The University of West Florida advances cybersecurity innovation through its nationally recognized programs, research, and Center for Cybersecurity. UWF offers the only NSA/DHS CAE-designated B.S. in Cybersecurity in Florida in addition to multidisciplinary undergraduate and graduate programs and certificates in cybersecurity, computer science, IT and information security management. A program agreement between the NSA and UWF allows students who complete the Joint Cyber Analysis Course to earn credits toward the UWF B.S. in Cybersecurity.

In 2018, UWF launched partnerships with the state of Florida to enhance cybersecurity resiliency and workforce development. The UWF Center for Cybersecurity partners with the Florida Agency of State Technology to provide cutting-edge cybersecurity training for state agency personnel.

The Florida Department of State proactively partnered with the UWF Center for Cybersecurity to conduct training for elections personnel.

The UWF Center for Cybersecurity launched the Cybersecurity Ambassadors Program in 2018 to enhance cybersecurity awareness and interest in cybersecurity education and careers. UWF cybersecurity students serve as ambassadors and visit K-12 schools in Northwest Florida to share their cybersecurity expertise and increase students’ cybersecurity awareness through engaging activities and demos. UWF leads and supports a variety of K-12 outreach initiatives, including GenCyber camps, CyberPatriot, and CyberThon. In 2017 and 2018, UWF hosted the only GenCyber camps in Florida funded by the NSA and National Science Foundation, and UWF will host camps in 2019.

UWF hosts numerous community events, including the DHS Cybersecurity Roundtable and Career Information Expo in October 2017. Jeanette Manfra, Assistant Director for Cybersecurity for the DHS Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency, served on a panel along with regional cybersecurity leaders from academia, government, and military sectors.