

The three NICE Cybersecurity Workforce Framework categories that interest me most are Design and Development, Implementation and Operation, and Protection and Defense.

I am particularly interested in Design and Development due to my involvement in both software development and electrical engineering. I'm fascinated by the design of mission-critical systems, especially intrinsically safe devices such as professional-grade radios made by companies like BK Technologies, Motorola, and L3 Harris. I am very into radio design and RF engineering and find these types of hardware security very interesting.

Implementation and Operation also aligns with my background. I have hands-on experience managing very large-scale enterprise networks in my current role. I enjoy the problem-solving of implementing systems, ensuring they function, and maintaining them over time. I also really like the documentation parts of implementing new networks so the next people can get a good understanding of what they have.

Lastly, Protection and Defense interests me because of its offensive nature. I believe that understanding how systems can be attacked is essential to defending them. Concepts like password complexity, access control, and offensive security strategies are important to me.

The category that interests me the least is Oversight and Governance, as I prefer technical work over administrative tasks such as policy development, compliance monitoring, and regulatory oversight. While I understand the importance of having standards and guidelines to promote cybersecurity best practices, I believe that the government's role in regulating private companies should be limited. Providing clear frameworks, guidelines, and standard operating procedures (SOPs) is helpful, but enforcing rigid laws that many small businesses cannot realistically comply with often causes more harm than good.

References

Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency. (n.d.). *NICE Workforce Framework for Cybersecurity (NICE Framework)*. National Initiative for Cybersecurity Careers and Studies (NICCS). Retrieved May 19, 2025, from <https://niccs.cisa.gov/workforce-development/nice-framework>