

Job Analysis: ISYS Technologies Cyber Security Specialist

Gavin L Williams

Old Dominion University

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Dr. Sherron Gordon-Phan

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Abstract

ISYS Technologies, a key technology service provider for the U.S. Federal Government, is looking for cyber security specialists in Hampton, VA. The role is crucial in supporting federal projects related to national security and space exploration. The main tasks for the Cyber Security Specialist include analyzing data, documenting security issues, and helping handle cyber threats. These responsibilities are important for keeping government information systems safe and secure. The job needs a good understanding of cybersecurity concepts, skills in analyzing data, and the right educational background. Candidates should also have an active Top-Secret Clearance and necessary certifications. My own abilities, such as strong communication, technical knowledge from my college studies, and good organization and time management skills, align well with the job requirements. These skills fit the job's basic needs and would help me contribute effectively to ISYS Technologies' challenging work environment. Additionally, I am CompTIA Security + certified and I have almost completed my bachelor's degree in cyber security. However, I fail to meet certain qualifications such as an active Top-Secret Clearance or real-world work experience in this field.

Introduction

In today's world, cybersecurity is increasingly important for national security and technology. As digital threats grow and change, protecting important information is crucial, especially for government related entities. This is where companies like ISYS Technologies come in. They provide technology services to the federal government and are now looking for cyber security specialists in Hampton, VA. These specialists play an important role in guarding against cyber threats in critical areas like space exploration and defense. They are more than just computer experts; they are defenders of important digital information. Their work is essential for keeping government operations safe and secure. The need for such roles at ISYS Technologies shows how important cybersecurity has become in our modern world, both for protecting our country and for keeping up with technological advancements. This essay covers the importance of this position, its key responsibilities, analyze the skills and qualifications needed, and investigate the company's culture.

Responsibilities and Qualifications

This role involves a range of important responsibilities. According to ISYS Technologies (2023) job listing, these specialists are responsible for providing data analysis support and analyzing data from various sources like sensors, network security devices, and applications. This is done using tools such as security information event management systems, log servers, and application interfaces. Their responsibilities also include documenting signs of system security breaches, creating trend reports, and gathering information on any suspicious or harmful activities. They are in charge of reporting any security incidents or breaches to the relevant parties, identifying any unusual or dangerous activities. Additionally, these specialists contribute to content creation, prioritize, rank, and escalate incidents, provide support in the detection,

response, mitigation, and reporting of cyber threats affecting networks, maintain an understanding of current vulnerabilities, response, and mitigation strategies in cyber security operations, and assist in producing status reports and briefs for senior leadership (ISYS Technologies, 2023). Reviewing the job duties shows that the position demands a variety of skills. The job involves technical tasks like data analysis and managing security breaches, as well as strategic responsibilities such as incident reporting and understanding the latest cybersecurity strategies. This position is crucial for keeping government operations secure, calling for not just technical knowledge but also the ability to think ahead, pay attention to detail, and communicate complex information effectively.

As stated in ISYS Technologies (2023) job listing, to qualify for the junior level position one must have a “BA/BS in Information Security, Cyber Security, Information Technology, Computer Science, or a related field” and “1-3 years’ applicable experience” with essential requirements such as needing an “US Citizenship, Active Top-Secret Clearance with SCI eligibility, and CompTIA Security+ certification” (ISYS Technologies, 2023). I have obtained a CompTIA Security+ certification and am almost done with my bachelor's degree in cybersecurity. However, I don't have any active Top-Secret Clearance or real-world work experience yet in this field. While I do not meet all the qualifications, I would still apply once I graduate, believing that my current skills can provide a strong foundation for growth and learning in this role.

Desired Skills

Technical proficiency, strong communication abilities, problem-solving capabilities, adaptability, and the skill to manage stress effectively are essential for this position.

Technical proficiency is crucial in this role at ISYS Technologies due to the complex nature of cyber security tasks, such as analyzing data from various security devices and systems. Strong communication skills are essential for effectively reporting security incidents and collaborating with team members and other departments. Problem-solving abilities are necessary for identifying and addressing security threats quickly and efficiently. Adaptability is important due to the dynamic nature of cyber threats, requiring specialists to continually update and modify their strategies. Finally, effective stress management is vital in handling the high-pressure environment of cyber security, where quick decision-making and precision are often needed in response to potential security breaches. Each of these skills plays an important role in ensuring the specialist can perform effectively in a role that is critical to national security and technological advancement. My years of experience in university have done well to build my technical and communication skills as well as my problem-solving capabilities. I generally manage stress effectively in various situations."; however, I'm not quite sure how stressful this line of work may be. Lastly, I make it a point to stay up to date with the latest cybersecurity developments and news.

Company Culture

To gain insight into what working at ISYS Technologies might be like, I explored reviews from former and current employees, focusing on the company in general rather than this specific office or role. Using Indeed's review feature, I found that ISYS Technologies has an overall rating of 3.6 out of 5 stars, indicating generally positive feedback. Many employees highlight the company's effective communication. A notable review from a former OSINT analyst mentioned that ISYS Technologies "Has a small business feel and are much more personable compared to larger contracting companies where you typically feel like a statistic"

(ISYS Technologies Reviews, 2023). This suggests a supportive and engaging work environment, which I believe is important for a good work environment. However, there are quite a few reviews suggesting issues relating to management and heavy workloads. However, I am not quite sure if reviews may be an appropriate measure of what it's like to work for this position. Judging the culture of a workplace environment from a job posting can be difficult for multiple reasons. As mentioned in Ray Harper's (2012) research of the collection and analysis of job advertisements, "Job adverts may be written to reflect a desired future state, rather than a current reality" (Harper 2012, p. 31) This leads to another aspect of discerning what is stated as a requirement in the job posting versus what is desired. This issue is present since as Harper states "Job adverts could be seen as advertising tools which sell a 'product' (a paid employment position) in exchange for 'capital' value (the skills and competencies of the successful candidate)" (Harper 2012, p. 31). If I were to apply for this position, I would investigate everything I can to get a better feel for the company and then hope for the best but expect the worst.

Conclusion

In conclusion, the role of a Cyber Security Specialist at ISYS Technologies is not only crucial for maintaining the security of the U.S. Federal Government's information systems but also represents a significant opportunity for professional growth and contribution in the field of cybersecurity. Despite not fully meeting all the qualifications, such as not having an active Top-Secret Clearance or any real-world experience, my current skill set, which includes a strong foundation in technical knowledge, effective communication, and problem-solving abilities, aligns well with the core requirements of the position. My upcoming completion of a bachelor's degree in cybersecurity and CompTIA Security+ certification further solidify my readiness for

this role. Additionally, while the company culture at ISYS Technologies appears to have both strengths and weaknesses, it offers a dynamic environment that values communication and personal engagement. As the field of cybersecurity continues to evolve, roles like this are important in maintaining the safety and security of critical national interests. Embracing the challenges and opportunities this position offers, I am enthusiastic about the potential to grow, learn, and significantly contribute to the important work at companies like ISYS Technologies.

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