# Ashar S. Ahmed

Toronto, ON | LinkedIn | GitHub | ashar@aahmed.org | (647) 328-3346 | U.S. and Canadian Citizen

## 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

**Cyber Security Advisor**, Dr. Shariq Mumtaz Medicine Professional Corporation **Jan. 2023 – Present**

- Built and owns the full security program from scratch for a 4-person medical practice (4–5 endpoints): risk register, remediation SLAs, KPI reporting, and prioritized roadmap
- Instrumented identity, endpoint, and network telemetry with correlation-driven triage; cut MTTD from days to under 1 hour
- Deployed fleet-wide MDM, MFA, FileVault, DNS filtering, and patch cadences; standardized baselines reduced spam and unsolicited traffic by **80%**
- Authored incident response playbooks and HIPAA-oriented audit evidence; supported external IT vendors through vulnerability closure and compliance reviews

**Software Developer**, Government of Canada **Feb. 2021 – Jan. 2022**

- Engineered secure AWS infrastructure (IAM, S3, DynamoDB, CloudWatch) via Terraform/Terragrunt; enforced policy-as-code scanning with Checkov
- Eliminated bot-driven abuse by migrating request validation from reCAPTCHA v2 to v3, removing user friction while increasing passive detection coverage across all form endpoints
- Decomposed a monolithic API into discrete microservices, reducing individual call payloads and cutting data load times by **80%**
- Implemented CI quality gates and automated testing, increasing code coverage from ~20% to **85%**; reduced client-reported data incidents from 4–5 to 1–2 per cycle
- 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 Developer Intern**, National Research Council of Canada (NRC) **Sept. 2020 – Dec. 2020**

- 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

## 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