

General Information

1) I am not involved in cybersecurity workforce education or training other than being a mentor for the CyberPatriot VIII competition. I am a graduate of ITT with a BS in CyberSecurity Information Technology and hold CompTIA Network+ and Security+ certifications. I am a member of the Alamo chapter of ISSA. I am also an associate of ISC^2 working towards SSCP certification. I am looking to answer these questions from the perspective of a student with no IT experience trying to get into the workforce.

Growing and Sustaining the Nation's Cybersecurity Workforce

1) I am aware of capture the flag competitions and the SANS Institute's extremely high pricing for training and education. Skillport offers training as well but I am unsure of their pricing.

2) I do not understand the workforce categories. Cybersecurity seems to be a blanket term to include all of the categories.

3) Yes there are appropriate cybersecurity policies in my organization. I can only assume they are being enforced.

4) I believe employers desire employees with the knowledge of too many systems and protocols which can be unrealistic. For example, I see too many job postings requiring many years of experience in IT and an active security clearance. Someone who has never held a security clearance, or it has expired, is not able to attain one. Also, an employee can be required to know Windows 7 and 10, Windows server 2008 and 2012, many flavors of Linux, Cisco routers and switches, firewalls, IDS/IPS, VPN, and virtual servers/players.

5) Skillport has been an effective tool for me to learn and improve my knowledge and attain certifications. Ease of use and content delivered make it effective.

6) Technology is moving too fast. A plug and play mindset. Easy to use wins every time versus employing security measures. Example, GPedit is not loaded on Windows home edition, which represents many home users. Why? Is it because many people would find it painful to configure and maintain? Even though it can provide a layer of security. Also, attaining a security clearance is impossible if one doesn't have one and does not have an employer to sponsor it.

7) Advances in technology are increasing the need for cybersecurity. Security needs to be implemented into the SDLC of these devices.

8)

- i) not sure
- ii) awareness
- iii) awareness
- iv) lower the costs of training
- v) embrace the concept of securing their devices