

Ashar S. Ahmed

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TECHNICAL SKILLS

SecOps / Detection: Wazuh SIEM, EDR investigation, log correlation, alert tuning, detection logic (SQL, regex), CVE triage, incident response playbooks, threat modeling

IAM / Endpoint: MFA, macOS/Windows hardening, Microsoft Defender, FileVault, patch compliance, MDM policy enforcement, DNS filtering

Cloud / IaC: AWS (IAM, S3, DynamoDB, CloudWatch, CloudTrail), Azure (Defender for Cloud), Terraform, Terragrunt, Checkov, GitHub Actions, Docker, Kubernetes

Scripting / Automation: Python, PowerShell, Bash, JavaScript/TypeScript | **Compliance:** SOC 2, ISO 27001, HIPAA, audit documentation

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

Homelab Security & Infrastructure Lab | *Docker, Caddy, Prometheus, Grafana, CrowdSec, WireGuard*

- Architected a 20+ container stack with Caddy reverse proxy, Authelia SSO, CrowdSec IPS, and WireGuard VPN routing via Docker Compose
- Built observability with Prometheus, Grafana, Loki, Alertmanager, and Wazuh; wrote PowerShell/Python automation for fleet hardening and runbooks

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