

# Passage Program Placement Initiative

For many organizations the challenge of hiring and retaining cybersecurity talent can be a daunting endeavor. With close to 400,000 unfilled positions in North America and over 3.5 million globally, organizations struggle to keep up with the demand to hire qualified talent. While universities and educational programs continue to work on developing the next generation of cybersecurity professionals, the majority of graduates lack the hands-on skills needed to demonstrate job readiness with employers.

**61%**  
of companies  
think  
applicants are  
not qualified

**40%**  
of IT leader say  
cybersecurity  
jobs are  
hardest to fill

**4 million**  
unfilled  
cybersecurity  
jobs globally by  
2021

Enabling new cybersecurity talent and improving the skills of existing cybersecurity professionals is at the core of the Tech Data Cyber Range mission. To address the current demand and hands-on skills gap in the cybersecurity community, Tech Data recently launched the Passage Program Placement Initiative\*. Focused on assessing knowledge and hands-on skills, the program takes on the burden of validating potential candidates for some of the most critical roles in cybersecurity.

**Organizations that hire candidates from the Passage Program can be confident they are onboarding employees that are proficient with the requirements of the role and can demonstrate the competencies needed for success.**

If you are looking to hire well-qualified, competent cybersecurity talent for your organization, then the Tech Data Passage Program Placement Initiative is here to help.

To learn more about the Passage Program Placement Initiative or how the Tech Data Cyber Range is reshaping cybersecurity, please visit us at [www.cyberange.techdata.com/passage-program/](http://www.cyberange.techdata.com/passage-program/) or email the team at [securityservices@techdata.com](mailto:securityservices@techdata.com).

\*Tech Data is a worldwide leader in the distribution of IT products and services. The TDCR Passage Program Placement Initiative supports the development and placement of security professionals into today's evolving and competitive cybersecurity job market.