

HOW TO DO CISA (Certified Information System Auditor)

What is CISA Course?

CISA stands for Certified information system Auditor conducted by ISACA, America. You can do CISA after doing CA, CA+DISA. In India there are many CA's who are CISA especially in big four. This is a onetime exam means you can appear in this exam only one time. The fee is approximate 25000 in rupees.

Who is eligible to write the CISA Exam?

Any individual who is interested in Information Systems Auditing can write the exam. There are no pre-requisite qualification or experience requirements to write the Exam. The examination is open to all individuals who have an interest in the information systems auditing, control and security field. All are encouraged to work towards and take the examination.

Are there test centers in India?

Yes, there are 17 Test centers in India.

They are

7501 Chennai

7502 Mumbai

7503 New Delhi

7504 Kolkata

7505 Bangalore

7506 Hyderabad

7507 Coimbatore

7508 Pune

7509 Cochin

7510 Ahmedabad

7512 Nagpur

7513 Jaipur

7514 Aurangabad

7515 Salem
7516 Navi Mumbai
7517 Vijayawada

Email: certification@isaca.org for any inquiries on test centers or CISA Exam.

Can I write the CISA exam without becoming a member?

Yes. You can write the CISA Exam without becoming a member. Considering the value and benefits of membership, it is worthwhile to become a member.

To whom should I send the money for the CISA exam?

The fee in US dollars favoring ISACA should be sent along with the registration form directly to the CISA examination registrar at ISACA, USA. (The address is mentioned on the exam application). Please send a copy of your application to the Hyderabad chapter for information.

What is the nature of the exam?

The CISA exam consists of 200 multiple choice questions administered over a continuous four hour session. There are no parts and a single booklet will be given covering all the seven job domains of the CISA Exam. Candidates are expected to apply their knowledge of IS Audit while answering the questions in CISA Exam. Most of the questions are focused on practical issues of IS Audit. The exam tests for minimum level of competence for conducting IS Audit.

The minimum passing score is 450 scaled score out of 800. ISACA uses and reports scores on a common scale from 200 to 800. A candidate must get 450 or higher to pass the exam. A score of 450 represents a minimum consistent standard of knowledge as established by ISACA's CISA Certification Board.

How frequently is the exam held?

The exam is held on the second Saturday of June and December every year.

Can you give me details and weight age for the job domains?

Check up the ISACA website "isaca.org" for detailed syllabus

What is the level of exam - undergraduate or graduate?

The exam is considered to be the entry level examination generally applicable for anyone who would like to audit computer based information systems. Any Individual who is thorough with the fundamentals and practical aspects of the subjects mentioned above should be able to pass the CISA examination.

I understand that the subject may not be tough, but the exam being international may be Tough. Can I pass the CISA exam?

The exam is tough because the selection of right choice involves your ability to understand Information technology, its risks, and related security and audit procedures. Hence, conceptual clarity of the subject and practical orientation of understanding the situation given and choosing the right answer is important.

Can I get the question papers of prior exams?

CISA Exam is a closed exam. Question and Answer papers are not released. However, enough questions are available for practice and preparation. The ISACA Website has practice questions which can be answered online at www.isaca.org

Is there any coaching available locally?

Yes, local chapters do conduct CISA Review courses. The Classes start in the last week of January and July for June and December Exams at IInd Floor, Kagaz Bhavan, M.G.Road, (above Kamal Watch Company), Secunderabad, and will be

held on every Sunday between 8am to 1 pm. The classes will be handled by experienced CISAs.

For self-study, what is the best strategy?

If you have an audit background, team up with an IT person and vice versa. As we said earlier, you need to understand IT and methodology of Audit. Hence, IT, Audit and IS Audit knowledge is essential pre-requisite to aid in your study.

Are Books available in India?

The only Indian publication available is EDP Auditing by RON WEBER, priced around Rs.375. Please visit Publications for the latest books available for sale at ISACA Bookstore. The ISACA Chapters in India do not stock or sell any of the publications. Candidates have to make their own arrangements to buy the required publications.

Sample reference books are:

1. Computer Audit, Control and Security by Robert Moeller, John Wiley & Sons, Inc., New York, 1989.
2. Handbook on EDP Auditing by Michael A. Murphy and X.L.Parker, Warren, Gorham & Lamont, Inc., Boston, Ma.1989.
3. Auditing & EDP objectives questions and explanations, Gleim publications Inc.Gainesville, FL.

How can I earn my CISA Designation?

To earn the CISA designation, candidates are required to:

Successfully complete the CISA Examination

Adhere to the Information Systems Audit and Control

Association's Code of Professional Ethics, which is included in the Candidates Guide to the CISA Examination and provided to each registered exam candidate and Submit evidence of a minimum of five (5) years of professional IS auditing, control or security work experience. Substitution and waivers of such experience may be obtained as follows:

A maximum of one year of IS audit, control or security experience may be substituted for:

One full year of non-IS audit experience

One full year of information systems experience

An associate's degree (60 semester college credits or its equivalent)

Two years IS audit, control or security experience may be substituted for a bachelor's degree (120 semester college credits or its equivalent)

One year of IS audit, control or security experience may be substituted for each two years of experience as a full-time university instructor in a related field (i.e., computer science, accounting, IS auditing). No maximum limitation applies (i.e., six years of university instructor experience is equal to three years of IS auditing, control or security experience).

Experience must have been gained within the 10-year period preceding the application for certification or within five (5) years from the date of initially passing the examination. Application for certification must be submitted within five (5) years from the passing date of the CISA Exam. All experience will be verified independently with employers.

I am not designated as an IS Auditor because there is no such designation in our organization, even though I have some experience relating to IS Auditing. After passing the examination. How do I qualify for the title CISA?

The designation you are currently holding or held is not important. Your experience in at least one of the seven job domains of CISA is relevant for the minimum period specified and it has to be certified by your supervisor at your current place of work, or else you have to get certifications from your previous place of work, and the documentary proof is the letter that is being signed by your supervisor, or ex supervisor, and if you are independent practicing consultant, or in partnership, the partner can certify, and for independent persons, any documentary proof, like letter of offer, or clients letter is required.

What are the career prospects on becoming a CISA?

IS Audit is a nascent profession which is rapidly gaining roots in India. CISA is presently recognized mostly in the banking sector. In private sector, it is the multi-national firms and Big Audit firms like KPMG, PWC; E & Y who recruit CISA's for doing IS Audit. In addition, many CISA's from India are working in the gulf.

Can I test myself and know what type of questions appear in the CISA Exam?

Sample questions for Online Test at "isaca.org". You can answer online and get the results immediately.

Important Book by Rahul sharma:

ISCA CA-FINAL with MNEMONIC, IT-IPCC with MNEMONIC, SM-IPCC with MNEMONIC

Demo of All three books summary with MNEMONIC at this site also.

BY CLICKING MY OTHER FILES