The University of South Florida (USF), with its vibrant community of 50,000 students, holds a distinguished R1 Carnegie Classification and is a member of the AAU. It has been consistently ranked among the top 50 public universities in the nation by U.S. News & World Report for the last five years. The university stands out for its wide range of cybersecurity programs across several colleges, highlighting its commitment to excellence and interdisciplinary innovation in this critical field.

USF is a large research university in the Florida State University System (SUS) and has multiple campuses across the Tampa Bay region. Founded in 1956, USF is comprised of 14 colleges and offers a wide range of undergraduate, graduate, and doctoral degrees. The institution is also recognized as one of the nation's top veteran-friendly schools.

USF is a leader in cybersecurity education and offers a breath of degrees and certificates. The undergraduate offerings include ABET-accredited BS degrees in Cybersecurity, Computer Science, Electrical Engineering, and Computer Engineering. Other programs include Bachelors degrees in Business Analytics and Information Systems, Criminology, and Global Business. Meanwhile, graduate cybersecurity programs include several CAE-CD designated MS degrees, such as the MS in Cybersecurity, MS in Information Assurance & Cybersecurity Management, MS in Cybercrime, and MS in Cyber Intelligence & Information Security. As a CAE-Research institution, USF also offers advanced doctoral degrees in cybersecurity research. The institution also runs a NSF CyberCorps Scholarship for Service (SFS) program that provides support for students interested in government cybersecurity careers.

As an AAU institution, USF is a preeminent research university with annual research expenditures exceeding $460 million in 2023. Its faculty are leaders in the cybersecurity field and involved in many interdisciplinary research projects, i.e., network security, software security, cyber-physical and IoT systems, cybercrime, cybersecurity education, security policy, and machine learning and artificial intelligence. Many of these initiatives are funded by key federal agencies (such as NSF, NSA, DHS, and DoD) and top industry organizations. USF is also home to Cyber Florida, a state-funded center focusing on cybersecurity research, education, and outreach. This center actively supports collaborations across the state and numerous student and teacher training programs.