BLACKBIRD FOR TRAINING

Comprehensive Course in Modern Internal Audit Reports in the Public Sector

8 – 19 March 2027
Lisbon (Portugal)



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Ref: 3255069_330868 **Date:** 8 – 19 March 2027 **Location:** Lisbon (Portugal) **Fees:** 9400 GBP

Introduction

Internal audit plays a vital role in promoting transparency, accountability, and performance across public sector institutions. Yet, the real value of internal audit lies in how effectively its findings are communicated. Strong audit reports are not just technical—they drive decisions, influence leadership, and support better governance.

This advanced training course is designed to help internal audit professionals in the public sector develop the ability to produce modern, impactful, and risk-based audit reports. Participants will learn how to communicate findings clearly, align reports with strategic priorities, and frame recommendations that lead to practical improvements.

Through hands-on exercises, real-world case studies, and peer interaction, this course equips auditors to transform their reports into tools for change.

Course Objectives

By the end of the course, participants will be able to:

- Apply global best practices in audit report writing.
- Link audit findings to strategic objectives and governance outcomes.
- Prioritize risks effectively to focus stakeholder attention.
- Strengthen writing clarity, structure, and tone in audit communications.
- Increase the influence of audit reports on senior decision-makers.
- Understand reporting requirements specific to public institutions.

Course Outlines

Day 1: Foundations of Effective Audit Reporting

- Key principles of high-impact audit reports.
- What defines a high-quality report?
- Overview of the audit report lifecycle: from planning to communication.



Day 2: International Audit Standards IPPF by IIA

- Introduction to the International Professional Practices Framework.
- Distinguishing working papers from formal reports.
- The role of the Audit Committee in report review.

Day 3: Structuring a Professional Audit Report

- Writing effective sections: introduction, scope, methodology, findings, recommendations.
- Crafting fact-based observations.
- Professional formatting and using the right tone.

Day 4: Advanced Writing Techniques

- Achieving clarity, conciseness, and objectivity.
- Avoid vague language and bias.
- Workshop: critique and improve real public sector reports.

Day 5: Risk-Based Reporting

- Ranking findings by risk severity.
- Writing reports within a risk-focused audit approach.
- Using risk matrices to support your conclusions.

Day 6: Formulating Practical and Actionable Recommendations

- Elements of a good recommendation.
- Aligning solutions with operational realities.
- Delivering recommendations persuasively to management.

Day 7: Public Sector Reporting Requirements

- Specifics of government and public finance audit reporting.
- Working with external oversight or anti-corruption agencies.
- Balancing regulatory compliance with performance insights.

Day 8: Presenting Reports to Senior Management

- Presentation skills for internal auditors.
- Navigating tough questions and objections.
- Writing strong executive summaries that drive action.



Day 9: Measuring Report Quality and Tracking Results

- Key indicators of report quality and effectiveness.
- Tools to track recommendation implementation.
- Writing follow-up and verification reports.

Day 10: Final Practical Assessment

- Drafting a complete audit report from a case study.
- Group presentations with peer and instructor feedback.
- Final Q&A session and course wrap-up.

Why Attend This Course: Wins & Losses!

- Learn how to write audit reports that are professional, clear, and persuasive.
- Understand the unique challenges of public sector reporting—and how to overcome them.
- Apply international standards with confidence.
- Enhance your communication and analytical skills for a more significant audit impact.
- Collaborate and exchange knowledge with experienced audit professionals.

Conclusion

An audit report is far more than a formal requirement. When done right, it becomes a tool for real change—one that promotes accountability, strengthens public trust, and supports good governance.

This course empowers public sector auditors to go beyond compliance and deliver reports that influence decision-making and enhance performance.

