CYBER SECURITY AWARENESS MONTH TIPS OF THE DAY

WEEK 4

Cyber Security Skills that Pay the Bills - Careers in Cyber Security

As technology becomes increasingly sophisticated, the demand for an experienced and qualified workforce to protect our nation's networks and information systems will only continue to grow. Information security and cyber security are rapidly growing industries with increased workforce needs.

According to the SANS Institute - the largest source for information security training and security certification in the world - there were approximately 350,000 open cybersecurity positions that went unfilled in 2016 and the number is expected to increase to over 500,000 by 2021 in the United States alone. The need for qualified cybersecurity professionals is not going away and neither is cybercrime. The average IT-related job typically earns salaries at least 50 percent higher than the average private sector job.

IT and cyber security jobs are not only for those with advanced degrees. The skills required for these jobs can often be acquired through other ways, such as community college, military service, or online training. Additionally, cybersecurity jobs are found in many different sectors all over the country, including healthcare, retail, manufacturing, financial services, and national security.
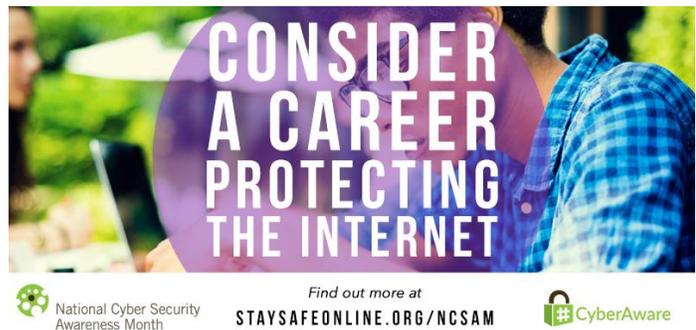
Tuesday, Oct. 24, 2017:

Find Cyber Security training courses in your area.

The National Initiative for Cybersecurity Careers and Studies (NICCS) is the premier online resource for cybersecurity training. NICCS connects Government employees, students, educators, and industry with cybersecurity training providers throughout the Nation.

The NICCS Education and Training Catalog is a central location where cybersecurity professionals across the nation can find over 3,000 cybersecurity-related courses.

Anyone can use the interactive map and filters to search for courses offered in their local area so they can add to their skill set, increase their level of expertise, earn a certification, or even transition into a new career.

All of the courses are aligned to the specialty areas of the National Cybersecurity Workforce Framework - the blueprint to categorize, organize, and describe cybersecurity work into specialty areas, tasks, and knowledge, skills and abilities (KSAs).

It provides a common language to speak about cyber roles and jobs and helps define professional requirements in cybersecurity.

Thursday, Oct. 26, 2017:

Find and Participate in Cybersecurity Competitions

Competitions are a great way to learn about cybersecurity, while encouraging participants to practice and enhance cybersecurity skills in a controlled, simulated real-world environment.

There are a variety of cyber competitions aligned to the National Cybersecurity Workforce Framework available throughout the country. Visit the National Initiative for Cybersecurity Careers and Studies to find a competition that may interest you.