



EY Builds Robust Cybersecurity Teams with Hybrid (ISC)<sup>2</sup> Certification Training Boot Camps





Certified Information Systems Security Professional An **(ISC)**<sup>\*</sup> Certification



Certified Cloud Security Professional An **(ISC)**<sup>\*</sup> Certification

#### Situational Awareness

The demand for cybersecurity professionals continues to outweigh the available supply as the industry must grow <u>65%</u> to effectively defend organizations' critical assets. Organizations across the globe are competing for top talent while also struggling to retain their current cybersecurity workforce; a vicious cycle that negates progress.

To retain and attract talent in a fierce market like cybersecurity, investment in professional development is critical. While it is no doubt beneficial for organizations to employ certified and well-trained individuals, training programs and support for certification can also be seen as a competitive differentiator by candidates and current staff alike, as they create more opportunities that might not have been available previously.

### **Professional Development at EY**

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People are <u>Ernst & Young LLP's (EY US)</u> greatest asset. Helping team members grow in their careers is an integral part of the global consulting firm's culture and mission. EY's commitment to professional development is one of its key strengths that places the company in the top 10 on LinkedIn's 2021 list of best workplaces to grow your career and on Fortune's 100 Best Companies to Work For, now 23 years in a row.

EY understands the benefits of professional development don't stop at the individual. By advocating for the certification of team members in its cybersecurity practice, the company helps advance their knowledge and skills so they're ready to take on even the most complex challenges. In turn, the expertise they gain through certification empowers them to mitigate threats and protect the security posture of EY and its valued clients, as well as the cybersecurity industry as a whole.

Although some clients require practitioners with vendor-specific credentials, EY's Cybersecurity team also leverages (ISC)<sup>2</sup> certifications like CISSP and CCSP for a broader, more comprehensive mastery rather than credentials that simply check a box. Adam Wright, CISSP, Cybersecurity Managing Director at EY and certified since 2005, says EY's training programs are popular because the (ISC)<sup>2</sup> certifications validate practitioners' credibility and are a testimony to their foundational expertise in cybersecurity.

# The Approach: A New Take on Team Training

Over the last few years, Wright and his team have revised the format for EY's certification training boot camps, taking on a hybrid approach of sessions led by EY Cybersecurity team members that have gone through the <u>(ISC)<sup>2</sup> Train the Trainer</u> program as well as <u>private training</u> directly from (ISC)<sup>2</sup>.

"(ISC)<sup>2</sup> has been a trusted partner in helping us identify the best approach for us based on our staff needs," Wright says. "Their account representatives helped us better understand our options, which is how we came up with the current hybrid approach."

In the course of a year, EY hosts about five CISSP and at least two CCSP hybrid training boot camps, each drawing about 30 candidates. During the course, up to three (ISC)<sup>2</sup> Authorized Instructors from EY and from (ISC)<sup>2</sup> lead domain training, breakout activities and scenario discussions over a period of five days to reinforce candidates' mastery of the concepts.



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> Adam Wright, CISSP Cybersecurity Managing Director, EY

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When the hybrid training program began, EY focused primarily on CISSP. Then, as demand for cloud certifications grew, the company started CCSP training boot camps. Cloud skills are highly desirable, especially as EY's clients continue to migrate their workloads to the cloud and with the widespread adoption of remote and hybrid working models.

# Impact: Certification Comes with Key Benefits

EY's hybrid boot camp training has proven to be very successful, with a high percentage of candidates passing on their first attempt. Candidate feedback on the program is positive — many express



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gratitude for the opportunity to achieve CISSP and CCSP certification as a professional goal.

In the end, EY's goal is to improve its cybersecurity workforce by providing its team members with the certifications, skills and experiences they need to have a long, successful career. Wright recognizes that, to defend against the growing number of adversaries, cybersecurity professionals must focus on becoming their best selves.

"We're trying to build a more secure and trusted working world to align with our nested purpose in cybersecurity by training others. Those team members might be with us next year, they might be with us for the next 10 years, but wherever they go, we want to make sure they take their EY experiences with them so they can help their next company become more secure and address their business and cybersecurity risks. One of the ways we can help build a stronger and more secure community is by training more people, regardless of how long they spend at EY."

# Partner with (ISC)<sup>2</sup> to Train and Certify Your Team

Every organization has unique certification and training needs, and cookie-cutter solutions fall short of meeting them. That's why (ISC)<sup>2</sup> Training can be tailored to your organization's budget, schedule and unique cybersecurity requirements. Contact the (ISC)<sup>2</sup> team for a one-on-one consultation to develop a targeted cybersecurity training and certification plan for your team.

# About (ISC)<sup>2</sup>

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(ISC)<sup>2®</sup> 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<sup>®</sup>) certification, (ISC)<sup>2</sup> offers a portfolio of credentials that are part of a holistic, pragmatic approach to security. Our association of candidates, associates and members, nearly 365,000 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 general public through our charitable foundation – <u>The Center for Cyber Safety and Education</u><sup>™</sup>. For more information about (ISC)<sup>2</sup> visit <u>our website</u>, follow us on <u>Twitter</u> or connect with us on <u>Facebook</u>.



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