



In Association with

upGrad



Directorship & Board Advisory Certification

For Future-Facing Board Leaders | In Collaboration
with PwC Academy

Why This Program?

India's boardrooms are undergoing a structural transformation. With over 1,200 independent director positions projected to open by 2024, companies are on an active lookout for board-ready professionals who combine strategic foresight, governance expertise, and ethical clarity.

As per Section 149 of the Companies Act, 2013, all listed companies in India are mandated to appoint at least one-third of their board as independent directors, ensuring greater accountability and governance transparency. This regulation has accelerated demand for directors who bring in diverse, specialized, and future-ready leadership capabilities.

Additionally, a growing number of seats are opening up as existing board members reach their 10-year maximum tenure, intensifying the competition among professionals aiming to transition into board roles.

However, executive search firms and nomination committees now expect more than seniority—structured governance training, boardroom etiquette, risk oversight skills, and stakeholder stewardship are critical differentiators.

In this dynamic landscape, the Board Advisory Certification Program empowers professionals to:

- Gain credible, structured exposure to modern boardroom dynamics
- Build fluency in governance, risk, compliance (GRC), and ESG
- Strengthen their board readiness with simulated board scenarios and expert mentorship
- Improve their visibility among board networks and selection panels



Who Should Attend

- Senior professionals with 10+ years of experience
- Entrepreneurs and business heads
- Existing directors aiming to upskill
- Professionals in legal, finance, ESG, or risk roles
- upGrad DBA learners who meet milestone eligibility

Program Outcomes

- Build fluency in boardroom strategy, ethics, and compliance
- Gain readiness to serve on corporate boards
- Learn to handle M&A, cybersecurity, ESG, risk, and investor relations scenarios
- Certification from PwC Academy and upGrad

Program Format

- 8 Masterclass sessions of 2 hours each
- Includes workshops, masterclasses, and boardroom simulations
- Taught by PwC partners and domain experts



**Learners will be informed of the batch schedule well in advance*

Curriculum Overview



An Overview of Modern Board

Introduction to Board of Directors & the Modern Boardroom covering roles and responsibilities, duties, obligations, disqualification, powers, legal liabilities, ethical frameworks, officer in default, D&O and other safeguards



Corporate Governance, Ethics & Regulatory

Corporate Governance, Ethics & Regulatory Frameworks covering global and Indian governance standards, best practices, broad participation, taxonomy, transparency, integrity, and ESG foundations



Finance & Risk for Board Oversight

Strategic finance and risk covering director responsibility statement, understanding financials and red flags, audit committees, internal controls, accounts and related obligation



Digital, Cyber & M&A Readiness

Digital Transformation, Cybersecurity & M&A Governance covering role of boards in tech, AI and cyber risk, evaluating M&A strategies, regulators outlook.



Independent Directors - Risk and Rewards

This would cover regulatory requirements, enrollment with Independent Director Databank, qualification and disqualifications, code of conduct, related party Transactions & ID's



Stakeholder Engagement & Investor Relations

This would cover mapping and engaging with stakeholders, effective communication, decision making, key functions, strategic alignment, dynamics of board management, investor expectations, and communication strategies.



Final Project

Board Simulation & Readiness Presentation: Final project

**Topics are indicative and could be subject to minor modifications.*

Faculty

Manisha Narang



Manisha Narang, Subject Matter Expert, is a seasoned Company Secretary with over 20 years of expertise in corporate governance, regulatory compliance, board advisory, and cross-border business structuring. She specializes in guiding boards, managing risk, enabling regulatory clarity, and supporting M&A, NBFC licensing, and global market entry for leading organizations.

Shekhar Chopra



Shekhar Chopra, Subject Matter Expert, is a qualified Company Secretary with 15+ years of experience in corporate governance, M&A, board advisory, and regulatory compliance. He has led governance frameworks, board evaluations, risk management, and shareholder engagement across top firms including Deloitte, EY, and SRL Diagnostics.



**details of all faculty teaching in the program would be shared closer*

Program Completion Certificate



Boardroom Seats Are Evolving

Be Ready

- Start Application
- ▼
- Apply for the Program
- ▼
- Gain Admission
- ▼
- Enroll

Fees and Structure

Cost: USD 1,000.

Complementary for upGrad DBA learners

Includes:

8 live sessions, assessments, and certificate

