scale of 200 to 800.

Can I take the exam before I have the required experience?

ISACA allows candidates to pass the exam and then apply for certification once they meet the experience requirement within the permitted period. Check current rules with ISACA.

How is CISM different from CISSP?

CISM focuses specifically on security management and governance, while CISSP covers a broader technical and managerial range.

Can you run this for our leadership team?

Yes. Private batches can use your governance structures and risk registers as discussion material.

Book a batch or talk to an advisor

Course page: aceskillsconsulting.com/course/cism-certified-information-security-manager · Email: info@aceskillsconsulting.com

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