

**What are we announcing?**

As part of its comprehensive training initiative, the PCI SSC is launching a new program for testing and qualifying internal assessment staff at ISA organizations, in an effort to help them better understand PCI requirements and validate and maintain ongoing compliance with PCI standards. The inaugural session is being held on May 19-21 in Sydney, Australia.

**Is this a certification program?**

Yes. The PCI SSC Internal Security Assessor Program (ISA) provides an opportunity for eligible internal security assessors at qualifying organizations to receive PCI DSS training and certification. The training will improve the organization's understanding of the PCI DSS, facilitate the organization's interactions with QSAs, enhance the quality, reliability, and consistency of the organization's internal PCI DSS self-assessments, and support the consistent and proper application of PCI DSS measures and controls.

**What are the requirements for attending?**

Attendees must be full time employees of an ISA Company. Please see the Validation Requirements for Internal Security Assessors (ISAs) located on the PCI SSC website for more details.

At this time PCI SSC does not offer ISA certifications to individuals who do not work for a validated Internal Security Assessor (ISA) Company.

**What is meant by "validated Internal Security Assessor" company?**

The company must submit a completed Sponsor Company Application Package found in the Validation Requirements for Internal Security Assessors. The process includes meeting specified business requirements and completing the Sponsor Company agreement ("attestation").

**What is the difference between ISA training and Standards or QSA Training?**

Standards Training is the SSC's training product for anyone interested in learning more about the basics of the payment process, key stakeholders, compliance requirements and PCI standards. The course is open to everyone and offers CPE credits but no certification.

QSA training is the SSC's specialized training product for the Qualified Security Assessor community. This community of security professionals is relied upon by companies worldwide for annual PCI assessment services. Entry to this training course requires a series of demonstrable validation requirements and employment at a registered QSA company.

The ISA program is the Council's training offering designed to test and qualify internal assessment staff at ISA organizations, in an effort to help them better understand PCI requirements and validate and maintain ongoing compliance with PCI standards. It provides in-depth technical instruction for enhancing the quality, reliability, and consistency of an organization's internal PCI DSS self-assessments, supporting the consistent and proper application of PCI DSS measures and controls, and effectively facilitating relationships with QSAs. Attendees must be full time employees of an ISA Company and will receive certification upon completion.

**Where can I find the schedule of classes? And will you be adding more classes?**

You can visit the PCI website at [https://www.pcisecuritystandards.org/education/isa\\_training.shtml](https://www.pcisecuritystandards.org/education/isa_training.shtml) for the current list of classes. PCI SSC will add more classes as schedules permit and a clear demand is present.

**How do I register?**

Please review the details in the education section on the PCI SSC website at [https://www.pcisecuritystandards.org/education/isa\\_training.shtml](https://www.pcisecuritystandards.org/education/isa_training.shtml) and contact the training program manager for further details and application.

**How much does the course cost?**

Non-Participating Organization \$2,495 USD per person

Participating Organization \$1,495 USD per person