



CITY AUDITOR CITY OF NEWPORT NEWS, VA



CITY AUDITOR CITY OF NEWPORT NEWS, VA



THE POSITION IN BRIEF

The City of Newport News, Virginia seeks a self-directed and highly competent internal audit professional to lead the Internal Audit Department. This position is appointed by and will report to the City Council, which necessitates the ability to function independently and effectively manage employees and operations without supervisory oversight. Candidates should demonstrate an in-depth understanding of local government and will ideally have experience in a municipality of similar size and complexity. Additionally, candidates should demonstrate a high level of initiative, professional judgment, and sophistication sufficient to work effectively on behalf of City Council while maintaining respectful relationships with City leadership, partners, and stakeholders.

THE CITY

Situated on the Virginia Peninsula, Newport News is the fifth most populous city in Virginia with a population of 181,958. The city is part of the Hampton Roads metropolitan statistical area (MSA), which has a population of more than 1.8 million. The city's primary airport is Newport News/Williamsburg International Airport (PHF), while Norfolk International Airport (ORF) and Richmond International Airport (RIC) are 24 miles and 63 miles away, respectively. The city is also accessible via Amtrak, Interstate 64, and a host of State Routes.

The city's origins date back to the colonial era, and its history is commemorated with seven museums and numerous historical sites. Other cultural amenities include the Peninsula Fine Arts Center, the Ferguson Center for the Arts, and the Virginia Living Museum. Recreational offerings include 36 public parks, including Newport News Park, one of the largest municipal parks in the country at nearly 8,000 acres.

The city is served by Newport News Public Schools and Christopher Newport University. Historically Black institutions Hampton University and Norfolk State University are located in nearby namesake cities, along with Old Dominion University, The College of William & Mary, and Virginia Peninsula Community College. In addition, The Apprentice School teaches shipbuilding and other trades in support of the city's most well-known industry.



DEMOGRAPHICS & RELATED DATA

(Source: U.S. Census Bureau)

Median Age **33.8** years

Median Household Income
\$57,463

Median Home Value
\$204,900



Race/Ethnicity

White only **45.5%**; Black only **41%**; Two or More Races **7.2%**; Asian only **3.4%**; Hispanic or Latino **9.6%**

Educational Attainment

High school diploma **91.6%**

Bachelor's degree **28.1%**

Poverty Rate **15.8%**

THE CITY ORGANIZATION

The City of Newport News operates under the Council-Manager form of government. Six City Council members are elected from three districts – North, Central, and South – while the Mayor is elected at-large. Elections are nonpartisan and members serve staggered four-year terms.

Newport News has a FY2024 total budget of over \$1 billion and an approximate employee count of 3,600 full-time equivalent (FTE) positions across all funds. As an independent city, it is considered a "county equivalent" with the authority of a consolidated city-county government, including allocating the budgets of Newport News Public Schools and constitutional offices such as the Sheriff's Department, Commonwealth's Attorney, and the Courts.



The City’s 2020-2025 Community Vitality Strategic Plan sets out the following direction and priorities:

Vision

A diverse and prosperous waterfront city of science, technology, innovation and art where people come together as a vibrant, inclusive community.



Mission

To enhance the quality of life in the City of Newport News for current and future generations to thrive.

VALUES

Community Engagement

Opportunity for All

Creativity and Innovation

Stewardship

Fun

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

People

1. Health, Safety & Well-Being
2. Education & Learning
3. Opportunity & Economic Prosperity
4. Fun, Entertainment & Culture

Places

5. Welcoming Communities with Connected Neighborhoods

Government

6. Quality Government & Innovation
7. Environmental Stewardship & Sustainability





THE DEPARTMENT

The Internal Audit Department has a FY2024 budget of \$624,000 and five full-time equivalent positions. While the department has historically reported to the City Manager, the City Council recently voted to make the department their direct report in order to exercise greater oversight and facilitate transparency. There is strong buy-in on City Council and among City leadership for data-driven improvements, and the next City Auditor will be asked to take an expansive approach to internal auditing, going beyond compliance and financial audits to enable operational efficiency, organizational effectiveness, and innovation throughout city government.

IDEAL CANDIDATE

The City Auditor will be expected to function like an executive director, demonstrating a high degree of accountability, resourcefulness, and management acumen. Successful candidates will demonstrate excellent written and oral communication skills; the ability to explain complex concepts; and the willingness to coach and develop their employees. They will be proactive and detail-oriented and conduct themselves with the highest integrity.

The City Auditor will receive a four-year appointment in accordance with the Charter.

QUALIFICATIONS & EXPERIENCE

Requires a Bachelor's Degree in Business Administration, Finance, or related field with coursework equivalent to a major concentration in Accounting, and 10 years of progressively responsible experience in municipal auditing, accounting, finance, or a related field with 5-7 years of supervisory experience in municipal auditing or accounting. Certified Public Accountant (CPA) or Certified Internal Auditor (CIA) designation is highly desired. Master's degree is preferred.

Residency within Newport News is preferred but not required.

COMPENSATION & BENEFITS

The anticipated hiring range for this position is between \$140,000 and \$170,000 DOQ. Benefits offered include health, dental, vision, life, and short- and long-term disability insurance; retirement benefits through the Virginia Retirement System (VRS); deferred compensation, discounted fitness center memberships, and moving expenses.

HOW TO APPLY

Apply by August 22, 2024, with resume, cover letter, and five professional references at www.GovHRjobs.com to the attention of Dele Lowman, Senior Vice President. Tel: (847) 380-3240.