

Ashton Akridge

Email: Contact@ashtonakridge.com

Portfolio Website: <https://ashtonakridge.com>

Education:

Alabama School of Cyber Technology and Engineering (ASCTE)

Huntsville, AL

August 2021- present

Alabama School Of Cyber Technology and Engineering (ASCTE) is a statewide magnet high school devoted to studying cyber and STEM fields. They prepare high school students for future STEM or cyber security and technology careers by having custom-suited classes such as Engineering 101-401, AP Computer Science Principles, Social Engineering, Cyber 101-401, Calculus, Calculus Based Physics,, AP Lang and Composition, and AP Computer Science A.

Buckhorn High School

Huntsville, AL

August 2020- May 2021

Buckhorn High School is where I completed my freshman year of highschool during the covid pandemic.

Calhoun Community College

Huntsville, AL

August 2023 - May 2024

As a dual enrollment student at Calhoun Community College, I was enrolled in Network + and Pentest Plus to expand my technical expertise as well as to receive college credit as a high school student. I have gained hands-on experience in Networking, covering TCP/IP Protocols, Securing Systems, Hardware, and Cloud Security. In the Pentest + Course course, I am mastering Offensive Pentesting skills, Password Cracking, Social Engineering, and Forensics. Through these two classes, I have developed a technical proficiency in my knowledge of Penetration Testing and Networking.

Certifications:

ISC2 Certified in Cyber Security

March 22 2024

Proves you have the foundational knowledge, skills and abilities for an entry- or junior-level cyber security role.

Professional Experience:

Alabama School of Cyber Technology and Engineering (ASCTE)

Summer Cyber Internship: IT Helper

June 2022 - August 2022

During the summer of 2022, I had the privilege of interning with the Alabama School of Cyber Technology and Engineering, where I gained valuable insights into managing hundreds of computers and practical networking skills. Collaborating with industry professionals and fellow interns, I actively managed, troubleshooted, and repaired hundreds of computers for the upcoming school year. My most notable accomplishment in this internship was the practical skills gained when it comes to networking, troubleshooting, and repairing hundreds of computers. This remarkable internship marked an exciting milestone as my first professional endeavor.

ASCTE Network Assistant:

August 2023 - January 2024

I was a network assistant during the 2022-2023 school year where I assisted ASCTE's network administrator in troubleshooting network issues as well as provided support in creating patch cables, setting up/learning about VoIP, installing network racks and servers, and learning about network monitoring as well as many other various networking topics.

Science Applications International Corp. (SAIC)

August 2023 - Present

Under direct supervision, performing work for SAIC internal teams (indirect), I will develop software solutions, revamp the Cyber Camp at the Space and Rocket Center, and harden software and hardware solutions including implementing Secure Technical Implementation Guides (STIG). Following an Agile process, I will generate reports and status the work I've provided. I will attend daily standup, sprint planning, sprint review, and sprint retrospective meetings. I will generate documentation detailing my technical approach to solutions as requested by senior engineering team members.

Professional Development:

National Cyber Summit Participant

AUSA summit Participant

ASCTE Mentorship w/ NASA Amy Winebarger

Leadership Experience:

I am a ASCTE Student Ambassador, representing and promoting the program to prospective students. In this role, I had the opportunity to give tours to many individuals such as: Mayor Tommy Battle, President of SAIC Toni Townes-Whitley, and Senator Arthur Orr. I have been able to engage with potential new students, and collaborated with my school's partners such as DEVCOM and NASA through partnership signing events, and providing Distinguished Visitor Protocol support. To add to this, I was also selected to be in the National Beta Club for the 2023-2024 school year where I will be an active member in the organization and my community and will be a representative for my school.

Volunteer Experience:

ASCTE Beta Club 2022-2024

Sound Production at Church of the Highlands 2023-2024

ASCTE Ambassador Events

Awards:

ASCTE President's List Award 2022 & 2023

ASCTE Kindness Award 2023

ASCTE Joy Award 2023

ASCTE Integrity Award 2023

ASCTE Honesty Award 2023

ASCTE Cyber Excellence Award 2023

ASCTE Engineering Excellence Award 2022

ASCTE History Excellence Award 2022 & 2024

The University of Alabama Capture the Flag Top Scorer 2024

Geo Huntsville Scholarship Recipient 2024

CTF Competitions:

I have participated in various CTF competitions throughout the 2022-2024 academic years, both virtually and in person. The competitions I have competed in include the ASCTE Raytheon Technologies CTF 2022, ASCTE Northrop Grumman CTF 2023, and UACTF (University of Alabama CTF competition) 2023 & 2024. Throughout these competitions, I have learned a multitude of skills such as the command line, Ghidra, OSINT, Steganography, vulnerability scanning, network analysis, cryptography, and web exploitation.

Self Learning:

TryHackMe

HackTheBox

Electives: (ASCTE)

Robotics w/ Engineering SME as well as IT Personnel 2022-2023

Machine Learning w/ Cyber SME 2023-2024

Networking w/ IT Department 2023-2024

Projects:

Personal Portfolio Website

<https://ashtonakridge.com/>

March 2024- present

Developed a personal portfolio website utilizing vanilla HTML, CSS, and JavaScript to demonstrate proficiency in software engineering for prospective employment opportunities.

Capstone Project:

Actively developing a capstone project about educational gaming. Using the Unity game engine we were able to increase student engagement and make learning more engaging. By using our skills in C# programming, 3D design, and teamwork, we've developed the Cryptology Legacy Game for the Alabama School of Cyber technology and Engineering Curriculum.

Skills:

Soft Skills:

- **Verbal/NonVerbal Communication**
- **Strategic Planning:** Skilled in developing and executing comprehensive strategic plans to drive project success. Demonstrated ability to successfully plan and carry through self-guided projects that are cyber/software-related.
- **Strong Work Ethic:** Consistently maintains a 3.8 GPA while taking college-level courses and actively participating in school leadership roles.
- **Time Management:** Demonstrates impeccable time management skills, consistently meeting deadlines for tasks and projects.

Skills:

- **C#:** Showcases a strong grasp of C++ with a diverse portfolio of class assignments and personal projects, demonstrating proficiency at an intermediate level.
- **Python:** Evidenced by the successful development and implementation of data-driven applications, automation scripts, and algorithmic solutions using Python.
- **Network Management(Patch Cables, Networking Basics, etc):** Developed a deep understanding of network management concepts, including patch cables, networking fundamentals, and related technologies, through hands-on collaboration with ASCTE'S IT manager.
- **HTML, CSS, Javascript:** Well-versed in Web fundamentals, including a deep understanding of the Front end, Backend, and practical experience in configuring and managing a web domain.
- **Linux:** Well-versed in Linux fundamentals, including a deep understanding of the Linux file structure, command line operations, and practical experience in configuring and troubleshooting Linux-based systems.
- **MATLAB/LTSpice/Laser Cutting:** Actively expanding proficiency in MATLAB, LTSpice, and Simulink for engineering applications, including in projects such as a circuit analysis of different signals using these tools. Demonstrated practical knowledge of laser cutting, having successfully employed it in diverse projects, such as designing a functional pencil holder.
- **C++:** Showcases a strong grasp of C++ with a diverse portfolio of class assignments and personal projects, demonstrating proficiency at an intermediate level