



News & Updates

May 2024

Professional Development Opportunities for WA Faculty

The CCoE has funding to assist Community and Technical College faculty of Washington with professional development. Apply now for a stipend to fund the following opportunities.

- **NICE Conference**
 - June 3 - 5, 2024, (HURRY - Register by May 28.)
- **CyAD - Cybersecurity Across Disciplines**
 - June 12 - 13, 2024. (HURRY - Register before May 20.)
- Earn your CCSK certificate - Online training, plus voucher for exam.
- Other online courses, certificates, bootcamps, or conferences - ASK US.



[Learn More](#)

Industry Night at Whatcom Community College Catalyzes Cybersecurity Collaboration



In alignment with national strategies to fill cybersecurity job openings, WCC hosted a collaborative event in April. This involved bringing together students and faculty from Whatcom Community College as well as local employers.

Industry experts spoke on the topics of building pathways from college to jobs, hiring challenges, the skills that are in highest demand, and the future of attack and defense techniques.

Industry experts on stage at Whatcom Community College. April 24, 2024

Read the full article to learn the key takeaways from this evening of collaboration.

Opportunity for Colleges to Host an Industry Night

Reach out to the Cybersecurity Center of Excellence for assistance in hosting an industry night at your college.

This kind of event builds bridges between your educational institution and the employers in the surrounding areas.

Employers who attend will explain the top cybersecurity skills they seek from your graduates.

[Contact Us](#)

Cybersecurity Implications of AI Summit

Bellevue WA. Hosted by Information Security Media Group (4.16.2024)



Over twenty speakers and panelists at this day-long summit discussed the impact of artificial intelligence on cybersecurity today.

Organizations at the event ranged from retail to science, law, government, scientific research, medical and pharmaceutical.

The unanimous sentiment is that AI is here to stay. The sooner companies implement AI tools, the better equipped they will be to compete, thrive financially, and protect against cyber threats.

However, preparation is needed to successfully meet the challenges. One tactic is to hire technical workers that have a fundamental understanding of how AI can be harnessed in business, along with a working knowledge of how the usage of AI must comply with privacy laws.

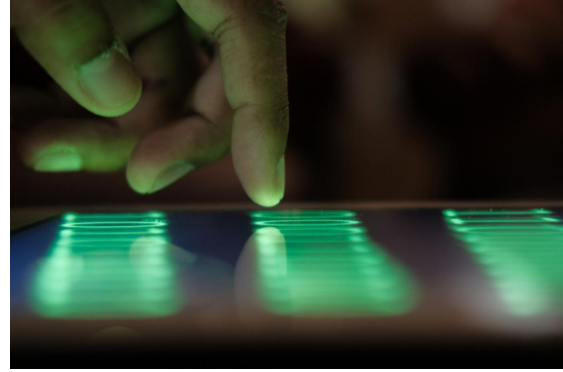
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Microsoft Learn for Educators

By signing up for Microsoft Learn for Educators (MSLE), teachers can easily add Microsoft curriculum into college programs.

Microsoft course work includes hands-on

exercises, videos, and reading material. Topics range broadly from software development to artificial intelligence. Students learn Microsoft tools and software, of course, but along the way, they become trained in the broad reaching technical concepts that transverse any vendor's platform.



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Microsoft's Online AI Bootcamp for Educators



According to Microsoft, "The AI bootcamps are designed for faculty and educators who provide training and enablement to students in Computer Science (CS), Information Technology (IT), AI, and other related programs."

Today's cybersecurity threats include AI generated attacks. Therefore, AI tools must be used in defense arsenals. Training is needed in college curriculum now.

Microsoft offers free AI curriculum to weave into college programs.

According to ISC2, a survey of cybersecurity professionals revealed that 82% believe AI will improve their job efficiency and help detect and defend against cybersecurity attacks.

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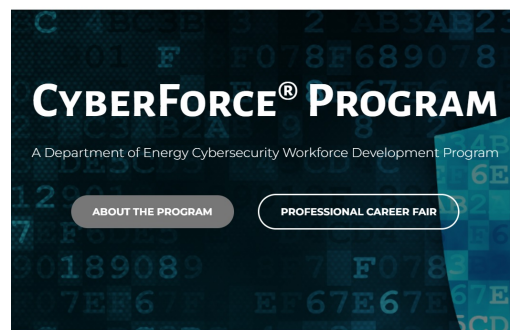
Upcoming Events

Professional Virtual Career Fair by the CyberForce Program

Department of Energy's CyberForce Program will host two virtual career fairs in the coming months. The first is on May 15, the second is on September 12.

CyberForce is calling for employers to host virtual booths.

Jobseekers are encouraged to attend and network with employers regarding internships, apprenticeships as well as part-time and full-time positions.



Reach out directly to Amanda Theel at: atheel@anl.gov

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About the Cybersecurity Center of Excellence (CCoE)

Hosted at [Whatcom Community College](#) in Bellingham, WA, the CCoE serves as a state-wide hub to enable Washington state's community & technical college system to be the epicenter for cybersecurity education and connect employers with a highly skilled workforce, empowering our region to thrive securely and safely.



Photo of Syre Student Center at Whatcom Community College

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