



# MY JOURNEY TOWARDS BEING A CIA



- **Name:** Wan Mohd Azim bin Wan Long
- **Age:** 43 years old
- **Current employment:** Internal Audit Manager with Media Prima Berhad
- **Work experience:** 21 years overall in finance, risk management and internal audit
- **Education background:** Bachelor's degree in Accounting, Fellow member of ACCA and CIA
- **IIAM Membership Category:** Professional

## *My Story* by *Wan Mohd Azim Wan Long*

### **1) Why did you decide to pursue a career as an Internal Auditor?**

I love solving puzzles, and I find that as an Internal Auditor, there is always something new to learn everyday.

### **2) How important is an Internal Auditor's role in the organisation?**

Internal Auditor's role now has evolved from purely making sure compliance is in place, into providing advice on how the business can grow further while still ensuring the highest level of corporate governance is kept intact.

### **3) What is the typical challenge Internal Auditors generally face? And amongst them, can you highlight what would be one of the biggest challenge?**

The biggest challenge for me would be on how to obtain the buy-in of the Management when we raise certain findings.

### **4) Does the Institute play a role in supporting your Internal Auditor scope of work? If yes, in what ways? And if no, what can we do better?**

IIAM has always been supportive in my role as an internal auditor. IIAM always provides the most up to date and relevant trainings for members to ensure we are kept abreast of the latest information and knowledge in order for us to perform better and better.



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## **5) Would you recommend IIA Malaysia to your fellow Internal Auditor colleagues?**

Yes, in a heartbeat.

## **6) What motivated you to take the CIA exam?**

My biggest motivation is due to the recognition that we would get once we obtain the CIA status. Also, it gives us the confidence when dealing with various levels of management in the organisation, including the Audit Committee and Board members.

## **7) What were the challenges you encountered when attempting the CIA exam?**

I took my CIA exam during the height of COVID 19, so movement was limited. Thankfully, we had the option of taking the exams online, so that really helped.

## **8) How did you manage your study time while working?**

I make sure that I really stay focused during weekends. I allocate at least 2 hours during the weekend for my CIA studies

## **9) As a CIA certified professional, where do you envision yourself?**

I aim to become a Chief Internal Auditor someday in my professional career.

## **10) How important is CIA for an Internal Auditor?**

The CIA qualification provides us with an edge and lends credibility in our work.

## **11) Please provide 3 main advices for those attempting to take the CIA examination?**

- If others can do it, so can I;
- Practice makes perfect, thus always keep doing the practice questions of the CIA study materials;
- Failure is not fatal. Most importantly, we need to keep going and find a mentor/mentors to help you along your journey.