Rylan Stalnaker

Aspiring SOC Analyst | IT Professional

Cybersecurity-focused IT professional pursuing a Bachelor of Science in Cybersecurity and Information Assurance at Western Governors University (expected March 2026) where I am working on my capstone for my final course. Hands-on experience through TryHackMe, Hack The Box, and personal cybersecurity labs, with practical exposure to threat analysis, vulnerability assessment, and system hardening.

Proven background in IT support and system administration, including troubleshooting, network configuration, service management, and scripting. Actively seeking opportunities as a SOC Analyst or Junior Security Analyst, with strong interest in incident response, security monitoring, and vulnerability management.

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PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Accounting Associate   Oct. 2023 – Aug. 2024

Cherokee Nation Entertainment, Tahlequah, OK

- Ensured timely and accurate processing of financial data, contributing to streamlined workflows and improved operational efficiency.
- Identify and corrected discrepancies in records, improving data accuracy and minimizing errors.
- Collaborated with team members to meet monthly closing deadlines, demonstrating reliability and attention to detail.

Call Support Specialist   Jun. 2023 – Oct. 2023

Provalus, Tahlequah, OK

- Delivered high-quality technical support, troubleshooting a wide range of hardware and software issues to maintain user satisfaction.
- Maintained detailed records of customer interactions and technical resolutions, ensuring transparency and consistent follow-up.
- Worked closely with IT teams to resolve recurring issues and enhance overall system reliability.
- Diagnosed and resolved technical issues related to complex systems, ensuring optimal performance and minimizing downtime.

IT Help Desk Technician   Aug. 2021 – Jun. 2022

Fort Lewis College, Durango, CO

- Provided efficient IT support to a diverse user base, resolving hardware/software issues and ensuring seamless system operation.
- Collaborated with cross-functional teams to implement system upgrades that enhanced overall network performance.
- Managed escalated technical issues, minimizing downtime and ensuring swift resolution.
- Effectively documented complex issues and solutions, enabling efficient knowledge sharing across teams.

VR Lab Specialist   May 2020 – Jun. 2023

American Indian Resource Center, Tahlequah, OK

- Managed setup and maintenance of VR lab equipment, ensuring all systems operated optimally and met project needs.
- Trained users on VR technologies, providing ongoing support for immersive experiences.
- Implemented security protocols within the lab, ensuring data protection and system integrity.

EDUCATION

Bachelor of Science in Cybersecurity and Information Assurance

Western Governors University
2023 – 2026 (Expected Mar.)

CERTIFICATIONS

CompTIA A+
09/2023 – 09/2028

CompTIA Network+
01/2024 – 09/2028

CompTIA IT Operations Specialist
01/2024 – 09/2028

CompTIA Security+
06/2024 – 09/2028

CompTIA Secure Infrastructure Specialist
06/2024 – 09/2028

ITIL® 4 Foundation Certificate in IT Service Management
09/2024 – 09/2027

CompTIA Project+ (PK0-005)
07/2025

Linux Essentials
12/2024

CompTIA CySA+
09/2025 – 09/2028

CompTIA Security Analytics Professional
09/2025 – 09/2028

Associate of ISC2 (SSCP)
02/2025 – 02/2026

SKILLS

Security & SOC Foundations
- Incident response fundamentals
- Security monitoring concepts
- Vulnerability assessment (foundational)
- Threat analysis (lab-based)
- Defensive security principles

Networking & Systems
- TCP/IP networking fundamentals
- DNS, DHCP, SMB
- Windows Server 2019
- Active Directory (users, groups, authentication)
- Linux fundamentals

Tools & Platforms
- TryHackMe (SOC Level 1, Cybersecurity 101)
- Hack The Box (foundational labs)
- Nmap
- Metasploit (lab use)
- Oracle VirtualBox
- Git & GitHub

Scripting & Automation
- PowerShell (user provisioning, administrative automation)

Documentation & Communication
- Security documentation and reporting
- Incident and lab write-ups
- Communicating technical findings clearly

PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS

ISC2 Member