



Non-Executive Director Certification

Board-ready, credible and fully certified

Programme Prospectus



A UK leading
NED certification
with an **Ofqual-**
regulated ILM
Level 6 Award.



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Who are Actuate?



Actuate Global is a trusted UK leader in professional learning and coaching, delivering expert-led programmes that accelerate growth and performance.

Our approach centres on practical and personal, accredited development designed to build clarity, capability, and confidence. Equipping you with the skills to progress your career with purpose and shape a future that reflects your ambitions.

Expert-Led Learning and Development for **Professional Growth**



Our mission: to empower you with meaningful, industry-relevant development that fuels your potential and supports the career you want to create.

One of the UK's leading Non-Executive Director qualifications, incorporating an **Ofqual-regulated ILM Level Six Award**

At Actuate Global, we deliver one of the UK's leading Non-Executive Director qualifications that integrates an **Ofqual-regulated ILM Level 6 Award**, combined with an **embedded ILM Level 6 Qualification in Leadership & Management**.

Designed for global professionals, our programme combines **flexible virtual classrooms** with **on-demand learning**, delivered by internationally accredited coaches and experienced board members—leaders in Corporate Governance, Digital, Cyber & AI Governance, and Board-Level Finance. You will learn directly from the experts shaping today's modern governance.

When you join Actuate, you gain more than a qualification. You join an **elite community of educators, thought leaders and board influencers**, with ongoing access to our Learning Management System and Annual Refresher Course, ensuring your knowledge stays current and relevant.

The UK Non-Executive Director landscape is highly competitive, with many experienced professionals seeking board roles. As governance demands and board complexity increase, the question is simple: **How do you stand out?**

Created for both aspiring and experienced Non-Executive Directors, this qualification equips you to master the complexities of board governance. It validates your legal understanding and strengthens the behavioural competencies needed to make meaningful, strategic contributions at board level.

Developed in
partnership with City &
Guilds

Did you know ILM Level
6 is the equivalent to a
bachelor's degree at
university?

Trusted by Professionals



Celebrated by professionals like you for our exceptional service, knowledgeable teams, and clear, easy-to-follow programmes.



Above and Beyond



The business is very customer focused and the help is above and beyond to be honest, most times you are sent info and told to get on with it, but here its different, the help, support and follow up is really welcoming and i look forward to a refreshing journey. James Nadia, Claire and i will no doubt see more of the same with other members of the Team. Thanks guys



Who knew risk could be so fascinating!



Alessandra's module on Risk was really insightful. The tips for interview, red flags and case studies allowed us all to press refresh and ensure newbies like me good starting points and those established to reflect on their own practice.



Excellent



91% rated their overall experience 4* or 5*



Who is this Certification for?

This course is meticulously crafted for both **established and aspiring Non-Executive Directors** keen to elevate boardroom effectiveness and governance expertise. Whether you're already in a NED role or preparing to step into one, this programme provides the tools and insights you need to excel. **No formal qualifications are required**, but participants should have experience at a senior or executive level.

By completing the course, you'll earn a prestigious **ILM Level 6 qualification in Leadership & Management**. This accreditation, coupled with your **Actuate digital credentials and badge**, serves as a testament to advanced boardroom capabilities and boosts credibility in the competitive corporate governance landscape.

For Aspiring NEDs:

Gain the essential governance, financial, and leadership foundations you need to step confidently into your first board role.

For Established NEDs:

Deepen your strategic impact with advanced, up-to-date governance expertise and ongoing credential maintenance that keeps you at the top of your field.





The corporate governance landscape is ever-evolving, and so is our course.

After completing the Non-Executive Director Certification, you can take advantage of an annual refresher assessment to keep your knowledge current and maintain your digital credentials and LinkedIn badge, ensuring you stand at the forefront of governance excellence.



Achieve Certified Non-Executive Director Status

With Actuate, you'll demonstrate a strong commitment to the highest standards of governance and leadership, proving your commitment to excellence, giving you a clear advantage in a competitive job market.

Enhance Your Credibility and Competitive Edge

You'll stand out in your field with Actuate's Certified NED Status digital badge and credentials, along with your ILM Level 6 credentials, which can be easily incorporated into your professional toolkit. These are instantly recognisable on your CV, LinkedIn profile, and other platforms, which ensures employers and board members see the value you bring.



Command the Boardroom with one of the UK's Most Prestigious Non-Executive Certification

Obtain one of the most prestigious Accredited Certified NED Qualifications (within the UK qualification framework) with an embedded Level 6 Award in Leadership & Management from the ILM

Developed and delivered by Actuate, this government-regulated NED programme includes an embedded qualification and post-nominals from ILM and the City & Guilds of London - a global benchmark of excellence since 1878. This prestigious programme offering enhances the value of your certification, providing industry-wide recognition and unmatched credibility in boardrooms around the world.





- NED-Specific Content
- Qualified Delegates
- Government-Regulated Qualification
- Regular Content Updates
- Graduation Events
- Active Alumni Membership
- Learning Management System (LMS) Access
- Cost-Effective

Exclusive Features to Elevate Your NED Career



Comprehensive, NED Focused Content

Our curriculum is tailored specifically for Non-Executive Directors, covering cutting-edge topics like digital, cyber, and AI governance, ensuring you remain relevant and effective in a rapidly changing environment.

Government-Regulated and Recognised Qualification

Actuate's Certified NED Programme includes a government-regulated ILM Level 6 Qualification, one of the leading NED certifications in the UK, with ILM accreditation. This ensures your credentials are not only prestigious but also formally recognised and respected across industries.

Personalised Support and Community

Every participant receives one-on-one tutor support throughout our programme, ensuring you get the guidance and attention you need to succeed.

Flexible, Modular Learning

Our on-demand, modular format allows you to tailor your learning experience to fit your schedule, giving you control over your professional development.

Learning Management System (LMS) Access

Our LMS lets you access your previous workshop and lesson content anytime, anywhere. Letting you go back and revise anything you need.

Practical Hands-on Assessment

Unlike other programmes, Actuate's assessments focus on real-world application, ensuring you can confidently implement governance principles in any boardroom scenario.

Exclusive Graduation Events

Celebrate your success at our in-person graduation events, where you'll connect with peers and industry leaders, and build valuable networking relationships

Active Alumni Network

Upon graduation, you join a dynamic alumni community with access to quarterly board updates, expert CV and LinkedIn rewrites, and NED role search support, giving you ongoing career development and the tools to secure your next position.

Ongoing Access to the Latest Resources

Governance and leadership trends evolve, and so does our content. Stay informed with access to our yearly updated content, ensuring you remain a leader in NED best practices.

Unmatched Value at a Competitive Price

Actuate delivers more features and benefits than any other provider. With comprehensive education, graduation events, alumni perks, and continuous support, you receive premium value at a highly competitive price.

A **career-long** partnership,
much more than just **a certificate**



At Actuate, we offer more than just a certification; we provide a lasting commitment to your career success. By choosing our NED Certificate, you are entering a community dedicated to supporting your long-term growth. We ensure that you acquire the most relevant and practical skills needed to thrive in today's boardrooms

Why Actuate?

With Actuate, you invest in a future of excellence, leadership, and impact, setting yourself up for a successful and distinguished NED career.

What Does the Certification Include?

Real-World Leadership, Real-World Impact

Actuate's NED certification goes beyond theory. Our approach is practical and hands on, preparing you to apply the principles of governance, risk management, and strategic oversight immediately. With live board simulations, real-world case studies, and practical assessments, we ensure that you don't just learn about governance - you live it.

By the end of the programme, you'll be equipped to make meaningful, strategic contributions from day one in any boardroom. Actuate graduates don't just possess theoretical knowledge, they possess the ability to lead with confidence and clarity in critical moments.

Our modules are delivered by experienced, internationally recognised board members and governance experts who bring cutting-edge insights to every session.

The Modules

Fundamental Skills of the NED

Effective NEDs need more than technical knowledge; they require strong communication, negotiation, and leadership skills. This module builds the soft skills necessary to challenge constructively and serve as strategic partners to executives.

Elevate your influence in the boardroom and offer valuable oversight.



Corporate Governance

Corporate Governance is the cornerstone of the NED role. This module explores how to ensure accountability, transparency, and ethical oversight while driving sustainable growth, ensuring you play a key role in fostering a culture of integrity.

Shape governance practices that foster integrity and long-term success.

Risk and Strategy

NEDs must be able to balance risk and strategy with confidence. Learn to identify risks through a governance lens and drive forward-thinking strategies that ensure both innovation and security in fast-evolving markets.

Guide strategic decisions that secure sustainability while embracing innovation.



Board-Level Finance

Financial fluency is key for any NED. This module equips you with the tools to analyse financial reports, scrutinise budgets, assess risks, and confidently contribute to strategic financial decisions.

Safeguard your organisation's financial health with expert insights.

Digital, Cyber and AI Governance

Stay ahead in a tech-driven world. This module prepares you to lead on digital transformation, cybersecurity, and AI governance, ensuring innovation is aligned with risk management.

Oversee tech strategies that drive progress while managing risks.



Coaching Skills for NEDs

Supporting the executive team requires strong coaching abilities. Learn how to ask the right questions and listen effectively to support the executive team and drive insightful conversations. You'll learn how to extract essential insights and challenge assumptions constructively.

Facilitate deeper discussions that improve decision-making.

Each module is carefully designed to provide actionable skills that will elevate your performance as a Non-Executive Director, ensuring you're fully prepared to steer your organisation toward success.

“

The course structure and the facilitators are definitely first in class. Most importantly the after care and follow up are supportive and so helpful.

My first two sessions were a combination of interactive learning and lectures, which were done so seamlessly. I enjoyed the sessions so much that three hours felt like 15 minutes.

”



What is the Certification process?

Induction

1. Choose your preferred enrolment date to start your journey.
2. Schedule a personalised welcome call to begin your qualification.
3. Gain immediate access to the Learning Management System (LMS) and receive a dedicated support agent.
4. Your support agent will coordinate your module schedule, ensuring a smooth and efficient path through the certification programme.

Module Delivery

Our virtual enrolments offer flexible participation tailored to global professionals.

The programme consists of six core modules delivered through a blend of interactive virtual classrooms and on-demand learning, allowing you to follow a schedule that suits you.

Fundamental Non-Executive Director Skills	On-Demand
Corporate Governance	0.5 day virtual workshop
Risk and Strategy	0.5 day virtual workshop
Board-Level Finance	0.5 day virtual workshop
Digital, Cyber and AI Governance	0.5 day virtual workshop
Coaching Skills for NEDs & Practical Assessment	0.5 day virtual workshop

Practical Assessment

After each module, you'll complete a virtual assessment to reflect on and demonstrate your learning. In the final module, our ILM-approved facilitators will guide you through a hands-on practical assessment, solidifying your qualifications.

Graduation

Upon successful completion of your certificate, you'll be invited to an exclusive graduation event and certification presentation, celebrating your success alongside your peers. You will receive your physical ILM certificate, Actuate digital programme certificate, and digital credentials, officially recognising your status as an Accredited and Certified NED.

Post-Graduation

Join a Global Network of Governance Leaders

When you complete Actuate's NED certification, you gain more than a qualification: you join a thriving global community of governance leaders. Our alumni network connects you with a distinguished cohort of professionals, board influencers, and thought leaders from across the world. Benefit from exclusive access to leadership events, ongoing learning opportunities, and networking sessions that keep you connected and influential in the ever-changing world of governance.

Receive Comprehensive Post-Graduation Support from Our Expert Team

Your success is our priority even after graduation. Our expert team offers personalised support, including professional CV and LinkedIn optimisation & rewriting services, executive coaching, and tailored role search assistance. This ensures you have the guidance and tools to confidently advance your NED career.

Access Continuous Development Opportunities

As a certified NED and member of our alumni community, you'll have the option to access our continually updated learning resources. You will also be invited to complete our 'annual refresher' assessment, which ensures your board knowledge and skills are up to date and relevant in a changing corporate landscape. Our refresher also allows you to maintain your digital credentials across all platforms, year after year.

Commitment to Your Future

Becoming a part of the Actuate Alumni network means you have long-term support throughout your transition to a Non-Executive Director role and during your career. With resources tailored to your professional growth, you'll be fully equipped to thrive in your new responsibilities, staying current and fully committed to your role in governance.



Return on Investment for Professionals and Employers

Actuate's Non-Executive Director Certificate is designed to enhance both individual careers and organisational performance by promoting governance excellence. We understand that measurable results matter, so we've outlined key success metrics that professionals and employers can expect after completing the certification.

Increased Promotion Opportunities: Research consistently shows that professional certifications and structured leadership development can enhance career progression. Individuals who invest in targeted learning often become stronger candidates for promotion by demonstrating commitment, capability, and readiness for senior roles.

Career Growth: Programmes such as ILM qualifications are widely associated with improved career mobility. Professionals frequently report gaining practical insights and frameworks that directly support their progression into more advanced or strategic roles.

Accelerated Professional Growth: Developing recognised credentials can help professionals progress more quickly in their careers by strengthening leadership capability, increasing credibility, and expanding opportunities within their organisations.



Career Advancement and Salary Potential

Professional certifications are consistently associated with improved salary outcomes, largely driven by enhanced career mobility and access to senior roles.”

Leadership and Organisational Impact

Improved Leadership Confidence: Leadership development programmes help build confidence in decision-making and strategic thinking. As a result, professionals are better equipped to contribute meaningfully at senior levels and influence organisational direction.

Strong leadership has a well-documented impact on organisational effectiveness. By developing capable, confident leaders, organisations can improve engagement, strengthen decision-making, and drive overall performance.

By obtaining Actuate's NED Certificate, professionals gain the skills and credibility to excel, while organisations benefit from stronger leadership and governance, ultimately driving long-term success

The Future of Corporate Governance

Navigating Complexity with Confidence

Stay Ahead of Global Governance Trends and Digital Disruption

In a world where corporate governance is rapidly evolving due to digital transformation, AI advancements, and global regulatory pressures, today’s board members must be equipped to lead through change with agility and foresight. Actuate’s NED certification doesn’t just meet current governance standards: it anticipates future needs and challenges. Our curriculum covers essential topics, from AI governance to cybersecurity and digital transformation, empowering you with the critical skills necessary to thrive in the modern boardroom.

Prepare for Tomorrow’s Challenges

Actuate’s NED certification is designed to help professionals effectively navigate the technological, regulatory, and ethical challenges of today’s fast-paced corporate landscape, ensuring you are ready to guide your board through complexities and uncertainties.

Key Trends Shaping the Future of Corporate Governance

Trend	How Actuate Prepares You
Global Regulatory Pressures: Tightening global regulations require NEDs to navigate compliance across jurisdictions	As regulations tighten globally, Actuate equips directors to anticipate and adapt to compliance shifts, ensuring organisations meet legal and ethical standards while minimising risks.
Digital Transformation and AI: AI, machine learning, and big data are revolutionising industries	Actuate provides the tools to leverage AI, machine learning, and big data for strategic advantage. We help you manage risks and address ethical concerns associated with digital technologies.
Cybersecurity and Risk Management: Cyber threats have become a boardroom priority	With cybersecurity threats at an all-time high, Actuate empowers NEDs to develop and lead robust cybersecurity strategies, protecting vital data and customer trust.
Sustainability and ESG: ESG issues like climate action and ethical supply chains are reshaping governance	Our training integrates sustainability into long-term strategies, enabling directors to drive value beyond just financial performance in areas like climate action and ethical supply chains.

Trend

Crisis Management and Resilience:

Disruptions demand resilient leadership

Evolving Workforce and Diversity:

Remote work, the gig economy, and diversity are transforming workforce dynamics

Strategic Leadership:

Future governance requires innovation and bold decision-making

How Actuate Prepares You

In an unpredictable world, Actuate cultivates essential crisis leadership skills, enhancing business continuity and the ability to navigate unexpected challenges.

As the dynamics of work change, our programme prepares NEDs to create inclusive, diverse boardrooms that reflect the communities they serve, fostering agility and resilience.

Actuate empowers directors to challenge the status quo, innovate, and steer organisations towards sustainable growth in an increasingly competitive landscape.



How Actuate's Programme Prepares Future-Ready Directors

Holistic Approach to Governance:

Our curriculum transcends traditional governance, offering comprehensive training in regulatory compliance, ESG strategy, crisis management, and leadership dynamics. This ensures NEDs are fully equipped to tackle the multifaceted challenges of modern boardrooms.

Practical, Real-World Learning:

With Actuate, you engage with case studies that analyse global governance successes and failures, participate in crisis simulations, and explore scenario planning. Actuate graduates leave with actionable skills, ready to lead amid emerging risks and unforeseen challenges.

Focus on Strategic Oversight:

Our programme emphasises long-term strategic thinking and encourages directors to prioritise enduring value creation over short-term financial metrics, ensuring organisations are resilient and innovative.

Commitment to Lifelong Learning:

Governance is a dynamic field, and at Actuate, we believe learning should never stop. Graduates benefit from ongoing access to updates, alumni networks, and continuous professional development opportunities, keeping them at the forefront of industry trends and governance best practices.



By equipping graduates for the complex, interconnected, and fast-paced world of corporate governance, Actuate ensures that its NEDs are equipped not just to participate but to lead the boards of tomorrow.

With cybersecurity threats at an all-time high, Actuate empowers NEDs to develop and lead robust cybersecurity strategies, protecting vital data and customer trust.

Questions and Answers

Myths vs. Facts



There are many misconceptions about what it takes to become a Non-Executive Director and who can benefit from an NED certification. Below, we debunk some common myths and clarify the facts to help you make an informed decision about enrolling in our certificate.

Myth: “You need to already be on a board to enrol in a NED course”

Fact: No prior board experience is required. The only specification is that participants should have experience at a senior or executive level. Our NED Certificate is tailored for both seasoned professionals and aspiring NEDs eager to develop the skills and knowledge needed to confidently step into the boardroom. It’s the perfect opportunity for those looking to enhance their credentials and prepare for future board roles.

Myth: “You can’t become a NED without a business background”

Fact: While business acumen is advantageous, it is not the sole prerequisite for success as a NED. Boards seek diverse perspectives and skill sets, including legal, technical, and community expertise. The NED Certificate equips you with a well-rounded understanding of governance and strategic leadership, regardless of your professional background

Myth: “NED certification is only for corporate executives”

Fact: The NED Certificate is accessible to professionals from diverse industries and backgrounds. Governance and leadership skills are highly transferable and invaluable across sectors such as non-profits, public institutions, and private enterprises. Whether you work in finance, healthcare, technology, or education, the competencies you gain will be applicable in any field.

Myth: “NED certification is not necessary; you can learn on the job”

Fact: While on-the-job learning is valuable, the structured framework of the NED Certificate provides a solid and up-to-date foundation in governance, risk management, and boardroom dynamics. This certification not only boosts your credibility but also connects you with a network of like-minded professionals and ongoing development opportunities.

Myth: “Once you become a certified NED, there’s no need for further learning”

Fact: Continuous professional development is essential for NEDs. With the ever-evolving business landscape and regulatory environment, renewing your NED certification annually keeps you informed about the latest governance trends and best practices, ensuring you remain an effective and valuable board member

Myth: “NED roles are only for those nearing retirement”

Fact: Many professionals in their 30s and 40s are now seeking NED roles to broaden their experience and contribute to different sectors. The NED Certificate prepares you to add value to a board at any stage in your career, whether you’re looking to transition into a portfolio career or enhance your leadership profile.

The Non-Executive Director Certification is your pathway to becoming a trusted advisor and leader in the boardroom, regardless of where you are in your career journey.

Empower yourself with knowledge and skills that will set you apart in the competitive governance landscape. Join us and unlock your potential today.



Course Fees and Application Process



Full price breakdown available [here](#)

This comprehensive fee covers all aspects of your learning experience, including module delivery, networking sessions, and access to online learning materials. Additionally, it includes assessment fees, a graduation event and your digital credential license.

Start your Certified Non-Executive journey today



Arrange a telephone or video consultation [HERE](#)



Email us at info@actuateglobal.com



Call us on 0161 850 9970



View the Non-Executive Director Certification webpage [HERE](#)



Always ahead

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