VANESSA OKAFOR

PRINCIPAL BUSINESS ANALYST

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Summary

Principal Business Analyst with 12 years of enterprise experience at Capital One and Accenture. CBAP and Lean Six Sigma Black Belt certified. Architected requirements frameworks now used by 80+ BAs company-wide; delivered $9.1M in verified process savings. Recognized by IIBA as a national Business Analyst of the Year finalist.

Skills

Other Skills: Enterprise Requirements Architecture (97), Business Strategy & Roadmapping (92), SQL / Python Analytics (88), Tableau & Looker (87), CBAP / BABOK v3 (97), SAFe Lean Portfolio Management (90), Six Sigma Black Belt (DMAIC) (88), Data Governance & Modeling (85), Executive Stakeholder Engagement (95), Change Management (Prosci ADKAR) (82)

Experience

Capital One — McLean, VA

Principal Business Analyst — Apr 2018 - Present

Principal BA in the Consumer Card Technology division, setting standards for 80-analyst BA organization.

- Architected enterprise requirements framework and reusable artifact library, saving an estimated 12,000 BA hours annually ($1.4M)
- Led requirements for a core card-decisioning platform re-platform serving 35M cardholders; delivered 4 months ahead of schedule
- Drove Six Sigma DMAIC project reducing fraud-review false positives by 41%, recovering $7.7M in annual revenue
- Presented quarterly business cases to the SVP of Technology, influencing $40M+ in annual IT budget allocation

Accenture — Washington, D.C.

Senior Business Analyst — Jul 2013 - Mar 2018

Senior consultant in the Financial Services strategy practice, serving Tier-1 banking clients.

- Delivered requirements analysis for a $35M core-banking migration at a top-10 U.S. bank; zero post-cutover critical defects
- Designed process improvements reducing mortgage-origination TAT from 21 days to 13 days (38% improvement)
- Built and trained 5-person BA squad; 4 members promoted to senior roles within 18 months
- Recognized as Top 5% Analyst in Accenture's annual peer review (2016, 2017)

Education

Harvard Business School — Boston, MA

MBA — Sep 2009 - Jun 2011

Business Administration · GPA: 3.9/4.0

University of California, Los Angeles — Los Angeles, CA

Bachelor of Arts — Sep 2005 - Jun 2009

Economics · GPA: 3.6/4.0

Certificates

Certified Business Analysis Professional (CBAP) — 2017

IIBA

Lean Six Sigma Black Belt 2020

ASQ

PMI Professional in Business Analysis (PMI-PBA) 2022

Project Management Institute

AWS Certified Cloud Practitioner 2023

Amazon Web Services

Awards

IIBA Business Analyst of the Year – Financial Services 2023

IIBA North America

National recognition for leading the industry's largest single BA-driven cost-reduction initiative.

Capital One Innovation Spotlight Award 2021

Capital One

Recognized for pioneering ML-assisted requirements traceability across 3 product lines.

Languages

English

Native

Spanish

Fluent

Hobbies

Mentoring early-career analysts

Long-distance cycling