COURSE2CAREER

ONLINE · SELF PACED

ELCAS Cyber Security **Career Programme**

The full Cyber Security Career Programme, funded through your Enhanced Learning Credits. Course2Career is ELCAS approved provider 14012.

9	3	£439.40	14012
courses	exams included	from, after ELC	ELCAS provider

PHONE
0800 294 6300

WEBSITE
course2career.com

EMAIL
enquiries@course2career.com

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YOUR COST ON HIGHER TIER

£439.40

Full programme price £2,197. ELC pays £1,757.60 on higher tier.
On lower tier ELC pays £1,000 and you pay £1,197.

Why this **programme**

Every organisation that holds data needs people who can protect it. That demand is why cyber security is one of the few UK sectors still hiring at entry level in volume, and why it is one of the most realistic routes into a technical career for someone starting from scratch.

Security clearance experience, operational discipline and a habit of following procedure under pressure map directly onto security operations work. A great many UK security analysts came out of the forces, and employers in this sector actively look for that background.

This is the same complete training package as our standard Cyber Security Career Programme: nine courses, the same materials, labs, tutor support and recruitment support. The only differences on the ELCAS route are which official exams are included in the price, and what you pay. Both are set out on the next page.

INCLUDED ON THIS PROGRAMME

Guaranteed Route to Job Placement

Structured recruitment support on completion. Subject to the conditions in our Terms & Conditions.

What is included

- ✓ Nine accredited courses from CompTIA and Microsoft
- ✓ A dedicated mentor throughout your studies
- ✓ Two applied projects in security and cloud
- ✓ Expert CV rewrite built for civilian screening
- ✓ One year of full course access
- ✓ Three official examinations: Network+, Security+ and CySA+
- ✓ Live Labs for hands on practical experience
- ✓ Optional five day practical training in a classroom
- ✓ Recruitment support and job placement route
- ✓ Help with your ELC claim and a written quote

How the **funding works**

Enhanced Learning Credits pay 80 per cent of the course fee, up to your tier cap. This programme costs £2,197 and uses one of your three claims. Here is exactly what a claim covers and what you would pay yourself, at each tier.

HIGHER TIER

£439.40

Eight or more years of eligible service since 1 April 2000.

Course fee	**£2,197**
80% of the fee	**£1,757.60**
ELC pays	**£1,757.60**
You pay	**£439.40**

LOWER TIER

£1,197

Six or more years, or four years completed before 1 April 2017.

Course fee	**£2,197**
80% of the fee	**£1,757.60**
ELC pays (capped)	**£1,000**
You pay	**£1,197**

The 20 per cent is yours to pay

You must pay a minimum of 20 per cent of the fee yourself, and you cannot use ELC to cover it. Many service leavers put resettlement funding towards it. On lower tier the £1,000 cap is reached before the 80 per cent is, which is why the contribution is higher.

Three claims, one per financial year

You have three claims in total and can use only one per financial year, 1 April to 31 March. Plan the order you use them in, because a claim cannot be recovered once spent. This programme uses one claim.

The claim window after discharge

You can claim within five years of your discharge date, or ten years if you left before 1 April 2016. Check your own date rather than assuming. You no longer need to have registered before leaving; enrolment has been automatic since Phase 1 training under the 2016 Order.

How to claim **for this programme**

Five steps, in order. The quote comes from us; the claim goes through ELCAS; nothing is paid until the Claim Authorisation Note arrives.

1 **Check your tier and remaining claims**

Eligible service since 1 April 2000, how many of your three claims you have left, and whether you are inside your claim window.

2 **Ask us for a written quote**

We put the full fee, the ELC portion and your contribution in writing before you submit anything.

3 **Submit the claim**

Through the ELCAS Members Area, or on a form signed by your Education Staff or Single Service Representative. MOD guidance says at least 25 clear working days before the start date.

4 **Send us the Claim Authorisation Note**

We invoice the MOD for the funded portion once we have it.

5 **Pay your contribution and start**

Access is issued once your £439.40 or £1,197 is settled, depending on your tier.

DO NOT PAY BEFORE YOUR CLAIM IS APPROVED

Retrospective claims are not permitted under any circumstances. If you pay first and claim afterwards, the claim is refused and there is no route back. Wait for the Claim Authorisation Note before paying us, or anyone else, a penny.

VERIFY US BEFORE YOU CLAIM

Course2Career is ELCAS approved provider 14012

Check us on the provider list at enhancedlearningcredits.com. Being an approved provider is not enough on its own; this programme must also be listed against us, and it is.

What you **will study**

Nine courses taken in sequence, because each one builds on the last. Every course is included in full. Three official examinations are included in the ELCAS programme price, marked below; the training for the other six is included, but their exams are not and can be added separately.

1. **CompTIA Tech+** — EXAM EXTRA
   The starting point if you have never worked in IT. Infrastructure, software, data, security and IT concepts.

2. **CompTIA A+** — EXAM EXTRA
   Hardware, operating systems, troubleshooting, mobile devices and operational procedures across both Core exams.

3. **CompTIA Network+** — EXAM INCLUDED
   Networking concepts, implementation, operations and troubleshooting. You cannot secure a network you do not understand.

4. **UNIX Administration** — EXAM EXTRA
   Command line, file systems, permissions and processes. Most servers and security tooling run on Linux.

5. **Python Programming** — EXAM EXTRA
   Syntax, control flow and working with data. Scripting is how analysts automate the repetitive parts of the job.

6. **Microsoft AZ-900** — EXAM EXTRA
   Azure Fundamentals. Cloud concepts, core services, governance and pricing.

7. **Microsoft SC-900** — EXAM EXTRA
   Security, Compliance and Identity Fundamentals across Microsoft solutions.

8. **CompTIA Security+** — EXAM INCLUDED
   Threats, vulnerabilities, architecture, operations and programme management. The certification named most often in UK entry level security adverts.

9. **CompTIA CySA+** — EXAM INCLUDED
   Security operations, vulnerability management, incident response and reporting. The working skills of a security analyst.

Support at **every stage**

Self paced does not mean on your own, and for service leavers self paced is the whole point: no block release, no travel, and no fixed classroom dates to defend against a resettlement timeline that keeps moving. Materials are available 24 hours a day from any device.

1 Mentorship

A dedicated mentor is your main point of contact throughout, by phone, email and video call. Which order to take the courses in, when you are genuinely ready to sit an exam, how to sequence your remaining ELC claims, and whether the role you are aiming at is realistic from where you are standing.

2 Live Labs

Theory only takes you halfway. Live Labs give you real world practical experience in a live environment, and the chance to carry out the tasks an IT professional actually performs. It is also what interviewers probe hardest.

3 Practical training

An optional five day classroom course, as hands on as possible. Each student has their own desktop PC and numbers are limited so the trainer can give everyone the attention they need.

4 If you are deploying or at sea

Tell us before you enrol rather than afterwards. Connectivity, watch patterns and operational commitments all change how you should plan the course, and it is far easier to build that in at the start than to ask for an extension later. If you fall behind, tell us early rather than going quiet.

> “ Left the Royal Navy with no civilian IT experience. Security clearance history, operational discipline and watchkeeping all transferred directly into a technical consulting role.
>
> Benjamin Hunter, Royal Navy to Senior Consultant, FDM Group

Projects and **what comes next**

Two applied projects sit inside the programme, then recruitment support begins once your examinations are passed. The CV work is built around the specific reasons military CVs fail civilian screening.

1 Security Information and Event Management (SIEM)

An introduction to the industry's most widely used SIEM technology. Hands on log monitoring experience, and an assessment of your ability to present findings back to stakeholders with the help of visualisation.

2 Cloud project

Deploy and configure a cloud security resource in your own cloud environment, then enable connectors that let you monitor user activity such as sign in logs.

3 CV rebuild for civilian screening

Rank and trade names that mean nothing outside the forces, acronyms nobody decodes, and real achievements buried under a list of duties. We rewrite it so a civilian hiring manager can see what you actually did, and rebuild your LinkedIn profile so recruiters find you for the right terms.

4 Route to job placement

Interview preparation, including how to translate service experience into examples a civilian panel recognises. Help identifying the right roles and applying consistently. If you have met the programme conditions and have not secured a role, that support continues.

> “I was at a career crossroads. I knew I wanted to get into IT but never had the confidence to make the jump. Once I was studying and interacting with their support team and my mentors I knew there was no way I could fail.
>
> John, Service Desk Analyst and Cyber Security Student

About **the roles**

Cyber security is a career ladder rather than a single job. Where you start is not where you stay, and the progression is unusually fast for people who get the first role and then build experience.

01 **Your background is an asset here**

Security clearance history, discipline under pressure and procedure are things this sector actively recruits for.

02 **You do not need a degree**

The industry hires on certification and demonstrated skill. That is what makes it reachable from any background.

03 **More than one job at the end**

Trainee analyst, SOC analyst, security technician, incident response, governance and risk. Several doors, not one.

04 **The skills transfer anywhere**

Every organisation holding data needs protection, so you are not tied to one sector or one region.

05 **Genuine progression**

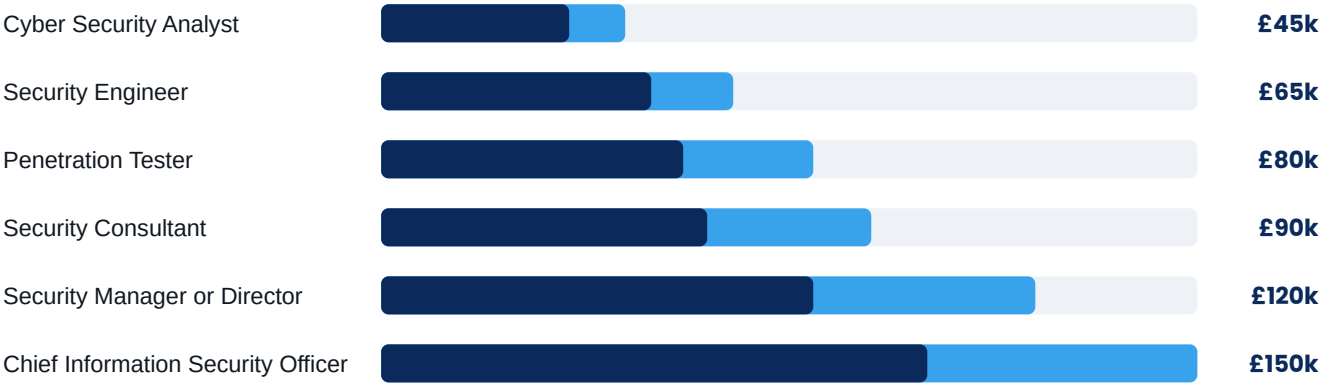
Specialising into penetration testing, incident response or consultancy all pay above general analyst work.

06 **Flexible and often remote**

A large share of security work is done remotely, which widens the jobs you can realistically apply for.

Career path **and salaries**

Published UK market ranges for the roles this programme leads towards. These are ranges for the role, not predictions about what you will personally earn.



READ THESE NUMBERS CAREFULLY

A range is not a starting salary. With no prior experience your first role sits at the bottom of the analyst band, around £30,000 to £35,000, and the higher figures reflect several years of operational experience. Certification improves your chances of being considered for a role. It does not on its own set your pay.

Other roles you will be qualified for

- ✓ Trainee Cyber Security Analyst
- ✓ Security Technician
- ✓ IT Support and First Line
- ✓ SOC Analyst
- ✓ Service Desk Analyst
- ✓ IT Technician

Your study **pathway**

Seven stages from claim to employment. Most people move through the study in six to nine months around duty, resettlement and family.

1 **Claim and get set up**

Written quote from us, claim submitted, Claim Authorisation Note received, your contribution paid. Then login details and a welcome call. Tell us then about any learning needs.

2 **Build the foundations**

Tech+, A+ and Network+. The groundwork everything else stands on. Network+ is your first included exam.

3 **Add the platform layer**

UNIX Administration, Python and the Microsoft fundamentals. The tools and environments you will actually meet in a working security role.

4 **Move into security**

Security+ then CySA+, with Live Labs alongside. Written notes as you work through the labs, because that is what the students who pass first time do.

5 **Sit your examinations**

Network+, Security+ and CySA+ are included. Exam preparation sessions, mock exams and practice questions. You book when you are ready, not before.

6 **Recruitment support**

CV rebuilt for civilian screening, LinkedIn, interview preparation and help applying. Your route to job placement begins here.

What our **students say**

Real students, named, with the roles they moved into. Their full stories, including video, are on our website.

Benjamin Hunter

ROYAL NAVY TO SENIOR CONSULTANT, FDM GROUP

Left the Royal Navy with no civilian IT experience. Security clearance history, operational discipline and watchkeeping all transferred directly into a technical consulting role.

Michael Durham

SALES LEADERSHIP TO CYBER SECURITY

Came from a career in sales and sales leadership with no technical background. His own view is that the certifications were half of it, and being willing to put himself forward was the other half.

> “Theory, practical and an examination makes the difference. They have given me the vehicle and I am now driving the car.
>
> Lisa, Junior Cyber Security Analyst

> “I signed up for their Cyber Security training programme. Great team. My mentor has been friendly and helpful. Super excited to be working my way toward a new future for myself and my family.
>
> Kate, Cyber Security Student

Frequently asked **questions**

How much does the programme cost with ELCAS funding?

The full price is £2,197. On higher tier, ELC pays £1,757.60 and you pay £439.40. On lower tier, ELC pays £1,000 and you pay £1,197. Each uses one of your three claims. We give you all three figures in writing before you submit anything.

Why are the included exams different from the standard programme?

You receive the complete training package either way. The ELCAS programme includes three official exams, Network+, Security+ and CySA+, which are the three that carry the most weight on a cyber security CV and the three UK employers ask for by name. The other six courses are included as full training. If you want to sit their exams too, they can be added separately and we will quote you before you claim.

Do I need to have registered for ELC before I left?

No, not any more, and a lot of provider websites are still out of date on this. The 2016 Order removed the registration requirement. Members of the armed forces are automatically enrolled once they have completed Phase 1 training.

Can I claim for a course I have already paid for?

No. Retrospective claims are not permitted under any circumstances. The claim has to be approved before the course starts, so speak to us before you pay for anything.

How does the Guaranteed Route to Job Placement work?

On completion of the programme our recruitment team works with you to secure your first role: CV rebuilt for civilian screening, LinkedIn guidance, interview preparation and help applying consistently. If you have met the programme conditions and have not secured a role, that support continues. The full conditions are set out in our Terms & Conditions. We are not your employer and cannot compel any company to hire you; the guarantee is a continued support commitment.

What can I realistically expect to earn?

Entry level roles pay entry level salaries. Cyber Security Analyst roles in the UK are published at £35,000 to £45,000, with the lower end being where career changers realistically start. The higher figures on page 10 reflect several years of operational experience. Anyone promising you a specific salary is promising something they cannot know.

Are the certifications recognised?

Yes. Every certification is awarded by CompTIA or Microsoft, not by us, at Level 3 or above, and examinations are sat with the awarding body or an approved test centre. Your qualification is worth exactly the same as it would be from any other provider and it stays with you.

COURSE2CAREER

ELCAS CYBER SECURITY CAREER PROGRAMME

Ready to **start?**

Tell us what you did before and what you want to reach. We will tell you honestly whether this programme fits, and if a different route suits you better we will say so.

PHONE

0800 294 6300

EMAIL

enquiries@course2career.com

WEBSITE

course2career.com

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