

WHY BECOME A CERTIFIED QUALITY AUDITOR?

As a Certified Quality Auditor (CQA) you will understand the standards and principles of quality and the auditing techniques of examining, questioning, evaluating, and reporting to determine a quality system's adequacy and deficiencies. The CQA analyzes all elements of a quality system and assesses its degree of compliance (conformity) to established criteria and standards.

What New Skills and Techniques Will You Learn?

- Understand the various types of quality audits as well as the steps involved in planning, conducting, and closing out an audit.
- Improve communication skills by learning techniques for presenting, interviewing, and tactical conflict resolution.
- Analyze audit results and customer satisfaction to implement changes that resolve internal issues and improve processes.
- Learn how to utilize quality tools such as Pareto charts, flowcharts, and plan-do-check-act (PDCA) as well as process improvement techniques like Six Sigma.
- Identify methods for estimating, mitigating, and controlling risk: FMEA, HACCP, and CTQ.

What Is the Value to Your Company?

- CQAs provide confidence to your company that processes and procedures are assessed consistently in order to better implement effective changes.
- Employing a CQA professional will allow your company to evaluate the adequacy and effectiveness of actions taken by the auditee.
- A CQA provides insights to management on critical issues and effectively monitors compliance with standards.
- A CQA ensures that your company's policies, procedures, and practices meet the standards and requirements of customers and regulators.

What Is the Value to You?

- Provides you with an internationally recognized credential and validates your expertise and knowledge in planning, conducting, and reporting a quality audit, whether it is a quality system, process, or product audit.
- CQAs earn \$79k per year; compared to those without a certification who earn \$71k (national average).*

*Salary data can be found in the Quality Progress Salary Survey, December 2016, pp. 14-42.

asq.org/quality-progress/2016/12/salary-survey/2016-the-complete-report.html



Qualifications and Requirements for CQA Certification

Candidates must have eight years of on-the-job experience in one or more of the areas of the body of knowledge. A minimum of three years of this experience must be in a decision-making position. Candidates must have worked in a full-time, paid role. Paid intern, co-op, or any other course work cannot be applied toward the work experience requirement.

Education

Candidates who have completed a degree from a college, university, or technical school can waive some part of the eight-year experience requirement as follows:

- Diploma from a technical or trade school—one year waived
- Associate's degree—two years waived
- Bachelor's degree—four years waived
- Master's or doctorate degree—five years waived

Quality Auditor Learning Resources and Certification Preparation

- Certified Quality Auditor Certification Preparation Training (on-site and online learning)
- *The ASQ Auditing Handbook, Fourth Edition*
- ASQ Audit Division—an ASQ professional network with 10,000+ members

Recertification Required?

Yes, every three years.

How to Enroll for Certification

Visit asq.org/cert

MARKETPLACE INFORMATION

COMMON JOB FUNCTIONS

| |
|--------------------------------|
| Accountant |
| Operating Systems |
| Quality Assurance Professional |
| Quality Auditor |
| Quality Control Inspector |
| Quality Engineer |
| Quality Manager |
| Scientist |
| Specialist Project Manager |
| Supplier Quality Engineer |
| Testing Manager |

COMMON INDUSTRIES

| |
|------------------------|
| Accounting |
| Construction |
| Energy |
| Engineering |
| Finance and Insurance |
| Government |
| Information Technology |
| Manufacturing |
| Medical Devices |
| Retail |
| Transportation |

Key Market Trends

- According to the U.S. Department of Labor, the job market for employment auditors is projected to grow 11 percent from 2014 to 2024, faster than the average for all occupations.
- According to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, as of 2015 nearly two-thirds of all quality auditing positions were found in the manufacturing industry.