

# Derek Opel (IT Support Specialist)

Email: doperl3030@gmail.com | Phone Number: 619-241-1055 | LinkedIn: linkedin.com/in/derek-opel

## EDUCATION & CERTIFICATIONS

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- **VantageClear – DataClear Certification** *September 2025*
- **CompTIA Security+ SY0-701 Certification (Exp. June 2028)** *June 2025*
- **Google Cybersecurity Professional Certificate** ([github.com/w30-doperl/Cybersecurity-Portfolio](https://github.com/w30-doperl/Cybersecurity-Portfolio)) *March 2025*
  - Studied how to identify common cybersecurity risks, threats, and vulnerabilities, as well as the techniques to mitigate them. Gained hands-on experience with Python, Linux, and SQL. Learned how to protect networks, devices, people, and data from unauthorized access and cyber attacks using Security Information Event Management (SIEM) tools, Intrusion Detection Systems (IDS), and network protocol analyzers (packet sniffing).
- **San Diego State University, San Diego, CA - Bachelor Degree in Computer Science [GPA: 3.59]** *December 2019*

## TECHNICAL SKILLS

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|---------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------|
| • Python                  | • Linux (RHEL)        | • Bash scripting   |
| • SQL                     | • macOS               | • Active Directory |
| • Microsoft 365           | • Windows (7,8,10,11) | • Group Policy     |
| • Firewalls               | • SLAs                | • Antivirus        |
| • DNS                     | • VPN                 | • HTTP/HTTPS       |
| • Technical documentation | • TCP/IP              | • DHCP             |
| • Wireshark               | • SIEM tools          | • IDS (Suricata)   |
| • NIST CSF & RMF          | • CIA Triad           | • Risk assessment  |

## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

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### Naval Information Warfare Center (NIWC) Pacific, San Diego, CA

*September 2020 - September 2025*

*Computer Scientist with Security Clearance*

- Automated system tasks in a **RHEL Linux high-performance computing environment** using **Bash Scripting**, improving efficiency and reducing data processing time by **1–2 orders of magnitude**.
- Streamlined system workflows with **Python automation scripts**, reducing manual workload and achieving up to **10x performance improvements** in key processes.
- Developed custom tooling to transform complex system data into clear reports, enabling more accurate decision-making.
- Authored **technical documentation** and onboarding guides, reducing ramp-up time for new team members and standardizing IT processes.
- Collaborated across cross-functional teams during the SDLC to **support system operations**, ensuring reliability, stakeholder satisfaction, and on-time deliverables.

### San Diego State University, San Diego, CA

*August 2019 - December 2019*

*Statistics Tutor*

- **Explained complex concepts** in **clear, accessible terms** across **oral, visual, and written formats**, improving comprehension for **diverse audiences**.
- **Adapted instruction** to different **learning styles**, leading to **measurable improvements in performance** and **consistent positive feedback**.

**FedEx Express, San Diego, CA**

*April 2018 - October 2018*

*Package Handler*

- Maintained **efficiency and accuracy** in a **fast-paced, deadline-driven environment**, ensuring reliable completion of daily tasks.
- **Collaborated with team members** to **resolve logistical challenges** while **adhering to strict safety and compliance procedures**.