



Florida Student and Graduate Profile

The best advice Ohamien Uhakheme received was that “luck is nothing more than preparation and opportunity.” Heeding that advice, Ohamien prepared himself early on for a career in information technology (IT) and proactively sought out opportunities. He enrolled in Cisco® Networking Academy® when he was a sophomore at Mainland High School and has been charging ahead ever since.

Ohamien is passionate about technology. Even as a high school student, he dedicated significant amounts of time to the academy, making it a real priority. “Technology is fun and challenging,” says Ohamien. “It takes time and perseverance to learn everything about a technology, but when it’s all done you end up feeling like the hero, or at the very least it seems like you’ve accomplished something for yourself or your team.”

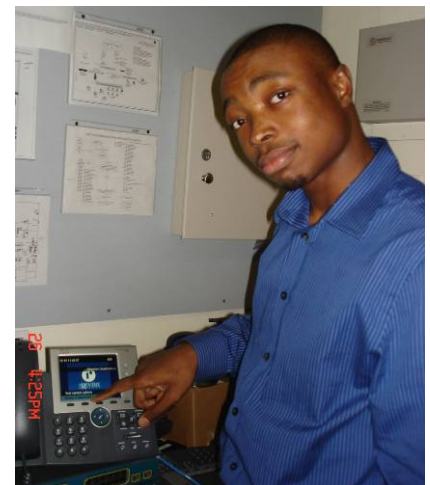
Ohamien’s commitment to preparing himself and creating opportunities was apparent early on. He knew he would have to work his way through college, and without a car, the job would have to be on campus. So when Ohamien learned he had been admitted to the University of Central Florida, he set his sights on the University’s Network Operations Center and called to see if they were hiring. As “luck” would have it, there was an immediate job opening. Ohamien had already earned his Cisco Certified Network Associate (CCNA®) certification by the time he graduated from Mainland High School, which proved to be a distinct competitive advantage. He beat out two other candidates for the job. From Ohamien’s perspective, “I had my goals, I had my priorities, and my plan had to happen.”

“If it were not for the Networking Academy I wouldn’t be where I am today. ... Everything I needed to know in my job I learned in high school through the Networking Academy. My bachelor’s degree was a necessity to get hired, but the experience I got in high school is what I use today on a day-to-day basis.”

Ohamien Uhakheme

In addition to graduating with a bachelor of science degree in information systems technology, Ohamien has earned a number of other Cisco certifications, including CCNP®, CCDA®, CQS-Rich Media®, CQS-Unity Design®, and CCVP®. He is currently working for The Revere Group, a global business and IT solutions consultancy, Cisco Premier Certified Partner, and Cisco SMB Select Partner. As a senior consultant, infrastructure engineer, and Cisco partner manager, Ohamien implements and supports Cisco products for clients, including Cisco VoIP, unified communications projects, and advanced security with Adaptive Security Algorithm and VPN.

Ohamien credits the Networking Academy for giving him the fundamentals upon which his career has been built. He says instructor Darrell Radford kept the class interesting and the labs were fun and a great opportunity to apply what he was learning. “If it were not for the Networking Academy I wouldn’t be where I am today. It was a great jump start. ... Everything I needed to know in my job I learned in high school through the Networking Academy. My bachelor’s degree was a necessity to get hired, but the experience I got in high school is what I use today on a day-to-day basis.” Ohamien’s plans for the future include earning his Cisco Certified Internet Expert (CCIE®) certification in either voice or routing/switching, continuing his career with Cisco technology, and advancing within The Revere Group.



In addition to working hard, Ohamien also plays hard. When he is not working, he is likely running, playing soccer, or keeping up with his 14-month old daughter. Ohamien's advice to others who may be considering the Networking Academy is "Your heart must really be into Cisco devices and technology. If you have that covered you should be fine. The material isn't difficult, but it may take time to understand. Stick with it. It is well worth it."



Americas Headquarters
Cisco Systems, Inc.
170 West Tasman Drive
San Jose, CA 95134-1706
USA
www.cisco.com
Tel: 408 526-4000
800 553-NETS (6387)
Fax: 408 527-0883

Asia Pacific Headquarters
Cisco Systems (USA) Pte. Ltd.
168 Robinson Road
#28-01 Capital Tower
Singapore 068912
www.cisco.com
Tel: +65 6317 7777
Fax: +65 6317 7799

Europe Headquarters
Cisco Systems International BV
Haarlerbergpark
Haarlerbergweg 13-19
1101 CH Amsterdam
The Netherlands
www-europe.cisco.com
Tel: +31 0 800 020 0791
Fax: +31 0 20 357 1100

Cisco has more than 200 offices worldwide. Addresses, phone numbers, and fax numbers are listed on the Cisco Website at www.cisco.com/go/offices.

CCVP, the Cisco logo, and Welcome to the Human Network are trademarks of Cisco Systems, Inc.; Changing the Way We Work, Live, Play, and Learn is a service mark of Cisco Systems, Inc.; and Access Registrar, Aironet, Catalyst, CCDA, CCDP, CCIE, CCIP, CCNA, CCNP, CCSP, Cisco, the Cisco Certified Internetwork Expert logo, Cisco IOS, Cisco Press, Cisco Systems, Cisco Systems Capital, the Cisco Systems logo, Cisco Unity, Enterprise/Solver, EtherChannel, EtherFast, EtherSwitch, Fast Step, Follow Me Browsing, FormShare, GigaDrive, HomeLink, Internet Quotient, IOS, iPhone, IP/TV, iQ Expertise, the iQ logo, iQ Net Readiness Scorecard, iQuick Study, LightStream, Linksys, MeetingPlace, MGX, Networkers, Networking Academy, Network Registrar, PIX, ProConnect, ScriptShare, SMARTnet, StackWise, The Fastest Way to Increase Your Internet Quotient, and TransPath are registered trademarks of Cisco Systems, Inc. and/or its affiliates in the United States and certain other countries. Mind Wide Open is a trademark of Cisco Networking Academy.

All other trademarks mentioned in this document or Website are the property of their respective owners. The use of the word partner does not imply a partnership relationship between Cisco and any other company. (0711R)