

Career Aspirations and Goals

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My major is Information Science with a concentration in Security. This field is highly relevant to my career aspirations, as I would want to work in roles related to cloud computing, networking, and cybersecurity. What really sparked my interest in this technology was the vast number of different devices and configurations available, influenced by my childhood. This curiosity made me explore further into the field of technology and eventually helped me make a career decision in information security. One of my long-term goals is to contribute to the ever-growing field of cybersecurity by implementing secure network infrastructures and protecting data from cyber threats.

While I don't have any direct experience in this area, I did get some relevant exposure working for my old college. I also have other experiences that have given me transferable skills to IT and cybersecurity, such as problem-solving, technical troubleshooting, and customer service. Those experiences gave me a basic understanding of what technical support and IT-related problem-solving entail.

I have used the USF Career Services website and just recently learned of a job fair this Wednesday. This is going to be my first career fair, and I am excited to learn more about potential job opportunities and to get in touch with people in the field. Although I have not yet attended any of the Career Express appointments, I am certain that I will continue to utilize these tools to help my job search efforts.

Unfortunately, I have no experience in internships, but I do hold six months of experience in IT/AV Helpdesk. The position has placed me in hands-on exposure to the troubleshooting of IT-related issues, end-user assistance, and management of audiovisual technology. While this hasn't been directly related to cybersecurity, it's

helped me develop a firm technical grounding that I find will prove quite important once I transition into my desired field.

I have also been using LinkedIn to do some research about the companies, connections with professionals, and industrial demands in my efforts to understand the career landscape. I also learned about the CompTIA certifications, which turned out to be very important in the field. Most of the companies are looking for those certifications instead of degrees, and I would be going through this as part of my preparation for my career.

As noted in my biography, by the end of this year, I will be certified in a number of different areas, which include the certifications from CompTIA and AWS. With these certifications, I will be better qualified, and the possibility of succeeding in obtaining a more fulfilling position in IT security will be enhanced. Ultimately, my goal is to get placed in a position that will act as a stepping stone toward a career in cybersecurity, cloud security, or network administration in the long run.

The other drive has been toward the information security field, which I was interested in from a technological and security point of view. Regarding my hands-on experience—though still minimal—I have been focusing on obtaining certifications and career development activities to bridge this gap. I am quite optimistic about the future and hoping to become involved in substantial ways in the field of cybersecurity.