



Students in NOVA's Cybersecurity program

Northern Virginia Community College (NOVA) is ranked as the 14th largest and 9th most diverse college or university in the country. With more IT associate degrees of any community college in the nation, it has been ranked the most digital community college in the United States. NOVA was also one of the first community colleges in the United States to have a Cybersecurity (originally named Network Security) program in place. In 2001, a Network Security Career Studies Certificate (CSC) was developed that later grew into an Associate of Science (AAS) in Cybersecurity. NOVA was a founding member of the National CyberWatch Center, and also serves as one of NSA's National Resource Centers, helping other colleges and universities nationwide become CAEs and CAE-2Ys.

NOVA's AAS Cybersecurity, with over 2,000 enrolled students, is very much an applied degree, designed

to instill hard skills that the student can put into immediate practice in the workplace. The degree consists of 64 credits, of which 49 credits are hands-on IT/Cybersecurity courses, walking the student through an A+, Network+, Security+ curriculum, with more advanced security courses in the second year such as ethical hacking, and electives in Malware Reverse Engineering, Critical Infrastructure Security, and Cloud Computing. This focus on practical skills and topical security issues makes it an ideal degree for students who already have a degree in an unrelated discipline, such as history for example, and now wants to transition into a cyber career. For students just starting out, it transfers to seven different bachelor's degree programs (many of them CAEs) including George Mason University, Old Dominion University, George Washington University, Capitol Technology University, UMUC, ECPI, and Marymount University.

DESIGNATIONS

- CAE - Cyber Defense 2-Year Education

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NOVA at CyCon