Ashar S. Ahmed

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TECHNICAL SKILLS

SecOps / **Detection:** SIEM alert triage, EDR investigation, log correlation, alert tuning, detection logic (SQL, regex), incident response playbooks, threat modeling
Vulnerability Mgmt: CVE triage, vulnerability validation/prioritization, remediation coordination, evidence collection, compliance closure tracking
IAM / **Endpoint:** MFA, macOS/Windows hardening, FileVault, patch compliance, MDM policy enforcement, endpoint baselines, DNS filtering
Cloud / **IaC:** AWS (IAM, S3, DynamoDB, CloudWatch, CloudWatch Logs, CloudTrail), Azure (Defender for Cloud), Terraform, Terragrunt, Checkov, Docker, Kubernetes
Scripting / **Automation:** Python, PowerShell, Bash, JavaScript/TypeScript
Compliance: SOC 2, ISO 27001, HIPAA-oriented controls, audit documentation, control evidence workflows

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Security Operations Analyst Jan. 2023 – Present
Dr. Shariq Mumtaz Medicine Professional Corporation

- Owned security end-to-end as the sole security owner in a boutique medical practice; built the program from scratch (risk register, remediation SLAs, KPI reporting, prioritized roadmap)
- Instrumented identity/endpoint/network telemetry and built correlation-driven triage; reduced MTTD from days to under 1 hour
- Rolled out fleet-wide baseline controls across all endpoints for the business (macOS/Windows): MFA, FileVault, MDM enforcement, and patch cadences; standardized baselines and exceptions
- Operationalized incident response and vulnerability closure with external IT vendors; authored playbooks and audit-ready evidence mapped to HIPAA-oriented controls

Software Engineer (1 Year Term Appointment) Feb. 2021 – Jan. 2022
Government of Canada
Assignments: Department of Industry (ISED), Feb. 2021 – Oct. 2021 | Canadian Digital Service (CDS), Oct. 2021 – Jan. 2022

- Engineered secure AWS infrastructure (IAM, S3, DynamoDB, CloudWatch) via Terraform/Terragrunt; enforced policy-as-code scanning with Checkov
- Built Python/Flask bot-abuse detection controls, analyzing request patterns and tuning thresholds to reduce false positives while maintaining detection accuracy
- Refactored a monolithic application into service-based components, reducing incident blast radius and improving production reliability
- Implemented CI quality gates and automated testing, increasing code coverage from ~20% to 85% and reducing production defect rates
- Produced security runbooks and incident-support documentation adopted org-wide; awarded the **Directors' General Award of Merit** for delivery impact on national spectrum operations

Software Engineer Intern Sept. 2020 – Dec. 2020
National Research Council of Canada (NRC)

- Developed full-stack Oracle Database applications powering research data pipelines across multiple NRC divisions
- Engineered PL/SQL stored procedures and SQL-based automation to replace manual workflows, eliminating ~10 hrs/week of manual processing

PROJECTS & PUBLICATIONS

The Cyber Centre and Technologies: A Meta-Analysis | *Accepted, Canadian Military Journal (forthcoming)*

- Authored an accepted meta-analysis on the Canadian Centre for Cyber Security (Cyber Centre), synthesizing open-source sources on threat intelligence operations, detection capabilities, and critical infrastructure protection

QR-CLI | Open-Source Developer Tool | qr-cli.dev

- Built and published a cross-platform CLI tool (Node.js) generating QR codes as ASCII art with PNG export; fully offline, released under MIT license on npm/GitHub

EDUCATION

Master of Science (M.S.) Cybersecurity & Information Assurance | Western Governors University Awarded 2024
Bachelor of Computer Science (BCompSci) | Dalhousie University Awarded 2024

CERTIFICATIONS

Systems Security Certified Professional (SSCP) Awarded 2023
AWS Certified Solutions Architect & Developer - Associate Awarded 2022
Associate of ISC2 (CISSP Exam Passed) Awarded 2025