The mission of the Boston University (BU) Center for Reliable Information Systems & Cyber Security (RISCS) is to promote and coordinate research and education in system reliability and information security by emphasizing a multidisciplinary approach that includes fields as diverse as reliable and secure computations, data science, engineering, economics, ethics, and law. Through RISCS, BU has been recognized as a Center of Academic Excellence (CAE) in Cyber Defense since 2004 and in Cyber Defense Research since 2008.

RISCS draws on the expertise of over 20 faculty members and 100 graduate students from the College of Arts & Sciences, the College of Engineering, Questrom School of Business, and Metropolitan College. It provides opportunities for faculty and students from diverse fields to collaborate on interdisciplinary research problems, create new knowledge, and develop innovative multidisciplinary curricula. Current research areas include cryptography, cloud security, data privacy, data science approaches to security, network and software security, trustworthy computing, database security, and algorithms and society among others.

BU has a comprehensive educational portfolio that ranges from robust undergraduate course offerings to master's programs with cybersecurity specializations in computer science, computer information systems, and engineering, as well as Ph.D. programs in fundamental and applied research. Flexible learning options—online, hybrid, and evening—are available through Boston University’s Metropolitan College (BU MET), which also offers a Master of Science in Computer Science with a concentration in Security, designated the “Center of Academic Excellence (CAE) Program of Study.”

BU MET’s fully online programs in information technology, including the cybersecurity concentration, have been ranked among the top ten online programs since 2014 by US News & World Report.