MURRAY STATE UNIVERSITY

Murray State University Gate

At **Murray State University** in Murray, Kentucky, the Cybersecurity and Network Management Program stands at the forefront of addressing the critical challenge of cybersecurity in an age of unprecedented global connectivity and digital dominance. With cybersecurity shifting from a periodic concern to a national imperative, the program has established itself as a leader not only in West Kentucky but also on a broader scale. The mission of the program is to provide students with the essential knowledge and tools needed for successful careers in cybersecurity and IT, while also contributing to the wider community whenever possible.

Central to the academic framework are five foundational pillars: cybersecurity, networking, teamwork, communication, and business acumen. The program's dedication to connecting with industry professionals and its agility in responding to the changing threat landscape underscore its commitment to protecting our digital future—a commitment that has been unwavering since 1998. Recognized as Murray State University's Program of Distinction for over two decades, it shines as a model of excellence throughout the Commonwealth of Kentucky.

Students have the option to specialize in one of three tracks: Cybersecurity and Digital Forensics, which has earned the CAE-CD designation; Cloud and System Administration; and Wireless Communications. The Murray State Cyber Education and Research Center further enriches the program by facilitating research, development, and outreach activities. These initiatives not only enhance the educational experience for students but also serve the interests of the industry, the region, and the state at large. Past research efforts have focused on areas such as critical infrastructure resiliency, digital forensics, workforce development, and cyber-physical systems. The Cyber Center also hosts various outreach events, including Tech Mania, a competition for K12 students, and conferences like IT Matters and Security Matters, which concentrate on technology and cybersecurity, respectively.

DESIGNATIONS
• CAE-Cyber Defense

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Murray State CNM Lab