CEROC, virtually established in October 2015 and physically established in January 2016, is a Center of Academic Excellence in Cyber Defense (CAE-CDE). The center was established by the Department of Computer Science and the College of Engineering to integrate university-wide existing activities and initiatives in cybersecurity education, research, and outreach, the emphasis of which makes it unique in the state.

CEROC was awarded the CyberCorps® SFS scholarship grant in December 2015 (NSF Award# 1565562) with the title of “Tennessee CyberCorps®: A Hybrid Program in Cybersecurity.” Tennessee Tech was the first university in the State of Tennessee to be awarded the opportunity to manage this prestigious scholarship and remains the largest such program in the state.

The primary focus of the program is to graduate workforce ready candidates with integrated experiences in education, research, and outreach. Tennessee Tech was one of 10 institutions in the nation to participate in the SFS community college pilot. As of 2018, CEROC also participates in the DoD Cyber Scholarship program.

CEROC supports a number of professional development, mentoring, and leadership building opportunities through the CyberEagles student cyber club and the affiliated CTF, defense, and offense cyber interest (competition) groups. The new Cyber (Eagle) Range currently underdevelopment will continue to enhance our competition, education, outreach, and research programs.

Tennessee Tech, located in Cookeville, TN, is the #1 public university in Tennessee in “Best Colleges for Your Money” by Money Magazine for the past two years. Tennessee Tech has a R2 doctoral Carnegie classification.

**DESIGNATIONS**
- CAE - Cyber Defense Education

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