Cybersecurity/Information Security

In today's world of electronic data storage, Information Security has become a vital aspect of our daily lives. Computers are used to store valuable information including medical records, proprietary information, personal information, items critical to national security, etc. It is important that we have people who are willing and able to protect that information from those who may wish to cause harm. Considering the internet was first developed by the US Department of Defense in the 1970's and the "World Wide Web" was developed for commercial use in the 1990's, Cyber Security/Computer Information Security positions are relatively new compared to other jobs.

Information Security Specialists may have a variety of roles such as installing, monitoring and updating software that protects information such as firewalls and virus protectors. They may monitor activity on a system and report unusual activity while checking for errors. They may also be responsible for developing and writing policies regarding computer usage for companies and departments. Other aspects of Cyber/Information Security may involve troubleshooting issues with computer systems or applications, testing computer systems to ensure proper functioning and keeping up-to-date on emerging industry or technology trends.

Are you interested in a career in Information Security? If so, there are a couple of local institutions offering training in the Information Technology and Security field. Inver Hills Community College (IHCC) offers Associate Degrees in both Information Technology Support and Network Technology and Security. IHCC’s programs are designed to prepare graduates in many areas of Information Technology including hardware/software installation, technical assistance, and competencies covered by recognized industry certifications such as CompTIA, Linux+, Microsoft, and more!

Dakota County Technical College also has an Information Systems Management program. This interdisciplinary program combines courses from Networking Administration, Software Development, and Information Systems Management to teach a unique blend of networking, programming and management skills. Graduates are prepared to function in small business firms as the sole computer resource person or, matched with entrepreneurial knowledge, may start their own computer consulting firms.

Minnesota is positioning itself to be an industry leader, so look for opportunities in this new, but fast growing sector of Information Technology. The future safety of our information could rest in your hands!

To learn more, visit https://mn.gov/deed/newscenter/social-media/mnw-blog/#/detail/appId/1/id/316922.

Information Technology – Additional Resources

Inver Hills Community College Information Technology Careers Page - https://www.inverhills.edu/DegreesAndPrograms/ITCareers/index.aspx


Careerwise (Information Security Specialist Careers Page) - https://www.careerwise.mnscu.edu/careers/viewCareers?qt=information+security&x=0&y=0

Minnesota State IT Center of Excellence - http://advanceitmn.org/

Information Systems Security Association (ISSA) - www.issa.org
Services for Veterans

Veterans' Priority -
Veteran’s Priority is a centralized collection of information for Veterans’ programs, policies, and initiatives which primarily affect the Wagner-Peyser and Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) employment and training programs. Veteran’s Priority provides key resources for information on the job market, education and training programs, grants, legislation, and various other publications/articles related to the community’s specific issues. To learn more, visit https://veteranspriority.workforcegps.org/home.

Dakota County -
Dakota County Veterans Services provides benefit counseling, advice and assistance for veterans or their family members filing claims for state and/or federal benefits. The County also assists veterans and their families with a variety of other programs and provides referrals to community resources. For more information and locations, visit https://www.co.dakota.mn.us/HealthFamily/VeteransServices/Pages/default.aspx.

Scott County -
Scott County Veterans Service assists veterans of the county, their dependents and survivors, in securing Federal and State benefits provided by law because of their service in the Armed Forces of the United States. Veterans Service Personnel help in the development of claims, preparations of government forms, and accessing information for them in connection with their claims for benefits from various State and Federal agencies. For more information and locations, visit https://www.scottcountymn.gov/323/Veterans-Service.

College Resources -
Inver Hills Community College Veteran Services
https://www.inverhills.edu/LearningSupport/VeteranServices/index.aspx
Dakota County Technical College Military and Veteran Service Center
http://www.dctc.edu/support-services/veterans-services/

Hiring Events
Looking for a job? Career fairs offer a great opportunity to connect with employers. They could lead to a job interview, expand your network, or result in a job on the spot. For more information, including employers and locations, visit http://mn.gov/deed/jobfairs.

Now Hiring
www.minnesotaworks.net – Minnesota’s largest free online job bank. Post your resume and search for jobs by matching keywords in your resume to keywords in job postings. You may also search by occupation/keyword or by location.

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