

# 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.