

CompTIA CySA+ (CS0-003)

CompTIA CySA+ Intro

CompTIA Cybersecurity Analyst (CySA+) is an IT workforce certification that assesses the security analyst and incident response analyst skills needed to prevent, detect and respond to cybersecurity threats on networks and devices.

VALUE Prop 1 (Student)

CompTIA CySA+ proves candidates can detect and analyze indicators of malicious activity using the most up-to-date methods and tools, such as threat intelligence, security information and event management (SIEM), endpoint detection and response (EDR) and extended detection and response (XDR). IT pros gain unique skills sought after by organizations to protect and defend their networks.

VALUE Prop 2 (Employer)

CompTIA CySA+ qualifies employees to proactively monitor, identify and respond to cybersecurity threats, vulnerabilities and attacks. It is an internationally targeted validation of information security analyst skills and knowledge, making it ideal for any organization's blue team employees tasked with ensuring the protection of applications and systems across the organization.

Accredited by ANSI to show compliance with the ISO 17024 Standard.

Skills and Competencies Acquired:

- Detect and analyze indicators of malicious activity
- Understand threat hunting and threat intelligence concepts
- Use industry tools to mitigate attacks, threats & vulnerabilities
- Perform incident response
- Understand reporting and communication

Job Roles:

- Security Analyst
- Security Operations Center (SOC) Analyst
- Incident Response Analyst
- Vulnerability Management Analyst
- Security Engineer
- Threat Hunter

Key Differentiators:

- **Proactively Monitor and Detect.** Demonstrate skills in detecting and analyzing indicators of malicious activity using the most up-to-date methods and tools, such as threat intelligence, security information and event management (SIEM), endpoint detection and response (EDR) and extended detection and response (XDR).
- **Respond to Threats, Attacks, and Vulnerabilities.** Prove knowledge of incident response and vulnerability management processes and highlight the communication skills critical to security analysis and compliance.
- **Demonstrate Competency of Current Trends.** Show knowledge of current trends that affect the daily work of security analysts, such as cloud and hybrid environments.

Resources:

- Average Salary:
 - U.S. Security Analyst: Glassdoor.com (<https://bit.ly/44Zwznx>)
 - UK Security Analyst: ITJobsWatch.co.uk (<https://bit.ly/3lcp4Us>)
- CompTIA CySA+ Additional Information: ([CompTIA.org/CySA](https://www.comptia.org/CySA))
- Recommended Pathways: (<https://bit.ly/42DCNb6>)
- Blog Posts: (<https://bit.ly/2N1JO12>)

Competitors	Talking Points / CySA+ Advantages
EC-Council Certified Security Analyst (ECSA)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ECSA is a continuation of CEH and goes beyond the foundational ethical hacking skill set. CySA+ is not as advanced as ECSA because CySA+ is also focused heavily on vulnerability management, unlike ECSA. • CySA+ includes hands-on, performance-based assessments as well as multiple-choice questions, while ECSA is multiple choice only. • CySA+ costs only 1/3 of the price of ECSA and has more job roles associated with the exam.
GIAC Continuous Monitoring Certification (GMON)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CySA+ includes hands-on, performance-based assessments as well as multiple-choice questions, while GMON is multiple choice only. • CySA+ and GMON both cover the core security analyst job role. CySA+ is hands-on, nearly 5x less expensive and covers additional job roles, such as application security analyst and incident response.
ISACA Certified Information Systems Auditor (CISA)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CISA is for IT auditors and audit managers to validate their ability to assess vulnerabilities and institute IT controls for an organization. CySA+ covers more domains and is for security analysts who will audit as a part of their role. • CySA+ is available year-round. CISA is only available three times a year through ISACA. • CySA+ has performance-based questions and is half the cost of CISA • CySA+ maps to seven job roles in the U.S. DoD 8570.01-M approved job categories, including Auditor. CISA only maps to two categories.

Companies that Endorse CompTIA CySA+:

- Amazon Web Services
- Bank of Montreal (BMO)
- Booz Allen Hamilton
- Deloitte
- Fidelity Investments
- General Dynamics IT (GDIT)
- Microsoft
- U.S. Department of Defense
- U.S. Navy
- Visa
- Zoom





By the Numbers:

- Information security analyst is one of the fastest growing U.S. job categories, with 35% growth expected between 2021 and 2031.¹
- On average, there are over 30K job openings specifically looking for qualified cybersecurity analysts in the U.S. every year.²

¹ Bureau of Labor Statistics, Occupational Outlook 2023, Information Security Analysts ² Cyberseek 2023, Cybersecurity Analyst Career Pathway

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How does CompTIA compare to alternatives?

				
Certification	CompTIA CySA+	EC-Council Certified Security Analyst (ECSA)	GIAC Continuous Monitoring Certification (GMON)	ISACA Certified Information Systems Auditor (CISA)
Performance-based Questions	Yes	No	No	No
Experience Level	Intermediate	Intermediate	Intermediate	Advanced
Exam Focus	Security analytics, intrusion detection and response	Pentesting methodology	Defensible security and continuous security monitoring	Auditing and vulnerability assessment
Training Products	Full suite of online test prep tools, live online training, books	Self-paced and live online training, courseware, mobile toolkit	In-person training and online	Online review course and answers database, courseware

[Learn more about CySA+](#)

