



# Supply Chain Risk Management Certificate

Developed with:

**SUPPLY CHAIN RISK MANAGEMENT**  
CONSORTIUM™

[www.theirm.org/scrm](http://www.theirm.org/scrm)

## About the IRM

The IRM is the leading professional body for Enterprise Risk Management (ERM). We drive excellence in managing risk to ensure organisations are ready for the opportunities and threats of the future. We do this by providing internationally recognised qualifications and training, publishing research and guidance, and setting professional standards.

For over 30 years our qualifications have been the global choice of qualification for risk professionals and their employers. We are a not-for-profit body, with members working in all industries, in all risk disciplines and in all sectors around the world. In 2019, the IRM welcomed the Institute of Operational Risk (IOR) into the IRM group.

Organisations that have previously benefited from our qualifications include:



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## Introduction to IRM Qualifications

The IRM's qualifications have been developed by internationally recognised academics and industry practitioners. They will provide you with the broad knowledge and the practical skills you need to manage risk.

Our qualifications give you the theory, tools and techniques to manage risk, maximise opportunities and protect your organisation. You can learn from anywhere in the world via supported distance learning, which includes directed self-study and online coaching.



### Why study with the IRM?

As the world's leading professional body for ERM we have a global reputation for offering highly practical, academically rigorous qualifications to meet industry needs.

We are responsive to the latest challenges facing risk managers, including growing cyber, climate change, pandemic threats and international regulatory developments. This volatile environment has seen regulators, investors and businesses make increasing demands on organisations to demonstrate they have top-class risk management in place at an integrated, enterprise level. Our focus is therefore on the importance of strategy, culture, behaviour and competence in relation to risk and on concepts like risk appetite, risk maturity and decision making.

## IRM student membership

Enrolling for a qualification means you join IRM and become part of our global community that covers 143 countries. You can also access a valuable range of benefits to support you through your risk management studies and beyond. These include our online resources, access to thought leadership, topical webinars and special interest groups in industries such as charities, cyber, health and care, innovation, infrastructure and operational risk.

Our students are based in  
143 countries



We have taught over  
10,000 students



Driving excellence for over  
30 years



### Benefits to employers

An organisation that effectively and efficiently manages its risks and opportunities is more likely to achieve its business objectives at lower overall costs. Risk management is an inherent part of good management. By supporting your employees through our qualifications, you will benefit from:

- › Enhancing business performance and improving risk decision making.
- › Associating your organisation with best risk management practice.
- › Attracting and retaining high-calibre professionals by investing in personal development.
- › Developing a motivated, skilled and knowledgeable team.
- › Receiving discounts on membership, qualifications, training and events.

# Supply Chain Risk Management Certificate Overview

All organisations have some sort of supply chain and the smooth and efficient operation of that flow of goods and services is essential for the delivery of many organisational objectives. Great supply chains reduce costs, add value and improve customer service. At a higher level they support economic growth and make communities more resilient. Building and maintaining these supply chains poses both risks and opportunities. New technology, trade wars, political instability, natural disasters, pandemics, sustainability and environmental challenges, pandemics and social concerns like modern slavery all affect the supply chain risk landscape. Globalisation and complexity means that even distant events can have far-reaching and unpredictable effects.

Everyone concerned with managing organisations should understand these developments and how to navigate successfully the challenges they bring. IRM's new Supply Chain Risk Management Certificate (SCRM) will equip risk practitioners and other professionals with the knowledge and skills they need to address supply chain risks with confidence.

## Qualification overview

This qualification introduces the concepts of SCRM and equips risk practitioners with the ability to apply their risk management knowledge in a world where value is increasingly added via a supply chain. It explains how globalised outsourcing, specialisation and just in time production are changing the risk environments for many organisations. The qualification also provides a broad understanding of SCRM principles and practices. The relevance of the qualification is explained in the context of increasingly extended organisations facing an expanded range of complex interconnected risks.

## Qualification learning outcomes

After taking this qualification, individuals will be able to:

- Demonstrate an understanding of how supply chains operate and the risk implications of ongoing developments from various perspectives including those of a public and private perspective
- Explain the nature of the major sources of disruption and other risks that supply chains face and understand how these can differ by industry sector and the various impacts these can have
- Help your organisation implement the appropriate governance frameworks across extended organisational boundaries and the need to ensure “cross functional silo” thinking and measurement
- Discuss the importance of the ethical and moral obligations in a supply chain context, recognising the impact it can have on brand value and reputation
- Contribute knowledgeably to identifying, assessing and controlling the supply chain risks that your organisation faces
- Discuss supply chain incident management and reporting, and apply the principles of audit and assurance to these risks
- Contribute to supply chain financial risk transfer decisions such as insurance and hedging and the limitations of these mechanisms
- Explain the new supply chain risk challenges and developments in the context of complexity and value-added networks and the global challenges of sustainability, urbanisation and Industry 4.0
- Explain how digital analytics and data can be used to drive greater transparency whilst at the same time being aware of the new risks these developments create

# Syllabus

## Unit 1: The Modern Supply Chain

### After studying this unit you should be able to:

- Describe how a supply chain operates and is defined
- Discuss the growing risk attributes involved in a supply chain
- Outline how risks differ between types of organisation and geographical areas
- Discuss drivers such as globalisation that have led to changes in supply chain management
- Describe some key sources of supply chain risk for modern organisations

## Unit 2: Supply Chain Risks, Nature and Impact

### After studying this unit you should be able to:

- Define supply chain risk
- Discuss ERM and SCRM
- Discuss the current state of SCRM and possible future developments
- Compare and contrast different methodologies for categorising risks
- Discuss the importance of supply chain disruptions
- Explain using case studies some critical supplier disruptions
- Discuss risk management principles and practices in the context of supply chain

## Unit 3: Supply Chain Risk Management Approaches: Identifying and Assessing Risk

### After studying this unit you should be able to:

- Discuss the role of bankruptcy indicators, ratio analysis, qualitative risk indicators, supplier audits and satisfaction surveys
- Explain risk management of suppliers as an opportunity
- Describe the role of the portfolio matrix/Kraljic matrix and commodity or category risk plans
- Ensure that supply strategies and risk requirements are in alignment
- Identify the different ways of mapping out supply chains and their principal usages
- Discuss mapping risks in the supply chain
- Explain measures for analysing and prioritising risk

## Unit 4: Supply Chain Risk Management Approaches: Mitigating and Managing Risk

### After studying this unit you should be able to:

- Describe what are the key areas to include in a comprehensive risk assessment framework
- Select the right supply chain assessment based on the nature of the supply
- Outline a range of risk mitigation and management approaches in supply chain context
- Explain how to implement business continuity plans around suppliers and understand some of the challenges
- Explain the importance of integrating risk management into the supply chain process
- Explain the role of financial risk transfer mechanisms

## Unit 5: Supply Chain Governance and Organisational Structure

### After studying this unit you should be able to:

- Outline key enterprise risk governance frameworks and standards
- Explain management behaviours in the context of supply chain risk actions
- Outline key supply chain risk-related frameworks and standards
- Discuss the benefits of cross-functional working in product development
- Explain how international regulations affect SCRM
- Discuss key ethical and moral issues such as slavery and data protection
- Explain using case studies how companies can incorporate risk management into the development of new products

## Unit 6: Using Big Data and Predictive Analytics to Manage Supply Chain Risk

### After studying this unit you should be able to:

- Explain how data science is supporting digital supply networks
- Discuss the growing importance of predictive analytics and the 'Internet of Things' and their impact on SCRM
- Discuss the nature and benefits of Artificial Intelligence (AI)
- Explain how AI is being applied to supply chains
- Explain evolving predictive and prescriptive analytic approaches supporting SCRM
- Explain cybersecurity as a source of risk to the supply chain

## Further information

### Enrolling for the Supply Chain Risk Management Certificate

The online application form available on our website must be completed and the appropriate fee paid to enrol as a student. Please visit: <https://www.theirm.org/scrm>.

There are no formal entry requirements for this qualification. The Certificate is set at an equivalent level of difficulty to an undergraduate degree.

### How long does it take to complete?

Students enrolled on the Certificate can complete the qualification within 6-9 months. An indicative study time for the qualification is between 180 and 200 hours.

### Assessment and examination centres

The Certificate is assessed by a 90 minute computer-based multiple choice examination. Students take the exam on-screen at a Pearson VUE computer-based test centre. Pearson VUE has an extensive network of test centres around the world.

Confirmation of how to book a test centre and notification of the address will be sent to students after they enrol.

### Membership

Students on this qualification will benefit from IRM student membership while studying, including access to member groups, discounts and online resources. Successful students will be issued with a completion certificate and if not already an IRM member can apply to become an Affiliate Member of the Institute to continue their membership.

### Payment methods

Full details of payment methods can be found online. All payments must be received before study materials can be accessed.

**Group enrolments:** Discounts are available for groups of employees enrolling from the same organisation for the same exam session. For further information please contact Joanna Kraska at: [joanna.kraska@theirm.org](mailto:joanna.kraska@theirm.org) or **+44 (0)20 7709 4117**.

## Study support

Studying for a professional qualification can be challenging when balancing distance-learning study, work and family commitments. To make studies as straightforward as possible for students, we provide a comprehensive support package.

The online support area 'The Study' provides students with the essential resources and information to help plan their studies and prepare for the exam, including a detailed study guide, learning activities and interactive discussion forums.

## What our experts say



### Gregory L. Schlegel

**Founder, The Supply Chain Risk Management Consortium  
Adjunct Professor Supply Chain Risk, Lehigh University, USA**

“Every day, companies are going out of business because they were not properly prepared for a risk event/or their response to a risk event was abysmal. There are tools, techniques, tactics and methodologies to effectively identify, assess, mitigate and manage supply chain risk events. Understanding these and all the new best practices in supply chain risk management is why professionals in this space should earn their IRM Certificate in SCRM.”



### Dr. Robert J. Trent

**Professor of Supply Chain Management, Lehigh University, USA**

“Far too many companies gain an appreciation of supply chain risk only after suffering directly the adverse effects of risk. Sometimes these risks are subtle; at other times they involve a major disruption that sends a company toward bankruptcy. This program provides participants with the knowledge, concepts, and tools to enable them to become a valuable part of their organization’s efforts to survive and prosper in an ever changing and risky world.”



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Developing risk professionals