

RICHARD KWAKU OPOKU

Cybersecurity | Cloud Security | Network Security | MSc Applicant

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ACADEMIC PROFILE

Year 3 Computer Science & Engineering student at UMaT (80.87 CWA, First Class) applying for MSc programmes in cybersecurity and cloud security. AWS security labs, AmaliTech AWS re/Start (Jan-Apr 2026), One Million Coders on Coursera, cryptography coursework, and ISC2 CC in progress. C# TA at UMaT; tutor at AAENICS.

Focus areas: cloud security architecture, identity & access management, network defence and monitoring, applied cryptography, secure cloud deployment, and risk management (NIST CSF).

EDUCATION

Bachelor of Science in Computer Science and Engineering

Year 3 - Expected 2027

University of Mines and Technology (UMaT), Tarkwa, Ghana

- CWA: 80.87 (First Class standing)
- Relevant coursework: Cloud Computing, Software Engineering, Database Systems, AI/ML Systems, IoT & Embedded Systems, Information Security
- Security-aligned study: Cryptography, TCP/IP networking, Linux administration, SQL for security analytics, risk assessment, incident response, CIA triad, NIST CSF

ACADEMIC PROJECTS

Cryptography - Information Security course, UMaT

- Symmetric and asymmetric encryption with practical implementation

TEACHING & LEADERSHIP

Teaching Assistant - C# Programming

Dept. of Computer Science & Engineering, UMaT

- Supported lecture delivery, lab sessions, and student coursework under faculty supervision

Tutor

AAENICS Robotics Club, UMaT

- Mentored members on robotics, embedded systems, and hands-on hardware projects

Hardware Hackathon Organizer

AAENICS / UMaT

- Organized and facilitated hardware-focused hackathons for student teams

CERTIFICATIONS & SECURITY TRAINING

AWS Certified Cloud Practitioner (CCP)

Amazon Web Services (Credly)

Google Cybersecurity Professional Certificate

Foundations, Risk, Networks, Linux & SQL (4 of 8 courses completed)

One Million Coders Member - Cybersecurity (Coursera)

One Million Coders

ISC2 Certified in Cybersecurity (CC)

In progress

Machine Learning Specialization

Stanford University & DeepLearning.AI (Coursera)

TECHNICAL SKILLS

Cybersecurity & networking: Linux, Bash, SQL; Wireshark, tcpdump; TCP/IP, DNS, DHCP, HTTP/S; firewalls, VPNs, network hardening; cryptography; CIA triad, NIST CSF, risk assessment, incident response planning

Cloud security: AWS (IAM, S3 policy hardening, Lambda execution roles, API Gateway, Amplify, EC2, VPC); least-privilege access; block public access; CI/CD pipeline security

Software (supporting): C#, Python, Node.js, TypeScript, React/Next.js, PostgreSQL, MongoDB, Docker, Git

SECURITY & CLOUD EXPERIENCE

Cloud Practitioner Intern - AWS re/Start

Jan 2026 - Apr 2026

AmaliTech (Online)

- Cloud architecture, IAM, VPC, EC2, S3, Linux, Python, networking, and databases

Hackathon Participant

Jan 2026 - Apr 2026

AmaliTech (AWS re/Start)

- Team built a hospital queue system with Lambda, API Gateway, Cognito, DynamoDB, and Amplify

One Million Coders Member - Cybersecurity

Courseera / One Million Coders

- Studying cybersecurity on Courseera, including Google Cybersecurity Professional Certificate pathway (4 of 8 courses completed)

AWS Hands-On Security Labs

Personal AWS account (us-west-1) - documented on LinkedIn

- Lab 1 - Secure CI/CD: Amplify Hosting + GitHub; HTTPS portfolio deploy
- Lab 2 - Storage security: S3 block public access; least-privilege IAM scoped to private/ prefix
- Lab 3 - Serverless API: Lambda + API Gateway with dedicated IAM execution role

SECURITY-RELEVANT PROJECTS

Quads - Campus marketplace

quadsmarket.tech

- Buyer/seller/admin roles, Paystack escrow, student verification; API on AWS EC2, Cloudflare, MongoDB Atlas

Scholar

schorla.vercel.app

- Parses CVs, transcripts, and SOPs; matches students to scholarships

UMaTBOT (MINEBOT) - Campus helpdesk

Telegram Bot, Python

- Campus FAQs and resources via Telegram

InsightFlow, StudyMate, Sheet2SaaS

Live apps

- Vercel, Supabase, PostgreSQL

ADDITIONAL EXPERIENCE

IoT Hackathon Developer

Robotics Club (AAENICS), UMaT - 2026

- ESP32 + MQTT embedded prototypes; team-based automation challenge with panel evaluation

Hackathon Participant

Dept. of Computer Science & Engineering, UMaT - 2025

- Collaborative software solution design and presentation