

Ashar S. Ahmed

Cyber Security & Compliance Analyst | U.S. Citizen | ashar@aahmed.org | GitHub

SUMMARY

Cyber security analyst with 3+ years developing and maintaining security policies, performing risk assessments, audits, and compliance reviews aligned to ISO 27001 and NIST. Experienced authoring AI governance frameworks (ISO 42001 / NIST AI RMF-aligned), completing client and vendor security questionnaires, delivering compliance training, and performing significant SIEM log analysis. Strong written and interpersonal communication; translates technical risk into business language for leadership. Holds a CISSP and an M.S. in Cybersecurity.

TECHNICAL SKILLS

Frameworks / Compliance: ISO 27001, ISO 42001 (AI management systems), NIST CSF, NIST AI RMF, CIS Controls v8; regulatory compliance, policy & standards development

GRC Operations: Risk assessments, internal audits, compliance reviews, audit evidence, client/vendor security questionnaires, third-party risk, remediation SLA tracking

AI / ML Governance: AI acceptable-use policy, LLM risk assessment, AI-driven compliance gap identification, GRC monitoring, policy-violation detection, shadow-AI

Security Operations: SIEM log analysis & correlation (Wazuh), detection engineering, incident response, MITRE ATT&CK

Cloud / Tooling: AWS (IAM, CloudTrail, GuardDuty, Config), policy-as-code (Checkov), Python / PowerShell / Bash automation

Training & Reporting: Security awareness training, KPI dashboards, leadership reporting, documentation (policies, procedures, runbooks)

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Cyber Security Advisor, Dr. Shariq Mumtaz Medicine Professional Corporation

Jan. 2023 – Present

- Developed, implemented, and maintained security policies, procedures, and standards aligned to ISO 27001 / NIST CSF for a regulated environment
- Performed risk assessments, compliance reviews, and remediation tracking; maintained organized audit evidence and documentation for assessments
- Established an **AI acceptable-use policy and governance framework** (aligned to ISO 42001 / NIST AI RMF); assessed generative-AI tools for compliance, privacy, and data-handling risk
- Built SIEM log-analysis pipelines (Wazuh) correlating identity, endpoint, and network telemetry across a distributed fleet; cut Mean Time to Detect from days to under **1 hour**
- Organized and delivered security awareness training; monitored participation and reported results and KPIs to leadership with follow-up on non-compliance
- Completed client and vendor security questionnaires drawing on documented precedent for accuracy and consistency; managed third-party risk assessments

Software Developer (DevSecOps), Department of Industry, Canadian Digital Service

Feb. 2021 – Jan. 2022

- Enforced security controls as code (Checkov) across all Terraform/Terragrunt modules provisioning auditable AWS infrastructure (IAM, CloudTrail, S3)
- Implemented CI/CD quality and compliance gates, raising code coverage from ~20% to **85%** and cutting client-reported data incidents from 4–5 to 1–2 per cycle
- Awarded the **Directors' General Award of Merit** for delivery impact on national spectrum operations

Technical Contractor (AI Safety & Evaluation), Mercor Intelligence, San Francisco, CA

May 2026 – Present

- Evaluate large language model outputs and failure modes for a frontier AI lab, including adversarial and misuse scenarios — directly informs AI risk assessment and governance practice

PROJECTS

Security Homelab & Detection Lab | GitHub

- Operate a self-built SIEM/SOC lab with significant log-analysis workload: Wazuh detection engineering (custom decoders/rules), automated response, and Zero Trust (SP 800-207) segmentation
- Mapped technical controls to NIST CSF and CIS Controls v8 with full documentation; instrumented observability (Prometheus, Grafana, Loki) and self-healing automation

EDUCATION

Master of Science (M.S.) Cybersecurity & Information Assurance | Western Governors University

Awarded 2024

Bachelor of Computer Science (BCompSci) | Dalhousie University

Awarded 2024

CERTIFICATIONS

Certified Information Systems Security Professional (CISSP)

Awarded 2026

Systems Security Certified Professional (SSCP)

Awarded 2023

AWS Certified Solutions Architect & Developer - Associate

Awarded 2022