



# Technology Audit (Information Risk Management) graduate programme

<b>Length of programme</b>	Three years
<b>Qualifications you'll work for</b>	ICAEW Certificate in Finance, Accounting and Business (CFAB)
<b>Location</b>	Nationwide. Please search website for latest location availability.
<b>Entry requirements</b>	<p>As a general rule, you'll be expected to meet the following requirements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>— Minimum Grade B GCSE<sup>(*)</sup> Maths</li><li>— Minimum Grade B GCSE<sup>(*)</sup> English Language</li><li>— Minimum of 300 UCAS tariff points<sup>(*)</sup></li><li>— Minimum 2:1 degree or above in any discipline</li></ul> <p>Note: (*) Or equivalent.</p>

Please note that we only consider a candidate's top 3 A-level grades and do not accept General Studies.

At KPMG, we look at more than just your academic results. We will review your application, together with your performance in our assessments, to ensure that you have the best opportunity to demonstrate your potential. We will be considering your strengths and achievements alongside a number of other metrics, including technical background and/or experience, to ensure that you have the skills to succeed at KPMG.

Technology underpins many of the most influential organisations in the world. It enables the biggest business decisions and connects people around the globe. The opportunities that technology provides are matched only by its potential threats and risks – and this is where we come in.

We work as one team with our Financial Audit colleagues and are responsible for bringing technology specialist skills to the audit. We support the audit in the evaluation of IT systems that underpins an organisation's key financial processes. Our work gives us exposure to some of the largest global organisations, through to local medium/large sized businesses across all industry sectors, as well as to the breadth of technology used by these organisations (e.g. legacy systems, complex ERPs and emerging technologies).

The nature of our work is largely investigative, whereby we look at the processes and controls that an organisation has in place to secure the data transacted through their IT systems.

Our three year graduate programme is designed to offer audit work experience, exposure and the support you need to secure a successful career in Technology Audit (Information Risk Management). We will help you to develop your technology, process and data audit skills, commercial acumen and gain a flair for business to enable you to deliver quality outcomes and real value results. As a graduate, it provides a solid grounding for understanding IT.

## In depth

Located in offices across the country and covering all sectors, our Technology Audit practice provides assurance services across a broad spectrum of business and IT-related risks.

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Technology Audit teams are in place across all of our "Coverage Groups" – i.e. how the firm is structured. These groups are National Markets (predominantly in our regional offices), Financial Services, and Corporates (both of which are more London focused).

Our Technology Audit team provides specialist IT audit support to our external and internal audits, including the use of data analytics, as well as attestation over the use of technology at third parties. We assess the control risks related to the information assets, either in IT management processes, business applications, infrastructure or projects.

### Who are we looking for?

People who excel within Technology Audit are passionate about continually adapting their skills and knowledge to find solutions that meet our needs for audit engagements, whilst having a keen eye for detail to identify and assess IT control risks for quality audit outcomes.

We ask for a keen interest in technology and business issues, as well as strong communication skills and the desire to take on early responsibility.

Whilst you don't necessarily need to be a technical guru (our current graduates have degrees in a variety of subjects), we are looking for individuals who have a desire to get involved in a variety of projects. Most importantly, you'll have an appetite to learn about technology and IT systems and how we can best support audit engagements in assessing IT control environments.

We encourage applicants who are interested in a career in technology and display a willingness to learn new technical roles.

### What to expect?

If you're looking for a Graduate scheme that will equip you with the skills, knowledge and experience required to forge a successful career in a rapidly-changing, digital world, then this is the job for you.

KPMG is one of the largest providers of Audit services in the world, and the majority of projects in your first couple of years will likely be in the world of External Audit. As an IT Auditor, you will work as part of a highly-skilled, cross-functional team to provide assurance over key financial systems and infrastructure that underpins the organisations financial reporting processes.

These engagements offer unparalleled access to the core systems and processes of some of the world's biggest brands and will furnish you with a comprehensive understanding of how technology drives modern business processes; and of how IT and finance professionals

manage their technology risks. You will also hone your project management, technical and soft skills - rapidly developing a sophisticated, multifaceted and highly-adaptable core skillset that you can adapt and apply to a variety of projects.

You'll develop outstanding soft-skills; have the opportunity to study for professional qualifications and take on real responsibility. Excellent communication skills are crucial to succeed in the role. We will support you to development these skills in an environment where excellence comes as standard - the ideal foundation on which to build your future career.

You'll build internal and external relationships, and have access to senior contacts at a number of organisations (public and private sector) of varying sizes.

As you learn, grow and progress through the programme, you will gain exposure to a broader range of engagements, potentially including Internal Audit, 3rd Party Assurance and Advisory work. The exact nature of this work will vary, but could be as diverse as assisting on an engagement during a major software transformation project; conducting advanced data analysis; assessing a company's data privacy procedures; or advising them on the design and implementation of their IT controls.

You will add value to audit engagements and their business from day one. No two projects, companies or control environments will be the same so flexibility is key. You will be working across various companies and sectors with a variety of engagement teams, giving you the opportunity to work with a large number of your colleagues.

We'll work with you to ensure you get a mix of experience that's right for you and right you. Some periods will be busier than others, but there's plenty of opportunity for variety and fun.

Your role will likely involve a large amount of national, and occasionally international travel.

## Why Technology Audit?

You get the following opportunities from working within Technology Audit:

- Exposure to a breadth of organisations covering different sectors.
- Technically proficient professionals in key audit concepts and technologies.
- Soft skills such as project management, stakeholder management and people management.

Technology Audit gives you a platform from which to develop an understanding of the usage of technology in business. The breadth of technology used and how organisations leverage on their IT system offers the opportunity for you to learn about old legacy systems to complex ERP systems.

When performing external audit support work, this will have a direct impact on the ability of KPMG Audit teams to rely on the companies control environments as part of the financial statement audit process. This will give you a keen understanding of not only technology and IT systems, but also the financial risks arising from the widespread usage of technology as a driver for business.

The project, audit work and role combinations are almost endless. Which means you'll work with a wide variety of people across KPMG – from other graduates to Partners. This exposure provides access to the unrivalled knowledge you need to build your own skills, as well as deliver quality audit outcomes.

## Training and Development

As a Technology Audit Graduate, your training and development will follow the Graduate Learning Pathway. This is a well-rounded training and development plan, and comprises of technical training, personal development, and career development courses to help you make the most of your programme.

When you join the team, your initial training will be geared towards equipping you with the requisite skills and knowledge to support our teams of IT Audit specialists. You can expect to gain an in-depth understanding of IT systems; financial processes and controls. You will study for the ICAEW Certificate in Finance, Accounting and Business (CFAB). This qualification provides knowledge and practical skills in three key areas: finance, accounting and business. There are six modules: Accounting, Law, Business and Finance, Principles of Taxation, Management Information plus Assurance. This qualification will support you to understand how a business really works and how to understand the language of finance.

We offer on-the-job coaching and access to wide-ranging online training resources that will help you to manage your time, influence stakeholders, manage finances and lead others.

During your programme you will also have the power to shape your own development by augmenting the Learning Pathway with courses from the KPMG Business School and a variety of online platforms as well as studying towards professional qualifications such as:

- ITIL Foundation;
- COBIT Foundation;
- ISACA Certified Information Systems Auditor (CISA)
- PRINCE2
- CISA
- TOGAF
- Amazon Web Services Architect

**Please see below for case studies.**



**Name:** Arushi

**Business Area:** Technology Audit - Information Risk Management (Corporates)

**Based:** London

### **The recruitment process?**

The initial stage of the recruitment process was standard – an application followed by online tests and an audio submission. However, I was impressed by how interactive the Assessment Centre (Launch Pad) was. Throughout the day, I was presented with opportunities to meet and speak with employees from across the firm – giving me a flavour of the firm’s culture. In retrospect, I can firmly say that I thoroughly enjoyed interviewing with KPMG and I knew I’d made the ‘right choice’.

### **Why KPMG?**

After graduating from university, I was looking to kick-start my career in an organisation with a global presence and a diverse range of opportunities. KPMG appealed to me due to its structured graduate programme, the international exposure, but most importantly due to its people.

### **Qualifications and support?**

The combination of class based training and on the job learning provides a high quality opportunity to be able to develop the skills and knowledge that will prove essential in the near future. I am personally working towards the CFAB qualification for which we both attend college and self-study, but KPMG has a very good support network in place to ensure you get any help that you need, when you require it.

### **Day-to-day?**

As I transitioned from an Analyst (support) to an E2 Associate (in-charge) role, the focus shifted from developing technical skills to developing soft skills such as managing individuals/teams, expectations and audit engagements. I was encouraged to take ownership of small and medium sized enterprise engagements – getting involved in higher-level strategic activities such as planning the approach of the Audit, budgeting for resources and finalising the scope of the work in conjunction with the Financial Audit Team. The level of exposure provided by KPMG, paired with a multifaceted skill-set contributed to my personal growth.

### **My advice?**

Take advantage of the wealth of opportunities before you! From being able to volunteer with a charity of your choice to being involved in having a say in the strategic direction of your department/the firm, KPMG allows you to do it all.

### **Our work?**

In my time at KPMG, I’ve worked with companies across a plethora of industries such as financial services, consumer goods, media and telecommunication and fashion & leisure. Each audit has provided a different experience due to their size and/or culture. It is this variety that has helped me understand IT External Audit within different business contexts and contributed in helping me build meaningful relationships.

### **Social life?**

We have a dedicated team of individuals – the Socials Committee - who organise team socials regularly. We’ve had social events ranging from Summer Barbeques and Christmas Parties to ping pong events. Moreover, we have regular 5-A-Side inter-department football matches, Bollywood Nights and much more!

### **Further career opportunities at KPMG?**

As mentioned previously, the graduate programme is quite structured during its course – supplemented by various training programmes and formal appraisal processes. In addition, KPMG also provides opportunities for local, national and international secondments for those who are interested.



**Name:** Andjela

**Business Area:** Technology Audit – Information Risk Management (National Markets)

**Based:** Southampton

### **The recruitment process?**

When I joined my recruitment process was split up into three main stages:

- 1) Online tests and application submission
- 2) Audio Submission
- 3) Launch Pad

### **Why KPMG?**

After university, I wasn't too sure as to what I wanted to do. I knew I wanted to work in a company that offered me business exposure, the ability to develop new skills in technology and the potential to travel and use my language skills. So far, KPMG has offered me all of these things. It has offered me a varied career, the ability to develop my technical skill set through various training sessions and network with a vast range of people from all different backgrounds and industries. KPMG has a strong global reputation and is a company that offers graduates a lot of responsibility early on in their careers, which is another reason it attracted me to apply.

### **Qualifications and support?**

Having studied Languages and Politics at university and therefore, not coming from a technical background, I was worried that I lacked the technical experience for the role. However, KPMG told me that my background didn't matter and have provided, and continue to provide me with training in order to develop in both technical and soft skills. Since starting, I cannot fault the support I have had. From other graduates to senior management, I immediately felt like a valued member of the team. As soon as you accept your offer you are paired with a 'Smart Contact' who is someone working in the role that you can ask any questions. You are also given a Performance Manager who will help you in your career development and to set your performance and development goals.

### **Day-to-day?**

Working life is busy! Within your first few years on the graduate scheme, you will be leading meetings, testing engagement IT systems and providing improvement recommendations. Our varied portfolio will give you the unique opportunity to learn and gain insight into the workings of multiple industries. Don't worry, you will never be alone. You will always be surrounded and supported by a fantastic team!

### **My advice?**

Get ready to travel a lot around the country! You will meet so many interesting and intelligent people both within KPMG and at on audit engagements. This job has allowed me to really understand the inner workings of businesses. Be sure to also get involved in the vast opportunities outside of your job role that KPMG has to offer.

### **Our work?**

Our work can be a challenging but is also a rewarding experience. From day one you could be sat in front of Directors and Heads of Businesses discussing their current business issues. Even though this can be daunting at first, KPMG will equip you with the necessary skills to be successful and confident in your role.

### **Social life?**

There is something for everyone. From team treasure hunts to sports days and sports clubs to black tie balls, there is plenty to get involved in!

### **Further career opportunities at KPMG?**

With such a vast audit offering and opportunities available, KPMG really allows you to customise your career. Once you have completed your graduate programme, secondments are available to get a taster of different departments and roles within the firm.



**Name:** Funmi

**Business Area:** Technology Audit – Information Risk Management (Financial Services)

**Based:** London

### **The recruitment process?**

The recruitment process started with an online application and assessment. An initial telephone interview with HR was next to find out a bit more about me and my experiences, after which I was invited to attend an assessment centre which was very immersive. It gave me the opportunity to have a meeting with a 'client', write up a report on a specific topic and practice my team working skills in the group challenge. I found the recruitment team extremely supportive throughout the process and thoroughly enjoyed the experience. I was an international applicant from Nigeria and I appreciated that KPMG were very flexible and accommodating with scheduling my recruitment process and interviews around my availability.

### **Why KPMG?**

I joined KPMG because of the people. I have had a number of conversations with people at KPMG and they had a lot of positive things to say about the culture and the opportunities for personal growth and development. The graduate scheme also provided a structured approach for me to learn and work in a field which wasn't related to my undergraduate degree.

### **Qualifications and support?**

In the three years I have been at KPMG I have completed a qualification every year. In my first year I completed the CIMA Certificate in Business Accounting which built my basic accounting knowledge. In my second year I started obtaining more IT related qualifications and completed ISACA's COBIT (Control Objectives for Information and Related Technologies) Foundation programme. This year I have recently completed ISACA's CISA exam (Certified Information Systems Auditor). The Learning and Development team as well as my managers have been very supportive, helping me to prepare and KPMG also include paid study leave days to set you up for success.

### **Day-to-day?**

My role has transitioned since I joined the firm in 2016. I started as an IT Audit associate, responsible for running client interviews, analysing client information to assess their technology risks and providing recommendations for improvement. As a third Year Senior Associate I now have the opportunity to in-charge projects. This entails managing and coaching junior team members, managing client relationships, and even planning and scoping the work.

### **My advice?**

Have an open mind and take advantage of all the opportunities KPMG gives you – both socially and professionally.

### **Our work?**

While at KPMG I have worked mostly with financial services clients, specifically within asset management, providing IT audit services. I have also worked on short advisory projects at other financial services clients.

### **Social life?**

There are various social events and opportunities to network and build relationships – from weekly team events to annual Summer & Christmas parties. There are also various networks which everyone can join based on their personal interests. I am currently a member of the African & Caribbean Network Council where we aim to empower BAME colleagues and promote career progression through various workshops and I act as editor for the monthly newsletter. I'm also a member of the IRM IDSE Team (Inclusion, Diversity and Social Equality). All of these provide avenues to socialise.

### **Further career opportunities at KPMG?**

There are various opportunities to grow and develop yourself within KPMG by working on different clients, learning from senior leadership and trying out new skills. My team prides itself in nurturing and rewarding talent, and there are clear promotion and progression paths for all team members. There are also opportunities to go on secondments to other teams or countries.



### Will I work with other teams?

Absolutely. The programme is part of a much wider function within KPMG. Working with teams across the firm to deliver truly bespoke solutions, you'll gain a broader understanding of the role that our engagements' technology functions play within their business. You may also get the opportunity to work on projects in other teams where you can utilise the skills you have developed or gained through training. This will also help you become a more rounded individual and increase your internal and external networks. In particular, the Technology Audit team has a close link with the Financial Audit team and individuals from both teams work closely together to deliver the audit.

### What kinds of companies and sectors might I work with?

We work with companies from every type of industry, both public and private sector, and in locations across the country and even internationally as well. So you can expect to gain a very varied experience whilst on your graduate programme.

### Will I get the opportunity to work in different business areas of the wider KPMG firm?

As a professional services firm, KPMG provide value in a variety of different ways and as you develop skills on your graduate programme, you will often find yourself working on projects with colleagues from other areas of the firm. The opportunities are endless once you have completed the three year programme.

### How are projects organised?

We assemble teams with appropriate skills at bid stage or select them to meet specific requirements for ongoing projects. The teams are led by an engagement manager and partner, who allocate work and the time spent. We have a system called Retain where you can see your own pipeline of work, as well as any study or holiday time.

### Is there much travel involved in the role?

Our work often take us to company locations, so we spend a lot of time working at their offices. That means there will be travel involved – it's unlikely that you'll be going to the same office every day of the year, so be prepared to frequently change your routine.

### What happens after I finish my graduate programme?

You'll be supported to progress and have a really varied career within the Technology Audit practice, building your specialist skills.

## Contact us

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Designed by CREATE | July 2018 | CRT100733A