**DESIGNATIONS**

- CAE – Cyber Defense 2-Year Education

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Metropolitan Community College (MCC) is the oldest and largest public institution of higher learning in Kansas City, Missouri, founded in 1915 as the Kansas City Polytechnic Institute. The Junior College of Kansas City, as it was known starting in 1919, was one of the first schools in the country to award an associate’s degree. Today, MCC offers 125 associate degrees and certificate programs.

Metropolitan Community College comprises five campuses serving more than 30,000 students annually on the Missouri side of the Greater Kansas City area. MCC is accredited by the Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools. MCC offers a program path for students starting careers in cybersecurity. The A.A.S. Secure Systems Administration and Engineering program allows students to earn stackable certificates, mapped to industry credentials, while working to complete an A.A.S. degree.

The Secure Systems Administration and Engineering program has experienced significant growth in recent years, and has produced well over 100 program completers during that time. In 2018, MCC achieved the designation as a Center of Academic Excellence in Cyber Defense at 2-year institutions (CAE-2Y).

MCC was an original member of the Cybersecurity Education Consortium (CSEC) and is a current member of the National CyberWatch Center. MCC remains active in the CAE community and the Cybersecurity Program Coordinator, Brian Hurley, serves as a mentor for other schools seeking CAE designation.