



Cybersecurity Careers One-Pager

Student Tool

Audience: Students | Grades 8-12

Purpose

- Cybersecurity professionals help protect people, organizations, systems, and data. Their work supports confidentiality, availability, and integrity. Students do not need to be expert hackers to begin exploring cybersecurity. They need curiosity, problem-solving habits, ethics, and a willingness to keep learning.

Student-safe note

- Use fictional examples. Do not use real passwords, real accounts, live suspicious links, or private information.

Standards summary

- This resource may support CSF 3.1, CSF 14.1, CSF 14.2, CSF 14.3.
- Detailed alignment depends on local district pacing, approved course placement, and teacher directions.

Why Cybersecurity Careers Matter

Cybersecurity professionals help protect people, organizations, systems, and data. Their work supports confidentiality, availability, and integrity. Students do not need to be expert hackers to begin exploring cybersecurity. They need curiosity, problem-solving habits, ethics, and a willingness to keep learning.

Sample Cybersecurity Roles

Role	What They Do	Helpful Skills
SOC Analyst	Monitors alerts and investigates suspicious activity	Pattern recognition, documentation, communication
Information Security Analyst	Helps protect systems and data	Risk thinking, technical awareness, policy understanding
Incident Responder	Helps contain and recover from security events	Calm problem solving, troubleshooting, teamwork
Cloud Security Specialist	Protects cloud accounts, apps, and data	Cloud concepts, access control, configuration
Security Awareness Trainer	Teaches people how to avoid security mistakes	Teaching, writing, communication, empathy
Digital Forensics Analyst	Investigates what happened after an incident	Evidence handling, attention to detail, reporting



Career-Ready Habits

- Document what you observe and what you tried.
- Verify before acting.
- Protect private information.
- Ask ethical questions before using powerful tools.
- Learn the basics of networking, operating systems, coding, and cloud technology.
- Communicate clearly with technical and non-technical people.

Student Reflection

One cybersecurity role that interests me:

One skill I already have that could help:

One skill I would need to build:

One ethical responsibility cybersecurity workers have:



Detailed Tennessee Standards Connection

Tennessee Standards Connection

This one-pager supports standards when students explore cybersecurity occupations, work activities, tools, skills, and career-connected habits.

Standards source: Tennessee Department of Education, Computer Science Foundations (C10H11), May 2023. Confirm final alignment against local district pacing, approved course placement, and teacher directions.

This resource may support the following Tennessee standards when used as part of cybersecurity, digital ethics, computer science, AI literacy, or career-connected technology instruction:

- CSF 3.1 - Occupations: Students research information technology occupations, work activities, tools and technology used, work environments, and knowledge and skills needed for success.
- CSF 14.1 - Data Security: Students explain why data security is a priority and demonstrate understanding of confidentiality, availability, and integrity.
- CSF 14.2 - Security Breaches: Students demonstrate understanding of security breaches, enterprise-level security, encryption, protocols used to secure websites, and privacy considerations.
- CSF 14.3 - Security Practices: Students identify security practices for computer and network systems, including access control, encryption techniques, BIOS features, and malware response strategies.

Use guidance

- Confirm final alignment against local district pacing, approved course placement, and teacher directions.
- Keep instruction defensive, ethical, age-appropriate, and classroom-safe.