

Cybersecurity Graduate Development Program

برنامج تطوير الخريجين في الأمن السيبراني





Sponsored by  **HRDF**
Human Resources Development Fund

Strategic Partners  **المجالس القطاعية للمهارات**
Sector Skills Councils  **وزارة التعليم**
Ministry of Education  **الجمعية الوطنية لحقوق الإنسان**
National Society for Human Rights

Riyadh  **04 April 2027**

1933128 **Fully Supported**
inclusive of VAT

Program duration: 9 months

Format: Blended (ILT + eLearning + Mentorship)

Certification: CompTIA Security+ & CEH / CISSP & ACS

Preparation Funding: HRDF – 75% subsidy

Outcome: Employment-ready cybersecurity professionals

Learning Outcomes

By the end of this program, participants will be able to:

01. Help learners understand how a modern Saudi bank operates digitally and where cyber risks emerge.
02. Simulate entry-level SOC analyst responsibilities to Detect & Escalate
03. Expose to real banking risks through Misconfiguration in a Cloud-Enabled Bank
04. Understand the lifecycle of a financial transaction and the critical points of vulnerability.
05. Communicate Under Pressure, maintaining professional composure during simulated security incidents or tight deadlines.
06. Evaluate Third-Party Risks, focusing on how banks must secure their supply chain and Fintech partners.a

Targeted Audience

01. Saudi nationals nominated by financial institutions
02. Recent graduates with Bachelor's or Master's degrees
03. Entry-level candidates seeking a career in cybersecurity and finance
04. New joiners in graduate development programs
05. Candidates with academic backgrounds in Cybersecurity, IT, Computer Science, or related fields

Key Competencies

- Cybersecurity Operations (SOC)
- Cybersecurity & Financial Analysis
- Early Warning Cybersecurity Risk Detection
- Network, Web, Application & Cloud Security
- Digital Forensics & Incident Response
- Threat Intelligence & Cyber-Fraud Management

Cybersecurity Graduate Development Program

Proposed 9-Month Project Timeline



Selection Criteria

Who is eligible?

- Nationality: Saudi nationals.
- New Joiners: Recent graduates within the past two years
- Employment status: Non-QOSI registered employees
- Degree: Bachelor's or Master's in Cybersecurity, IT, Computer Science, or related fields.
- Recommended GPA: Minimum 4/3 or 5/3.5.
- Language: Fluent in English (Recommended IELTS 5.5+ or equivalent (approximately STEP 80–75)).
- Certifications: Not mandatory but advantageous (e.g., Security+, CEH, or equivalent).

Key Traits?

- Foundational understanding of financial principles, analytical thinking, communication, and adaptability to technology.
- Alignment with Vision 2030 goals in financial sector localization and innovation.
- The awareness of ESG, fintech trends, or ethical banking.

Prefer candidates with:

- Internships in banks or financial institutions
- Involvement in student organizations, volunteer work, or entrepreneurial activities
- Networking & cybersecurity basics | Analytical thinking | Problem-solving | Communication | Teamwork
- Optional Advantage: Master's degree or dual majors.

Learning Journey

LEGEND

Regular Module

Hands-on Learning

Tools & Labs

Hackathon

OJT & Projects

Certification

THE LAUNCH PAD

THE DEEP DIVE

THE SUMMIT

Month 01

Month 02

Month 03

Month 04

Month 05

Month 06

Month 07

Month 08

Month 09

Program Launch & Kaplan
Orientation

Foundation of Modern Banking
& KSA Banking Ecosystem

Excel for Banking
Professionals

FinTech and the
Transformation in Financial
Services

The Saudi Fintech
Landscape, Vision 2030

Effective Business
Communication

Introduction to RegTech,
Saudi Regulatory &
Governance Layer

Introduction to Cloud
Computing

Design Thinking &
Innovation Workshop

Databases and SQL for Data
Science with Python

Cyber Risk in Banking & SAMA
Cybersecurity Framework

Time Management and
Productivity

Full Day
Hackathon



OJT
On-Job-Training



Mini
Projects

IT Fundamentals &
Networking

Cybersecurity Risk
Management, Policies,
and Governance

Network, Web, App,
and Cloud Security

Cybersecurity Technologies
& Identity and Access
Management (IAM)

Third-Party Risk
Management (Fintech APIs,
KYC vendors)

Full Day
Hackathon



CompTIA Security+ &
CEH (Certified Ethical
Hacker)

TryHackMe

NGT

OWASP WebGoat

AWS - IAM Labs



OJT
On-Job-Training



Mini
Projects

Penetration Testing and
Ethical Hacking

Digital Forensics and
Incident Handling (DFIR)

Fraud Management
Fundamentals: Digital and
Cyber Fraud

Fraud Investigation
Techniques, Technologies,
and Tools

Cyber Risk Reporting &
Security Policy Writing Lab

Full Day
Hackathon



Certified Information
Systems Security
Professional (CISSP) &
Applied Cybersecurity
Certificate (ACS) -
SANS

Hack The Box

ANY.RUN



OJT
On-Job-Training



Mini
Projects

Mentorship & On-the-Job Training

Mentorship Objectives

- Bridge the gap between classroom learning and real-world cybersecurity practice.
- Enhance technical, analytical, and professional judgment skills through practical exposure.
- Develop job-ready competencies aligned with cybersecurity, cyber security, and risk functions.
- Support participants in applying program knowledge to live business scenarios.

Role of Bank Supervisors / Mentors

- Provide structured guidance and coaching throughout the on-the-job training phases.
- Assign practical tasks aligned with the participant's learning stage and role exposure. Offer continuous feedback on performance, professionalism, and skill development.
- Support participants in completing their Capstone Project and professional growth plan.

Expected Deliverables from Participants

During the mentorship phases, participants are expected to complete the following:

- **Job Shadowing:** Observe and support Cybersecurity Professionals, Cybersecurity Analysts, and SOC, GRC & Cybersecurity Teams in day-to-day activities
Case Work & Practical Assignments: Participate in supervised analysis of cybersecurity cases, client profiles, and financial statements
- **Mini-Assignments:** Complete short, task-based assignments such as preparing cybersecurity memos, client call summaries, or risk assessments
- **Capstone Project:** Deliver a mentor-guided project demonstrating the application

“Structured on-the-job mentoring aligned with real cybersecurity portfolios and live cybersecurity cases”

Certifications and Tech Stack covered

Certifications



Tech Stack Covered



LOGICGATE



Azure



PRISMA

Cloud Security Posture Management



Google Cloud



Gamified & Lab-based Learning Tools covered



About The Financial Academy

The Financial Academy was established upon a long-standing legacy and extensive expertise in training, professional development, and professional certification. Its services are designed to support all sub-sectors of the financial industry, including banking, finance, insurance, and capital markets, in addition to serving related entities and new graduates aspiring to pursue careers within the financial sector.

The origins of the Financial Academy date back to 1965, when it was founded as the Banking Training Institute, a training division affiliated with the Saudi Central Bank (formerly the Saudi Arabian Monetary Authority – SAMA). The institute was created with the objective of implementing international best practices in professional training and developing the technical and managerial capabilities of professionals working within the banking sector.

Over time, the institute expanded its scope and strengthened its institutional identity. In 1989, it evolved to cover both the banking and finance sectors, operating under the name The Banking Institute.

As the financial industry continued to grow and the insurance sector required specialized professional development, the institute was transformed in 2014 into the Financial Institute, thereby extending its services to include the insurance sector.

In 2019, through a strategic collaboration between the Capital Market Authority (CMA) and the Saudi Central Bank, the Financial Academy was established to deliver comprehensive services across the financial sector, encompassing banking, finance, insurance, and securities markets.

Both the Capital Market Authority and the Saudi Central Bank serve as founding strategic partners of the Financial Academy and contribute to its financial support, in accordance with the cooperation memorandum signed between the two entities. This initiative forms part of the Financial Sector Development Program, one of the flagship programs under Saudi Vision 2030.

In 2020, the Financial Academy gained independent legal and administrative status following the issuance of Council of Ministers Resolution No. (538) dated 14 April 2020, approving the establishment of an academy dedicated to developing and enhancing the capabilities of professionals in the financial sector.

Subsequently, in 2023, the Council of Ministers approved the final governance and organizational framework of the Financial Academy, further strengthening its institutional role in advancing human capital development within the Kingdom's financial sector.



About The Financial Academy

Excellent Work Groups

Training at the Financial Academy gives you the opportunity to join and interact with carefully selected groups of peers who work at different organizations and job levels. This pool of diverse perspectives will enrich your learning experience and expand your professional network within the financial sector.



An Optimal, Have-It-All Learning Environment

The Academy's facilities provide a unique learning environment with high-quality training rooms equipped with cutting-edge technology, spacious shared lounges, dining facilities, and a variety of other amenities. Prayer rooms for both men and women are also available.



Easy-to-Reach Offices

The Financial Academy is easily accessible, being directly connected to the King Abdullah Financial District (KAFD) Metro Station via a pedestrian bridge. It is also easy to reach by ride-hailing apps or private cars. Once you arrive at KAFD, proceed to Building No. 2.07 through Area 2.



At the Heart of KAFD

Located in KAFD, where many financial sector organizations are based, the Financial Academy enjoys a unique and strategic location. In addition, the area is known as a business and entertainment hub with many cafés and restaurants, making the learning experience more enjoyable thanks to its vibrant surroundings.





Connecting and Learning

Though it comes from within, transformation often requires a catalyst. And for many business leaders, the Financial Academy (FA) professional training programs and development activities have been that catalyst. Here, you're fully immersed in a transformational living-learning experience, networking with gurus from around the world, and engaging in programs led by prominent local and international financial industry experts. It's a holistic experience that will enrich and develop your career - and your life.

ADMISSIONS

We admit candidates to specific sessions on a rolling space available basis, and encourage you to apply as early as possible. Although most programs have no formal educational requirements, admission is a selective process based on your professional achievement and organizational responsibilities.

Contact person

For registration confirmation or any related inquiries, please contact :

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FOR MORE INFORMATION

<https://fa.gov.sa>

FOR A PERSONALIZED CONSULTATION

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الأكاديمية المالية
THE FINANCIAL ACADEMY