

### 1. SHARPEN YOUR SKILLS.

The IIA offers an array of training designed to strengthen your internal audit skills and enlighten you on today's critical issues and best practices. Whether you attend conferences, seminars, webinars, virtual seminars, or customizable onsite training programs, you will experience the difference that The IIA's professional development offerings can make in your educational growth and development. Conference topics and seminar course offerings on topics including fraud, technology, and risk management provide you with the skills and insight you need to do your job effectively. Expanding your knowledge through ongoing continuing education is a critical investment in your career and your future. For more information on IIA training opportunities, visit [www.theiia.org/Training](http://www.theiia.org/Training), and be sure to log in as a member to see your IIA members-only discounts and early registration offers.

### 2. GET CERTIFIED.

Did you know that certified professionals earn on average US \$8,500 more than their non-certified peers? In fact, IIA certifications represent a level of credibility and professionalism that is respected, admired, and substantially rewarded. The Institute's premier certification, Certified Internal Auditor® (CIA®), is the only globally accepted certification for internal auditors and remains the standard by which individuals demonstrate their overall competency and knowledge of internal auditing. The Institute also offers three specialty certifications: Certification in Control Self-Assessment®

(CCSA®), Certified Financial Services Auditor® (CFSA®), and Certified Government Auditing Professional® (CGAP®). Computer-based testing makes it easy for you to reach your certification goals. For more information, visit [www.theiia.org/Certification](http://www.theiia.org/Certification) and download your free copy of the *Certification Candidate Handbook*. Look for exclusive member benefits, discounts, and special offers when you register.

### 3. ADHERE TO THE IIA'S STANDARDS.

The IIA's International Professional Practices Framework (IPPF) — which includes the *International Standards for the Professional Practice of Internal Auditing (Standards)*, Code of Ethics, practice advisories and guides, and other resources — is the most respected and credible source of internal audit guidance and professional best practices in the world. By adhering to the IPPF's mandatory and recommended guidance, you and your audit group demonstrate the utmost respectability and professional competency. To help you maintain compliance with the *Standards*, The IIA's guidance team provides members with access to numerous continually updated resources through [www.theiia.org/Guidance](http://www.theiia.org/Guidance), including practice advisories (PAs), practice guides (PGs), papers, tools, and access to a free monthly webinar series. In 2010 alone, The IIA released 17 individual guidance items in the form of PAs, PGs, and Global Technology Audit Guide books — all of which are free to IIA members. Read about updates to the *Standards* in the News section of this issue of *IIA Today*, on pages 4 and 5.

### 4. BENCHMARK YOUR ORGANIZATION.

Expand your awareness of leading audit practices and learn how to enhance your operational effectiveness by participating in the profession's premier knowledge exchange forum and benchmarking service, Global Audit Information Network (GAIN). Since 1992, GAIN has helped practitioners learn from the challenges and solutions of others as they share, compare, and validate their audit activities. The IIA's annual Internal Audit Compensation Study also helps you stay up-to-date on compensation trends. For more customized, timely benchmarking information on emerging issues and best practices, you can also join the GAIN Flash Survey Network. Visit [www.theiia.org/GAIN](http://www.theiia.org/GAIN) for details.

### 5. BE AN ADVOCATE.

As a member of The IIA, you are part of the internal audit profession's global voice, and through your daily activities on the job, you play an important role in representing the profession and building awareness of the value of internal auditing. By embracing your responsibility as an advocate for the internal audit profession — instilling pride in the profession, enhancing professionalism, encouraging change, and building relationships with organizations and stakeholders that impact the profession — you not only benefit your own internal audit career, but you elevate the profession and pave the way for future practitioners. To learn more about The IIA's global advocacy strategy and to access tools to help you promote, support, and further the profession, visit [www.theiia.org/Advocacy](http://www.theiia.org/Advocacy).

## 6. MAINTAIN AWARENESS OF CAREER OPPORTUNITIES.

The IIA's Audit Career Center, [www.theiia.org/Careers](http://www.theiia.org/Careers), offers opportunities to post your resume, search for jobs worldwide, and locate qualified candidates for positions that may be open within your own department. With 10,000 unique visitors monthly, the site attracts employers and agencies from top organizations around the globe. Recently, the Audit Career Center has been buzzing with activity. About 100 new job postings are added each month, and hundreds of new job seekers join the job board and post their resumes on a regular basis.

## 7. EXTEND YOUR NETWORK.

As an IIA member, you are part of a worldwide network of professionals that spans 165 countries. Being part of this group grants you access to leading advice, support, and best practice guidance for the profession. You can strengthen your network by attending conferences and local chapter meetings, participating in discussion boards on [www.theiia.org](http://www.theiia.org), networking through IIA Member Exchange at [www.theiia.org/MemberExchange](http://www.theiia.org/MemberExchange), or engaging in a variety of social media platforms, [www.theiia.org/SocialMedia](http://www.theiia.org/SocialMedia). Join The IIA's nearly 1,000 followers on Twitter; become one of The Institute's 3,000 Facebook fans; or tap into The IIA's main LinkedIn Group, which has more than 17,000 connections.

## 8. STAY INFORMED.

The IIA produces a wealth of information and thought leadership to help internal auditors stay ahead of emerging issues and address


the most critical risks facing their organizations today. This includes its award-winning bimonthly *Internal Auditor* magazine, [www.internalauditoronline.org](http://www.internalauditoronline.org); its timely Knowledge Services reports and white papers, [www.theiia.org/Knowledgeservices](http://www.theiia.org/Knowledgeservices); and the vast array of IIA Research Foundation publications, [www.theiia.org/Bookstore](http://www.theiia.org/Bookstore). With so much variety, it is no wonder The IIA is the No. 1 source of respected guidance and timely information for internal auditors. For more information about Research Foundation reports — including The IIA's Global Internal Audit Survey: A Component of The CBOK Study — and its five upcoming quick-read modular reports focusing on the global results, visit [www.theiia.org/Research](http://www.theiia.org/Research). Also, don't forget to check out a new member benefit, the monthly members-only webinar series that addresses leading-edge topics from experts in the field, [www.theiia.org/MOW](http://www.theiia.org/MOW).

## 9. WRITE.

The IIA provides seemingly endless opportunities to grow professionally by sharing your knowledge, best practices, experiences, and opinions

through the written word. Write an article for *Internal Auditor* magazine or submit a question for one of The Institute's four certification exams. To submit an exam question, visit [www.theiia.org/QuestionWriters](http://www.theiia.org/QuestionWriters). To learn how to take the first step in writing for the magazine, contact Managing Editor David Salierno at [david.salierno@theiia.org](mailto:david.salierno@theiia.org).

## 10. VOLUNTEER.

Enrich your own career by making a difference in your profession. There are many ways to experience the rewards of volunteering through The IIA such as strengthening your leadership skills by serving on an IIA committee or as a leader in your local chapter; sharing your knowledge as a guest speaker at IIA functions; guiding the next generation of internal auditors through a mentoring program with your local chapter; or supporting the Internal Audit Education Partnership Program that prepares students with the skills and knowledge they need to get hired in the internal audit field directly out of school. For more information on how to volunteer, visit [www.theiia.org/GetInvolved](http://www.theiia.org/GetInvolved). 

# A STEP AHEAD

The IIA offers an array of opportunities to support and advance your professional development. By taking advantage of these 10 career-enhancing activities, you'll not only experience professional growth, but in many cases you'll be supporting your peers, guiding new audit practitioners, and strengthening the future of the internal audit profession.