JULIAN MERCER

IT AUDITOR

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PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

IT Auditor with 6+ years testing IT general and application controls for SOX, SOC 2, and ISO 27001 programmes. Plans risk-based audits, evaluates evidence carefully, and writes clear findings that help control owners fix gaps quickly.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Senior IT Auditor Sep 2022 - Present
PwC, New York, NY

- Lead SOX IT general control testing for five financial clients, covering access, change management, and operations over 120 controls.
- Identified 18 control deficiencies in user access reviews and privileged accounts, and agreed remediation plans with owners within two weeks.
- Used SQL and Excel analytics to test full populations of changes and terminations rather than samples, uncovering exceptions manual sampling missed.
- Supervised two associates, reviewing their workpapers and cutting review notes per file by about 40% over two audit cycles.
- Presented results to audit committees in plain language, helping management prioritise fixes by risk.
- Redesigned the annual IT audit plan around a risk heat map of 60 systems, moving effort to the highest-risk applications and trimming low-value testing hours by about 20%.
- Trained client control owners on evidence expectations before fieldwork, which reduced late evidence requests during year-end testing by about a quarter.

IT Auditor Aug 2020 - Aug 2022
KPMG, Chicago, IL

- Performed SOC 2 Type II readiness and testing for cloud service providers, completing reports on schedule for eight clients.
- Assessed cloud configurations in AWS and Azure against CIS benchmarks, flagging 35 misconfigurations for correction.
- Built a reusable risk and control matrix template that shortened planning for new engagements by roughly a day.
- Followed up on prior-year findings with control owners and verified closure of 90% before year-end fieldwork.
- Tested application controls and interfaces for mid-market clients, documenting results in workpapers that passed manager review.
- Walked through ERP user provisioning with control owners and found inconsistent approval evidence, prompting a formal process.
- Assisted with ISO 27001 gap assessments by interviewing system owners and mapping policies to Annex A controls.

CORE SKILLS

IT general controls | SOX 404 testing | SOC 2 and ISO 27001 | Risk assessment | Audit planning | Workpaper documentation | Access management review | Change management testing | Data analytics | SQL | Excel | COBIT and NIST CSF | Cloud control review | Issue management | Stakeholder communication

EDUCATION

B.S. in Accounting and Information Systems, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, Champaign, IL

CERTIFICATIONS

Certified Information Systems Auditor (CISA) | Certified Information Systems Security Professional (CISSP) | ISO/IEC 27001 Lead Auditor