

How We Work

We work with organizations in a collaborative fashion to develop and deliver customized training and technical assistance programs to strengthen institutional capacity. After being contacted by an organization that is interested in our services, we:

■ Engage in dialogue to understand your organization's needs

Upon receiving an inquiry or request for services, we will schedule a time to meet with representatives of the requesting organization to gain a better understanding of its needs, identify types of services that can best meet those needs, and discuss timeframes. We will then develop a description of proposed services along with associated fees.

■ Assign highly experienced Center staff

Our cadre of highly experienced audit professionals and trainers have previously served as senior audit executives and managers, instructors, and professional development coaches at GAO and other organizations.

■ Determine the most cost-efficient location and approach for providing services

During discussions with requesting organizations, we work collaboratively to identify the most efficient and cost-effective way to provide services. Our goal is to limit costs for providing services and keep fees at an affordable level. We have the capacity to travel to requesting organizations' locations and anticipate this will often be the most cost-effective way to provide services. However, we also have the capacity to provide services at GAO and are exploring options for delivering services using web-based tools.

■ Develop and deliver services

After signing an agreement with a requesting organization, we prepare relevant materials, provide regular updates and deliver services in accordance with agreed timeframes, fees, and scope of work. We seek feedback from organizations throughout the process to help ensure their needs are met.



**CENTER FOR
AUDIT EXCELLENCE**
U.S. GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTABILITY OFFICE

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Mission

The mission of the Center for Audit Excellence is to promote good governance and build the capacity of domestic and international accountability organizations by providing high-quality training, technical assistance, and related products and services.

Center for Audit Excellence

The Center will expand on GAO's longstanding collaboration with the global audit community by offering a wide range of fee-based products and services that can be customized to meet an organization's needs. In providing training and technical assistance services, we have the capacity to leverage GAO's institutional knowledge, including audit standards, methodologies and leading practices. The Center reports to the Managing Director of GAO's Strategic Planning and External Liaison Office, which leads GAO's collaboration efforts with domestic and international accountability organizations, including the International Organization of Supreme Audit Institutions (INTOSAI).



Services We Offer

Using a cadre of highly experienced staff with expertise in a wide array of audit-related topics, the Center provides customized training, technical assistance and other products and services, such as needs assessment and mentoring to help build the capacity of eligible accountability organizations. We offer these services for a fee, and here are some services we can provide:

■ Performance audits

The Center can help accountability organizations improve their capacity to conduct audits that assess the economy, efficiency and effectiveness of public-funded programs and activities. Using peer-to-peer coaching, we can help organizations enhance their capacity to undertake performance audits, including audits on specialized topics such as procurement, infrastructure, and resource management.

■ Financial audits

The Center can provide training and mentoring to help accountability organizations effectively implement relevant INTOSAI and U.S. government financial audit standards. Center staff can leverage GAO's significant expertise in developing standards and guides such as Government Auditing Standards (known as the Yellow Book) and the Financial Audit Manual. Center staff can also train and mentor staff at all levels of an organization to implement new methodologies and techniques for planning and conducting financial audits; incorporate risk-based management principles; apply evidence standards; and draft reports that are complete, clear, concise and balanced.



■ Institutional capacity building

The Center can provide technical assistance and training to help organizations develop and implement sound strategic plans, quality assurance frameworks, human capital strategies and performance measurement systems. Audit organizations need these tools to consistently produce high-quality work, achieve significant results, and successfully complete periodic peer reviews.

■ Leadership and supervision

The Center can train and mentor managers at all levels to hone their leadership and supervisory skills in effectively overseeing the planning, implementation and reporting of financial, performance and other types of audits.

■ Internal controls

Drawing on GAO's experience in issuing Standards for Internal Control in the Federal Government (known as the Green Book), the Center can help accountability organizations to understand and establish sound internal controls as well as conduct audits of internal controls.

Please contact us at (202) 512-7100 to discuss any of these services and the associated fees.

