

CAREER ROADMAP

How to Become an Internal Auditor: A Complete Roadmap

The roadmap to becoming an Internal Auditor: audit methodology, the CIA and CISA certifications, and the path into IT and AI audit.

IN THIS ROADMAP

- What the role does
- Foundations
- Certifications
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A free career roadmap from GRC Careers · AGJ, the AI governance job board

Read the latest version, and browse live Internal Auditor jobs, at ai-governance-jobs.com/ai-governance-career-guides/how-to-become-an-internal-auditor

An **Internal Auditor** independently checks that an organization's controls, processes, and risk management actually work — a stable, respected career that increasingly extends into IT and AI audit.

WHAT THE ROLE DOES

- Plans and executes audits of controls and processes
- Tests control effectiveness and gathers evidence
- Documents findings and tracks remediation
- Supports SOX, regulatory, and IT/AI audits

FOUNDATIONS

The IIA's audit methodology, controls frameworks (COSO), and — for the IT/AI track — [ISO 27001](#), NIST, and the NIST AI RMF.

CERTIFICATIONS

CIA (Certified Internal Auditor) is the profession's standard; **CISA** for the IT-audit track; add ISACA's AI-audit credential to move into AI assurance. Full credential details and salary data are in the [GRC Certifications Guide](#).

THE PATH

1. **Learn audit methodology** — the IIA standards and COSO.
2. **Practice** — walk through a controls test and workpaper.
3. **Certify** — CIA, then CISA for IT audit.
4. **Specialize** — IT audit, then AI/algorithm audit.

Step — Apply

Browse live Internal Auditor roles on GRC Careers. Related titles: Internal Auditor, IT Auditor, Senior Auditor, Audit Associate.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

What certifications do Internal Auditors need?

The CIA (Certified Internal Auditor) is the core credential, with CISA for the IT-audit track and ISACA's AI-audit credential for those moving into AI assurance.

Where can I find Internal Auditor jobs?

Browse live Internal Auditor and IT-audit roles on GRC Careers ([ai-governance-jobs.com](#)).

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