

Cybersecurity Career Route Guide

NAME _____

DATE _____

PERIOD _____

Three Roles That Can Build Toward Cybersecurity

These are examples, not a required ladder. People enter cybersecurity through different routes.

ROLE	WHAT THE WORKER DOES	PREPARATION COMMONLY SHOWN BY BLS	MAY 2024 NATIONAL MEDIAN PAY
Computer User Support Specialist	Helps people solve computer problems	Some college is common; some jobs accept high school plus relevant IT certifications	\$60,340
Network and Computer Systems Administrator	Installs and maintains networks and systems	Bachelor's degree is typical, but some employers accept other education plus experience	\$96,800
Information Security Analyst	Protects networks and systems, checks risks, and responds to breaches	Bachelor's degree plus related IT experience is typical; some enter with relevant training and certifications	\$124,910

Source note: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics Occupational Outlook Handbook, May 2024 national median wages and 2024-34 outlook. These are not starting salaries and are not DFW-localized salaries. Retrieved August 6, 2026.

Information Security Analyst employment is projected to grow **29% from 2024 to 2034**. That is a projection, not a promise that every applicant will get a job.

Is Information Security Analyst an Emerging Career?

Use the source note and table to make a careful judgment.

Evidence 1 — change: The projected growth is _____ %. The all-occupations comparison is about **3%** for the same period.

Evidence 2 — work or preparation:

My judgment: Information Security Analyst **does / does not** show evidence of being an emerging career because

One limit of this evidence: Circle one, then explain if needed.

national, not DFW-local · projection, not guarantee · median, not starting pay · another limit:

Build One Possible Route

1. Now: One skill I can practice in middle school is

2. High school: One Irving ISD option I want to investigate is

3. After high school: Circle one route you want to compare today:

community college · 4-year college · industry training/certification · military training · work plus training

4. First role: A support, network, or other IT role that could build experience is

5. Later goal: A cybersecurity role I may want to reach is

Use Evidence

One fact from the table that supports my route:

One question I still need to research:

I am currently: **interested** / **unsure** / **not interested** in cybersecurity because
