

INFORMATION SECURITY INTERNSHIP PROGRAM

The Information Systems Security Association (ISSA) ® is a not-for-profit, international organization of information security professionals and practitioners. It provides educational forums, publications, and peer interaction opportunities that enhance the knowledge, skill, and professional growth of its members.

“WE NEED SECURITY PROFESSIONALS” is one of the most common phrases we hear at any meeting, conference or exhibition we attend these days. Everyone is having a hard time finding the talent and skills they need. That said, in January, ISSA Chicago Chapter launched our ISSA Chicago Student Initiative (ISSA SI) and Internship Program in an effort to identify, recruit and groom the next generation of Information Security (InfoSec) professional.

The ISSA SI critical success factor is you, our local employer. Our objective is to partner with you on any internship opportunities you may have, provide candidates, and help manage the process to ensure it is a mutually beneficial endeavor. The overall goal is to provide a context of taking the academic based disciplines and theories from the classroom and translate them into a real-world InfoSec position. Research indicates that employers who participate in an internship program, typically convert 60% of that talent to a FTE.

ISSA SI Program Value

- Savings of time, money and resources identifying and vetting candidates.
- Timely selection of intern from pool of prequalified candidates.
- Quick and efficient process of bringing interns on board.
- You customize development of your intern into a productive FTE that hits the ground running.
- Your intern assimilates faster into role and reduces the learning curve significantly vs hiring an external candidate.

Employer Role & Responsibility

- Completed Intern Request Form (provided) which outlines requested skillset, role, responsibility, hours/day/week, length of internship and compensation.
- Allocating time for interviewing and provide orientation for the intern.
- Identify intern supervisor/point of contact that is familiar with organization, intern's position, and assignments to be accomplished and possesses the skill the intern is to perform.
- Develop and provide learning plan, goal, objectives, and associated timeline.
- Regular evaluation intervals to ensure defined accomplishments are being met/exceeded (form provided).
- Feedback report to ISSA SI Program Director regarding outcome, successes, challenges, and/or suggestions/recommendation of any program modifications (form provided).

Student/Intern Role & Responsibility

- Completed Intern Intake Form (provided).
- Copy of Student ID to be kept on file.
- List of courses enrolled in and InfoSec experience to date.
- At the end of the internship, provide a completed Evaluation Form (provided).

Feel free to reach out to us first if you wish and/or if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Steve Riess, Program Director
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