Why You Need HCISPPs

As the evolving healthcare industry faces increasing challenges to keeping personal health information protected – including growing volumes of electronic health records, new government regulations, and a more complex IT security landscape – there is a growing need to ensure knowledgeable and credentialed security and privacy practitioners are in place to protect this sensitive information.

While there is a large pool of IT security professionals on the market, those with experience in healthcare are in short supply. And if healthcare organizations choose to hire privacy and security candidates without industry experience, then they will have to invest precious time providing on-the-job training to develop healthcare knowledge.

Instead, hiring managers should consider candidates who have earned the HealthCare Information Security and Privacy Practitioner (HCISPP℠) certification. In order to achieve the HCISPP credential, practitioners must possess at least one year of experience in healthcare, as well as additional background in IT security, compliance, and privacy best practices and techniques. The HCISPP is administered by (ISC)²®, the global not-for-profit organization that delivers the gold standard for information security certifications.

There are compelling reasons to hire an HCISPP, including:

1

HCISPPs actually have healthcare experience.
It takes more than a test to earn the HCISPP credential. It takes relevant security and privacy experience – including experience in healthcare environments. When you hire an HCISPP, you are hiring a security and privacy practitioner who has the kind of practical knowledge that only comes through experience.

Although there is never any substitute for rigorous interviews and background checks, the HCISPP certification provides a level of confidence about a candidate's healthcare domain-specific information security and privacy knowledge and experience.

Tim Williams
CISSP-ISSAP, ISSEP, ISSMP, CAP, HCISPP
Software Security Consultant

2

They are knowledgeable in both security and privacy in healthcare environments.
As the protectors of personal health information within their organizations, HCISPPs bring a breadth of knowledge spanning the healthcare privacy and security domains. HCISPPs are able to speak the language of both groups to ensure that an organization's sensitive patient health information is secure. The HCISPP represents practitioners who are versed in all aspects of healthcare information stewardship.

As is the case in many smaller healthcare organizations, our employees wear many hats. The beauty of the HCISPP is that it is relevant for roles across departments and levels of responsibility. I envision HCISPP being obtained first by our privacy officer, security officer, information security analysts, and compliance officer.

Steve Person
CISSP, HCISPP
Network and Security Engineer

(ISC)²®

3 **Employing HCISPPs offers a key differentiator for your organization, particularly for those firms that provide services to the healthcare industry.** Employing a team of credentialed HCISPPs signals that your company is committed to excellence. For organizations that provide healthcare-related services to the U.S. federal government or other agencies, employing HCISPPs is a way to demonstrate your commitment to delivering quality privacy and security programs.

> *Having supported healthcare security operations in the Federal sector the past 18 years, I and my fellow IT professionals have long been aware of the link between privacy and security and the importance of keeping patient data protected. While there are certifications specific to IT security and privacy, HCISPP is the first certification that not only requires knowledge of both those areas, but also requires evidence of working in healthcare for at least one year. Knowing that an individual with this certification must show evidence of actual healthcare experience is an indicator to me as a manager that the individual has a step up on others applying for a practitioner role in a healthcare organization.*

Dennis M. Seymour
CISSP, HCISPP
Chief Security Architect

4 **The HCISPP credential requires that candidates not only pass an exam, but also keep current with changes in healthcare security and privacy.** HCISPPs must complete continuing professional education (CPE) credits each year and submit themselves for recertification every three years. This process ensures that HCISPPs are continually learning about new developments and keeping their skills current. In addition, those that attain the HCISPP certification must uphold the (ISC)² Code of Ethics, which states that information security professionals certified by (ISC)² must adhere to the highest standards of ethical behavior and act honestly and responsibly to protect the common good.

> *When presented with a candidate who holds the HCISPP certification, I will immediately be comfortable that they have the core knowledge and experience in security and privacy controls for personal health information. I will also know that the candidate takes their career seriously and wants to set themselves apart from the average applicant.*

Sarah Hendrickson
CISSP, HCISPP
CSO

For more information about the HCISPP credential, visit www.isc2.org/hcispp.

About (ISC)²

Formed in 1989 and celebrating its 25th anniversary, (ISC)² is the largest not-for-profit membership body of certified information and software security professionals worldwide, with nearly 100,000 members in more than 135 countries. Globally recognized as the Gold Standard, (ISC)² issues the Certified Information Systems Security Professional (CISSP®) and related concentrations, as well as the Certified Secure Software Lifecycle Professional (CSSLP®), the Certified Cyber Forensics Professional (CCFPSM), Certified Authorization Professional (CAP®), HealthCare Information Security and Privacy Practitioner (HCISPPSM), and Systems Security Certified Practitioner (SSCP®) credentials to qualifying candidates. (ISC)²'s certifications are among the first information technology credentials to meet the stringent requirements of ISO/IEC Standard 17024, a global benchmark for assessing and certifying personnel. (ISC)² also offers education programs and services based on its CBK®, a compendium of information and software security topics. More information is available at www.isc2.org.

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