



Audit Graduate Programme



Business area	Audit – Information Risk Management
Length of programme	Three years
Qualifications you'll work for	ICAEW Certificate in Finance, Accounting and Business (CFAB)
Location	Nationwide. Please search website for latest location availability
Entry requirements	As a general rule, you'll be expected to meet the following requirements: <ul style="list-style-type: none">— Minimum grade B GCSE^(a) Maths— Minimum grade B GCSE^(a) English Language— Minimum of 300 UCAS Tariff Points^(a)— Minimum 2:1 degree or above in any discipline

Note: (a) Or equivalent.

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

Within our recruitment process, we look for more than just your academic results. This wider perspective helps us ensure that we are giving you the best opportunity to demonstrate your potential. We assess your application against KPMG's Global Behavioural Capabilities and a number of other metrics including technical background and/or experience, to build our confidence in whether you will be a success 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 brings are matched only by its potential threats and risks – and this is where we come in.

We provide independent, jargon-free advice and technical expertise to help our clients control their technology risks through specialist IT audit support, and enable them to make the best use of their data.

Our three year graduate programme is designed to offer the client exposure and the support you need to secure a successful career in Information Risk Management (IRM) and Technology Risk. We will help you to develop your technology, audit and consulting skills, commercial acumen and a flair for business to enable you to deliver real value to our clients.

In depth

Located in offices across the country and covering all sectors, our IRM Technology Risk practice provides assurance and advisory services to our clients across a broad spectrum of business and IT-related risks. A key component of our work is supporting the delivery of our external audit portfolio from a technology perspective – auditing our clients' IT systems.

Technology Risk 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 IRM team provides specialist IT audit support to our external and internal audit clients, including the use of data analytics, as well as attestation over the use of technology at third parties. We advise our clients on how to control risks related to their information assets, either in IT management processes, business applications, infrastructure or projects.

Who we are looking for

People who excel within IRM are passionate about continually adapting their skills and knowledge to find solutions that meet our clients' needs whilst having a keen eye for detail to identify and assess IT control risks for our clients.

We also ask for a keen interest in technology and business issues, as well as good 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 our clients in assessing their 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.

As an IRM Graduate, you'll work across an exceptionally broad range of domains - including financial accounting, audit and assurance, risk management, data and analytics, and governance and compliance.

You'll develop outstanding soft-skills; have the opportunity to study for professional qualifications and take on real responsibility, all in a supportive environment where excellence comes as standard - the ideal foundation on which to build your future career.

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 our clients' key financial systems and infrastructure. 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.

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 through working with our Tech Risk team in Consulting. The exact nature of this work will vary, but could be as diverse as assisting a client during a major software transformation project; conducting advanced data analysis; assessing a client's data privacy procedures; or advising clients on the design and implementation of their IT controls.

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

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

We'll work with you to ensure you get a mix of experience that's right for you and right for our clients. 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 / or international travel.

Why IRM

As one of the fastest growing areas of KPMG, it's a great place to develop your business understanding, people skills and career. The breadth of our work, expertise and clients means there's always the chance to learn new things. We'll also provide a strong support network for you to maximise every opportunity that comes your way.

IRM gives you a platform from which to develop a broad-based understanding of the usage of technology in business to assist with the implementation and maintenance of a secure IT control environment across several clients and industries. When performing external audit support work, this will have a direct impact on the ability of KPMG Audit teams to rely on clients' 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, client 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 to our clients. Learning and applying the latest technologies, you'll be expected to pick up essential information quickly about the firm and industry that you're working in, as well as the basics of Technology Consulting through our close collaboration with our Tech Risk team in Consulting. As you progress through your graduate programme you will learn more about the various types of Technology Risk advisory work we do and may also have the opportunity to support on advisory projects.

Training and Development

As an IRM Graduate, your training and development will follow the Graduate Learning Pathway. This is a well-rounded training and development plan, and comprises 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; and of the audit and assurance process. You will study for the ICAEW Certificate in Finance, Accounting and Business (CFAB).

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)

Please see below for case studies.



Name : Arushi
Business Area : Audit – IRM (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 ACA qualification for which we regularly attend college. Some of the earlier exams are 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 clients. 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 not only contributes to my personal growth, but also enhances my overall employability.

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.

Working with clients

In my time at KPMG, I’ve worked with clients across a plethora of industries such as financial services, consumer goods, media and telecommunication and fashion & leisure. Each client 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 client relationships. Along the way, I have also honed my communication and presentation skills, ultimately preparing me for taking on roles within our Tech Risk Consulting team when the opportunity arises.

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 event’s. Moreover, we have regular 5-A-Side intra-/inter-departmental football matches, Bollywood Nights, Ramadan Fast Challenges 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 : Audit – IRM (National Markets)
Based : Southampton

The recruitment process

The graduate recruitment process is split up into three main stages:

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

It is an intense however, well organised process that will help you to perform to the best of your potential. Rather than leaving you waiting to hear the result. KPMG looks to tell you whether you are successful or not in a matter of days after each stage. The online website and various portals, provided me with useful hints and tips, helping me to feel fully prepared to apply.

Why KPMG?

After University, I wasn't too sure as to what I wanted to do, however I knew I wanted to work in a company that offered me face to face contact with clients, 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 come 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 the regional South team. 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 client meetings, testing client IT systems and providing improvement recommendations. Our varied client 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 client sites. 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.

Working with clients

Working with clients can be a challenging but 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 client offering and opportunities available, KPMG really allows you to customise your career. Once you have settled in, secondments are available to get a taster of different departments and roles within the firm.



Name : Valery
Business Area : Audit – IRM (Corporates)
Based : Southampton

The recruitment process

The recruitment process was fairly straightforward with 3 stages. The final stage was the Launch Pad event, which involved a series of tasks throughout the day and a final interview. On the day, I felt very comfortable and supported by KPMG staff, which made me feel like the company was the right fit for me.

Why KPMG?

After university, I wanted to be on a graduate scheme so that I was surrounded by like minded individuals and that we were going through a process of stages together. KPMG in particular offered a global presence as well as an opportunity to be exposed to large businesses. After university, I wasn't entirely sure what I wanted to do but I knew that technology was an area that interested me. I felt that KPMG offered me a chance to explore various aspects of the technology sector.

Qualifications and support

Through the graduate learning pathway, we have various qualifications that are open to us, both internal and external. Currently I am completing the ICAEW Certificate in Finance, Accounting and Business (ICAEW CFAB). This has allowed me to gain a greater understanding into the world of business. This was important to me as I come from a biological background and wanted to expand my knowledge of the type of work we do at KPMG.

I believe that KPMG offer great support. Before starting at KPMG, you are provided with a 'Smart Contact' and then upon joining you are given a 'Buddy'. As a new graduate, in a large office, I felt welcomed and very comfortable! We also have a Performance Leader and Performance Manager who are very helpful point of contacts for any queries you have.

Day-to-day

My working day at KPMG is either on client site or in the office. In your first year, you mainly work on external audit engagements by testing internal IT controls of a business. From day 1, you will take on responsibility and work alongside a fantastic team! As you become more comfortable you will also take on more responsibility and often travel to client sites.

Whilst the audit 'busy season' often requires a few extra hours, I have found that the day usually ends at a reasonable time.

My advice

Networking!

A large part of tailoring your day-to-day schedule is by talking to people and getting on projects that interest you, or getting on projects with your favourite team. By networking at KPMG you will meet so many people working across so many sectors.

Working with clients

It was important for me to be in a job that was working not only in a team environment but also working with clients. From day one I was working and engaging with experts in industry. It has been a fantastic experience to work with passionate individuals who are dedicated to their businesses.

Social life

Before starting KPMG I was quite worried about the hours I would be doing. However, there is a real work-life balance. We have monthly socials and if you have an interest in organising events you can also become a member of the social team and help organise these events! The events we have mean that you speak to a lot of the members of your team, rather than just your graduate intake.

Further career opportunities at KPMG

If you are particularly interested in a specific client or a certain industry, there will always be opportunities to work in those areas at KPMG. The graduate scheme allows you to work towards professional qualifications and develop your soft skills.

By networking and meeting more people at KPMG you can find a career that interests you. The flexibility of working at KPMG means that you are able to second to different areas of the business in order to broaden your skills, help your team and dictate your own career path.



Name : Sannan
Business Area : Audit – IRM (Corporates)
Based : London

The recruitment process

The recruitment process is thorough – but this is to ensure KPMG is able to see all of your skill-sets and ensure you are the right fit for the firm, and for you to also decide if the firm is the right fit for you.

Why KPMG?

Three main reasons – the work the firm engages in, the international status of KPMG and the investment KPMG puts into their people. Prior to coming here, of all the companies I had interacted with, KPMG felt the most natural fit for me. The first and foremost goal is to focus on the people – I believe this definitely sets the firm apart.

Qualifications and support

The leadership and directors really supported me to undertake training that is relevant to my area of interest and which will help me further my career. I have had the opportunity to study for external qualifications as well as doing lots of internal KPMG training courses.

Day-to-day

No one day is the same at KPMG. I work across the department, across the audit, advisory and assurance part of the business. I am involved at everything, from writing proposals, attending client meetings, completing fieldwork and making recommendations.

My advice

Be open to new challenges and willing to learn new things. At KPMG your career is in your own hands – you manage your own time, and your projects, so it is imperative you are aware about what you want to do.

Working with clients

Client exposure has been one of the most important aspects for me – and to truly learn about the difficulties they face and help them solve their problems was something I wanted to do.

Social life

We have a social committee in our department who organise monthly events for the team! Last socials have included ping-pong events, sport days, bbq events and the Xmas Party.

Further career opportunities at KPMG

I hope to specialise in one of the sectors, and work closely with my immediate team members in governance, risk and compliance.

FAQ's

Will I work with other teams?

Absolutely. The programme is part of a much wider function within KPMG. Working with teams across KPMG to deliver truly bespoke solutions, you'll gain a broader understanding of the role that our clients' 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 will also help you become a more rounded individual and increase your internal and external networks. In particular the IRM team has a close link with the Tech Risk Consulting team and individuals from both teams work closely together to deliver both audit and advisory engagements.

What types of clients might I work with?

We work with clients 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 support their clients 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. Opportunities for you to work on projects in other teams where you can utilise the skills you have developed or gained through your studies will also help you become a more rounded individual and also increase your internal and external networks.

How are projects organised?

We assemble teams with appropriate skills at bid stage or select them to meet specific client 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 takes us to where our clients are, 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 in technology, as you build specialist skills and also broad consulting knowledge. Some people choose to specialise in a technology audit career at the end of the graduate programme and others seek to further develop their consulting skills by moving into our Tech Risk Consulting team. You will be supported to find the right career for you.

Contact us

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