



# TRAINING PROGRAMME 2026

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AFB provides a wide range of training courses for its members on banking and related topics, with a specific focus on what is important to foreign banks operating in the UK. We offer a variety of course types and content, ranging from single session courses to those which are studied over a longer period and lead to a formal qualification.

AFB is trusted by our members to provide value add cost effective training courses; we actively engage with training partners to ensure that courses are bespoke and cover specific topics relevant to third country firms. Our training enables members to network and benchmark with fellow professionals and are always competitively priced. All participants are invited to provide feedback, which is overwhelmingly positive, here are testimonials from attendees of recent courses:

*"Good and comprehensive summary of relevant laws and regs"*

*"Well presented and very useful content"*

Details for the AFB 2026 Training Programme can be found in this brochure, please click on the 'book now' or 'register your interest' buttons for full details.

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If you would any further information or would like to discuss ideas for specific training courses, then please get in touch with us. Email: [secretariat@foreignbanks.org.uk](mailto:secretariat@foreignbanks.org.uk) Phone: +44 (0)20 7283 8300



## SENIOR MANAGERS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

This bespoke six-session programme held over three days is designed to highlight the current key issues facing international banks and their senior managers operating in the UK. It will provide practical advice on what senior managers need to do to ensure compliance and minimise their exposure. It is aimed at those new to designated Senior Manager Functions (SMFs), and those preparing to step-up into SMF roles.

This course is delivered in partnership with international law firm **BCLP**. Each of the sessions will provide an overview of:

- Legal and/or regulatory issues
- Recent developments as well as horizon scanning
- Regulatory expectations and requirements for authorised firms and their Senior Managers
- Practical tips to help member banks ensure compliance and minimise risks
- Relevant case studies which further explain the regulators' expectations

The structured sessions will take the form of presentations, facilitated group discussions and Q&A.

**Day 1: The regulatory relationship and SMF role**

**Day 2: Managing the workforce**

**Day 3: Financial crime and sanctions**

AFB Members £2,025 +VAT

Course limited to 30 participants

IN PERSON

BCLP, EC4R 0BR

7 May, 9 June, 26 June

### Who should attend?

Those new to designated SMF roles and those preparing to step-up into SMF roles. (Course not suitable for established SMF's)

[REGISTER YOUR INTEREST](#)



## MASTERCLASS: IMPACT OF RECENT ENFORCEMENT CASES AND SUPERVISORY ACTIVITY ON SENIOR MANAGERS REGIME COMPLIANCE

This half day masterclass has been developed in conjunction with A&O Shearman for existing established Senior Manager Function holders (SMFs) performing different designations at AFB member firms.

The course will provide an **update on the key developments** to the operation of the regime in the previous 12 months and outline how SMFs should seek to demonstrate reasonable steps. The course will draw together **themes and trends** from enforcement cases, speeches, supervisory messaging in relation to thematic reviews and policy developments.

The session will include the following:

- Content and updates delivered directly by A&O Shearman experts
- Discussion and peer learning with fellow attendees and participants
- Guided case studies/scenarios to explore relevant themes and illustrate key messages/lessons learned from the last 12 months

AFB Members £410 +VAT

Course limited to 25 participants

IN PERSON

A&O Shearman, One Bishops Square, E1 6AD

Autumn 2026

### Who should attend?

Existing established SMFs across all different SMF designations. (Course not suitable for new or prospective SMFs looking for an introduction to SMCR)

[REGISTER YOUR INTEREST](#)



## FINANCIAL CRIME COMPLIANCE (AML) DIPLOMA 2026

The AFB Financial Crime Compliance (AML) Diploma is a comprehensive learning programme tailored for AFB member firms. It is designed to provide senior risk professionals with legal and policy guidance, practical knowledge to enhance understanding, and to develop new skills and awareness around a topic which continues to be critical to all banks.

The course syllabus is revised regularly to include the very latest updates in Financial Crime Compliance. Each module focuses on helping participants understand how to apply their learning back at their workplace, ensuring that content remains relevant to their business models, regulatory environments, and customer bases.

Delivered in partnership with Great Chatwell Academy of Learning, course participants can expect:

- Ten instructor-led learning modules that have been designed exclusively for AFB members with up-to-date content focusing on issues that are important and current.
- Delivery via two full day face to face sessions and eight fully interactive online sessions with guest speakers sharing their specific expertise.
- Modules that include pre-reading, structured learning, practical-based exercises, and case-study analysis.
- The opportunity to interact and exchange ideas with other risk and compliance professionals.
- End of module assessments that are designed to confirm understanding.
- CPD credits for all sessions attended, awarded by the CPD Certification Service.
- On successful completion of all assessments, participants will receive the AFB Financial Crime Diploma awarded in association with the University of Gloucestershire and will be able to exclusively use the designation 'AFB-Dip AML'.

### Who Should attend?

Risk and compliance professionals, financial crime professionals, including MLROs, DMLROs, Nominated Officers, and persons preparing for appointment to these roles. Line two and line three risk management officers including Internal Auditors. Board members with financial crime compliance responsibilities, including Chair of risk committees.

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## MASTERCLASS – MITIGATING TRADE BASED MONEY LAUNDERING IN TRADE FINANCE (TBML)

This masterclass is designed to provide risk and compliance professionals with the knowledge and skills awareness to identify and manage financial crime risks in trade finance activity. It will provide a comprehensive update on managing TBML risks so firms can continue to facilitate legitimate trade while meeting regulatory expectations. Attendees will gain enhanced confidence to identify higher-risk activity and apply practical, risk-based and proportionate systems and controls to identify, detect and respond to this activity in trade relationships and transactions.

AFB Members £410 +VAT

Session limited to 30 participants

Banco do Brasil, 280  
Bishopsgate, EC2M 4AG

25 March 2026 09:00 – 12:30

By the end of the course delegates will be able to:

- Describe a range of trade-related financial crime risks including trade-based money laundering, financing of terrorism and proliferation, fraud and sanctions evasion
- Outline the framework of systems and controls that are required to be operationalised to manage and mitigate crimes
- List some specific trade-based money laundering typologies, such as the misrepresentation of value, quantity, and quality of goods, and how these are used to move illicit value from bribery, corruption, crime and terrorism.
- Use red flag indicators to identify risks relating to the movement of illicit value through trade, financing of terrorism, and other predicate crimes such as sanctions evasion
- Analyse regulatory case enforcement action to identify what went wrong when managing trade-related risks

### Who should attend?

Trade finance teams and staff who contribute to the management of trade customer relationships and activities; financial crime compliance professionals at all levels; All AML professionals who conduct customer due diligence checks and verification on trade customers; MLRO's and their deputies; line two and three risk professionals, including Internal auditors.

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## MASTERCLASS – SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY REPORTING IN PRACTICE: DETECT, DECIDE, DISCLOSE

A masterclass designed to guide and inform AML/CFT and financial crime professionals who are required to assess, investigate and make decision on whether to report Knowledge and Suspicious Activity Reports (SARs) to the local financial intelligence unit in full compliance with UK legal and regulatory expectations and according to the reporting guidelines of the NCA. The masterclass will focus on how to manage reports from the receipt of the initial report, determining whether a report meets the threshold of reportable subjective and objective suspicion, and how to complete a report to the NCA in full compliance with reporting requirements.

AFB Members £410 +VAT

Session limited to 30 participants

Banco do Brasil, 280  
Bishopsgate, EC2M 4AG

14 May 2025 09:00 – 12:30

By the end of the workshop, you will be able to:

- Explain the purpose and importance of SARs in the detection and disruption of money laundering, terrorist financing, and other forms of financial crime, both in the UK and within the global compliance framework
- Define personal and corporate responsibilities for reporting suspicion or knowledge of criminal property or activity, in line with the Proceeds of Crime Act 2002, the Terrorism Act 2000, and the Money Laundering Regulations 2017
- Demonstrate when and how to make a SAR, including what constitutes meaningful intelligence, how to complete a compliant report, and how to meet prescribed submission requirements to the UK National Crime Agency (NCA)
- Manage the operational and legal risks that arise post-reporting
- Evaluate and enhance SAR frameworks within the firm, using trend analysis, audit insights, and law enforcement feedback to strengthen internal systems and controls

### Who should attend?

Nominated and Deputy Nominated Officers; MLROs and Deputy MLROs; Heads of Financial Crime Compliance (FCC) looking to enhance internal SAR governance, improve reporting quality, and align with UK, and EU regulatory standards; Risk Managers, Investigators, and Internal Auditors; Aspiring AML Leaders preparing to step into roles involving SAR oversight.

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## MASTERCLASS – CYBERCRIME: MANAGING CONVERGING THREATS IN AML COMPLIANCE

An interactive masterclass designed to provide financial crime professionals with the knowledge and awareness to identify, mitigate, and manage cyber-enabled risks.

This masterclass will provide learners with practical guidance on how to manage cyber-enabled crime typologies (e.g. account takeover, mule networks, synthetic identities, ransomware-linked laundering) and mapping attack paths into onboarding, payments and investigations, assessing firm vulnerabilities, determining when cyber activity triggers suspicion and a SAR, and documenting risk decisions so assessed risks reflect actual business operations

AFB Members £410 +VAT

Session limited to 30 participants

Commerzbank, 30 Gresham Street, EC2V 7PG

15 July 2026 09:00 – 12:30

By the end of the course, delegates will be able to:

- Recognise the critical role of cybersecurity in maintaining an effective and compliant AML framework
- Assess your firm's vulnerabilities to the most common and emerging cyber threats that intersect with financial crime risk
- Identify cyber-enabled money laundering techniques, including those linked to large-scale cyber heists and digital fraud
- Apply best practice approaches for collaboration between AML, fraud, and cybersecurity teams to improve overall risk management
- Develop a holistic, proactive approach to detecting, mitigating, and responding to cyber-enabled financial crime across the business

### Who should attend?

MLROs and Deputy MLROs; Financial Crime and AML Analysts involved in investigating complex and emerging typologies, including cyber-enabled money laundering; Compliance and Risk Officers; Fraud and Cybersecurity Specialists looking to strengthen collaboration with AML and financial crime teams; Nominated Officers and SAR Manager needing clarity on when cyber activity should be escalated and reported.

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## MASTERCLASS – CORRESPONDENT BANKING (MITIGATING THE RISKS IN RESPONDENT RELATIONSHIPS)

This masterclass will provide a comprehensive summary and update on how to manage risks so that members can continue to provide respondent services to branches, subsidiaries, and parent groups in overseas territories.

Attendees will be provided with a review of legal and regulatory responsibilities from the USA and UK, and best practices from the JMLSG Guidance and the Wolfsberg Group Guidance.

By the end of this workshop, delegates will be able to:

- Define the importance of correspondent banking products and the impact of de-risking on worldwide social and economic development
- Describe the risks in respondent relationships, and the latest correspondent banking- related financial crime risks including sanctions evasion, laundering the proceeds of crimes including fraud, bribery, and corruption
- Explain some of the key laws and regulations that define corresponding banking risk management roles and responsibilities, including the US Patriot Act
- Analyse the key findings from recent case enforcement action from the UK and USA
- Outline the framework of good governance that a firm should have in place to manage and mitigate the risks in respondent relationships
- Report your concerns and suspicions according to the requirements of the Proceeds of Crime Act and other applicable laws

AFB Members £410 +VAT

Session limited to 30 participants

Investec, 30 Gresham Street, EC2V 7QP

8 Sept 2026 09:00 – 12:30

### Who should attend?

Relationship Managers and employees responsible for developing overseas relationships; Risk and compliance officers with responsibility for managing respondent relationships; Financial crime professionals with responsibility for financial crime policies and procedures; Line two and line three risk management officers including Internal Auditors; MLRO, DMLROs and nominated officers; Members of the Board and risk committees.

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## MASTERCLASS – MANAGING SANCTIONS RISKS (IDENTIFYING THE RISKS IN TRANSACTIONS AND TRADE)

This masterclass has been designed for all risk and compliance employees who wish to develop an advanced understanding of how to manage financial and non-financial sanctions risks with an emphasis on assessing and mitigating the risks of sanctions evasion techniques.

The course, developed with the assistance of a former enforcement officer from the US Office of Foreign Assets Control (OFAC), offers a helpful update on sanctions evasion techniques, tips on how to manage risks, and meet regulatory requirements of UK, EU, and USA sanctions authorities.

By the end of the course, delegates will be able to:

- Define sanctions and the aims and objectives of key UN, UK, EU, and US legislation
- Describe some of the key international sanctioning bodies, including the UN Security Council, Financial Action Task Force, OFSI, OTSI, and OFAC
- Explain the prohibitions that are in place for Russia, Iran, DPKR, Syria, and Cuba, other activities including human rights abuses and corrupt officials
- Describe higher risks in customer relationships and outline some of the more common new and emerging sanctions evasion techniques
- Define 'red flags' in transactions and trade transactions to identify higher risk activity and relationships
- Define the reporting requirements for positive matches to designations and other applicable laws, including the Terrorism Act 2000

AFB Members £410 +VAT

Session limited to 30 participants

CENTRAL LONDON VENUE

10 Nov 2026 09:00 – 12:30

### Who should attend?

Financial crime risk professionals responsible for assessing and managing FCC risks; Customer due diligence analysts and transaction monitoring officers; Senior FCC risk management professionals, including MLRO, DMLRO, and nominated officer; FCC professionals with responsibility for drafting and maintaining policy and procedures; FCC professionals with responsibility for conducting FCC and sanctions risk assessment

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## ONLINE CUSTOMER RISK AND CDD COMPLIANCE CERTIFICATE

The AFB Customer Risk and CDD (customer due diligence) Compliance Certificate is an online programme designed for risk professionals who are required to perform customer due diligence checks and investigations as part of the risk-based approach to managing financial crime risks.

By the end of this programme, you will be able to:

- Describe current and emerging trends used by criminals to disguise their identity, control and ownership of the proceeds of crime
- Explain UK and international legal and regulatory CDD standards
- Define the risk-based approach to CDD, including enhanced due diligence
- List sources of guidance & open-source information databases to guide and inform risk assessments
- Demonstrate how to use search operators to verify customer identity, and to identify adverse media for higher-risk applicants and relationships
- Perform enhanced due diligence for higher risk relationships to identify unusual activity

AFB Members £720 + VAT  
(Includes 10% AFB member discount)

ONLINE

Completed at your own pace

AFB members are offered a **10% discount**. On successful completion of all assessments, participants will receive the AFB Customer Risk and CDD Compliance Certificate awarded in association with the University of Gloucestershire.

### Who should attend?

Risk professionals, CDD operators, senior financial crime professionals, MLRO's and their deputies, internal auditors

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## ONLINE FINANCIAL CRIME RISK ASSESSMENT COMPLIANCE CERTIFICATE

The AFB Financial Crime Risk Assessment Compliance Certificate is an online programme designed for risk professionals who contribute to the design and management of the business-wide financial crime risk assessment.

By the end of this programme, you will be able to:

- Describe what a business-wide financial crime risk assessment (BWRA) is, and why it is important for a firm to have an accurate and up to date register
- Complete a BWRA for your firm according to regulatory expectations
- Explain how the BWRA should be used as part of good governance systems and controls
- Identify and use dynamic information and intelligence to continuously update the BWRA to manage and mitigate the risk of a firm being used by criminals
- Analyse case studies and enforcement action to identify 'what went wrong'
- Draft supporting operating procedures that explain to other staff how to conduct the BWRA and ensure compliance with regulatory expectations

AFB Members £720 + VAT  
(Includes 10% AFB member discount)

ONLINE

Completed at your own pace

AFB members are offered a **10% discount**. On successful completion of all assessments, participants will receive the AFB Financial Crime Risk Assessment Compliance Certificate awarded in association with the University of Gloucestershire.

### Who should attend?

Financial crime risk management professionals, senior financial crime professionals, MLRO's, Heads of Financial Crime, CCO's and their deputies, internal auditors.

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## ONLINE FRAUD RISK MANAGEMENT COMPLIANCE CERTIFICATE

The AFB Fraud Risk Management Compliance Certificate is an online programme designed for risk professionals who conduct fraud prevention or detection roles, or who have supervisory responsibility.

By the end of this programme, you will be able to:

- Describe the size, scale and common fraud activities
- Define fraud activity under UK laws and government strategy in combatting fraud
- Conduct an assessment of fraud risks
- List key controls to prevent and detect fraud activity
- Demonstrate how to identify high risk activity
- Explain how to escalate and report fraud activity within a firm, and externally to the most appropriate law enforcement bodies

AFB Members £720 + VAT  
(Includes 10% AFB member discount)

ONLINE

Completed at your own pace

AFB members are offered a **10% discount**. On successful completion of all assessments, participants will receive the AFB Fraud Risk Management Compliance Certificate awarded in association with the University of Gloucestershire.

### Who should attend?

Fraud prevention and detection officers, onboarding staff responsible for customer due diligence checks, fraud risk managers (including HR, payroll and procurement), senior financial crime professionals, MLRO's, CCO's and their deputies, and internal auditors.

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## ONLINE SARS COMPLIANCE CERTIFICATE

The AFB SARs (Suspicious Activity Reports) Compliance Certificate is designed for risk professionals who are required to create SARs, investigate and manage reports, and report to the National Crime Agency (NCA).

By the end of this programme, you will be able to:

- Define the personal and corporate responsibility to report suspicion or knowledge
- Explain key terms including unusual activity, objective and subjective suspicion and knowledge, and 'consent'
- Know when to report, and how to report confidently including meaningful intelligence, according to proscribed requirements
- Manage post-reporting risks including the risks of tipping off, prejudicing an investigation, constructive trusteeship and the relationship with customers during periods of 'consent'

AFB Members £720 + VAT  
(Includes 10% AFB member discount)

ONLINE

Completed at your own pace

AFB members are offered a **10% discount**. On successful completion of all assessments, participants will receive the AFB SARS Compliance Certificate awarded in association with the University of Gloucestershire.

### Who should attend?

All regulated financial and non-financial employees, SAR investigators, nominated officers and their deputies, MLRO's and their deputies, and internal auditors.

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## ONLINE ADVANCED CERTIFICATE IN MANAGING THE RISKS OF TERRORIST FINANCING

The AFB Advanced Certificate in Managing the Risks of Terrorist Financing is designed for all financial crime risk professionals who are responsible for assessing and managing FCC risks.

By the end of this programme, you will be able to:

- Define what terrorism is and the impact of being 'designated' as a terrorist
- Describe some of the key international regulations governing the prevention, reporting and risk assessment of terrorist financing
- Outline some of the more common sources and methodologies of terrorist finance, including new and emerging risks
- Prolife designated group structures and finance activity
- Use 'red flags' to help to identify and report suspected terrorist financing
- Conduct a terrorist financing firm-wide risk assessment
- List customer risks for inclusion in client-level risk assessment

AFB Members £720 + VAT  
(Includes 10% AFB member discount)

ONLINE

Completed at your own pace

AFB members are offered a **10% discount**. On successful completion of all assessments, participants will receive the AFB Advanced Certificate in Managing the Risks of Terrorist Financing awarded in association with the University of Gloucestershire.

### Who Should attend?

Financial crime risk ("FCC") professionals who are responsible for assessing and managing FCC risks. Customer due diligence analysts. SAR handlers and investigators. Senior FCC risk management professionals, including MLROs, DMLROs and nominated officers. Risk and compliance professionals and internal auditors who conduct third-line quality assurance and testing.

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## MASTERCLASS – CONDUCT & CULTURE

### CULTURE, BEHAVIOUR, AND COMPLIANCE IN INTERNATIONAL BANKS

This interactive masterclass is designed to help participants move beyond compliance-led approaches to culture and instead develop a deeper understanding of the behavioural drivers that shape conduct, decision-making, and performance in international banks. The masterclass is particularly relevant for international firms operating in the UK, where leaders must navigate:

- UK regulatory expectations around conduct, Consumer Duty, and culture
- Parent-subsidiary and branch dynamics and cultural distance
- Differences between formal governance and frontline reality
- Speak-up, challenge, and psychological safety across borders and hierarchies
- Drawing on behavioural science, real-world case examples, and practical diagnostics, the masterclass will explore how culture is formed, how it can be assessed in practice using the CultureScope tool, and how leaders can intervene effectively to strengthen trust, accountability, and performance.

AFB Members £410 +VAT

Session limited to 25 participants

Bank of Ireland, 45 Gresham St, London EC2V 7PG

19 March 2026 08:30 – 13:00 to include lunch

*AFB will add further courses in conduct and culture throughout 2026, to ensure you receive details, please let us know if you are interested by emailing [secretariat@foreignbanks.org.uk](mailto:secretariat@foreignbanks.org.uk)*

#### Who should attend?

Senior Managers/Directors, INEDs/Board members, HR & People leaders, Compliance, Risk & Audit professionals, Culture, Conduct, & Governance leads, Individuals accountable for shaping, assessing, or influencing organisational culture within UK-regulated entities

[JOIN WAITING LIST](#)



## CERTIFICATE IN GREEN AND SUSTAINABLE FINANCE (CGSF)

The AFB is proud to partner with the **Chartered Banker Institute** to offer AFB members the opportunity to study for the Certificate in Green and Sustainable Finance.

Managing climate-related risks and supporting the transition to a low-carbon world are our most significant global challenges. To tackle this, finance professionals globally need to develop their knowledge of green and sustainable finance.

AFB Members £670 +VAT  
ONLINE

130 hours of study  
completed at your own  
pace within one year

Course participants will learn about the ways in which the finance sector can support the transition to a sustainable and low-carbon economy; the role of a range of key players and policy and regulatory frameworks in building and supporting a sustainable financial system; the role of financial technology in supporting the growth of green and sustainable finance, and more.

This global, benchmark qualification will help individuals to develop their understanding of, and apply, green and sustainable finance principles and practices in their roles and within their institutions.

Upon completion, learners will be entitled to use the designation GSFP (Green and Sustainable Finance Professional).

### Who should attend?

This qualification is aimed at all bankers who are supporting the transition to net-zero.

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The AFB is proud to partner with the **Chartered Banker Institute** to offer AFB members the opportunity to study for the Certificate in Climate Risk, which has been developed jointly with the Chartered Body Alliance. The Certificate considers both the physical and transition risks from climate risk and considers how these can be assessed and modelled and how they can be built into the risk management framework that will be required to satisfy on-going regulatory changes. Whilst no prior knowledge of climate risk is required, an understanding of risk management principles is necessary.

The course will develop the learner's professional knowledge, understanding and skills relating to climate change, climate risk and sustainable finance.

Course participants will learn about climate change and its impacts on the environment, economy, society and financial services sector, how to identify climate-related financial and non-financial risks, common approaches to modelling climate risks with scenario analysis, and more.

A guided self-study supported by a wide range of interactive e-learning units and knowledge checks; upon completion, learners will be entitled to use the designation Cert CRP (Certified Climate Risk Professional).

AFB Member £670 +VAT  
**ONLINE**  
130 hours of study  
completed at your own  
pace within one year

#### **Who should attend?**

This qualification is aimed at financial services risk professionals globally who wish to develop and demonstrate their knowledge of climate risk.

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