

# **CISA CERTIFICATION**

Content

#### **CISA Job Practice Details**

Below are the key domains, subtopics, and tasks candidates will be tested on:

# **Domain 1—INFORMATION SYSTEMS AUDITING PROCESS - (21%)**

Providing audit services in accordance with standards to assist organizations in protecting and controlling information systems. Domain 1 affirms your credibility to offer conclusions on the state of an organization's IS/IT security, risk, and control solutions.

# A. Planning

- 1. IS Audit Standards, Guidelines, and Codes of Ethics
- 2. Business Processes
- 3. Types of Controls
- 4. Risk-Based Audit Planning
- 5. Types of Audits and Assessments

#### **B.** Execution

- 1. Audit Project Management
- 2. Sampling Methodology
- 3. Audit Evidence Collection Techniques
- 4. Data Analytics
- 5. Reporting and Communication Techniques

# **Domain 2—Governance and Management of IT - (17%)**

Domain 2 confirms to stakeholders your abilities to identify critical issues and recommend enterprise-specific practices to support and safeguard the governance of information and related technologies.

#### A. IT Governance

- 1. IT Governance and IT Strategy
- 2. IT-Related Frameworks
- 3. IT Standards, Policies, and Procedures
- 4. Organizational Structure
- 5. Enterprise Architecture
- 6. Enterprise Risk Management
- 7. Maturity Models
- 8. Laws, Regulations, and Industry Standards affecting the Organization

# **B. IT Management**



- 1. IT Resource Management
- 2. IT Service Provider Acquisition and Management
- 3. IT Performance Monitoring and Reporting
- 4. Quality Assurance and Quality Management of IT

# **Domain 3—Information Systems Acquisition, Development, and Implementation** - (12%)

### A. Information Systems Acquisition and Development

- 1. Project Governance and Management
- 2. Business Case and Feasibility Analysis
- 3. System Development Methodologies
- 4. Control Identification and Design

# **B.** Information Systems Implementation

- 1. Testing Methodologies
- 2. Configuration and Release Management
- 3. System Migration, Infrastructure Deployment, and Data Conversion
- 4. Post-implementation Review

# **Domain 4—INFORMATION SYSTEMS OPERATIONS AND BUSINESS RESILIENCE - (23%)**

Domains 3 and 4 offer proof not only of your competency in IT controls but also your understanding of how IT relates to business.

# **A. Information Systems Operations**

- 1. Common Technology Components
- 2. IT Asset Management
- 3. Job Scheduling and Production Process Automation
- 4. System Interfaces
- 5. End-User Computing
- 6. Data Governance
- 7. Systems Performance Management
- 8. Problem and Incident Management
- 9. Change, Configuration, Release, and Patch Management
- 10. IT Service Level Management
- 11. Database Management

### **B.** Business Resilience

- 1. Business Impact Analysis (BIA)
- 2. System Resiliency
- 3. Data Backup, Storage, and Restoration
- 4. Business Continuity Plan (BCP)
- 5. Disaster Recovery Plans (DRP)



# **Domain 5—Protection of Information Assets - (27%)**

Cybersecurity now touches virtually every information systems role, and understanding its principles, best practices, and pitfalls is a major focus within Domain 5.

# A. Information Asset Security and Control

- 1. Information Asset Security Frameworks, Standards, and Guidelines
- 2. Privacy Principles
- 3. Physical Access and Environmental Controls
- 4. Identity and Access Management
- 5. Network and End-Point Security
- 6. Data Classification
- 7. Data Encryption and Encryption-Related Techniques
- 8. Public Key Infrastructure (PKI)
- 9. Web-Based Communication Techniques
- 10. Virtualized Environments
- 11. Mobile, Wireless, and Internet-of-Things (IoT) Devices

# **B. Security Event Management**

- 1. Security Awareness Training and Programs
- 2. Information System Attack Methods and Techniques
- 3. Security Testing Tools and Techniques
- 4. Security Monitoring Tools and Techniques
- 5. Incident Response Management
- 6. Evidence Collection and Forensics

# **Supporting Tasks**

- 1. Plan audit to determine whether information systems are protected, controlled, and provide value to the organization.
- 2. Conduct audit in accordance with IS audit standards and a risk-based IS audit strategy.
- 3. Communicate audit progress, findings, results, and recommendations to stakeholders.
- 4. Conduct audit follow-up to evaluate whether risks have been sufficiently addressed.
- 5. Evaluate the IT strategy for alignment with the organization's strategies and objectives.
- 6. Evaluate the effectiveness of IT governance structure and IT organizational structure.
- 7. Evaluate the organization's management of IT policies and practices.
- 8. Evaluate the organization's IT policies and practices for compliance with regulatory and legal requirements.
- 9. Evaluate IT resource and portfolio management for alignment with the organization's strategies and objectives.
- 10. Evaluate the organization's risk management policies and practices.
- 11. Evaluate IT management and monitoring of controls.
- 12. Evaluate the monitoring and reporting of IT key performance indicators (KPIs).
- 13. Evaluate the organization's ability to continue business operations.



- 14. Evaluate whether the business case for proposed changes to information systems meets business objectives.
- 15. Evaluate whether IT supplier selection and contract management processes align with business requirements.
- 16. Evaluate the organization's project management policies and practices.
- 17. Evaluate controls at all stages of the information systems development lifecycle.
- 18. Evaluate the readiness of information systems for implementation and migration into production.
- 19. Conduct post-implementation review of systems to determine whether project deliverables, controls, and requirements are met.
- 20. Evaluate whether IT service management practices align with business requirements.
- 21. Conduct periodic review of information systems and enterprise architecture.
- 22. Evaluate IT operations to determine whether they are controlled effectively and continue to support the organization's objectives.
- 23. Evaluate IT maintenance practices to determine whether they are controlled effectively and continue to support the organization's objectives.
- 24. Evaluate database management practices.
- 25. Evaluate data governance policies and practices.
- 26. Evaluate problem and incident management policies and practices.
- 27. Evaluate change, configuration, release, and patch management policies and practices.
- 28. Evaluate end-user computing to determine whether the processes are effectively controlled.
- 29. Evaluate the organization's information security and privacy policies and practices.
- 30. Evaluate physical and environmental controls to determine whether information assets are adequately safeguarded.
- 31. Evaluate logical security controls to verify the confidentiality, integrity, and availability of information.
- 32. Evaluate data classification practices for alignment with the organization's policies and applicable external requirements.
- 33. Evaluate policies and practices related to asset lifecycle management.
- 34. Evaluate the information security program to determine its effectiveness and alignment with the organization's strategies and objectives.
- 35. Perform technical security testing to identify potential threats and vulnerabilities.
- 36. Utilize data analytics tools to streamline audit processes.
- 37. Provide consulting services and guidance to the organization in order to improve the quality and control of information systems.
- 38. Identify opportunities for process improvement in the organization's IT policies and practices.
- 39. Evaluate potential opportunities and threats associated with emerging technologies, regulations, and industry practices.