## Meeting the Cybersecurity Workforce Challenge: One Goal, Innovative Solutions

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Director of Learning Initiatives, Digital Transformation Center, and Assistant Professor, Information Systems, Analytics & Operations, University of Louisville NSA CAE-C Workforce Development Pilot Programs

- The NSA CAE-C Program funded three workforce development pilot to increase the number of qualified professionals.
- Common program goals
  - Provide training for transitioning military, first responders, and veterans
  - Prepare trainees for cybersecurity roles in Critical Infrastructure sectors
  - Share curricula and resources
- The programs include CAE-C coalitions led by
  - The University of West Florida
  - Purdue University Northwest
  - The University of Louisville



# CyberSkills2Work

National Cybersecurity Workforce Development Program: <u>Overview</u>

University of West Florida

Program Goals:

- Develop nationally sustainable and scalable workforce program
- Develop shareable portal and resources for CAE-C Community
- Prepare transitioning military, veterans, and first responders for cybersecurity jobs
- Provide free training, career development, industry certifications, and digital badges
- Train and place 1700+ students across the country over 3 years
- Place in Critical Infrastructure sectors: Financial Services, Defense Industrial Base, and Energy
- Align training with NICE Framework

CAE N CYBERSECURITY COMMUNITY

CyberSkills2Work CAE-C Coalition:

- Augusta University
- Dakota State University
- Eastern New Mexico University Ruidoso
- Florida International University
- Metropolitan State University
- San Antonio College
- University of Houston
- University of South Florida Cyber Florida
- University of Texas at San Antonio
- University of West Florida (lead)



cyberskills2work.org

### 14+ NICE Cybersecurity Framework Work Roles Addressed



Training Pathways:

- Cyber Crime Investigator
- Cyber Defense Analyst
- Cyber Defense Incident Responder
- Cyber Defense Infrastructure
  Support Specialist
- Cyber Operator
- Data Analyst
- Forensics Analyst
- Malware Analyst
- Network Operations Specialist
- System Administrator
- System Security Analyst
- Technical Support Specialist
- Threat/Warning Analyst
- Vulnerability Assessment Analyst







# CyberSkills2Work

National Cybersecurity Workforce Development Program: Status and Outcomes

University of West Florida



- Train and help place over **<u>1700</u>** new credentialed cybersecurity professionals in 3 years.
- <u>15</u> flexible workforce pathways, offered online, in-person or hybrid, at <u>9</u>
  NCAE-C designated institutions for entry-level through advanced cybersecurity jobs.
- Addresses <u>14</u> NICE Framework work roles and <u>3</u> Critical Infrastructure Sectors: defense industrial base, energy, and financial services.
- National Cybersecurity Employers Network that includes government and industry employers and job opportunities.
- National CyberSkills2Work website will serve as a one-stop-shop for learners, employers, NCAE-C institutions, and key stakeholders.
- Competency-focused credentialing, including verifiable badges, certificates, and industry certifications.
- Scalable, nationwide recruitment, promotion, implementation, and dissemination.



#### A Collaborative Effort

CWCT

Overview

- PNW, Ivy Tech Community College, UTC, and UNCC
- Three Cybersecurity Learning Paths Offered (Choose One)
  - Artificial Intelligence, Digital Forensics, System Administration
- Six non-credit, college level courses per learning path
  - Offered through live *virtual* lectures six hours per week (48 hours)
  - Receive Ivy Tech non-credit transcripts and program completion certificate
  - Each course may lead to an industry recognized certification
- 10 week sessions-term
  - 8 weeks instructional period, 2 weeks for grading and break
  - A total of 11 CWCT training sessions/terms
- Opportunity to gain pathways to pursue degree programs at participating institutions









### Current Status





- Application & Enrollment Status
  - 5500 applications from 50 states of US
  - 900 admitted and enrolled into CWCT training, 1300+ under assessment
    - 76% priority groups, 73% under represented/underserved
- Learning and Certification
  - Offered five 8-week training sessions, and an on-going summer session
  - Certification self paced preparation material hosted by CWCT
    - CEH, CyberOPs, A+, Linux, Security+
- Industry Relations, Career Development, and Placement
  - Connected & partnered with 39 employers, including staffing companies
  - Hosted 2 virtual job fairs
  - Hosted two career development workshops

### WORKFORCE PATHWAYS FOR TRANSITIONING SERVICE MEMBERS, VETERANS, AND FIRST RESPONDERS



### Tests the use of online, mentored training

- 3 levels of depth:
  - Explorer
  - Practitioner

Professional

Healthcare
 Cybersecurity
 Certificate



Train the trainer and open-source modules available-please inquire

Success coaches assigned to each student

PATHS to Associate, Bachelors, and Graduate Degrees AND/OR Certificates!

Healthcare and Logistics Tracks – Workforce Certificate

Drs. Sharon Kerrick, Andrew Wright, Adel Elmaghraby



### **Current Status**



- 200 Military veterans/first responder's scholarships (2021-2022)
- Waiting list over 75
- 5 Train the Trainers included (2021-2022) and more being added
- 4 HBCU/MSI Universities included to enable others to train in cybersecurity
- 175 Technology vendor micro-credentials included/completed in the program (i.e. Google Analytics, IBM Blockchain, Microsoft Al/Azure, etc.)

- Healthcare industry track (applied learning/homework exercises/labs)
- Logistics track being added (applied learning/ homework/exercises/labs)
- Core foundation of 22 modules + capstone then applied learning/ homework/labs, etc. customized to industries



### National CAE-C Cybersecurity Workforce Development Program Expansion





**NCAE-C Community** 

### National CAE-C Cybersecurity Workforce Development Program:

National CAE-C Cybersecurity Workforce Development Program: **Opportunities**  **Call to Action** 

We have a dream...

- Expand program in future years to include additional:
  - NCAE-C institutions
  - Target populations and participants
  - Sectors and employers
  - Training pathways and NICE work roles

Call to Action!

- CAE-C institutions: join the coalition
- Government partners: provide support to sustain and scale program
- Government and industry employers: Join the National Employers Network



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