



ISACA Student Group Best Practices

Through collaboration with ISACA Student Group (ISG) leaders—including Student Presidents, Faculty Advisors, and Chapter Contacts—we have gathered proven strategies that have helped some of the most successful ISGs grow, engage members, and sustain long-term success.

Whether you are launching a new ISG or strengthening an existing one, the following best practices can help your group thrive.

For questions about forming an ISACA Student Group or learning more about the program, please contact studentgroups@isaca.org.

Leadership and Sustainability

- **Start Succession Planning Early:** One of the most important factors in long-term success is leadership continuity. Begin identifying and mentoring future leaders as early as possible. Discuss leadership opportunities throughout the academic year and encourage promising members to take on increasing levels of responsibility before current leaders' graduate.
- **Build a Strong Support Network:** Faculty Advisors who find it challenging to manage ISG operations independently may benefit from involving additional faculty members from their department—or even other departments—to assist with planning, mentoring, and event coordination.

Building Membership and Engagement

- **Collaborate Across Campus:** If interest in starting or maintaining an ISG is limited, consider partnering with other student organizations such as IIA, ACFE, or technology-focused clubs. You can also collaborate with academic departments such as Accounting, Business Administration, Engineering, Computer Science, Information Systems, or Cybersecurity. Joint events and shared initiatives can increase participation and create a stronger student community.
- **Promote Your Group:** Increase visibility by creating branded promotional materials such as business cards, stickers, pens, or other giveaways featuring your ISG logo. These items can help raise awareness, attract new members, and establish a recognizable presence on campus.
- **Create Valuable Member Experiences:** Students are more likely to remain engaged when meetings provide meaningful value. Consider incorporating guest speakers, networking

opportunities, career development activities, certifications information, industry discussions, and social events into your programming.

- **ISACA Expert Directory:** Looking for a speaker, mentor, panelist, or subject matter expert for your ISG activities? Use the [ISACA Expert Directory](#) (login using ISACA username/password) to connect with professionals who have expressed interest in speaking at events, contributing to publications, and sharing their expertise. Please note that all information in the directory is self-reported and has not been validated by ISACA. ISGs are encouraged to independently vet potential experts and request references before confirming an engagement.
- **Balance Professional Development and Community Building:** The most successful ISGs typically offer a mix of educational, networking, and social activities. Combining professional growth opportunities with enjoyable member experiences helps sustain engagement throughout the year.
- **Gather Feedback Regularly:** Ask members for feedback after events and periodically survey participants to understand their interests. Tailoring programming to student needs helps maintain relevance and improve participation.

Partnering with your local ISACA Chapter

- **Build a Strong Relationship with a local ISACA Chapter (if applicable):** A local ISACA chapter can serve as a valuable partner in the success of your ISG. Establish connections with chapter leaders and members who can provide mentorship, career guidance, networking opportunities, and insights into industry trends and certifications.
- **Participate in Chapter Events and Activities:** Students are often welcome to attend chapter meetings, networking events, workshops, conferences, and training sessions. Many chapters also offer reduced-cost or complimentary registration for students. Contact a local chapter to learn about available opportunities and benefits.
- **Collaborate on Professional Development and Outreach Initiatives:** Work with a chapter to co-host guest speakers, workshops, certification preparation sessions, technical demonstrations, community outreach programs, career fairs, and other educational events. These collaborations help students build professional connections while increasing engagement and visibility for both organizations.
- **ISACA Chapter Directory:** If you are unsure whether an ISACA chapter exists in your area, use the [ISACA Chapter Directory](#) to locate one near you. If you would like an introduction to a chapter, ISACA Global can assist. Please email studentgroups@isaca.org, and we will be happy to connect you with the appropriate chapter.

Funding and Resources

- **Seek Support from a Local ISACA Chapter:** Many ISACA chapters are willing to support student initiatives through financial contributions, sponsorships, mentorship, or event collaboration. Reach out to your Chapter Contact (if applicable) to discuss available opportunities.
- **Explore Additional Funding Options:** If event funding is limited, consider collecting modest annual dues from members or seeking sponsorships from local businesses. Restaurants, cafés, and other community organizations may be willing to provide refreshments or event support in exchange for recognition. These partnerships can help offset costs while enhancing the member experience.
- **Deliver Value for Membership Fees:** Groups that successfully collect dues often provide added benefits such as meals, refreshments, exclusive events, professional development opportunities, or branded merchandise that help justify the cost of participation.