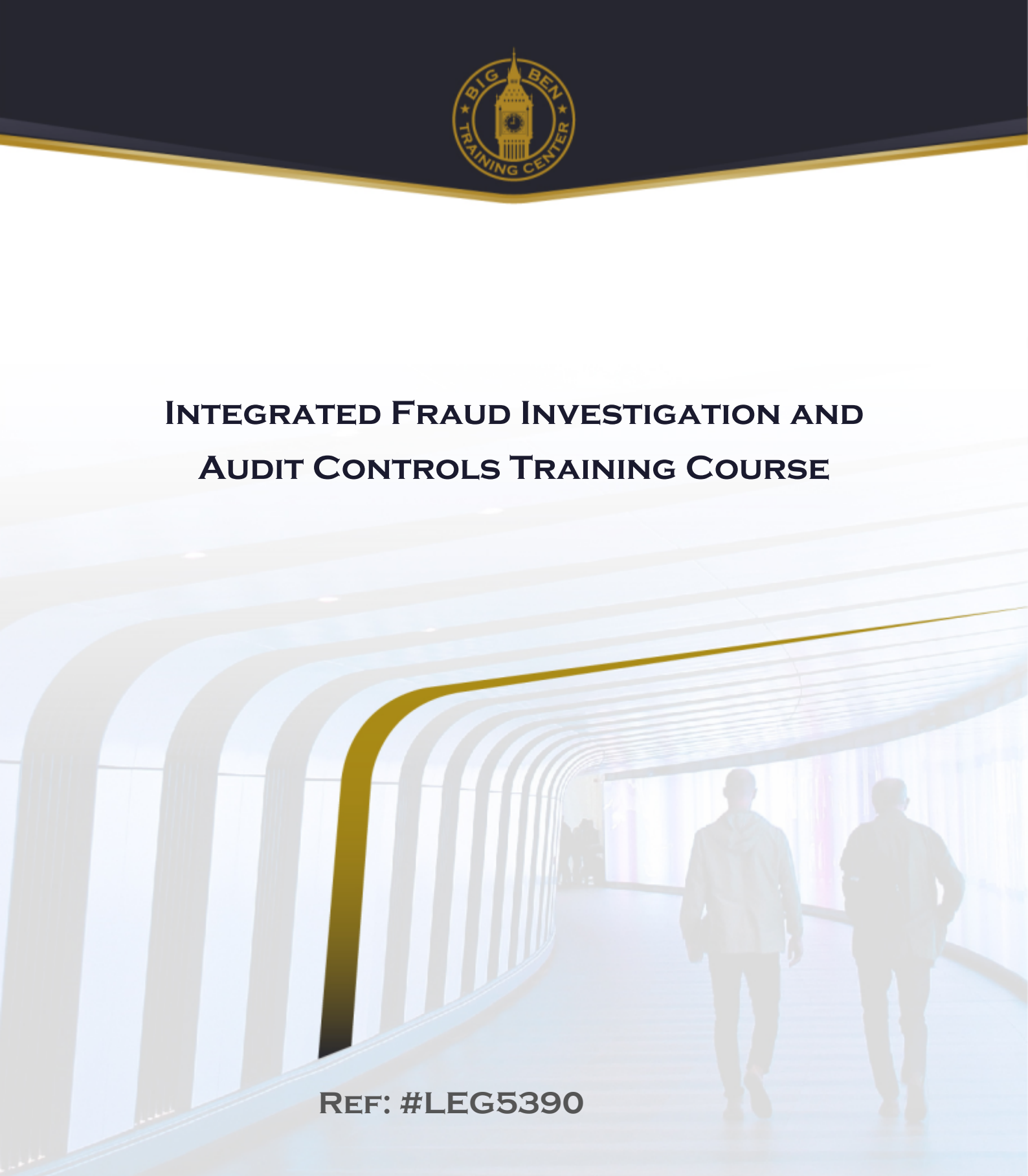
Integrated Fraud Investigation and Audit Controls Training Course



Ref: #LEG5390

Course Introduction / Overview:

This comprehensive course provides a holistic framework for understanding the critical interplay between fraud investigation, legal auditing, and internal control systems. In today's complex business environment, a reactive approach to fraud is insufficient; organizations must build a proactive defense. This program, offered by BIG BEN Training Center, is designed to equip professionals with the multidisciplinary skills needed to prevent, detect, and respond to financial misconduct effectively. We will explore foundational concepts, including the "Fraud Triangle" developed by criminologist Donald R. Cressey, to understand the pressures, opportunities, and rationalizations behind fraudulent acts. The curriculum moves beyond theory, delving into the practical application of frameworks like the "COSO Internal Control – Integrated Framework" to design and assess robust control environments. Participants will learn to conduct legally sound investigations, navigate the complexities of evidence gathering, and perform audits that stand up to legal scrutiny. This course bridges the gap between the finance, legal, and security functions, creating a unified strategy to protect organizational assets and reputation. By integrating these three core disciplines, professionals will be empowered to build a resilient and ethical corporate culture that actively deters fraud.

Target Audience / This training course is suitable for:

- Internal Auditors and Audit Managers.
- Compliance Officers and Managers.
- Risk Management Professionals.
- Legal Counsel and Corporate Lawyers.
- Forensic Accountants and Investigators.
- Finance Managers and Controllers.
- Corporate Security and Loss Prevention Specialists.
- Government Auditors and Regulators.
- Members of Audit Committees and Boards of Directors.

Target Sectors and Industries:

- Banking and Financial Services.
- Insurance and Asset Management.
- Healthcare and Pharmaceuticals.
- Manufacturing and Supply Chain.
- Retail and Consumer Goods.
- Telecommunications and Technology.
- Energy and Utilities.
- Government Agencies and Public Sector Entities.
- Non-Profit Organizations.

Target Organizations Departments:

- Internal Audit Department.
- Legal and Corporate Counsel Department.
- Compliance Department.
- Finance and Accounting Department.
- Risk Management Department.
- Corporate Security and Investigations.
- Procurement and Operations.
- Human Resources.
- Information Technology.

Course Offerings:

By the end of this course, the participants will have able to:

- Design and evaluate internal control systems based on the COSO framework.
- Identify the behavioral red flags and organizational conditions that foster fraud.
- Plan and execute a corporate fraud investigation from inception to conclusion.
- Apply effective investigative interviewing techniques to gather information.
- Understand the legal principles governing evidence collection and preservation.
- Conduct legal audits to ensure compliance with regulations like SOX and FCPA.
- Utilize data analytics tools to detect anomalies and potential fraud schemes.
- Prepare comprehensive and defensible investigation reports for stakeholders.
- Develop and implement proactive fraud prevention and deterrence strategies.
- Assess and mitigate risks associated with asset misappropriation and financial statement fraud.

Course Methodology:

The training methodology at BIG BEN Training Center is designed for maximum engagement and practical application. We believe that adult learning is most effective when it is interactive, relevant, and experiential. This course moves beyond traditional lectures to create a dynamic learning environment. A significant portion of the training will be dedicated to analyzing real-world case studies of major corporate frauds, allowing participants to deconstruct complex schemes and identify control failures. Interactive group workshops will challenge participants to design internal control systems for hypothetical scenarios and develop audit plans to test their effectiveness. Role-playing exercises, particularly for investigative interviewing, will provide a safe space to practice and refine crucial communication skills. The course encourages open dialogue and peer-to-peer learning, with expert facilitators guiding discussions on complex legal and ethical dilemmas. Continuous feedback is provided throughout the sessions to ensure participants are building confidence and mastering the techniques. This hands-on approach ensures that attendees leave not just with knowledge, but with the practical skills and strategic mindset to implement what they have learned immediately within their organizations.

Course Agenda (Course Units):

Unit One: Foundations of the Anti-Fraud Environment

- The Modern Corporate Fraud Landscape.
- Understanding the Fraud Triangle: Pressure, Opportunity, and Rationalization.
- Common Types of Occupational Fraud: Asset Misappropriation, Corruption, and Financial Statement Fraud.
- Introduction to Internal Control Systems and the COSO Framework.
- The Legal and Regulatory Framework for Combating Fraud.
- The Role of Corporate Governance and Ethical Culture in Fraud Prevention.
- Defining the Relationship Between Internal Audit, Legal, and Investigations.

Unit Two: Designing and Evaluating Internal Control Systems

- Deep Dive into the Five Components of the COSO Framework.
- Conducting a Comprehensive Fraud Risk Assessment.
- Designing and Implementing Entity-Level and Process-Level Controls.
- Control Activities: Prevention vs. Detection Controls.
- Information, Communication, and Monitoring Activities.
- Testing the Design and Operating Effectiveness of Internal Controls.
- Documenting and Reporting on Internal Control Deficiencies.

Unit Three: The Principles of Legal Auditing and Compliance

- Differentiating Between Financial Audits and Legal Compliance Audits.
- Planning and Scoping a Legal and Regulatory Compliance Audit.
- Key Regulations: Sarbanes-Oxley (SOX), FCPA, and AML.
- Techniques for Auditing High-Risk Areas like Procurement and T&E.
- Gathering and Evaluating Audit Evidence for Legal Sufficiency.
- The Auditor's Responsibility for Detecting and Reporting Illegal Acts.
- Communicating Audit Findings to Management and the Audit Committee.

Unit Four: Advanced Fraud Investigation Techniques

- The Investigation Lifecycle: From Predication to Resolution.
- Developing a Strategic Investigation Plan.
- Techniques for Gathering and Securing Evidence.
- Introduction to Digital Forensics and Analyzing Electronic Evidence.
- Conducting Effective Investigative Interviews and Interrogations.
- Using Data Analytics and Forensic Accounting to Uncover Schemes.
- Managing Whistleblower Allegations and Confidential Sources.

Unit Five: Reporting, Remediation, and Strategic Prevention

- Structuring and Writing a Clear, Concise, and Defensible Investigation Report.
- Presenting Findings to Senior Management, Legal Counsel, and the Board.
- Working with Law Enforcement and External Legal Teams.
- Developing and Implementing Remedial Action Plans to Address Control Weaknesses.
- Building a Proactive Fraud Deterrence Program.
- The Role of Continuous Monitoring and Auditing.
- Cultivating an Anti-Fraud Culture Throughout the Organization.

FAQ:

Qualifications required for registering to this course?

There are no requirements.

How long is each daily session, and what is the total number of training hours for the course?

This training course spans five days, with daily sessions ranging between 4 to 5 hours, including breaks and interactive activities, bringing the total duration to 20 - 25 training hours.

Something to think about:

Beyond technical controls and audits, how can an organization's leadership effectively instill an ethical culture that serves as the primary defense against fraud?

What unique qualities does this course offer compared to other courses?

This course distinguishes itself by its deeply integrated approach, treating fraud investigation, legal auditing, and internal controls not as separate silos, but as interconnected pillars of corporate integrity. While many programs focus on one specific discipline, this training provides a 360-degree perspective, enabling professionals to understand how a weakness in one area creates vulnerabilities in others. We move beyond theoretical frameworks to emphasize the legal defensibility and practical execution of every task, from designing a control to conducting an interview and writing a report that will withstand scrutiny. The curriculum is built on a foundation of real-world case studies, forcing participants to grapple with the same ambiguities and pressures they face in their roles. Rather than simply teaching how to use a specific software, we focus on developing the critical thinking and strategic mindset required to anticipate sophisticated fraud schemes. The emphasis is on building a proactive, resilient anti-fraud culture, empowering participants to become strategic advisors who can link robust controls and diligent oversight directly to organizational value and long-term sustainability. This holistic vision ensures a more profound and lasting impact on both the participant's career and their organization's health.