



# A leadership guide for the risk leader

## Strategies and tools for the risk leader

Lori A. Sexton, CPA, CGMA

*You've done it! You've completed a risk heat map, presented to management and boards and it's now time to lead your team in the implementation and monitoring of your entity's risk profile. Where do you begin?*

The first step addresses the skills that you and your team should possess as well as additional training refinements needed. During this stage you'll be defining roles of your team as a whole as well as for each individual team member including yourself. This step and all others are dependent on how you lead. There are certain characteristics that will ensure a pathway to success; as well as traits that will undermine the effectiveness of you and your team. Guidance is provided to finance and risk professionals within this resource.

This leadership resource and tool was developed by active and successful risk leaders throughout the United States, provides direction to the risk leader, along with specific proven resources and a checklist to facilitate your leadership. This resource (<https://www.cgma.org/content/dam/cgma/resources/tools/downloadabledocuments/a-leadership-guide-for-the-risk-leader.pdf>) is part of a series of new and updated resources to assist your organisation in risk management. These resources are companion tools to the previously released [Communicating risk using a heat map](#) and [Risk heat map](#), and are intended to be used alongside one another. The full [Risk Management Tool](#) can be found on [cgma.org](http://cgma.org). Please make sure to check there for new information.

### Author Bio

Lori A. Sexton, CPA, CGMA

Lori Sexton is a Senior Technical Manager, Management Accounting with the Association of International Certified Professional Accountants (AICPA). Research and development of management accounting resources, serving as an advocate for the public sector and liaison to the Government Performance and Accountability Committee (GPAC) are included among her responsibilities. Other experiences include providing audit, attest, tax and consulting services to public sector and not-for-profit entities as well as those in healthcare, manufacturing, financial services and other niche sectors. Her roles within the private sector included international financial services and GSEs (Government Sponsored Entities) with a focus on financial and risk management.