



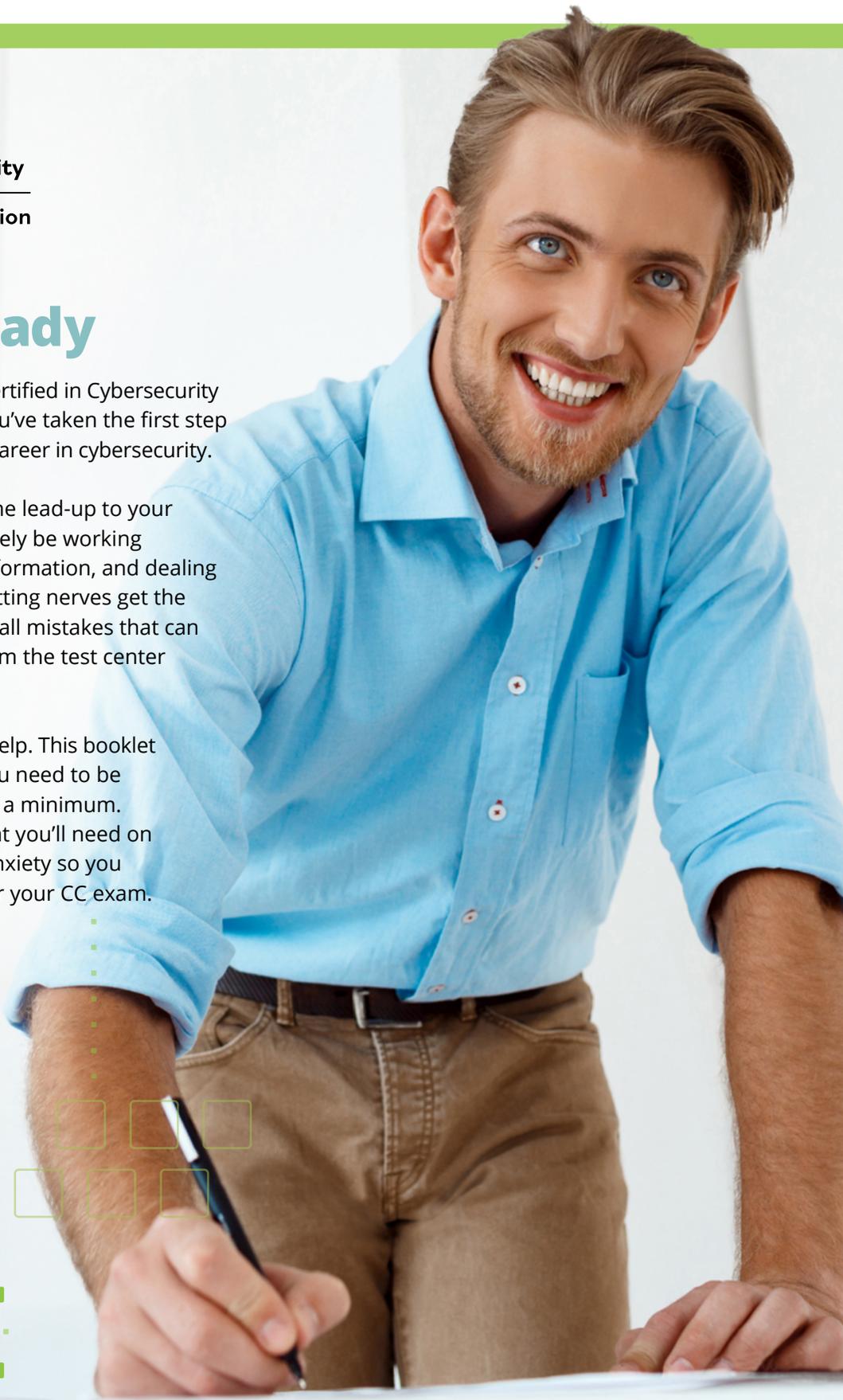
**Certified
in Cybersecurity**
ISC2 Certification

Be Exam-Ready

So, you're preparing for your Certified in Cybersecurity (CC) exam. Congratulations! You've taken the first step towards a long and rewarding career in cybersecurity.

While this is an exciting time, the lead-up to your exam can be stressful. You'll likely be working long hours, taking in a lot of information, and dealing with exam fear and anxiety. Letting nerves get the better of you often leads to small mistakes that can result in being turned away from the test center or even failing your exam.

But don't worry, we're here to help. This booklet will provide the information you need to be exam-ready and keep stress to a minimum. We'll cover what to expect, what you'll need on the day, and how to manage anxiety so you feel confident and prepared for your CC exam.



Contents

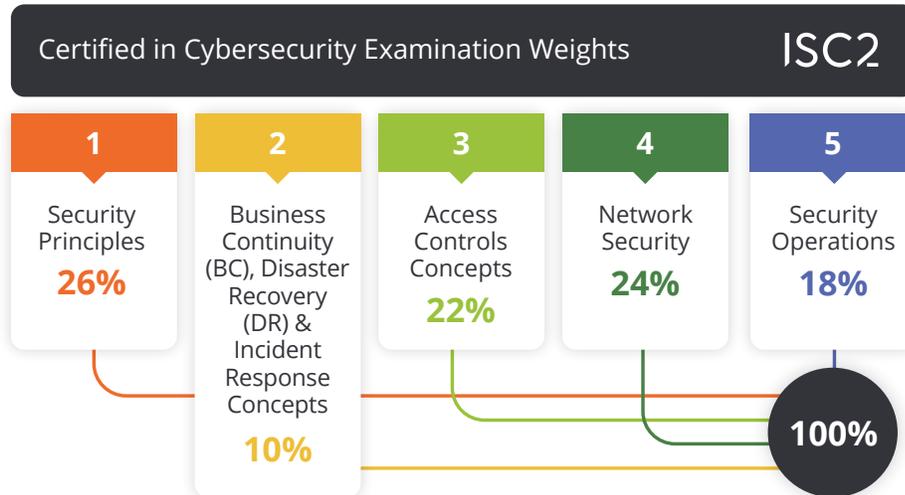
About the Exam.....	3
Your Exam Day Checklist	4
Request Special Accommodations.....	4
Ensure You Have the Right Identification	5
Check that Your Names Match.....	5
Reschedule or Cancel Your Exam	5
Check In.....	6
Managing Exam Anxiety.....	7
Practice Mindfulness	7
Reward Yourself.....	7
Talk to People.....	7
Prepare Yourself	7
Testimonials	8
Further Support	10



About the Exam

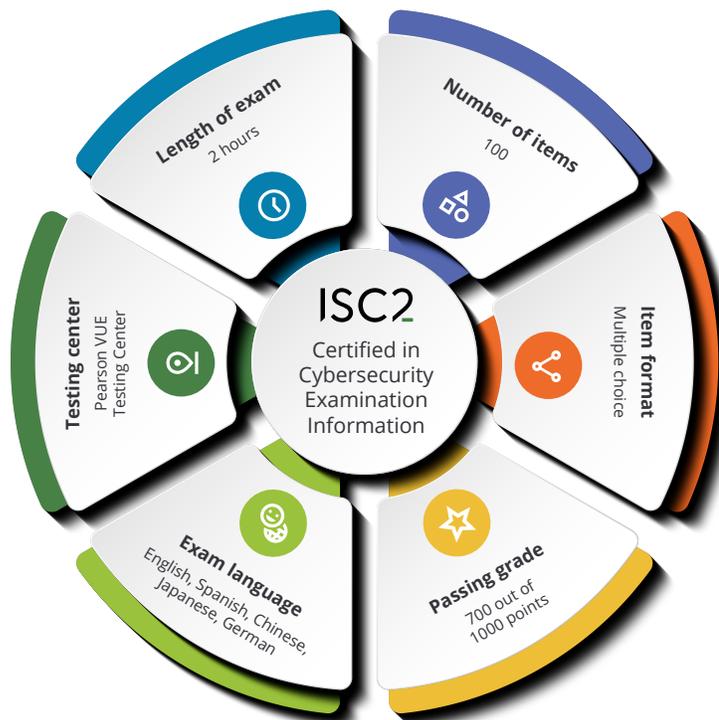
Often, with exams, the fear of the unknown affects learners most. It's vital that you know what to expect on exam day. Going in blind is only going to make your anxieties worse. Here's everything you need to know.

The CC exam contains 100 multiple-choice items across five domains or topics. The graphic below shows a full list of the domains and how they are weighted.



For a more in-depth look at what each domain entails, more information is available in the [exam outline](#). The CC exam and exam outlines are available in [English](#), [Chinese](#), [Japanese](#), [Spanish](#), and [German](#).

You will have 2 hours to complete the exam and must score a minimum 700/1000 points to pass. Exams are only held in-person at Pearson VUE testing centers.



Your Exam Day Checklist

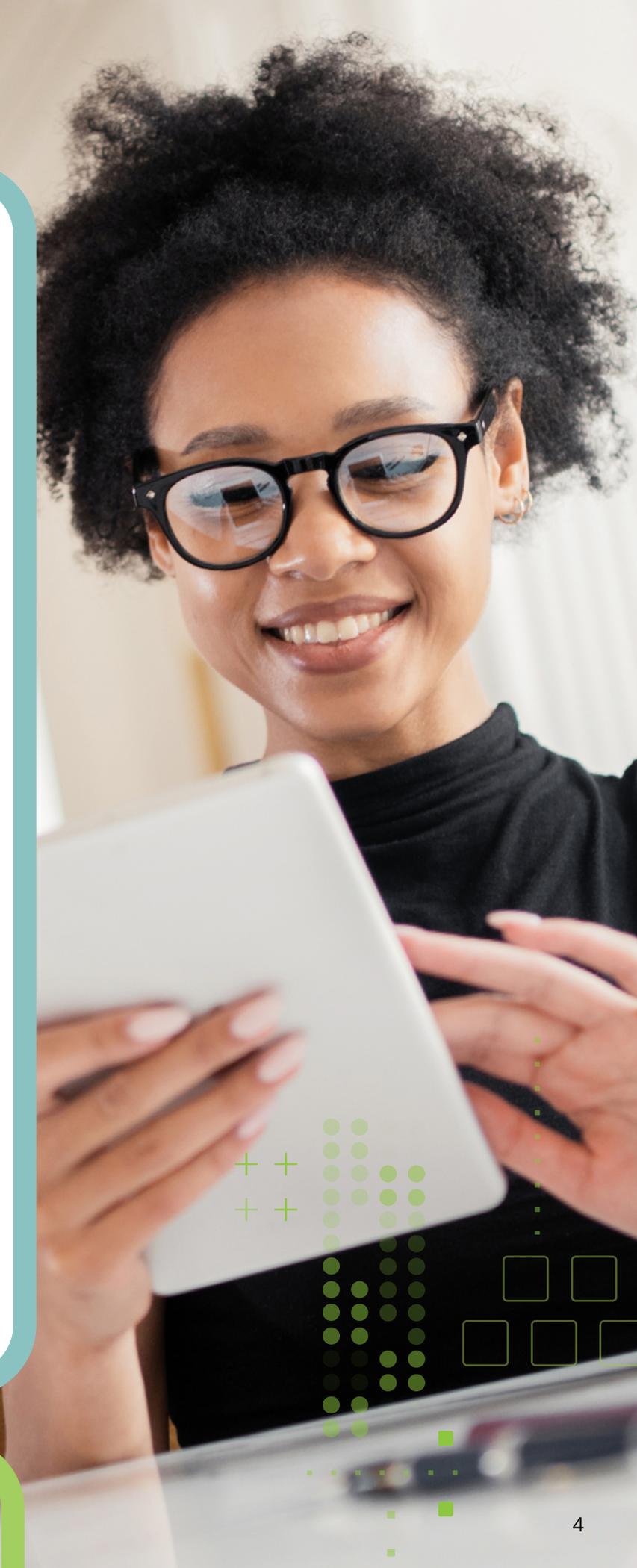
Both leading up to and on the day of your exam, there are several things you'll need to do. Review the information below to ensure you're completely prepared.

Request Special Accommodations

ISC2 is committed to ensuring our exams are accessible to everyone. If you need special accommodations, it's important to let us know as early as possible. You'll also need to take a slightly different approach to scheduling your exam.

To request accommodations, you must complete the **Exam Accommodation Request Form** and email it to examadministration@isc2.org before registering for your exam. You'll need to explain the examination accommodation you require, provide documentation supporting them, and specify the exam you want to take and the testing location.

Exam accommodations are individualized and considered on a case-by-case basis. Once ISC2 approves them, we'll send them to Pearson VUE Accommodations. Please allow two to three business days for Pearson VUE to get this information. Then, call Pearson VUE at +1.800.466.0450 and schedule your exam. Note: Please reach out to ISC2 first; do not start by scheduling through Pearson VUE's website or their main registration phone line.



Ensure You Have the Proper Identification

You must provide two forms of identification at the testing center to take the CC exam. Both IDs must be valid (not expired) original documents (not photocopies or faxes). Your primary identification must include your photo and signature, and your photo must be permanently affixed to the document. Your secondary identification must include your signature. If either document lacks a signature, it must be a legal, official form of identification approved by local government. Of the following are acceptable forms of primary identification:

- Government issued driver's license or identification card
- U.S. state-issued driver's license
- U.S. state-issued driver's learner's permit (card only with photo and signature)
- National/state/country Identification card
- Passport
- Military ID
- Military ID for spouses and dependents
- Alien registration card (green card; permanent resident visa)
- Government issued local language ID (plastic card with photo and signature)
- Employee ID
- School ID
- Credit card (only if it contains both your photo and a signature)

The following are acceptable forms of secondary identification:

- U.S. Social Security card
- Debit/ATM card
- Credit card (providing that your signature is on it, and it isn't expired)
- Any form of ID on the primary ID list

Check that Your Names Match

Ahead of your exam, you must ensure that the first and last name on your ID **exactly match** the first and last name that you used to register with Pearson VUE. (For example, if your driver's license shows your name as Charles, be sure to register as Charles — not as Chuck or Charlie.)

We'll email you prior to your exam asking you to **log in and verify** that the name on your exam registration exactly matches with your two forms of ID. If the name displayed is different, please update your name in the form and resubmit. Name changes cannot be made on exam days, including at the testing center.

If your names don't match, you'll be asked to leave and you'll forfeit your testing fee. If you have recently had a legal name change, you'll need to bring proof to the test center on exam day. Your document must be an original (not a photocopy or fax). Pearson VUE will only accept marriage licenses, divorce decrees, or court-sanctioned legal name change documents.

Reschedule or Cancel Your Exam

If you need to reschedule or cancel your exam, contact Pearson VUE. You can either do this **online** within 48 hours of your appointment, or over the **phone** at least 24 hours prior to your exam. Once your initial exam is scheduled, you may only reschedule within 365 days of your initial exam date. You must sit for your exam within 365 days of your initial exam date, or your exam fee will not be refunded.

•



Check In

On the day of your exam, you must arrive at least 30 minutes before your start time to complete the check-in process. To check in, you'll need to:

- Show two acceptable forms of ID
- Provide your signature
- Submit to a **palm vein scan** (unless it is prohibited by law). If you are not comfortable with this form of identification, please contact examadministration@isc2.org prior to booking your exam.
- Have your photo taken. Hats, scarves and coats may not be worn for your photo. You also can't wear these items in the test room.
- Leave your personal belongings outside the testing room. You'll have access to secure storage, however, space is limited. Pearson VUE test centers do not assume responsibility for your personal belongings.

The Test Administrator (TA) will give you a short orientation before escorting you to a computer terminal. Once you are seated at your desk and the TA has started your test, review and accept the Non-Disclosure Agreement (NDA) within five minutes. If you do not review and accept the NDA within the allotted time, you cannot take the exam and your exam fee will not be refunded. You may review the NDA before your exam day [here](#).

If you're still unsure of the check in process, check out this [video](#). It explains what to expect when you arrive at your Pearson VUE test center.



Managing Exam Anxiety

Now that we've covered the logistics, we can consider how you're feeling. Hopefully, the above information has calmed your nerves by giving you a better idea of how the CC exam works, what you need to do in the lead-up, and what will happen on the day, but it's normal to still feel a bit anxious.

Looking after your mental health is always important, especially in the lead-up to the CC or any other exam. Not only are you under a lot of strain, but poor mental health can impact your exam results. So, here are four tips for managing exam anxiety.

Practice Mindfulness

Mindfulness is a particularly useful method for managing exam stress. Consider incorporating practices such as deep breathing, meditation, or progressive muscle relaxation into your study routine. These techniques can help you focus before a study session, wind down once you're done studying, or calm down when you're feeling overwhelmed.

Reward Yourself

While it's important to be healthy during your study period, cutting out treats entirely will only make you miserable. Eat healthy meals, but reward yourself occasionally with ice cream, chocolate or whatever treats you enjoy. The dopamine hit you get when you eat something you like can do wonders for your mental health.

Talk to People

Our worries and concerns often seem so much larger in our heads. That's not to invalidate how you're feeling, but it is true that talking about our anxieties usually goes a long way toward easing them. Whether you talk to your family and friends or connect with your peers through an [ISC2 forum](#) or [local chapter](#), talking helps. Don't suffer in silence – even if you're not offered a solution, it helps to have someone listen.



Prepare Yourself

To avoid unnecessary stress, it's crucial to ensure you're fully prepared for the day of your exam. Map your route to the test center and do a practice run a few days before your exam. Double-check your route a few hours early to account for traffic or public transit delays and try to get to your test center reasonably early.

Lay out everything you need to take with you the night before your exam – including your clothes and ID – get a good night's rest and eat a healthy and hearty meal. Review the information above so you know what to expect.

Testimonials

Earning the CC certification is your ticket to a long and rewarding career in cybersecurity. But don't just take it from us: thousands of people have already passed their exam and are enjoying the benefits of being CC certified. Here are a couple of examples.

**Janet Gray, CC
Client Success Manager at Optiv**

Janet was one of the earliest CC-certified professionals, taking advantage of the certification when it was still in its beta phase. Working in a client success/technical account manager role, she successfully used her basic IT and substantial client-facing experience. However, she realized she had a lot to learn about cybersecurity. She found out about the CC exam on LinkedIn and hasn't looked back since.

"Having this knowledge has been absolutely pivotal in my day-to-day work and has given me such an advantage in understanding client challenges and being able to speak the language of cybersecurity," she said.

Although Janet hasn't changed roles since earning her CC Certification, it has helped advance her career, establish herself as a leader, and negotiate for a higher salary. "Obtaining this certification has helped me stand out from my peers and helped me be seen as a leader on my team. It has also contributed positively to my yearly compensation review, as through my work with ISC2, I've shown how I value my continuing education and training to support my own career and help my team through any challenges they are facing," she said.

Janet proves that the CC Certification isn't only for professionals seeking to break into a highly technical, back-end role – it's also invaluable for those in client-facing roles. Janet states, "Being

able to communicate and partner with clients is critical. You have to be able to take technical concepts and break them down into layman's terms, as the people you work with aren't always engineers. If you don't have a foundational understanding of the technology and processes required to keep your customers' environments secure, you won't be able to break it down into easier-to-digest pieces."

After earning her CC Certification, Janet became an ISC2 member and has since been enjoying all the membership benefits. Janet has found ISC2's Skill Builder series helpful in advancing her career. "They are short-form trainings that you can do on your phone that both contribute to your overall learning but also count towards the learning credits needed to maintain your certification. The Skill Builders are all included with your membership, whereas they cost at least \$19 a course for non-members," she said.

But that's not all; Janet's ISC2 membership has granted her "opportunities to network with other professionals, training resources, and discounts on other training programs."

Janet found that the knowledge she gained from the CC Certification has opened a lot of potential doors, leading to her "considering a more leader-focused position in the Client Success realm, pivoting into Technical Project Management, or perhaps moving to a Demand Manager position which acts as a bridge between Client Engagement and Sales." She's currently "trying to decide between the Certified Cloud Security Professional (CCSP) and the Certified in Governance Risk and Compliance (CGRC) credentials to pursue next."





Ernest King Arthur, CC, CISSP
Solutions Architect at Futurex

Ernest first encountered the ISC2 CC Certification while working in system administration and technical support. Realizing that he needed to “switch gears,” he researched the best cybersecurity programs. The CC program came highly recommended, included broad and industrial content, and provided the experience and foundational knowledge needed in the cybersecurity profession.

Since passing the CC exam, Ernest quickly began enjoying the benefits of his certification and ISC2 membership. “I now have access to continuous professional education resources. I also have access to the global community of cybersecurity professionals I can rely on for discussions about the industry. I now have job visibility. After becoming certified, my employers understand that I have the requisite knowledge in the cybersecurity world,” he said.

Although Ernest found the switch to cybersecurity relatively easy due to his previous experience, the CC provided him with the knowledge needed to succeed in the industry. “I found the ISC2 CC programs to be very relevant,” he said. “Whether you have industry knowledge or are about to begin your journey, it will help you. The knowledge from ISC2 will propel you to that level where you can further develop your career in the cybersecurity field.”

As an ISC2 member, Ernest has access to many benefits. This was a big reason why Ernest decided to become a member in the first place. “I decided to be a member of ISC2 because it is a reputable organization, and I realized that I would benefit from continuous professional education. I would also have access to a global community of cybersecurity professionals. I would also get benefits of resources, such as discounts on

books and other resources that I need to use to stay abreast of developments in the profession,” he said.

Ernest has been an ISC2 member for some time and would recommend it to anyone interested in a cybersecurity career. He says, “ISC2 membership is very valuable for anyone trying to work in the cybersecurity profession. You will be provided with all the essential resources needed to stay active in the industry and perform well wherever you find yourself.”

The CC was only the start of Ernest’s ISC2 journey. When he earned his CC Certification, he was given corporate recognition and viewed by his employer as a “very valuable resource in the company.” He has leadership aspirations and is currently training for CISSP – the world’s premier recognized cybersecurity certification – and says that the CC gave him the confidence and knowledge to pursue it.

Finally, Ernest found that his connections have been one of the best parts of being an ISC2 member. He says that “the security industry comes with challenges, so it’s important to be part of a global community to perform well. Security is everybody’s business, and it is for everyone. The ISC2 programs keep me focused. Membership has also helped me stay focused. I can easily reach many people in the industry, and many of them have participated in education provided by ISC2. Once you have that, when you reach out to them, that connection is created.”

Remember, you’re only a step away from becoming CC certified, becoming an ISC2 member, and enjoying the many benefits that come with these achievements. Study hard, stay focused, and you’ll get there in no time.



More Support

If you need more information or require further support, **visit our FAQ**, email us, give us a call, or fill out **this form**.

Email: examadministration@isc2.org

North America and Latin America: **877-863-0386**

UK, Europe, Middle East and Africa: **+44-161-855-7455**

Asia-Pacific: **+60-383-191-085** (8:30 a.m. - 6:00 p.m. AEST)

