



*Certification sets professional internal auditors apart from the rest by documenting their mastery of the field and practice of internal auditing. Becoming certified requires extensive preparation, study, knowledge, and experience, and indicates a commitment to professionalism.*

Few achievements demonstrate professionalism as vividly as professional certification. In the field of internal auditing, the more than 40,000 professionals to date who have earned the Certified Internal Auditor (CIA) designation have demonstrated this fact. The CIA, which represents knowledge, skills, and abilities of a global internal auditor, is the international designation for the profession. The CIA examination is offered twice a year to more than 20,000 candidates in 12 languages at more than 200 sites around the world. It is also offered on a one-on-one basis to CAEs at the location and time of their choice. This special IIA service is called the CAE Testing-on-demand Program.

The comprehensive global CIA examination tests candidates' grasp of internal auditing's role in governance, risk, and control; conducting an audit engagement; business analysis and information technology; and business management skills.

Although more universities than ever are offering internal audit curricula, many practitioners come into the profession with no formal internal audit education. Some might bring to their posts concentrated training in information systems, others might have experience in operations, and yet others might be armed with finance or business

degrees. Because passing the four-part CIA examination requires extensive preparation, study, and knowledge, earning the CIA is an important component of professional internal auditors' education.

In addition, continuing professional education (CPE) is required to maintain the CIA designation. A CIA who is working in the field must complete a total of 80 hours of acceptable CPE every two years, and nonpracticing CIAs must complete a total of 40 hours of acceptable CPE every two years.

The IIA also offers several designations that demonstrate competency in specialty areas: The Certification in Control Self Assessment (CCSA) identifies the skill sets needed by successful practitioners of CSA, measures understanding of CSA, and provides guidance for CSA initiatives. The Certified Government Auditing Professional (CGAP) distinguishes leaders in public sector auditing, showcases their commitment, and acknowledges their unique challenges. And the Certified Financial Services Auditor (CFSA) demonstrates competency in financial-services audit practices and methodologies.