Cyber **security**

PCI ASV SCANNING

THREAT READY



LRQA.com

LRQA

Your Risk Management Advantage

INTRODUCTION

LRQA is a certified PCI Approved Scanning Vendor (ASV), authorised to conduct external vulnerability scans under the Payment Card Industry Data Security Standard (PCI DSS). These quarterly scans are essential for any organisation that stores, processes, or transmits cardholder data, helping to identify and mitigate security vulnerabilities such as malware, misconfigurations, and other external threats.

Our PCI ASV services not only ensure compliance with PCI DSS requirements but also provide assurance that your payment systems are secure and resilient against external threats.



PCI ASV SCANNING

WHAT IS PCI ASV SCANNING?

ASV scanning systematically identifies vulnerabilities within an organisation's internet-facing infrastructure and Cardholder Data Environment (CDE). Vulnerabilities are weaknesses in systems, applications, or services that adversaries could exploit to gain unauthorised access, trigger data breaches, or compromise sensitive cardholder information.

LRQA uses PCI SSC-validated methodologies to identify exploitable weaknesses and provide clear remediation guidance, prioritising the most critical vulnerabilities first. This maintains PCI DSS compliance more efficiently by focusing remediation efforts on the most impactful security gaps within your external attack surface.

System owners gain visibility into their internet-facing vulnerabilities, identify specific threat vectors within their cardholder data environment, and implement remediation measures that protect critical payment processing components and ensure PCI compliance.

WHY CONDUCT ASV SCANNING?

ASV scanning is mandatory for PCI DSS compliance and delivers significant strategic value:

- **External Attack Surface Visibility.** ASV scanning reveals how internet-facing systems expose pathways to your cardholder data environment. This external perspective focuses remediation on vulnerabilities that pose genuine business risk to payment card data, rather than internal technical issues with minimal exposure.
- **Mandatory Compliance and Regulatory Requirements.** PCI DSS v4.0 requires quarterly external vulnerability scans by an approved ASV for SAQ A merchants (new requirement), SAQ B-IP, SAQ C, and SAQ D merchants. ASV scanning serves as critical evidence of ongoing compliance, satisfying acquiring bank obligations and QSA audit requirements.
- **Targeted Remediation Investment.** Security budgets are limited. ASV scanning identifies which internet-facing systems present the highest compliance risk, enabling you to prioritise remediation efforts and make informed decisions about security spending. Critical external vulnerabilities are addressed before they impact compliance status.
- **Continuous Compliance Management.** The choice of monthly ASV scanning provides ongoing visibility into your external security posture rather than discovering vulnerabilities during quarterly assessments. Timely testing and remediation prevents compliance failures and reduces breach risk.

PCI ASV SCANNING

WHY CHOOSE LRQA FOR PCI ASV SCANNING?

LRQA employs PCI SSC-approved ASV methodology combined with over 10 years of cybersecurity expertise to deliver comprehensive external vulnerability assessments.

Leveraging PCI approved scanning methodologies alongside our qualified ASV professionals, we systematically identify external vulnerabilities and provide actionable remediation guidance to maintain PCI DSS compliance.

- **Phase 1:** Initial Kick-off and Scope Definition
- **Phase 2:** Pre-requisites and Whitelisting Configuration
- **Phase 3:** Automated Vulnerability Scanning
- **Phase 4:** Manual Validation and False Positive Triage
- **Phase 5:** Analysis, Reporting and Quality Assurance
- **Phase 6:** Debrief and Ongoing Remediation Support

WHAT TO EXPECT FROM AN ASV SCANNING ENGAGEMENT:

Our ASV scanning begins with a kick-off phase to establish your cardholder data environment scope, compliance objectives, and engagement outcomes. We request documentation on your internet-facing infrastructure, PCI scope boundaries, and system configurations.

Our professionals map your external attack surface, identify all internet-facing systems within your PCI scope, and ask for whitelist of our scanning IP ranges on rate-limiting devices (IPS/WAF). We validate scope boundaries, document critical payment processing assets, and assess vulnerability impact on your compliance status.

We conduct automated vulnerability scanning using PCI SSC-approved tools and methodologies to assess each internet-facing component—evaluating operating systems, applications, services, network configurations, and security controls. Our consultants manually validate findings and eliminate false positives for accurate reporting.

We provide comprehensive reporting and remediation guidance, detailing identified vulnerabilities and offering actionable recommendations on patching, configuration changes, and risk mitigation. This validates compliance and directs your remediation efforts to maintain PCI DSS adherence.

SCANNING FREQUENCY OPTIONS

Quarterly Compliance Scanning: Quarterly external vulnerability scans meeting minimum PCI DSS requirements and baseline regulatory compliance.

Monthly Managed Solution: Monthly scanning cycles providing faster vulnerability detection, enhanced ASV requalification assurance, and continuous compliance monitoring.RetryClaude can make mistakes.
Please double-check responses.

ABOUT LRQA

LRQA is a leading global risk management partner.

Through our connected risk management solutions, we help you navigate an evolving global landscape to keep you one step ahead.

From certification and cybersecurity, to safety, sustainability and supply chain resilience, we work with you to identify risks across your business. We then create smart, scalable solutions, tailored to help you prepare, prevent and protect against risk.

Through relentless client focus, backed by decades of sector-specific expertise, data-driven insight and on-the-ground specialists across assurance, certification, inspection, advisory and training, we support over 61,000 organisations in more than 150 countries.

LRQA – Your risk management advantage.

GET IN TOUCH

Visit **LRQA.com** for more information or email **enquiries.uk@lrqa.com**

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Care is taken to ensure that all information provided is accurate and up to date; however, LRQA accepts no responsibility for inaccuracies in or changes to information.

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