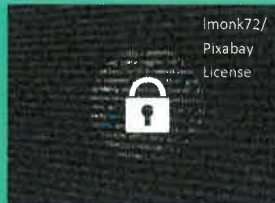


# Cybersecurity Analyst

## What Does a Cybersecurity Analyst Do?

Cybersecurity Analysts are responsible for :

- Monitoring network and cloud systems for security breaches
- Stopping security breaches and documenting their details
- Installing and using software that maintains security, i.e. firewalls
- Identify security weak points by using penetration testing
- Ensuring that security best practices are followed company-wide



## Pros

- High average salary, with a mid-career average of \$78 000 CAD, or 30% higher than other bachelors degree holders.
- Wide variety of potential employers, with banks, hospitals, tech companies, etc. all needing cybersecurity experts.
- Career advancement is quick and can be completed just by adding additional cybersecurity certifications .

## Cons

- High stress environments are common, with critical security issues needing to be fixed quickly and efficiently.
- Repetitive and boring tasks such as documenting bugs and security breaches are commonplace.
- Many companies do not have the resources available for a cybersecurity analyst to effectively complete their job.

## Skills and Education

- A bachelors degree in computer science or a related field is usually required for cybersecurity analyst jobs, and is often essential if one wishes to go into more of a cybersecurity manager role later on.
- Cybersecurity is a field that is very focused on certifications, or third party courses that are able to prove to potential employers that you possess the necessary skills to fulfill the role effectively, such as cloud security or Linux server management.
- Some essential soft skills include: communication (to explain security flaws effectively), teamwork, and an aptitude to continuously learn new things.
- Cybersecurity experts need to have a mastery of are the C family of languages in order to prevent low-level attacks, and should be knowledgeable in python so that they can effectively create testing scripts for potential security flaws.

## Pay Scale and Potential Employers

- The pay scale for cybersecurity analysts ranges from CAD \$55 000 for individuals at the start of their career to around CAD \$125 000 for more experienced professionals
- Some potential Saskatchewan employers for a cybersecurity analyst include: Farm Credit Canada, City of Regina, Nutrien Ltd., or Brandt

