Business analysis

BCS, The Chartered Institute for IT, offers a comprehensive range of business analysis certifications enabling IT professionals at all levels to enhance their skills.

From foundation certificates through to the Business Analysis Diploma, our portfolio is structured to offer ongoing career support and industry recognition.

The internationally recognised certificates are based on best practice and can be made highly relevant to an individual’s own career path through the selection of specific modules.

www.bcs.org/businessanalysis
Business analysis career path

This career path illustrates the potential career progression you can make in business analysis. It recognises the importance of certification and experience, and provides a high level alignment with SFIA plus and the Institute's membership grades. This diagram summarises the characteristics and development needs that support your career in business analysis. For a more detailed career path visit www.bcs.org/businessanalysis

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SFIAplus level</th>
<th>Typical experience</th>
<th>Characteristics of level</th>
<th>BCS professional certification</th>
<th>Development needs</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Associate</td>
<td>1-2 years</td>
<td>Likely to: work with users to improve the systems and processes</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Typical job titles: business analyst</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Typical experience: evidence of requirements gathering and analysis and problem solving</td>
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<tr>
<td>Professional</td>
<td>3-4 years</td>
<td>Likely to: operate at a senior management level and lead analysis work of major business change</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Typical job titles: senior business analyst</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Typical experience: evidence of leading significant change programmes and business analysis practice</td>
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<tr>
<td>Chartered Professional</td>
<td>4-10 years</td>
<td>Likely to: be experienced at gap analysis, process modelling and business case development</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Typical job titles: business analyst</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Typical experience: evidence of process modelling and business case development</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fellow</td>
<td>10+ years</td>
<td>Likely to: operate at the highest level, typically director/executive board; have significant influence across the organisation</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Typical job titles: senior business analyst</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Typical experience: evidence of leading change activities and high level stakeholder management</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>15+ years</td>
<td>Likely to: operate at the highest level, typically director/executive board; have significant influence across the organisation</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Typical job titles: senior business analyst</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Typical experience: evidence of leading significant change programmes and business analysis practice</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>10+ years</td>
<td>Likely to: operate at a senior management level and lead analysis work of major business change</td>
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<td>Typical job titles: senior business analyst</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Career transitions

As you progress along a particular career path, you are likely to develop interests and experience in other areas of IT and, having gained the necessary competencies, you may wish to change the direction of your career.

The typical and possible transitions into and out of this career path are indicated below.

Typically:
- IS consultancy
- Solution development

Possibly:
- Project management
- IT management

Further practitioner, project management or IS consultancy certificates
Seek to undertake/focus on:
- increased scope and authority
- wider business improvement

Further practitioner certificates and the diploma
Seek to demonstrate:
- increased complexity
- less well defined scope
- operation at higher levels

Institute membership provides services and benefits to support your career development

Review SFIAplus for guidance on developing your career ahead of taking specific certifications

The following certifications will help you develop your knowledge for more senior roles in business analysis, or in preparation for a transition to another career path:

- Foundation
- Green IT
- Systems Development
- Software Testing
- Service Management

Other industry professional certifications are available and will be relevant to you as your career progresses.
Business analysis

Business analysts provide the bridge between the business and IT systems, and are pivotal to organisational success. Our certifications provide independent expert verification of knowledge and expertise and are proven to be a valuable measurement of business analysis performance across organisations.

Business analysis certifications

Our business analysis certifications recognise the breadth and complexity of knowledge required in the business analysis profession.

**Foundation**

- Business Analysis
- IT Enabled Business Change

**Practitioner**

- Benefits Management and Business Acceptance
- Business Analysis Essentials
- Modelling Business Processes
- Organisational Context
- Requirements Engineering
- Data Management Essentials

**Higher**

- Business Analysis Diploma
  - Composed of 2 core certificates:
    - Business Analysis Essentials
    - Requirements Engineering
  - 1 of 4 Knowledge certificates:
    - Organisational Context
    - Business Analysis
    - IT Enabled Business Change
    - IS Project Management
  - 1 of 4 Practitioner certificates:
    - Modelling Business Processes
    - System Modelling Techniques
    - Benefits Management and Business Acceptance
    - System Development Essentials

The benefits

**For business analysts**

- Gain industry recognition as a professional business analyst
- Validate your skills and knowledge of critical analytical concepts
- Publications are available that specifically support our business analysis certifications
- Improve overall performance and broaden career opportunities
- Based on best practice with practical learning techniques
- BCS membership available, supporting self-initiated professional development

**For employers**

- Professional development and advancement for employees
- Employees gain practical skills and increase their value to the business
- Aligned with SFIAplus providing a clear development path
- Greater reliability and higher quality results through use of industry standard practices
- Regular assessment process increases employee responsibility
- Supports your organisation to retain, motivate and recruit the best people in business analysis

**For training/examination providers**

- Develop a complete, structured portfolio of business analysis training courses and certifications
- Practitioner level provides follow on courses for foundation candidates prior to diploma level
- Access an international market which already recognises certifications from the Institute
- Additional revenue from a growing customer base
- Institute endorsement for your business

Find out more at [www.bcs.org/businessanalysis](http://www.bcs.org/businessanalysis)

About BCS, The Chartered Institute for IT

Our mission as BCS, The Chartered Institute for IT, is to enable the information society. We’re championing the global IT profession by giving practitioners the professional development and career support they deserve.

Through our extensive certifications and professional development portfolio, we continue to set professional standards and raise levels of competence and professionalism in the industry. As the professional body for IT, we’ve an unrivalled insight into the industry and are ideally placed to guide IT professionals through their career and provide employers with expertly trained employees that add real value to their business.

Become a BCS Accredited Training/Examination Partner

The Institute provides the business analysis community with internationally recognised certifications covering business analysis, change management and consultancy. Our foundation level is designed to also help IT professionals from other disciplines understand the fundamental concepts and skills in business analysis.

Don’t miss out on this global opportunity. Join our international network of training/examination providers and enjoy the benefits that the Institute’s endorsement can bring to your business.

[www.bcs.org/trainingpartner](http://www.bcs.org/trainingpartner)

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* Candidates who hold the Institute of Business Analysts (IIBA®) Certified Business Analysis Professional (CBAP®) qualification are exempt from the Requirements Engineering module and the knowledge-based specialist module. CBAP® and the CBAP logo are registered certification marks owned by International Institute of Business Analysis. IIBA®, and the IIBA logo are registered trademarks owned by International Institute of Business Analysis.

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