

President's Message

Internal Audit: Stepping Up to the Challenge of Becoming Strategic Advisors

The Auditor-General's Office report issued on 22 July 2021 reflects the need to strengthen governance and controls in certain areas. It is a great opportunity for the internal audit function to deliver value to the organisation by mitigating the highlighted risks and act as a catalyst for improving efficiency by providing insight and recommendations.

Here at IIA Singapore, we are focused on the ongoing and continued growth and professional development of internal auditors. Our courses, events and webinars are grounded in best practices relating to [Code of Ethics](#) and [International Standards for the Professional Practice of Internal Auditing \(Standards\)](#), and this means that you can trust us to offer you enhanced value.

To stay relevant, there is an emerging need for internal auditors to acquire diverse skillsets to protect and enhance organisational value and readily adapt to the increasingly complex business environment. From [Preventing and Detecting Procurement Fraud](#) to [Identifying Different Fraud Schemes and Red Flags of Fraud](#) and [Financial & Operational Audit - Human Resource, Payroll, Treasury and Project Management](#) to [COSO Internal Control Certificate](#), we have relevant and useful courses aimed at empowering internal auditors with knowledge in core disciplines.

In anticipation of the need for new skills brought forth by disruption, we have refreshed our Continuing Professional Education courses, and introduced new specialised offerings such as [Technology Audit Foundation](#), [Cybersecurity for Internal Auditors](#), and [IT Audit training for non-IT Auditors](#). Our new and interactive hands-on [Introduction to Data Analytics](#) course provides foundational level knowledge for internal auditors who are looking to improve efficiency and effectiveness in audit or investigation via data analytics.

Career development is a continuous journey and honing specialised expertise is essential to staying relevant. Available exclusively through IIA Global's OnDemand, the new [IT General Controls Certificate](#) programme is designed to provide operational auditors with a general understanding of how to assess key technology risks and controls.

You can achieve the personal goal of being recognised for your assurance capabilities by attaining professional designations, most notably that of the globally recognised Certified Internal Auditor (CIA) and Certification in Risk Management Assurance (CRMA). IIA Global is making changes to the overall programme to reflect the dynamic global risk environment. The application fee for the CRMA exam is waived through 31 December 2021. You can apply into the new programme [here](#) and register for the exam now.

Professional accountants holding qualifications from one of the [qualified accounting bodies](#) (QABs), including ACCA, AICPA, CPA Australia, CA ANZ, ICAEW and ISCA, can take advantage of the opportunity to take the CIA Challenge Exam, an expedited pathway to earn the designation. Application for the Challenge Exam open only in August and September 2021. You can apply [here](#) now.

If you haven't already completed the Internal Audit Foundation and IIA Global's survey, "Assessing Internal Audit Practices", we would greatly appreciate your thoughts as part of this important global review of the International Professional Practices Framework (IPPF) and Standards. Your input will help us better understand internal audit practices globally and the current value and relevance of the IPPF and Standards to ensure their continued applicability and effectiveness. We ask that you submit your responses by 31 August 2021 by completing the survey [here](#).

Lastly, do save the date for the Institute's 45th Annual General Meeting, which will be organised as a virtual event on 23 September 2021, 6.30pm.

Here's wishing all a very Happy Singapore National Day in advance and stay safe!

Yours sincerely
Koh Chin Beng, CIA
President
The Institute of Internal Auditors Singapore