KSA Personal Data Protection Law (PDPL) Officer Training Course

15 - 19 Nov 2026

Doha

5500 € (Per Person)

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Course Introduction / Overview:

The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia's Personal Data Protection Law (PDPL) marks a significant milestone in the nation's digital transformation, aligning it with global data privacy standards. This comprehensive training course is meticulously designed to equip professionals with the essential knowledge and practical skills to navigate the complexities of the KSA PDPL. As organizations increasingly rely on data, understanding the legal framework governing its collection, processing, and transfer is no longer optional but a critical business imperative. This program, offered by BIG BEN Training Center, delves deep into the core principles of the PDPL, drawing parallels with international regulations while focusing on the unique aspects of the Saudi legal landscape. We will explore concepts discussed by leading privacy scholar Daniel J. Solove in works like "Understanding Privacy," applying theoretical frameworks to real-world scenarios within the KSA. Participants will gain a thorough understanding of the rights of data subjects, the obligations of data controllers and processors, and the strategic role of the Data Protection Officer (DPO). The course provides a clear roadmap for achieving and maintaining PDPL compliance, mitigating risks, and fostering a culture of data privacy within any organization operating in the Kingdom.

Target Audience / This training course is suitable for:

- Data Protection Officers (DPOs) and aspiring DPOs.
- Legal and Compliance Professionals.
- Information Security and IT Managers.
- Risk Management and Internal Audit Staff.
- Human Resources Managers.
- Marketing and Data Analytics Professionals.
- Senior Management and Business Leaders.
- Anyone involved in processing personal data within the KSA.

Target Sectors and Industries:

- Financial Services and Banking.
- Healthcare and Pharmaceuticals.
- Telecommunications and Technology.
- Retail and E-commerce.
- Hospitality and Tourism.
- Government and Public Sector Entities.
- Energy and Utilities.
- Professional Services and Consulting.

Target Organizations Departments:

- Legal and Regulatory Affairs.
- Compliance and Governance.
- Information Technology (IT) and Information Security.
- Internal Audit and Risk Management.
- Human Resources (HR).
- Marketing and Sales.
- Customer Service and Support.
- Operations and Administration.

Course Offerings:

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

- Interpret the scope, key articles, and definitions of the KSA PDPL.
- Identify the lawful bases for processing personal data under Saudi law.
- Develop and implement policies to manage data subject rights effectively.
- Distinguish between the roles and responsibilities of data controllers and processors.
- Conduct a Data Protection Impact Assessment (DPIA) tailored to KSA requirements.
- Establish procedures for data breach notification in compliance with PDPL timelines.
- Understand the regulations governing cross-border data transfers from the KSA.
- Design a comprehensive PDPL compliance framework for their organization.
- Fulfill the key responsibilities and functions of a Data Protection Officer.
- Advise senior management on data privacy risks and mitigation strategies.

Course Methodology:

The training methodology at BIG BEN Training Center is designed to be immersive, practical, and highly interactive, ensuring participants can translate legal knowledge into actionable business practices. We move beyond traditional lectures by employing a blended learning approach that includes expert-led presentations, detailed case studies based on KSA-specific scenarios, and collaborative group workshops. Participants will engage in practical exercises, such as drafting privacy notices, responding to data subject access requests, and simulating data breach incidents. These hands-on activities are designed to build confidence and competence in applying PDPL principles. Interactive Q&A sessions and peer-to-peer discussions are encouraged to facilitate a deeper understanding of the material and allow for the sharing of diverse industry perspectives. Our expert instructors provide continuous feedback and guidance, ensuring that every participant leaves with not only a comprehensive understanding of the KSA PDPL but also a practical toolkit for implementing and managing a robust data protection program within their organization.

Course Agenda (Course Units):

Unit One: Foundations of the KSA Personal Data Protection Law

- Introduction to data privacy and its global context.
- Overview of the KSA PDPL and its legislative objectives.
- Key definitions: Personal Data, Sensitive Data, Processing, Controller, and Processor.
- Territorial and material scope of the PDPL.
- The role of the regulatory authority: Saudi Data & AI Authority (SDAIA).
- Relationship between the PDPL and other national laws.
- Core principles of personal data processing under the PDPL.

Unit Two: Lawful Processing and Consent Management

- Identifying the legal bases for processing personal data.
- The requirements for obtaining valid consent from data subjects.
- Special conditions for processing sensitive personal data.
- Processing data for marketing and advertising purposes.
- Managing consent withdrawal and its implications.
- Record-keeping requirements for processing activities (ROPA).
- Data processing principles: purpose limitation and data minimization in practice.

Unit Three: Data Subject Rights and Requests

- Understanding the rights of data subjects under the PDPL.
- The right to be informed and the content of privacy notices.
- The right of access to personal data.
- The right to request correction, completion, or updating of data.
- The right to request destruction of personal data.
- Procedures for receiving and responding to Data Subject Access Requests (DSARs).
- Timelines and exemptions for handling data subject requests.

Unit Four: Obligations of Controllers, Processors, and Data Transfers

- Responsibilities of the Data Controller.
- Contractual requirements for engaging a Data Processor.
- Implementing appropriate technical and organizational security measures.
- Conducting Data Protection Impact Assessments (DPIAs).
- Rules and regulations for cross-border data transfers.
- Mechanisms for lawful international data transfers.
- Data breach management and notification requirements to the authority and data subjects.

Unit Five: The DPO Role, Compliance, and Enforcement

- Appointing a Data Protection Officer (DPO): when is it mandatory?
- The specific tasks and responsibilities of the DPO in the KSA context.
- Developing and implementing a PDPL compliance program.
- Training and awareness programs for employees.
- Monitoring compliance and conducting internal audits.
- Powers of the regulatory authority (SDAIA).
- Penalties, sanctions, and remedies for non-compliance.

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:

How can organizations balance the stringent data localization requirements of the KSA PDPL with the operational needs of global cloud-based services?

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

This course distinguishes itself by offering a highly specialized and practical deep dive into the KSA Personal Data Protection Law, moving far beyond generic global privacy frameworks. While other courses may touch upon the PDPL as part of a broader curriculum, our program is exclusively focused on the nuances and specific requirements of the Saudi regulatory landscape. We provide actionable insights into the interpretations and expectations of the Saudi Data & AI Authority (SDAIA), which is critical for real-world compliance. The curriculum is built around KSA-centric case studies and scenarios, addressing the unique challenges faced by businesses operating within the Kingdom, such as specific consent requirements and cross-border data transfer rules. Rather than simply reciting the law, our expert instructors, who possess deep regional experience, guide participants through the practical steps of building a compliance program from the ground up. This includes developing compliant privacy notices, managing data subject requests according to local timelines, and conducting DPIAs that reflect the specific risks relevant to the region. The course emphasizes strategic implementation, enabling participants to not only understand the law but to confidently apply it and effectively perform the duties of a Data Protection Officer within the KSA context.