

ISO 9001:2026 transition gap checklist

A gap checklist for an organisation certified to ISO 9001:2015 (with Amendment 1:2024) that is moving to ISO 9001:2026. Each row is one topic that a public source says changed, with its clause number and what that source says, in our words; you fill in where your system stands, the gap, the action, who owns it, when it is due and the evidence. ISO's own article on the new edition lists a gap analysis among the steps of a transition. This is **not a conformity checklist**: it does not contain the requirements of ISO 9001:2026, which are in the paid standard, and Global ACI says its list of key changes is not limited to the items it names, so read each clause in the standard itself. Your certification body sets your own transition audit and dates. The row order, the source letters, the columns and the example row are ours, to change. A completed checklist does not show conformity and is not a certificate.

Edition	Written against	Replaces	Sources read
Checklist version 1.0, 21 October 2026	ISO 9001:2026, Quality management systems, Requirements: edition 6, published 16 September 2026 (ISO's standard record)	ISO 9001:2015 and its Amendment 1:2024, both shown as withdrawn on ISO's record	ISO, Global ACI, UKAS and ISO/TC 176, opened on 21 October 2026 (section 6). Re-check them before you rely on a row

1 Transition details

Organisation	Sites and scope on the certificate	Certificate number	Certificate expiry date, as printed
Certification body	Accreditation body, and the date your certification body's accreditation was transitioned to ISO 9001:2026	Next audit (type and date)	
Transition audit route agreed with the certification body ☐ At a surveillance audit ☐ At recertification ☐ At a separate transition audit ☐ Not yet agreed		On site or remote ☐ On site ☐ Remote ☐ Mixed	
Copy of ISO 9001:2026 held (format, date bought, where kept)	Checklist owner (name, role)	Gap review dates	Version and date

2 Transition timeline, as the accreditation sources state it (read 21 October 2026)

Date	What the source states	Source	Your certification body's date or note
16 Sep 2026	ISO 9001:2026 published. Global ACI's dates below count from the last day of the publication month, 30 September 2026.	ISO record; Global ACI, section 4	
1 Nov 2026	UKAS ready to begin assessing certification bodies for the transition.	UKAS bulletin	
31 Jan 2027	UKAS completes its first tranche of transition decisions, for certification bodies that are ready.	UKAS bulletin	
31 Mar 2027	Accreditation bodies ready to assess to the 2026 edition, at the latest.	Global ACI	
30 Jun 2027	Certification bodies submit their transition declaration and evidence. One that will not transition tells its clients in writing by this date.	Global ACI	
30 Sep 2027	Accreditation bodies complete their transition decisions (Global ACI); all UKAS transition decisions completed (UKAS).	Global ACI; UKAS	
16 Mar 2028	UKAS: certification bodies stop accepting new applications against the previous version.	UKAS bulletin	
31 Mar 2028	Global ACI: new and initial accredited certifications only to ISO 9001:2026.	Global ACI	
30 Sep 2029	End of the transition. Certified organisations transition at a surveillance or recertification audit or a separate transition audit, with the certificate issued before this date; accredited certifications to the 2015 edition are no longer valid after it.	Global ACI	

Global ACI's requirements bind the accreditation bodies that sign its arrangement and the certification bodies they accredit; ISO's article gives certified organisations three years. UKAS says that until it has transitioned a certification body's accreditation, a certificate that body issues against ISO 9001:2026 must not be presented as accredited. Global ACI says an organisation that chooses not to transition may still be audited against the 2015 edition, but its certification ends with the transition period.

3 Gap checklist

Source letters: **G** Global ACI transition requirements, version 1.1; **U** UKAS high-level gap analysis, V1.0 (its rating of the change to requirements); **B** UKAS bulletin, revision 1; **I** ISO's article on the new edition; **T** ISO/TC 176 news (full references in section 6). The middle column paraphrases what each source says; it is not the text of the standard. Fill in the six columns on the right after reading the clause in your copy of ISO 9001:2026. **Gap**: what is missing, or none. **Evidence**: the document, record or minutes (with revision or date) that shows the action is done.

Part A. Changes the sources describe

Ref	Topic and clause	What changed, per the source	Our current state	Gap	Action	Owner	Due date	Evidence
Ex.	Example, invented company: 6.3 Planning of changes	As in row A11	Change form CF-01 rev. 4 records the reason, risk and approval of a change	No field for how a change's effectiveness is checked or how its results are reviewed	Add both fields to CF-01 and brief the planners	Quality manager	2027-02-15	CF-01 rev. 5; briefing record
A1	Structure and alignment (whole standard)	G : aligned with Annex SL and TMB resolution 16/2025. I : the harmonized structure used by ISO management system standards is kept, so the top-level clause structure is unchanged.						
A2	Terms and definitions (clause 3)	G : terms specific to quality are added for quality management system, quality policy and quality objectives, to fit the harmonized structure; ISO 9000 stays the normative reference for quality vocabulary.						
A3	Documented information (wording; 7.5)	G : a new phrase for documented information is brought in, and what it means for documented information to be available is clarified. U : 7.5.1 to 7.5.3.2 rated no change.						
A4	4.2 Understanding needs and expectations of interested parties	U : significant. B : interested parties are one of the most significant areas of change. Neither source says what changed in the clause; read it in the standard. See also A13.						
A5	Climate change (from Amendment 1:2024)	I : the consideration of climate change that Amendment 1:2024 added to the 2015 edition is carried into the new edition. U : 4.1 rated no change.						
A6	5.1.1 Leadership, general	G : the list of top management's commitments is re-ordered, with a new item on promoting quality culture and ethical behaviour; the improvement to be promoted is now continual improvement; a second note says culture and ethics can be seen in shared values, attitudes and everyday practice. U : significant. I : more weight on culture, ethics and everyone contributing.						
A7	5.2.1 (under 5.2 Quality policy; 2015 title: establishing the quality policy)	G : elements of item a) are moved into item e), which ties the policy to the organisation's context and its strategic direction. U : minor. I : the policy is linked more explicitly to context and strategy.						
A8	6.1.1 Determining risks and opportunities	G : clause 6.1 is split into three subclauses; this one is about determining risks and opportunities. U : no change.						
A9	6.1.2 Actions to address risks	G : actions on risks now have a subclause of their own. U : significant.						

Ref	Topic and clause	What changed, per the source	Our current state	Gap	Action	Owner	Due date	Evidence
A10	6.1.3 Actions to address opportunities	G, U: a new subclause for actions on opportunities, with no separate counterpart in the 2015 edition. U: significant. I: a clearer line between managing risks and pursuing opportunities.						
A11	6.3 Planning of changes	G: the second paragraph now opens on making changes effective in reaching intended results, and three items are added: how a change's effectiveness will be monitored and evaluated, how the change is communicated, and how its results are reviewed. U: significant.						
A12	7.3 Awareness	G: a new awareness item on the organisation's quality culture and ethical behaviour. U: significant. I: describes these as new awareness requirements.						
A13	9.3.2 Management review inputs	G: the inputs are now stated as what the review includes, not what it takes into consideration; a new input covers changes in the needs and expectations of interested parties relevant to the system; the later inputs are re-ordered. U: significant; 9.3.3 is titled management review results (no change).						
A14	10.1 and 10.3 (numbering)	U: in the 2026 edition 10.1 is titled continual improvement and the 2015 clause 10.3 has no counterpart; both rated no change. Check the clause numbers your documents cite.						
A15	Annex A and Annex B (informative)	G: Annex A modified to clarify the requirements; Annex B removed. I, T: describe Annex A as new, explaining key concepts, terms and the intent of the requirements. U: not categorised.						

Part B. Clauses UKAS rates as a minor change

The UKAS table rates each clause below as a minor change to requirements; the sources we read do not say what changed. Compare the clause in the 2026 edition with your procedure before writing in a gap. 5.2.1, also rated minor, is row A7. Titles are those UKAS lists for 2026; where it gives a subclause no title, the row names the parent clause.

Ref	Topic and clause	What changed, per the source	Our current state	Gap	Action	Owner	Due date	Evidence
B1	5.2.2 (under 5.2 Quality policy; 2015 title: communicating the quality policy)	U: minor.						
B2	5.3 Roles, responsibilities and authorities	U: minor; UKAS lists a shorter clause title for 2026.						
B3	6.2.1 (under 6.2 Quality objectives and planning to achieve them)	U: minor.						
B4	7.1.5.2 Traceability of measurement results	U: minor; retitled (2015: measurement traceability).						
B5	7.1.6 Organizational knowledge	U: minor. I: lists organizational knowledge among the business realities its smaller refinements reflect.						
B6	7.2 Competence	U: minor.						

Ref	Topic and clause	What changed, per the source	Our current state	Gap	Action	Owner	Due date	Evidence
B7	8.1 Operational planning and control	U: minor.						
B8	8.2.1 Customer communication	U: minor.						
B9	8.3.2 Design and development planning	U: minor.						
B10	8.3.5 Design and development outputs	U: minor.						
B11	8.4.3 Information for external providers	U: minor.						
B12	9.1.2 Customer satisfaction	U: minor.						
B13	9.1.3 Analysis and evaluation	U: minor.						
B14	9.2.2 Internal audit programme	U: minor.						

Part C. What the transition audit also looks at

Ref	Topic and clause	What changed, per the source	Our current state	Gap	Action	Owner	Due date	Evidence
C1	Changes in your context since the last audit (4.1, 4.2)	G 5.2: the transition audit reviews changes to the organisation's context, as well as the changed requirements. G 3.2: determining those changes is the certified organisation's responsibility.						
C2	Other changes your system needs	G 5.2: the transition audit also reviews whether the management system needs any other changes.						
C3	Clause references in procedures, forms, checklists and software exports	Our check, not a source requirement: which edition each document cites, and whether renumbered or new clauses (A8 to A10, A14) are updated.						

Rows you add (changes you find when reading the standard, or items your certification body raises)

Ref	Topic and clause	What changed, per the source	Our current state	Gap	Action	Owner	Due date	Evidence

4 Questions for your certification body

Question	Answer	Who answered, and when
When was, or will be, your accreditation for ISO 9001:2026 transitioned, and by which accreditation body?		
At which audit will we transition (surveillance, recertification or a separate audit), and on what date?		
Will audit time be added for the transition, and how is it worked out? (Global ACI asks the certification body to consider it.)		
Will any part of the transition audit be remote?		
Will the expiry date on our current certificate change? (Global ACI says it need not, but the body may shorten it.)		
What will you want to see on the changed clauses (A4 to A13) and on changes to our context?		

5 Readiness review and sign-off

Rows with a gap (count)	Gaps closed (count)	Gaps still open, with their refs	Internal audit against the 2026 edition (date, report ref.)
Management review that covered the transition (date, minutes ref.)		Changes to context found (C1) and where recorded	
Role	Name	Signature	Date
Checklist owner			
Top management (approves the transition plan)			
Where this checklist and its evidence are kept			Next review of this checklist

6 Sources (all opened on 21 October 2026) and what we could not verify

	Source and address
G	Global ACI-TECH-3-TR 2029-09-30 (M) v1.1, sys.global-aci.org/uploads/documents/TECH-3-TR_2029-09-30_(M)_ISO_9001_2026_Transition_v1_12.pdf ; news of 16 September 2026 at global-aci.org/en/news/global-aci-publishes-transition-requirements-for-iso-90012026/ ; document list at global-aci.org/en/global_aci-documents/?cat_id=13
U	UKAS high-level gap analysis V1.0, ukas.com/wp-content/uploads/2026/09/2026.09.16-Technical-Bulletin-QMS-ISO-9001-transition-Gap-analysis.pdf
B	UKAS technical bulletin revision 1, ukas.com/resources/technical-bulletins/qms-iso-9001-2026-transition/
I	ISO, iso.org/quality-management/iso-9001-2026 , and ISO's standard record, iso.org/standard/9001
T	ISO/TC 176, committee.iso.org/sites/tc176/home/news/content-left-area/news-and-updates/news.html

What we could not verify (21 October 2026). We did not read ISO 9001:2026 itself, and ISO's online preview asks for acceptance of its terms of use before it shows any text, so it was not used: the rows say only what the sources above say, and there may be changes they do not list. No source we read says what changed in 4.2 or in the clauses of Part B. Global ACI's news page still links the version 1.0 file; its document list, opened the same day, gives version 1.1 as the current version, which is the one we read. We read no national accreditation body other than UKAS and no certification body's own transition plan.