

Benjamin Goldberg

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Summary

RIT Cybersecurity Student with production experience hardening infrastructure supporting a \$300K/month operation, architecting secure deployments, and competing in live-fire cyber defense exercises.

Education

Rochester Institute of Technology

Anticipated Graduation: May 2029

Bachelor of Science in Cybersecurity Major GPA: 4.0 | Cumulative GPA: 3.43

Work Experience

Buffalo Brick and Mortar

March 2026 - Present

Automation Engineer

- Conducted a security posture assessment of the company's Google Workspace environment, configured SPF, DKIM, and DMARC email authentication, and identified and remediated a CEO-targeted phishing vulnerability
- Enforced organization-wide 2FA and implemented access control policies to reduce the attack surface across all company accounts
- Hardened a production Ubuntu 24.04 VPS supporting a \$300K/month real estate operation by implementing UFW firewall rules restricted to Cloudflare IP ranges, fail2ban intrusion prevention, SSH key-only authentication, and end-to-end TLS encryption
- Architected a two-container Docker deployment with internal-only API networking, ensuring Salesforce CRM data (PII, financial records, 200+ monthly leads) had no externally exposed attack surface
- Designed and deployed an AI underwriting pipeline integrating Salesforce REST API (OAuth 2.0), third-party property data APIs, and a Python-based analysis engine to automate property valuation across 10 analytical modules
- Automated PDF report generation and CRM write-back via API calls, reducing manual analyst prep time from ~40 minutes to under 2 minutes per property

Prot IV Distributions Inc

July 2025 - March 2026

IT Operations Analyst - (*promoted from Sourcing Intern*)

- Developed Python tools to automate order processing and inventory management workflows
- Designed and deployed a secure remote access architecture using OpenVPN for internal business operations

Projects & Competitions

Information Security Talent Search (ISTS) 2026 – Black Team

January 2026 - March 2026

- **Compliance Auditing:** Evaluated technical deliverables (firewall rules, policy drafts, incident reports) from competitor teams against strict competition rubric
- **Injects:** Designed and deployed a credential-harvesting simulation – a realistic phishing login page built with HTML/CSS, a Python (Gunicorn) backend, and NGINX reverse proxy used as a competitive inject to test teams' ability to identify social engineering attacks

NCAE Cybergames 2026 - Networking Lead

February 2026

- Acted as a System Administrator in a live-fire exercise, tasked with securing team infrastructure under simulated cyberattack conditions
- Maintained >80% service uptime under active Red Team fire by implementing iptables rules and enforcing Principle of Least Privilege (PoLP) across directories
- Successfully completed 4 Capture-the-Flag challenges (CTFs) in categories including cryptography, forensics, and network logging to help earn 1600 team points with 23 CTFs completed in under 8 hours

IRSEC 2025 Competition – Team & Linux Lead

November 2025

- Led a 5-person incident response team to achieve 4th in uptime out of 19 teams, maintaining availability despite persistent Red Team intrusion attempts
- Engineered scripts to harden Linux and Windows machines and to change credentials every 5 minutes
- Performed real-time network forensics using Wireshark, identifying and removing 3 Red Team persistence mechanisms (reverse shell, cron-based callback, and unauthorized SSH key) to restore system integrity

Skills, Certifications & Interests

- **Security frameworks and tools:** Nmap, Wireshark, Burp Suite
- **Programming:** Python, Bash scripting, Git, PowerShell, GitHub Actions
- **Infrastructure:** Docker, Virtualization, OpenVPN, SSH, Linux (Debian/RHEL families, Kali), Active Directory, n8n, Salesforce

Extracurriculars

- **Rock Climbing Club:** Active member
- **RITSEC:** Active member across multiple interest groups; participated in club-hosted competitions including ISTS 2026 (Black Team) and IRSEC 2025 (Team & Linux Lead)