



Top FIVE REASONS Why HCISPPs are in Demand

As healthcare organizations grapple with new and evolving threats to patient privacy and data security, healthcare security and privacy practitioners play a vital role in protecting health information. Demand for these qualified individuals continues to rise, and many are being trained and certified as HealthCare Information Security and Privacy Practitioners (HCISPP®).

HCISPP is the only certification that provides employers with industry-leading validation of a healthcare practitioner's foundational knowledge, experience, and commitment to addressing security and privacy concerns.

What makes HCISPP one of the most important healthcare credentials today?

1. HCISPPs understand the healthcare environment.

Healthcare security and privacy practitioners must possess a unique set of skills and specialized knowledge in order to navigate this highly regulated industry. Healthcare is abound with regulations, laws, compliance mandates, and reforms – i.e., HIPAA/HITECH, UK Data Protection Act, NIST, Affordable Care Act, etc. – that are constantly changing and impacting the way patient information is collected and shared. HCISPPs have the expertise to understand the implications and apply the appropriate security and privacy controls and best practices to address the data protection needs of health information.

2. HCISPPs help to manage risk.

According to a Ponemon Study*, ninety percent of the healthcare organizations surveyed have reported that they had a data breach in the past year, forty-five percent of them had more than five data breaches in the same time period, with estimated costs of more than \$2.2 million. The same study also found that top reasons for healthcare organizations are a lack of vigilance in ensuring their partners and other third parties protect patient information (fifty-one percent) and not enough skilled IT security practitioners (forty-four percent). Training and education is key to managing risk and preventing breaches. HCISPPs have a strong foundation of knowledge and

Knowing a candidate has invested the time to get HCISPP-certified gives them a leg up on the competition. Not only do they demonstrate a foundation in risk, security, and privacy, they also understand important U.S. and international healthcare regulations and meaningful use laws. They start with a baseline of knowledge that isn't easy to get, but is critical to our industry.

- Jason Zahn, CISSP

experience in healthcare-specific security and privacy controls, and can hit the ground running. They know the environment, the threats, and sensitivities around health data.

3. HCISPPs demonstrate organizational commitment

Healthcare organizations that have taken steps to invest in credentialed, knowledgeable staff demonstrate their commitment to protecting patient information. Not only is this a valuable measure for regulators, auditors, and other third-party assessors, it's an indicator to customers and partners as well.

4. HCISPPs contribute to the patient experience.

A patient's overall experience goes beyond the doctor-patient relationship, extending to the hospitals, clinics, insurance agencies, and other organizations in the healthcare system. Part of meeting patient expectation is building an environment where the programs, services, and teams in place are working in concert to keep health data secure – especially as electronic medical records are adopted. HCISPPs are a key part of building a safe and secure healthcare ecosystem that improves the overall patient experience.

5. HCISPPs meet a globally recognized standard of excellence.

HCISPP is backed by (ISC)², the leading global organization in information security certifications. The HCISPP exam is rigorous and not for individuals with a passing interest. These candidates are serious about advancing their careers and demonstrating their expertise in healthcare security and privacy. And unlike other industry certifications, HCISPPs must have a minimum of two years of work experience in security and privacy, with one of those years in healthcare.

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

**Ponemon Institute, "Sixth Annual Benchmark Study on Privacy & Security of Healthcare Data"*

About (ISC)²

(ISC)² is an international nonprofit membership association focused on inspiring a safe and secure cyber world. Best known for the acclaimed Certified Information Systems Security Professional (CISSP®) certification, (ISC)² offers a portfolio of credentials that are part of a holistic, programmatic approach to security. Our membership, over 130,000 strong, is made up of certified cyber, information, software and infrastructure security professionals who are making a difference and helping to advance the industry. Our vision is supported by our commitment to educate and reach the public through our charitable foundation – The Center for Cyber Safety and Education™. For more information about (ISC)² visit www.isc2.org, follow us on Twitter or connect with us on Facebook.

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