

# How to Develop a Career in Information Assurance and How to Advance in this Field

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One of the areas where industry is spending its money is for IA. This is not necessarily being done for only commercial reasons as the specter of legal action also weighs heavily on corporate America and the European Union. This involves confidentiality, integrity, as well as privacy.

ACSAC has never addressed the career aspects of IA. There are several schools/universities that teach IA, forests of books, and even some electronic courses available. However, there are numerous aspects of having a career in IA that could be explored. These include:

- Are certifications a smart career move? Which ones?
- What is industry looking for in today's job market? What specialties are important today? Which will be important tomorrow?
- If I want to do research and development in IT (requirements definition, test methods, tools, techniques, and assurance metrics, automated assurance generators, etc), how do I go about it? Where is grant money? What are the benefits and negatives in choosing companies, academia, government, etc?
- OK, I got hired. What should I do now to advance my career? What should I not do? Should I be an integrator, manager, CIO?