IT governance and information security career path

This career path illustrates the potential career progression you can make in IT governance and information security. It recognises the importance of certification and experience, and provides a high level alignment with SFIA*plus* and the Institute's membership grades. This diagram summarises the characteristics and development needs that support your career in IT governance and information security. For a more detailed career path visit **www.bcs.org/infosecurity**

Membership grade	SFIA*plus* level	Typical experience	Characteristics of level	BCS professional certification	Development needs
Fellow	7	15+ years			**Business management experience** **Strategic planning**
Fellow	6	10+ years	**Likely to:** have full responsibility for security within an organisation **Typical job titles:** chief information security manager **Typical experience:** evidence of operating at the highest level with full security responsibility	**Chartered Professional is awarded on the basis of knowledge, experience and professionalism**	**Preparation for significant IT management role**
Chartered Professional	5	6-10 years	**Likely to:** manage the organisational security functions, train others and also conduct in-depth security investigations **Typical job titles:** IS manager, senior security architect **Typical experience:** evidence of managing an organisations' information security function		**Further practitioner and industry certifications** **Seek higher level security roles:** • take full organisational responsibility • operate with higher level stakeholders
Chartered Professional	4	4-7 years	**Likely to:** design and define security operations, review security practices and conduct minor security investigations **Typical job titles:** security architect, business continuity architect **Typical experience:** evidence of defining organisational security practices	**Practitioner level certifications as appropriate.** **These could include:** **Freedom of Information** **Data Protection** **Information Risk Management** **Business Continuity Management**	**Further practitioner courses and industry certifications to gain breadth and depth** **Seek higher level security roles:** • wider remit • increased authority • team management
Professional	3	3-4 years	**Likely to:** carry out security activities in accordance with company procedures **Typical job titles:** security engineer **Typical experience:** evidence of applying organisational security practices and security awareness as a whole	**Foundation Certificate in Information Security Management Principles**	**BCS practitioner certifications** **Other industry security certifications** **Seek higher level security roles:** • other security areas • increased responsibility and authority
Professional	2	1-2 years		**Institute membership provides services and benefits to support your career development**	
Associate	1			**Review SFIA*plus* for guidance on developing your career ahead of taking specific certifications**	

Career starting point (at level 3, 3-4 years)

Your career progression

Career transitions

As you progress along a particular career path, you are likely to develop interests and experience in other areas of IT and, having gained the necessary competencies, you may wish to change the direction of your career.

The typical and possible transitions into and out of this career path are indicated below.

Typically:
• Service management
• Project management
• Solution development

Possibly:
• Software testing

The following certifications will help you develop your knowledge for more senior roles in IT governance and information security, or in preparation for a transition to another career path:

Foundation

• Green IT
• Project Management
• Solution Development
• Software Testing

Other industry professional certifications are available and will be relevant to you as your career progresses.

IT governance and information security

Around the world, more organisations than ever before are storing business and personal information on computers, making data protection and privacy legislation a key concern in business today. With evolving technology and new laws emerging on a regular basis, employers are actively looking for IT professionals with information security expertise.

IT governance and information security certifications

The Institute's IT governance and information security certifications cover the range of skills needed for an organisation to manage effective IT governance and information security.

They give IT professionals the knowledge and expertise to improve current processes in their workplace and provide them with industry recognition of their security credentials.

The certificates are designed for anyone with responsibility for information security in their day to day role, as well as IT professionals in other disciplines who need an understanding of information security concepts.

Foundation
Information Management
Security Principles

Practitioner
Business Continuity Management
Data Protection
Freedom of Information
Information Risk Management

THE BENEFITS

For information security professionals
- Industry recognition of your information security credentials
- Incorporates widely accepted and proven best practices
- Greater career opportunities in a sector enjoying employment growth
- BCS membership available, supporting self-initiated professional development

For employers
- Improve key competencies required by all IT professionals
- Save outsourcing costs by managing information security in-house
- Ensure the integrity of information and protect your systems from threat
- Increase customer confidence - internal and external customers
- Supports business continuity and legal compliance

For training providers
- Industry relevant, internationally recognised certification programme
- Provides skills and knowledge demanded by employers
- Certifications appeal to professionals across IT disciplines plus those in other sectors including HR and marketing
- An international market which already recognises certifications from the Institute

Find out more at
www.bcs.org/infosecurity

About BCS, The Chartered Institute for IT
Our mission as BCS, The Chartered Institute for IT, is to enable the information society. We're championing the global IT profession by giving practitioners the professional development and career support they deserve.

Through our extensive certifications and professional development portfolio, we continue to set professional standards and raise levels of competence and professionalism in the industry. As the professional body for IT, we've an unrivalled insight into the industry and are ideally placed to guide IT professionals through their career and provide employers with expertly trained employees that add real value to their business.

Become a BCS Accredited Training Partner
Employers around the world are increasingly recognising the need to train their IT professionals in IT governance and information security to help protect their organisation's information assets.

Our information security certifications are internationally recognised and relevant to IT professionals across specialisms, as well as professionals from other industry sectors including HR and marketing.

Don't miss out on this global opportunity. You must be accredited by us to deliver our certifications so apply for accreditation today.

www.bcs.org/trainingpartner

If you require this document in accessible format please call +44 (0) 1793 417 600