

# Charles McLean | CPTS

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## Certifications

### **CPTS - Certified Penetration Testing Specialist** | Hack The Box Academy

*Jun. 2023 – May 2024 (Online)*

- Professional Penetration Testing certification offered by HackTheBox. Equivalent to other industry recognised certifications, more specifically OSCP from OffSec.
- Successfully completed the final exam on May 29, 2024.

## Education

### **Computer Technology: Networks and Cybersecurity** | Cégep de Saint-Hyacinthe

*2023 – Present, Saint-Hyacinthe*

- Recognized for academic excellence with consistently top class averages in most core courses.
- Active early participant in the school's Capture The Flag (CTF) cybersecurity competitions.

### **Computer Science Technology** | Champlain College Saint-Lambert

*2022 – 2023, Saint-Lambert*

## Competitions and other Extra-Curriculum Activities

- **CyberConference 2025**
- **TryHackMe Hackfinity (CTF) 2025**
- **InCyberForum 2024**
- **Hackfest 2024**
- **NorthSec (CTF + Conference) 2024**
- **CyberConference 2023**

## Personal projects

- Co-Author of a WiFi MAC address de-anonymisation and GPS mapping project including a NoSQL database and online PHP web interface.
- Personal Linux and Docker Home-Lab including a game hosting service for individuals ([learnmore](#)) and virtualized security testing environments.
- Various bash scripts and automation tools developed for efficient system management and security testing, including Docker container auto-update utilities, custom-built Intrusion Detection System (IDS), specialized CTF challenge scripts, and other security-focused utilities.

## Professional Experience

### Cégep de Saint-Hyacinthe | *IT Technical Support*

2024 – Present, Saint-Hyacinthe

- Provide in-person technical support to students and faculty members.
- Perform hardware diagnostics and repairs
- Support both academic and extracurricular technology-related projects.

### NovaPC | *Founder* ([learnmore](#))

2021 – 2024

- Built and delivered custom PC solutions, with configurations optimized for gaming, content creation, and professional use.
- Developed full-stack web applications using PHP, JavaScript, and MySQL, overseeing both frontend and backend components.
- Exercised entrepreneurial leadership in founding and expanding the business.
- Implemented secure e-commerce solution for online orders and inventory management.

### Cycle et Sports Castonguay | *Bike Mechanic*

2021 – 2022 & 2023 – 2024, Saint-Lambert

- Specialized in technical diagnostics and bicycle repair.
- Maintained detailed documentation of repair procedures to ensure consistency and quality.

## Technical Skills

- **Languages:** Python, PHP, Bash, PowerShell, SQL, HTML/CSS, JavaScript
- **Operating Systems:** Arch Linux, Debian, Kali Linux, Windows Server 2016/2019/2022, Windows 10/11
- **Security Tools:** Metasploit, Burp Suite, Wireshark, Nmap, Nessus, Hashcat
- **Networking:** TCP/IP, VLANs, Firewall Configuration, VPN Implementation, DNS
- **Other:** Docker, Git, NoSQL Databases, Virtualization, Active Directory