ISO/IEC 27001:2013 ISMS LA Certification: Compliance & Auditing



I am glad to announce that I recently passed by Certification exam for ISO/IEC 27001:2013 ISMS LA in my first attempt. This exam helps you in getting recognised as a certified ISO 27001 Lead Auditor for ISMS. The validity of this certification is until it is newly released with updates (new release + 3 years validity for personal certification – this certification is valid till 2025 and possibly by 2025 we will get a new release for this ISO 27001). I have taken personal certification from accreditation body- **IRCA** and received **5 days** of training for the same from **TUV SUD South Asia Pvt. Ltd.** (German certification body) Which is a body certified to train people for ISO/IEC 27001:2013 ISMS Lead Auditor and on the fifth day of the training, exam is conducted to evaluate your understanding about this certification. This certification is mainly for those who want to make their career especially in compliance and auditing but above that it is also for those who may get opportunities in Auditing IT firms as demand and request from your Company. Additional Skills does add value to your professional portfolio.

**Why go for ISO/IEC 27001-**

* Best practice for Information Security Management System
* Risk assessment, risk treatment process
* Covers organization of all types and size
* Understanding of Information asset
* CIA Triade from auditing perspective (information security)
* Elements of Information Security Management
* Policy and Objectives of Information Security

**Resources-** do get a Standard copy of **ISO/IEC 27001:2013 ISMS** to prepare yourself for this certification along with your training. This certification is a bundle of training days + Exam to completely evaluate your understanding for becoming Lead Auditor.

**Cost to certification –** It may cost you somewhere between **33,000 INR to 35,000 INR**. But if you and your friends are taking this certification in group it may cost you less comparatively.

**Point to Remember-** Once you are a certified ISO 27001 Lead Auditor you need to being your licence to practice by doing surveillance audit and when needed make sure you are applying for renewal of your certification after it expires (renewal using transition course)

**Training –** in training courses you will be trained with multiple sources using – Real-time Exercises, ISMS standard Manual, Audit Checklist, Opening & closing meeting, About Clauses and Annex, Daily test practice exam, understanding of Evidence & findings, Audit Questions, Non-Conformity & Conformity, specimen exam and many other real time scenarios you will learn during your training.

**Pre-Knowledge of ISMS is a Bonus**- if you have a basic understanding in ISMS family 27000 series, importance of ISMS, what is ISMS, or any basic certification in ISMS you will be efficiently able to clear this exam in your first attempt. Those you are thinking if we don’t have any insight in ISMS then what? Still no worries I did not have any still passed my exam but yes you will have to really struggle in getting your concepts clear and concrete. So to avoid such struggle please at least go through some basics of ISMS.

**Exam Pattern/Time by IRCA-** This exam is **open-book and Subjective in nature** whichis conducted for **145minutes for non-English** students and **120 minutes for native English** students. This exam has four sections to cover and in each section you are required to at least score 50% marks and overall you need to score minimum 70% in exam. If the score is below 50% in any section and your overall score is 70%, then you will still not pass the exam. **So remember to score minimum 50% in each section and minimum 70% overall**. This exam is **evaluated out of 90 marks in which minimum 63 score is needed.**

**[Pattern may vary a little from one accreditation body to another]**

**Section 1- 10 marks** definitions + examples

**Section 2- 20 marks** subjective questions

**Section 3- 30 marks** scenario based questions to prepare audit checklist –evidence, findings with appropriate clauses or annex

**Section 4- 30 marks** scenario based questions to prepare Non-conformity or Conformity reports

**What this certification will provide you –** a scenario based understanding of ISO/IEC 27001:2013 (ISMS requirements) aligned with ISO 19011:2018 (principle of auditing guidelines)

**Practice! Practice! Practice! –** using ISO 27001 standard copy make sure you practice well process approach –Plan, Do, Check, Act (clauses)

**Review on Training from TUV SUD South Asia Pvt. Ltd –** I won’t brag about TUV SUD but really training provided by TUV SUD was rigorous and real-time scenario based. It indeed helped in getting a practical understanding of the roles and responsibilities of a Lead Auditor.

That’s all from my end, this is all that helped me in passing my certification exam ISO 27001 Lead Auditor and I hope this write-up will help you as well whenever you take your certification training. Any further suggestions are always welcome.

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