

KIERAN SCHOAF

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EDUCATION & CERTIFICATIONS

DePaul University, Chicago, IL

Bachelor of Science: Network Engineering and Security — June 2022

Certifications:

- CCNA — December 2025
- CompTIA Network+ — May 2024

TECHNICAL SKILLS

Network Infrastructure: Cisco Catalyst/Nexus switching, OSPF, VLAN design, STP (RPVST/MST), LACP, VTP

Automation & Scripting: Python (Netmiko, CLI parsing, data processing), Excel automation

Platforms & Tools: Cisco IOS/NX-OS, Windows Server, Active Directory, Exchange, O365

Hardware & Vendors: Cisco, Dell, Ubiquiti, Unraid, Docker

Operating Systems: Windows, Linux, MacOS

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Ahead LLC., Chicago, IL

Associate Technical Consultant — December 2022 – Present

- Lead network infrastructure modernization for multi-hospital healthcare system (5-year engagement), directing 75+ switch migrations across 10+ hospital locations spanning Cisco Catalyst and Nexus platforms with zero unplanned downtime to patient-care systems.
- Architect and execute complex Layer 2/3 cutovers (1-10 switches per night) including VLAN segmentation, OSPF routing, STP optimization (RPVST/MST), and LACP configuration—coordinating 2 onsite engineering teams through live implementation, validation, and rollback procedures.
- Developed Python-based automation toolkit (Netmiko, CLI parsing, Excel reporting) that reduced post-migration validation time by 3+ hours per cutover, enabling faster deployment cycles and eliminating manual configuration audit errors.
- Own end-to-end cutover lifecycle from pre-staging and validation through implementation, real-time troubleshooting, and post-migration stabilization—serving as technical escalation point for onsite teams during production transitions in mission-critical healthcare environments.
- Standardized deployment methodologies across distributed hospital network by creating reusable MOPs, port-mapping templates, and validation runbooks—reducing project risk and enabling consistent implementations across geographically dispersed sites.
- Drive proactive site readiness assessments including fiber validation, environmental risk mitigation, power capacity review, and stack integrity verification to prevent deployment failures in critical healthcare infrastructure.

BrainSurf Informatics Inc., Chicago, IL

Desktop Support Engineer — June 2022 – December 2022

- Provided desktop and systems support for 45+ clients in fast-paced MSP environment, managing Windows/MacOS endpoints, Active Directory, Exchange Server, and O365 user administration.
- Led employee onboarding workflows including account provisioning, security access configuration, and hardware/software deployment for new users across diverse client environments.
- Supported email security operations by responding to phishing incidents and managing external spam gateway blocklists and quarantine systems.

CMIT Solutions of Naperville & Orland Park, Naperville, IL

IT Support Technician — November 2020 – June 2022 (Part-time during undergraduate studies)

- Served as primary technical resource for small business clients, delivering IT support for hardware, software, and basic network infrastructure in a 2-person MSP environment.
- Deployed and configured endpoint security solutions (SentinelOne) across client workstations to enhance malware protection and cyber threat response.
- Managed client network deployments including router/switch installation, wireless access points, and network equipment procurement through Dell and other vendors.
- Provided executive-level client communications through monthly briefings, translating technical concepts into business value for small business owners.