My Journey Towards Being A CIA





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Current employment: Senior Executive, Group Corporate Assurance, New Britain Palm Oil Limited

Work experience: 6 years

Education background : Certified Internal Auditor (CIA) and Bachelor's Degree in accountancy (Hons.) - UiTM

IIAM membership category: Professional Member, CMIIA

1. Why did you decide to pursue a career as an internal auditor?

• I have always enjoyed learning new things. As an internal auditor, each engagement provides me with the opportunity to gain new knowledge and insights.

2. How important is an Internal Auditor's role in the organisation?

• Internal Auditor's role is crucial for ensuring effective risk management, governance, and internal control processes within an organization.

3. What is the typical challenge internal auditors generally face? And amongst them, can you highlight what would be one of the biggest challenge?

• Meeting stakeholder expectations is the biggest challenge for an internal auditor, as they must navigate the diverse and often conflicting demands of various stakeholders.



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?

• Yes. IIAM supports internal auditors by providing professional development, resources, and guidance which help our effectiveness in performing work/task.

5. Would you recommend IIA Malaysia to your fellow IA colleagues?

• Yes of course. In fact, I would encourage them to at least be an Associate Member.

6. What motivated you to take the CIA exam?

• I was motivated to take the CIA exam to help me transition from a finance background to internal auditing, demonstrating my eagerness to learn and my dedication to advancing in this profession.

7. What were the challenges you encountered when attempting the CIA exam?

• Balancing time as a family man was challenging, as I had to juggle family responsibilities, work commitments, and preparation for the CIA exam.

8. How did you manage your study time while working?

• I dedicate at least 2 hours daily to studying for the CIA exam, splitting my time between an hour at the office after work and another hour at home before bed. I use the Gleim Premium CIA Review and its study planner to stay on track.



9. As a CIA certified professional, where do you envision yourself?

• Aspire to one day become a Chief Audit Executive ("CAE") for a multinational corporation ("MNC").

10. How important is CIA for an internal auditor?

• It is important for internal auditors as it enhances professional credibility, knowledge, career opportunities, and global recognition.

11. Please provide 3 main advice for those attempting to take the CIA examination?

- Allocate at least 2 hours daily for study, starting at least 4 months before the exam.
- If possible, invest in the Gleim Premium CIA Review and make full use of its features. If it's beyond your budget, at least purchase a test bank and practice extensively.
- When using the test bank, ensure you understand why each answer is correct or incorrect to better grasp the syllabus.