The mission of the Center for Reliable Information Systems and Cyber Security (RISCS) at Boston University (BU) is to promote and coordinate research and education in trustworthy, safe, and secure systems and networks 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 in Cyber Defense since 2004 and in Cyber Defense Research since 2008.

The Center draws on the expertise of 22 faculty and over 100 graduate students from the College of Arts and Sciences, the College of Engineering, Questrom School of Business, and Metropolitan College, and 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, modular approaches to cloud security, data privacy, differential privacy, data science approaches to security, secure multi-party analytics, network and software security, software safety, trustworthy computing, database security, 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 and PhD programs in fundamental and applied research. Flexible learning options—online, hybrid, and evening—are available through Metropolitan College. BU’s fully online programs in information technology, including the cybersecurity concentration, have been ranked in the top ten online programs for the last five years.

DESIGNATIONS
• CAE – Cyber Defense Education
• CAE – Cyber Defense Research

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