

## Governance and Internal Audit Quality Assurance

### Standards 2110 – Governance

The internal audit activity must assess and make appropriate recommendations to improve the organization's governance processes for:

- » Making strategic and operational decisions.
- » Overseeing risk management and control.
- » Promoting appropriate ethics and values within the organization.
- » Ensuring effective organizational performance management and accountability.
- » Communicating risk and control information to appropriate areas of the organization.
- » Coordinating the activities of, and communicating information among, the board, external and internal auditors, other assurance providers, and management.

**IIA Quality Services'** assessment teams evaluate various internal audit activities each year to assess the efficiency and effectiveness of quality assurance and improvement programs (QAIP) as related to conformance with the *Standards*. An optimized approach for successful governance practice establishes internal audit as an inherent part of monitoring in the governance process by management and the audit committee, where internal audit participates in the sharing of information to affect good governance practices.

The internal audit charter specifies that internal audit is an essential component of the governance structure.

Internal audit annual audit plans incorporate a governance component through broad communication and assessment of governance-related activities across the organization.

Internal audit performs an annual review of entity-level controls that include many elements of governance.

**2110.A1** – The internal audit activity must evaluate the design, implementation, and effectiveness of the organization's ethics-related objectives, programs, and activities.

Aspects of ethics and compliance are evaluated as a component of defined engagements in the audit plan as well as part of a comprehensive, programmatic review.

The corporate ethics and compliance program and IT governance are included in the audit universe, evaluated as part of the annual risk assessment, incorporated into the annual audit plan as appropriate, and performed on a periodic basis.

**2110.A2** – The internal audit activity must assess whether the information technology governance of the organization supports the organization's strategies and objectives.

Evaluation of IT governance typically includes an evaluation of the use of control frameworks by the IT organization such as COBIT, ITIL, or NIST, and alignment with the strategies, objectives, and risks of the organization.



### NEED FURTHER INSIGHT INTO QUALITY ASSESSMENT?

Backed by vast knowledge, experienced resources, and comprehensive research, IIA Quality Services is well-equipped to provide effective external assessment services for any internal audit activity — in-person or virtual.

Contact us at [Quality@theiia.org](mailto:Quality@theiia.org) or +1-407-937-1399.

### ABOUT IIA QUALITY SERVICES

IIA Quality Services' mission is to elevate professionalism within internal auditing and conformance to the *International Standards for the Professional Practice of Internal Auditing* by providing knowledge resources to internal audit activities. IIA Quality Services' experts provide full-scope quality assessments, validations of self-assessments, and readiness assessments.