

SUMMARY OF QUALIFICATIONS

Leadership and Management: Team Coordination, Event Organization, Industry Collaboration, Budget Management, Mentorship, Initiative, Communication, Strategic Planning, Problem-Solving.

Cybersecurity: Linux/Unix, Python Scripting, PowerShell Scripting, Bash Shell, Identity and Access Management, Digital Forensics, Red teaming.

Networking: LAN, Routing Protocols: OSPF, EIGRP, IGRP, RIP, and RIPv2, Layer-2 Switching, VLAN's, and Access-list, OSI Model, TCP/IP protocol suite (IP, ARP, ICMP, TCP, UDP, SMTP, FTP, TFTP).

Languages: Fluent – Farsi (Dari or Persian) and English | Proficient Pashto

EDUCATION

Old Dominion University, Norfolk, VA

December 2022 - May 2024

Master of Science in Cybersecurity; (GPA, 3.95)

Relevant Coursework: Cybersecurity Principles, Advanced Cybersecurity Techniques and Operations, Advanced Cybersecurity Law and Policy, Leadership and Management in Cybersecurity, Networked Systems Security, Cyber-Physical System Security, Cybersecurity Policy and Human Factor, Windows System for Cybersecurity.

Old Dominion University, Norfolk, VA

September 2019 – December 2022

Bachelor of Science in Cybersecurity; Minor in Computer Science (GPA, 3.85)

Relevant Coursework: Cybersecurity Fundamentals, Problem Solving and Programming 1 & 2, Network Engineering and Design 1 & 2, Cybersecurity Techniques and Operations, Unix Programming, Linux System for Cybersecurity, Digital Forensics, Cyber Law, Introduction to Criminology, Cybersecurity Strategy and Policy.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Virginia Department of Human Resource Management Information Security Analyst

January 2024 - Present

Hours - 29/Week

- Closely collaborating with the DHRM Chief Information Security Officer (CISO) on the development and implementation of IT disaster recovery.
- Participating in the design and implementation of the security awareness training program.
- Project lead in the review and testing of the DHRM Continuity Plan (COOP) for organizational preparedness.
- Conducting security assessments, including penetration testing and vulnerability scanning, to identify and mitigate potential threats.
- Supporting the development of security policies, procedures, and guidelines in alignment with Commonwealth Security Standards (SEC 530) and NIST framework.

January 2024 - Present Virginia

Hours: 20 - 25/Week

- Successfully secured funding from the Commonwealth Cyber Initiative (CCI) after proposing the initiative.
- Leading a team of student directors from across Virginia.
- Leading the initiative to establish 3 regional nodes across Virginia, facilitating engagement and resource sharing among students from 43 institutions.
- Working closely with students and faculty of 4 different regions to plan and implement events, workshops, and conferences across the commonwealth.

Virginia Department of Elections, Orange County Election Locality Cybersecurity Consultant, UVA Cyber Navigator Program

May 2023 – August 2023

Hours: 40/week

- Conducted IT infrastructure review using tools like Nessus and Nmap for vulnerability scanning, identified security gaps, and aligned with election security standards (LESS Checklist) by leveraging frameworks such as NIST.
- Enhanced security by implementing network segmentation using Cisco or Juniper hardware, applied AES or RSA encryption standards, and deployed multifactor authentication with the IT team through platforms like RSA SecurID.
- Helped in creating alerts for certain Windows logs.
- Led the creation of a Business Impact Analysis (BIA) plan to mitigate cyber incident impacts and maintain operational continuity using Microsoft Office Suite (Excel, Word, Visio).

State Corporation Commission Cybersecurity Analyst

May 2022 – June 2023

Hours: 25 – 40/week

- Monitored user access and activities using McAfee SIEM, ensuring robust identification and authentication oversight.
- Documented and analyzed security metrics and initiatives with precision tools.
- Administered CyberArk PAM, securing privileged accounts for over 750 users.
- Assisted in RSA Security Console management for multi-factor authentication for 750+ users.
- Orchestrated a phishing simulation using KnowBe4 to elevate staff security vigilance.
- Directed the Phish Alert Button (PAB) deployment, improving organizational phishing response.
- Maintained cloud security posture using Microsoft Defender and Trellix for endpoint detection.

CoVA CCI

September 2021 – December 2021

Undergrad Cybersecurity Researcher

Hours: 30 – 40/week

- Worked on a research project under the guidance of a mentor throughout the semester.
- Identified, searched, located, and evaluated research data on "The importance of Cybersecurity in Small Businesses."
- Interviewed small business owners to collect further data on the topic.
- Showcased and presented findings to a group of students and faculty.
- Published a research paper on the topic and received funding (\$2500).

Old Dominion University
Networking DevSecOpsIntern

December 2019 - September 2021

Hours: 30 – 40/week

- Scripted network security automation using Python in Linux/Unix environments, using PowerShell and bash shell scripting.
- Oversaw student workers on cybersecurity and networking projects.

- Resolved network service incidents using knowledge of routing protocols and TCP/IP suite.
- Proficient in Routing Protocols: OSPF, EIGRP, IGRP, RIP, and RIPv2.
- Experienced in managing VLANs and access lists.
- Well-versed in OSI Model and TCP/IP protocol suite (IP, ARP, ICMP, TCP, UDP, SMTP, FTP, TFTP).
- Managed and executed network projects with a focus on security and efficiency.
- Documented network upgrade plans, integrating advanced networking concepts.
- Collaborated on projects using GitLab for version control.

VOLUNTEER & Club Affiliations

Coastal Virginia Cybersecurity Student Association (CVCSA) President (April 2022 – Present) Outreach Chair (September 2021 – April 2022) September 2021 - Present

- Leading a team of officers from all Coastal Virginia colleges and universities.
- Managing and allocating budget funds and grants for various events.
- Expanded CVCSA's reach to 10 universities and community colleges.
- Communication and Strategic Planning: Directed meetings with the Leadership Council of Coastal Virginia cyber club presidents.
- Successfully organized CyberForge 2022, 2023, and 2024, a regional Cybersecurity conference and Capture the Flag (CTF) competition. www.cyberforge.cvcsa-cyber.org
 - Sponsored by: CompTIA, TCM Security, MITRE, NCIS, Sentara, FTI, WiCyS, G2-Ops, etc.
- Collaborating with the Commonwealth Cyber Initiative (CCI) for student opportunities.
- Maintaining thoroughness in administrative and organizational tasks. Build a centralized database for the association to store all event registrations.

Cybersecurity Student Association, ODU, Member

September 2019 - Present

- Attended and competed in several CTF competitions.
- Represented ODU in ISC2 annual conference in Las Vegas 2022.
- Attended weekly meetings and collaborated with fellow club members on different learning projects.

AWARDS AND SCHOLARSHIPS

- CyberCorps® Scholarship for Service (SFS) recipient for bachelor's & master's degree, 2021
- ODU Cyber Scholarship (\$35,552), 2019
- Newport News Schools Top Graduates (\$2400), 2019
- ODU Merit-based Scholarship (\$4000/year), 2019
- US President's Education Award for Outstanding Academic Excellence, 2019
- Virginia House of Delegates Award for Academic Excellence, 2019

CERTIFICATIONS

- AZ-900: Microsoft Azure Fundamentals
- CompTIA Security+
- ComptIA Network+
- Cisco Certified Network Technician (CCNT)
- NOCTI Networking & Cybersecurity Certified
- Microsoft Office | Alison Academy
- CyberArk PAM Administrator
- Insider Threat Risk Management LinkedIn Learning
- Cyber Supply Chain Risk Management CISA.gov
- Introduction to Cyber Intelligence CISA.gov