

**National Information  
Technology Security  
Professional Certification**

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## **Outline:**

- **Current IT Security Professional Certification Environment**
- **Efforts of the IT Security Professional Certification Working Group**
- **Way ahead**

# **Current IT Security Professional Certification Environment:**

- ▶ Need to identify highly qualified people to develop, maintain, and secure our information systems and networks
- ▶ No nationally recognized certification for IT security professionals

## **PCIPB Education Standing Committee:**

- ▶ Federal Scholarships
- ▶ Workforce ITS Literacy
- ▶ National Cyber Academy
- ▶ IT Security Professional Certification

## **IT Security Professional Certification Working Group:**

- ▶ Goal: Nationally recognized, privately administered certifications at appropriate levels
- ▶ Scope: Vendor-neutral certification
- ▶ Product: Draft a strategy for developing nationally acceptable IT Security Professional Certifications

## **Efforts of the IT Security Certification Working Group:**

- ▶ Met with stakeholders to collect perspectives and analyze needs
- ▶ Met with current certification providers to understand current state of IT certifications
- ▶ Documenting recommendations that provide a framework for achieving a national IT security certification standard

## **Certification Related Issues:**

1. Governance structure
2. A common body of knowledge
3. A defined levels of certification
4. Testing: valid, reliable, current
5. Continuing education

## **Next Steps:**

- ▶ Initiate Governance structure discussion
- ▶ Continue to consult stakeholder groups
- ▶ Further analyze the job roles and functions of IT security professionals
- ▶ Analyze current certification offerings to match current certifications to identified security roles, levels, job descriptions, etc.



## **Way Ahead:**

“Department of Homeland Security will encourage efforts that are needed to build foundations for the development of security certification programs that will be broadly accepted by the public and private sectors.”

The National Strategy to Secure Cyberspace – Feb 2003