

IAVANTAGE™

Pillar Self-Assessment Toolkit

Detailed Rubric-Based Assessment Guide

35 Assessment Criteria	7 IAVANTAGE™ Pillars	5 Maturity Levels	
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Dawgen Global | Audit & Assurance Services

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I PILLAR: INSIGHT

Transforming data into strategic intelligence for board-level decision making

CRITERION	LEVEL 1 Not in Place	LEVEL 2 Emerging	LEVEL 3 Developing	LEVEL 4 Established
Risk Intelligence Reporting	No risk intelligence beyond individual audit reports.	Periodic summary of audit findings to AC.	Quarterly risk intelligence briefings to AC.	Real-time risk dashboards with predictive indicators.
Cross-Enterprise Theme Analysis	Findings reported individually with no thematic analysis.	Some ad hoc grouping of similar findings.	Formal root cause analysis linking findings to systemic themes.	AI-assisted theme detection on all engagements.
Trend & Pattern Detection	No systematic pattern detection capability.	Basic trending of repeat findings year-over-year.	Data analytics used to identify emerging patterns.	Predictive analytics flagging before materialization.
External Data Integration	No external data sources used in audit work.	Occasional reference to regulatory updates.	Regular integration of industry benchmarks and peer data.	Comprehensive external intelligence feeds integrated.
Actionable Recommendation Quality	Generic compliance-focused observations.	Recommendations address specific control gaps.	Business-relevant recommendations with impact quantification.	Strategic recommendations influencing board decisions.
YOUR SCORES →	Score: ____	Score: ____	Score: ____	Score: ____

INSIGHT PILLAR SUBTOTAL: _____ / 25 PILLAR AVERAGE: _____ / 5

A

PILLAR: ALIGNMENT

Ensuring audit priorities dynamically link to enterprise strategy and risk appetite

CRITERION	LEVEL 1 Not in Place	LEVEL 2 Emerging	LEVEL 3 Developing	LEVEL 4 Established
Audit Plan–Strategy Linkage	Plan based on rotation with no strategic reference.	Plan references risk register informally.	Plan explicitly mapped to strategic objectives and top risks.	Continuous alignment with real-time strategic risk feed.
Audit Universe Currency	Audit universe unchanged 2+ years.	Annual refresh of audit universe.	Semi-annual refresh with dynamic adjustments.	Quarterly refresh with continuous monitoring triggers.
Stakeholder Consultation	No formal stakeholder consultation.	Informal discussions with some stakeholders.	Formal consultation with Board, CEO, CFO, CRO.	Ongoing strategic dialogue beyond formal consultation.
Resource Agility	No mechanism to reallocate mid-year.	Ad hoc reallocation possible.	15–20% flexibility reserve with formal process.	Rapid reallocation within weekly agile sprint model.
Engagement-to-Risk Mapping	Engagements not linked to risk categories.	Some engagements linked to broad risk categories.	Every engagement mapped to specific risk/objective.	Risk-engagement matrix with coverage heat mapping.
YOUR SCORES →	Score: ____	Score: ____	Score: ____	Score: ____

ALIGNMENT PILLAR SUBTOTAL: _____ / 25 PILLAR AVERAGE: _____ / 5

V

PILLAR: VALUE CREATION

Measuring and communicating audit's tangible contribution to enterprise value

CRITERION	LEVEL 1 Not in Place	LEVEL 2 Emerging	LEVEL 3 Developing	LEVEL 4 Established
Value Tracking & Reporting	No tracking of value delivered.	Informal tracking of some outcomes.	Formal Value Register tracking all contributions.	Automated value tracking integrated with AMS.
Financial Impact Assessment	No financial impact assessment.	Occasional estimation of savings.	Systematic financial impact for key findings.	Validated financial impact with management sign-off.
ROI Articulation	Cannot articulate IA ROI.	Basic cost justification available.	ROI calculated and presented to AC annually.	Compelling multi-year ROI story (3:1+).
Stakeholder Value Perception	IA perceived as overhead/cost centre.	Mixed perceptions of value.	Majority of stakeholders rate IA as value-adding.	IA ranked as top value-adding function.
Proactive Value Identification	No proactive identification of improvement opportunities.	Occasional identification of efficiencies.	Active identification of revenue protection and cost savings.	Value identification is a KPI in every engagement.
YOUR SCORES →	Score: ____	Score: ____	Score: ____	Score: ____

VALUE CREATION PILLAR SUBTOTAL: _____ / 25 PILLAR AVERAGE: _____ / 5

A

PILLAR: ASSURANCE QUALITY

Maintaining world-class audit execution through methodology, QA, and standards adherence

CRITERION	LEVEL 1 Not in Place	LEVEL 2 Emerging	LEVEL 3 Developing	LEVEL 4 Established
IA Charter & Standards	No formal charter or outdated.	Charter exists but not annually reviewed.	Charter approved annually; aligned to Standards.	Charter reviewed semi-annually with AC input.
Methodology Documentation	No documented methodology.	Basic templates in use.	Comprehensive methodology for all phases.	Methodology continuously reviewed.
QAIP	No QAIP.	Informal quality reviews.	Formal QAIP with ongoing and periodic assessments.	Independent QAIP with external validation.
External Quality Assessment	No EQA ever conducted.	EQA planned but not completed.	EQA completed within 5 years; satisfactory.	EQA every 3 years; 'General Conforms'.
Certifications & CPD	No certifications or CPD.	Some pursuing certifications.	Majority hold CIA/CISA/CFE; CPD targets met.	100% certified; advanced specializations.
YOUR SCORES →	Score: ____	Score: ____	Score: ____	Score: ____

ASSURANCE QUALITY PILLAR SUBTOTAL: _____ / 25 PILLAR AVERAGE: _____ / 5

N

PILLAR: NAVIGATION

Guiding organisations through complex and emerging risk landscapes

CRITERION	LEVEL 1 Not in Place	LEVEL 2 Emerging	LEVEL 3 Developing	LEVEL 4 Established
Emerging Risk Coverage	No emerging risk coverage.	Ad hoc coverage of 1 area.	2+ emerging risk audits annually.	Continuous emerging risk coverage.
Regulatory Change Readiness	No regulatory change assessment.	Reactive to regulatory changes.	Formal regulatory change assessments.	Proactive regulatory readiness programme.
Advisory on Transformation	No advisory role.	Occasional informal advisory.	Advisory on major initiatives.	Embedded advisory on all transformations.
Horizon Scanning	No horizon scanning.	CAE reads publications; no formal process.	Quarterly horizon scanning documented.	AI-assisted horizon scanning.
Cross-Functional Collaboration	Siloed from risk/compliance.	Some coordination with compliance.	Active collaboration with risk/compliance.	Integrated risk coverage model.
YOUR SCORES →	Score: ____	Score: ____	Score: ____	Score: ____

NAVIGATION PILLAR SUBTOTAL: _____ / 25 PILLAR AVERAGE: _____ / 5

T

PILLAR: TECHNOLOGY & INNOVATION

Leveraging technology to multiply audit effectiveness and coverage

CRITERION	LEVEL 1 Not in Place	LEVEL 2 Emerging	LEVEL 3 Developing	LEVEL 4 Established
Audit Management Software	No AMS; spreadsheets only.	Basic AMS for workpapers.	Full AMS suite operational.	Integrated GRC platform; real-time dashboards.
Data Analytics	No data analytics.	Ad hoc analytics on specific engagements.	Routine full-population analytics in key areas.	Advanced analytics across all engagements.
Continuous Auditing	No continuous auditing.	Concept discussed only.	Continuous monitoring in 1+ high-risk area.	Continuous auditing in all high-risk areas.
AI & Advanced Tools	No AI tools evaluated.	Awareness of AI; no action.	AI pilot underway.	AI-assisted detection and response operational.
Technology Roadmap & Budget	No roadmap or budget.	Informal wish-list; no budget.	Documented roadmap with annual budget.	Multi-year roadmap with R&D component.
YOUR SCORES →	Score: ____	Score: ____	Score: ____	Score: ____

TECHNOLOGY & INNOVATION PILLAR SUBTOTAL: _____ / 25 PILLAR AVERAGE: _____ / 5

G

PILLAR: GOVERNANCE PARTNERSHIP

Strengthening the three lines model through collaboration and effective reporting

CRITERION	LEVEL 1 Not in Place	LEVEL 2 Emerging	LEVEL 3 Developing	LEVEL 4 Established
AC Reporting Relationship	CAE reports to management only.	Functional AC reporting; quarterly.	Direct AC reporting; quarterly private sessions.	Trusted advisor to AC Chair; monthly dialogue.
Audit Report Quality	Lengthy, procedural, jargon-heavy reports.	Improved structure but finding-focused.	Concise, visual, impact-focused reports.	Reports are strategic briefing widely referenced.
Three Lines Coordination	No coordination with 2nd/3rd line.	Some coordination with external auditor.	Active coordination with risk/compliance/EA.	Integrated assurance map w/ shared methodology.
Governance Forum Participation	No governance forum participation.	Observer at some governance meetings.	Participation in risk committee and key forums.	Standing seat on executive/investment commi
Annual Overall Opinion	No annual opinion.	Basic annual opinion on controls.	Comprehensive opinion on governance, risk, controls.	Opinion shapes strategy and appetite.
YOUR SCORES →	Score: ____	Score: ____	Score: ____	Score: ____

GOVERNANCE PARTNERSHIP PILLAR SUBTOTAL: _____ / 25 PILLAR AVERAGE: _____ / 5

E

PILLAR: ENTERPRISE EXCELLENCE

Driving organisational performance through integrated assurance and culture assessment

CRITERION	LEVEL 1 Not in Place	LEVEL 2 Emerging	LEVEL 3 Developing	LEVEL 4 Established
Culture & Ethics Assessment	No culture assessment capability.	Culture considered informally.	Culture/ethics audit within 24 months.	Culture assessment is core competency; annual.
Integrated Assurance Contribution	No integrated assurance contribution.	Awareness of integrated assurance.	Active assurance map contribution.	IA drives integrated assurance framework.
Risk Awareness Promotion	No risk awareness activities.	Occasional risk presentations.	Training and knowledge-sharing programmes.	IA is risk culture champion.
People, Process & Performance	Financial controls focus only.	Some operational process coverage.	People, processes, performance assessed.	Holistic assessment model.
Self-Benchmarking & Innovation	No benchmarking.	Informal peer comparison.	Annual benchmarking against industry.	Top-quartile performer recognition.
YOUR SCORES →	Score: ____	Score: ____	Score: ____	Score: ____

ENTERPRISE EXCELLENCE PILLAR SUBTOTAL: _____ / 25 PILLAR AVERAGE: _____ / 5

IAVANTAGE™ PILLAR SCORECARD SUMMARY

Transfer your pillar subtotals below to see your complete maturity profile

#	PILLAR	SUBTOTAL (/25)	% ACHIEVED	MATURITY LEVEL	PRIORITY RANK
I	INSIGHT	___ / 25	___ %	_____	P ___
A	ALIGNMENT	___ / 25	___ %	_____	P ___
V	VALUE CREATION	___ / 25	___ %	_____	P ___
A	ASSURANCE QUALITY	___ / 25	___ %	_____	P ___
N	NAVIGATION	___ / 25	___ %	_____	P ___
T	TECHNOLOGY & INNOVATION	___ / 25	___ %	_____	P ___
G	GOVERNANCE PARTNERSHIP	___ / 25	___ %	_____	P ___
E	ENTERPRISE EXCELLENCE	___ / 25	___ %	_____	P ___
	OVERALL SCORE	___ / 200	___ %	_____	

Y O U R N E X T S T E P

Book Your Complimentary IAVANTAGE™ Pillar Diagnostic Call

Share your completed assessment with a Dawgen Global Partner for expert interpretation, benchmarking against industry action roadmap tailored to your organisation.

www.dawgen.global/discovery

iavantage@dawgen.global | +1 (876) 926-5210