

Developing & Implementing Effective Internal Audit Plans

2027 8 – 4
Edinburgh (UK)

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R202216051282744 **Location:** Edinburgh (UK) **Fees:** 5200 GBP

Why This Course

In today's dynamic business environment, effective internal audit planning is essential for organizational resilience, regulatory compliance, and strategic decision-making. Organizations that implement risk-based audit plans can proactively identify vulnerabilities, allocate resources efficiently, and ensure audit activities deliver meaningful insights.

This intensive 5-day Internal Audit Planning program equips participants with the skills and frameworks to develop, implement, and adapt audit plans that align with organizational goals. Through practical exercises and case-based learning, attendees will gain hands-on experience in risk assessment, audit strategy formulation, and stakeholder engagement.

What You'll Learn and Practice

By attending this program, you will be able to:

- Design a comprehensive risk-based internal audit plan tailored to organizational objectives.
- Assess and prioritize risks to focus audit efforts effectively.
- Allocate audit resources and schedule engagements strategically.
- Develop detailed audit programs with clear procedures and documentation standards.
- Communicate audit plans effectively to stakeholders.
- Adapt audit plans in response to changing organizational needs.

The Program Flow

Day 1: Foundations of Audit Planning

- Understanding the audit planning process
- Risk assessment fundamentals
- Aligning audit plans with organizational objectives
- Regulatory requirements and industry standards

Day 2: Risk Assessment and Prioritization

- Risk identification techniques
- Risk analysis and evaluation methods
- Prioritizing audit areas based on risk assessment
- Developing a risk-based audit universe

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A graphic illustration of a chessboard with several chess pieces. A large gold king piece is prominent in the foreground, with a silver pawn and a gold pawn nearby. The background shows concentric circles emanating from behind the king piece.

Day 3: Audit Strategy Formulation

- Defining audit objectives and scope
- Resource allocation and budgeting
- Engagement scheduling and timing considerations
- Stakeholder communication strategies

Day 4: Developing Detailed Audit Programs

- Components of an effective audit program
- Designing audit procedures and tests
- Documentation requirements and best practices
- Quality assurance in audit program development

Day 5: Plan Implementation and Adaptation

- Executing the audit plan
- Monitoring and reporting on plan progress
- Adapting plans to changing organizational needs
- Continuous improvement in audit planning

Individual Impact

Participants will leave the course with:

- The ability to develop a full risk-based internal audit plan.
- Practical skills to create detailed audit programs for specific engagements.
- Tools for effective stakeholder communication throughout the audit process.
- Strategies for ongoing improvement and adaptation of audit planning processes.

Organizational Impact

Organizations will benefit from:

- More focused and risk-prioritized audit activities.
- Efficient use of audit resources and engagement scheduling.
- Improved stakeholder confidence in internal audit outcomes.
- A culture of continuous improvement in internal audit planning and execution.

A graphic of a chessboard with several pawns and a king piece. The king piece is gold and stands prominently on the right side of the board. The pawns are silver and gold. The board is checkered and has a subtle circular pattern in the background.

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Training Methodology

- Interactive discussions and real-world audit scenarios
- Hands-on exercises in risk assessment and audit program design
- Group workshops on resource allocation and plan adaptation
- Case studies to reinforce best practices and practical applications

Beyond the Course

By the end of the five days, participants will be prepared to:

- Lead the design and implementation of risk-based audit plans with confidence.
- Ensure audit programs align with organizational goals and regulatory requirements.
- Communicate effectively with stakeholders to maximize audit impact.
- Continuously improve audit planning processes to enhance organizational assurance.

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