

Internal Audit Academic Alliance Grant Program Categories, Eligibility, and Requirements

Supported by the Academic Fund

The Internal Audit Foundation is pleased to administer the annual grant program for the Internal Audit Academic Alliance institutions supported by contributions to the Foundation's Academic Fund. The Academic Fund supports initiatives that focus on establishing a foundation for today's internal audit students to become leaders in the internal audit profession tomorrow.

The following contains information regarding eligibility, funding limits, proposal, and reporting requirements.

Grant Category 1	Requirements
Sustainability & Advancement	<p>A proposal outlining a sound approach for the development of a plan for maintaining or advancing the program and includes the SMART objectives, a budget outlining total funds requested with line-item allocations, and one or more of the following activities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Engagement with a leader of a mature Academic Alliance program to gain insight, develop a road map to mature your program, and establish a mentoring relationship. Observation and shadowing of classes, case studies, recruiting, or other events at a mentor institution. Visit by mentor to grantee institution to assist in the development of a student organization, advisory board, or funding events. Participation of grantee students in online events hosted by mentor institution. Development or implementation of a new internal audit course to build a new, or complement the existing, program curriculum. Development of a three- to five-year Academic Alliance program strategy and road map of supporting activities. Development and execution of awareness and recruitment plan targeted at nontraditional majors for participation in the Academic Alliance program that communicates the opportunities that internal audit education offers.
Eligibility	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Academic Affiliate Principles Foundation Comprehensive Center of Excellence 	
Funding Limit	
<p>A maximum of \$2,500 per year for Academic Affiliate institution</p> <p>A maximum of \$5,000 per year for Principles, Foundation, Comprehensive or Center of Excellence institution.</p>	
Reporting	<p>Upon completion of the grant term, the grantee must submit a report to the Foundation itemizing how funds were spent, demonstrating successful completion of activities outlined in proposal, and relaying that the desired outcome (retention or advancement) was achieved.</p>
Grant Category 2	Requirements
Student Engagement	<p>Submission of a grant proposal by the annual deadline that includes a budget, overview of grant activities, and the SMART objectives that support student engagement in the profession. Activities should consist of one or more of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Design and offer a study group held throughout the school year for passing one part of the CIA examination. Design and offer a study group held throughout the semester to support classwork in an internal audit course. Host an Internal Audit Forum (in person or virtual) inviting professors, students from all relevant majors, and external stakeholders to participate and provide insight into the internal audit profession. Establish an internal audit-related student organization. Participation in The IIA's Global Student Conference. Note: Funding may not be used to cover conference registration but may be used for travel expenses. <p>Upon completion of the grant term, the grantee must submit a grant report to the Foundation itemizing how funds were spent, demonstrating successful completion of the activities outlined in the grant proposal, and relaying that the desired outcomes have been achieved. Reported measures of success may include:</p>
Eligibility	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Principles Foundation Comprehensive 	
Funding Limit	
<p>A maximum of \$5,000 per year per educational institution.</p>	
Reporting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The number of participants in the study groups. The number of presentations to market the Academic Alliance at the institution. Increase in student participation in local chapter meetings (number of students attending monthly meetings and events). Overall engagement and diversity of majors represented in the Internal Audit Forum or student organizations.

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Grant Category 3	Requirements
Academic Alliance Advocate/Graduate Assistant	A proposal that includes the SMART objectives, a resource plan, and budget outlining the number of advocates, hours, funds requested, advocate qualifications in alignment with requirements, and position description(s) is required.
Eligibility	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Each advocate MUST enroll in accredited courses in areas of auditing, risk management, governance, fraud, technology, or other related disciplines. Each advocate MUST work a minimum of 8 hours per week during each semester the institution receives funding. Each advocate MUST demonstrate knowledge of internal auditing through a combination of coursework and/or formal internship. Each advocate MUST commit to executing the advocate responsibilities as outlined.
Funding Limit	<p>A maximum of \$10,000 per year per educational institution from unrestricted funds in the Internal Audit Foundation's Academic Fund.</p> <p>Advocate responsibilities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Actively develop and manage the Academic Alliance program at their respective school. Support at least one internal audit course through review and update of the curriculum, develop questions for examinations and quizzes, and be present for office hours for student questions. Design and offer a study group held throughout the semester to support classwork in an internal audit course. Pass one part of the Certified Internal Auditor (CIA) examination during the period they are a graduate assistant/ Academic Alliance advocate. Participate in local chapter activities and student organizations and assist in the organization of student events targeting Academic Alliance students.
Reporting	<p>Upon completion of the grant term, the grantee must submit a grant report to the Foundation itemizing how funds were spent and demonstrating achievement of advocate responsibilities and their impact on the Academic Alliance program. Impact measures may include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Summary of support provided by the advocate to the Academic Alliance program. The number of students recruited into the Academic Alliance program with current program totals. The number of meetings, study groups, and events coordinated on campus or with local chapter targeted at Academic Alliance students, with coordinating attendance statistics. Types and frequency of outreach activities performed. CIA program participation for the advocate and Academic Alliance students.
Grant Category 4	Requirements
Educator Development	Proposals must include a budget, overview of grant activities, and the SMART objectives that support educator development. Activities should consist of one or more of the following:
Eligibility	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The pursuit of CIA or other IIA certification. Note: Funding may not be used to cover the cost of exam fees. Support for job shadowing of a practicing internal audit leader or provision of pro bono consulting services to enhance the practical application of internal audit coursework. Participation in professional development activities that directly link to improvements in the course curriculum. Participation in IIA educator networking events, such as Internal Audit Student Exchange and Sawyer's Educator's Symposium.
Funding Limit	A maximum of \$5,000 per year per educational institution.
Reporting	<p>Upon completion of the grant term, the grantee must submit a grant report to the Foundation itemizing how the funds were spent, demonstrating successful completion of the activities outlined in the grant proposal, and relaying that the desired outcomes have been achieved. Reported measures of success may include: Passing one or more parts of the CIA or other IIA certification, demonstrated participation in and successful completion of professional development activities with linkage to curriculum enhancements, or a recap of job shadowing or consulting engagement with the tie to curriculum enhancements.</p>



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Institutions may submit proposals in all categories based on eligibility. However, grants will only be awarded in up to three categories per educational institution, not to exceed USD \$10,000 of unrestricted funds from the Internal Audit Foundation Academic Fund. **As of 2025, Institutions with restricted funds will now receive designated funds within approximately 60 days of the Foundation processing the donation. The funds no longer need to be requested via the Academic Alliance Grant Program.**

Applications must be received by April 15. The Foundation and Academic Alliance Grant Subcommittee, composed of members from the Internal Audit Foundation Board of Trustees and Committee of Research and Education Advisors (CREA) review each application. The subcommittee provides a consensus recommendation to the Internal Audit Foundation Board of Trustees for each grant application. The Board of Trustees approves the grants by July of each year with award payments occurring in August.

In addition to an online application, grant applicants must upload their formal grant proposal containing the information outlined in the Academic Alliance Grant Program Overview. If you have trouble uploading, you can email the file(s) to Foundation@theiia.org.

For additional information regarding the Internal Audit Foundation's Academic Alliance Grant Program, please email Foundation@theiia.org.