

RAMPS Communities



The RAMPS Program seeks to bring together employers and educators to focus on developing the skilled workforce to meet employer needs within a local or regional economy.

www.nist.gov/nice

Benedict College Cybersecurity Infrastructure, Education, Training & Workforce Initiative

Led by Benedict College

Impact Area: South Carolina and the surrounding Southeastern region

Website: <https://benedict.edu/>

Benedict College will establish the Cybersecurity Infrastructure, Education, Training, & Workforce Initiative to build the institution's cybersecurity capacity in providing a high-quality education. The project seeks to bridge the employment gap in the field of cybersecurity. It will provide opportunities for undergraduate students and middle and high school students in South Carolina with a transformative cybersecurity experience that seeks to develop a highly skilled workforce.

Building Future-Ready Professionals in Cybersecurity

Led by Bowling Green State University

Impact Area: Ohio

Website: <https://www.bgsu.edu/>

Bowling Green State University's (BGSU) "Building Future-Ready Professionals in Cybersecurity" (BFP Cyber) project aims to develop a skilled cybersecurity workforce. Collaborating with stakeholders across Ohio, the project leverages the National Initiative for Cybersecurity Education framework. Key initiatives include assessing workforce needs, creating educational pathways from high schools to industry, and enhancing resource coordination. The project targets various sectors, focusing on strengthening community-based cybersecurity education and workforce development.

Building Pathways for All through the East Alabama Region Cybersecurity Alliance (EARCA)

Led by Digital Promise Global

Impact Area: East Alabama

Website: <https://digitalpromise.org/inclusive-innovation/east-alabama-regional-cybersecurity-alliance/>

The "Building Inclusive Pathways through the East Alabama Regional Cybersecurity Alliance (EARCA)" project is a multi-pronged approach to bridging the school-to-work pathway in the ever-growing Cybersecurity field. Co-created by Digital Promise (DP) and the Talladega County Board of Education (TCBOE), EARCA will work to support youth in rural Alabama in gaining job-ready skills to enter the growing Cybersecurity workforce and partner with employers to secure regional talent pipelines.

Bridging Pathways: Cybersecurity Apprenticeship for Immigrant and Minority Youth in Massachusetts

Led by WeReach

Impact Area: Gateway Cities of Massachusetts

Website: <https://wereach.us/cybersecurity-v2/>

Bridging Pathways is a pioneering initiative by WeReach to empower immigrant and minority youth in Gateway Cities with vital cybersecurity skills. Through strategic partnerships and tailored curriculum, this two-year apprenticeship program offers a pathway to certification as Cybersecurity Analysts. By targeting underserved communities, it addresses workforce shortages while fostering diversity and inclusion in the cybersecurity sector, aligning with broader regional workforce development goals.

Cincinnati-Dayton Cyber Corridor (Cin-Day Cyber): A Regional Consortia Approach to Cybersecurity Education and Workforce Development

Led by the Strategic Ohio Council for Higher Education (SOCHE)

Impact Area: Cincinnati and Dayton, OH

Website: <https://www.soche.org/cinday-cyber/>

Cin-Day Cyber is focused on Good Jobs Principles while serving as an educational and research resource and workforce development catalyst while focusing on diversity, equity, inclusion and accessibility. Cin-Day project goals are: 1) strengthen higher education and industry alliance; 2) research market demand for jobs; 3) promote education and career paths; 4) engage K-12 and higher education to increase involvement by women, veterans, and diverse populations; and 5) partner with economic development agencies for growth.

CyberHire San Diego

Led by the San Diego Workforce Partnership

Impact Area: San Diego County

Website: <https://workforce.org/cyberhiresandiego/>

CyberHire aligns talent supply chains with dynamic business needs, collaborating with employers to address critical talent shortages in cybersecurity. The organization's program targets underserved jobseekers, encouraging enrollment in training programs, subsidizing certification costs, and leveraging funding to upskill workers and foster inclusivity in the cybersecurity sector. The project includes developing a training initiative designed for both existing and newly hired employees in entry-level positions within cybersecurity feeder roles.

Enhancing DEIA in Cybersecurity through Skills Training and Diverse Hiring

Led by the Board of Regents, NSHE obo University of Nevada, Las Vegas

Impact Area: Las Vegas, Henderson, and Paradise, Nevada

Website: <https://continuingeducation.unlv.edu/>

UNLV's Department of Continuing Education, in collaboration with ThriveDX, provides cutting-edge Cybersecurity training designed to prepare participants for entry-level cybersecurity roles within a year, equipping them with the certifications and knowledge sought after by employers. This initiative aims to engage individuals from underrepresented and under-resourced communities through scholarships and mentorship to enter the workforce. This collaboration addresses the critical demand for cybersecurity professionals but also promotes diversity, equity, and inclusion in the tech industry by connecting skilled graduates with potential employers.

ElevateEdAZ: Cybersecurity Pathway Initiative

Led by the Greater Phoenix Chamber Foundation

Impact Area: Phoenix and Tucson, AZ

Website: <https://phoenixchamberfoundation.com/workforce-development/cybersecurity-pathways/>

The ElevateEdAZ: Cybersecurity Pathway Initiative strives to create an employer-aligned accelerated pathway, preparing Arizona students for cybersecurity careers, with an emphasis on increasing opportunities for underserved populations. The project will provide Arizona students, especially underserved low-income and BIPOC (Black Indigenous People of Color) youth, the opportunity to pursue an accelerated pathway to a cybersecurity career, working to break the cycle of poverty, create a diverse workforce, and close the workforce skills gap.

Experiential Learning to Enhance Cybersecurity Education and Workforce Development

Led by George Mason University

Impact Area: District of Columbia, Alexandria, VA, and Fairfax, VA

Website: <https://www.gmu.edu/>

The goal of this project is to strengthen the number and diversity of the pipeline of the cybersecurity workforce in the National Capital Region by fostering awareness of the field and experiential learning to student participants. The project partners include a Historic Black / Latinx University and for-profit companies. Programs include a series of semester-long experiential internships for college students with industry partners, and a series of workshops for college and high school students.

MO Cyber Ready

Led by CyberUp

Impact Area: St. Louis, MO

Website: <https://wecyberup.org/>

With the support of NICE, CyberUp will energize, promote, and coordinate the launch of MO Cyber Ready, Missouri's newest technology hub. Through RAMPS, CyberUp will create an intricate network of employers and community partners to advance an integrated cybersecurity education, training, and workforce development ecosystem. Government, academic, and industry partners will build on existing programs, facilitate innovation, and bring leadership to increase the number of skilled cybersecurity practitioners helping to keep our Nation secure.

Nevada Cybersecurity Workforce Alliance (NVCWA)

Led by the Women's Society of Cyberjutsu

Impact Area: Las Vegas and the greater Nevada region

Website: <https://womenscyberjutsu.org/>

The multi-partner cyber skills and workforce development program in Las Vegas and the greater Nevada area aims to cultivate local cybersecurity talent, especially among women, minorities, neurodiverse individuals, and the LGBTQIA+ community. Initial partners include the Women's Society of Cyberjutsu™, SANS Institute, Tiro Security, and UNLV. The program begins with a career exploration day, followed by a gamified cyber assessment, and continues with comprehensive training from our partners. The goal is securing employment or internships for participants.

New York Cybersecurity Workforce Accelerator

Led by NPower, Inc.

Impact Area: New Jersey and New York

Website: <https://www.npower.org/>

NPower is leading a regional alliance to develop a diverse, skilled cybersecurity workforce. The project leverages NPower's workforce programs and strengthens NY's ecosystem of cybersecurity stakeholders. This project will build a multi-stakeholder partnership to strengthen the region's cybersecurity ecosystem; build interest in cybersecurity careers among trainees and IT workers; enroll early career IT generalists into cybersecurity training to gain skills and certifications; facilitate job placement of graduates; and foster continuing education and degree attainment.

NW Cyber

Led by Energy Sector Security Consortium Inc.

Impact Area: Oregon and SW Washington region

Website: <https://www.energysec.org/>

Energy Sector Security Consortium's (EnergySec) project, NW Cyber, will create year-round employer and student engagement throughout the State of Oregon and portions of Southwest Washington, including rural areas, create a full-day cyber career expo each October (National Cyber Security Month), and deploy a branded mobile app for long term engagement and tracking for students. All activities will be geared to growing the cybersecurity workforce to meet the needs of our nation.

Quantico Cyber Hub - Regional Technology Center

Led by the Cyber Bytes Foundation

Impact Area: Stafford County, VA

Website: <https://cyberbytesfoundation.org/quantico-cyber-hub/>

The Quantico Cyber Hub Regional Technology Center (QCH-RTC) will partner with community organizations to provide regional and national cybersecurity education resources to address the workforce gap. This project will focus on increasing diversity across the cybersecurity workforce and stimulating workforce development and cybersecurity education through outreach efforts, training, and certification courses. QCH-RTC will raise awareness among students and the general public, with a focus on underrepresented groups, women, veterans, and rural communities.

RTriad Cyber Success for Us by Us

Led by RTriad Enterprises, Inc.

Impact Area: North Carolina

Website: <https://info.knowwon.com/cybersuccess>

The project approach includes a comprehensive cybersecurity certification program, Certified in Cybersecurity (CC), offered through ISC2, and the NIST Cyber Security Professional Foundation (NCSP®) training course. Additionally, RTriad Enterprises hosts specialized study groups on their career development platform, KnowWon, which provides mentorship and coaching. The multi-faceted approach targets DoD contractors and MWBEs, offering reverse job fairs, consulting services, and support for CMMC requirements, ultimately accelerating career success in cybersecurity.

Sustainable, Hands-on and Multi-disciplinary Cybersecurity Skills Training to Meet Workforce Needs of Critical Infrastructure Sectors in Florida

Led by The University of South Florida Board of Trustees

Impact Area: Florida

Website: <https://cyberflorida.org/>

This project will solicit cybersecurity workforce needs across critical infrastructure sectors in Florida; analyze/ summarize findings across multiple levels of workforce needs; design a scalable, hands-on and multi-disciplinary plan to train students to meet workforce needs; connect a cohort of trained students to critical infrastructure sectors via interns and full-time positions in the cybersecurity domain; and evaluate project outcomes. Related project tasks include curriculum enhancement, cybersecurity table-top exercises, industry certification support, and student internships.

The Hawaii Cybersecurity Education and Workforce Development Project

Led by the Kauai Economic Development Board

Impact Area: Hawaii

<https://www.kedb.com/>

This project aims to fortify the state's cyber defenses by focusing on four strategic pillars: Awareness and Education, Employment Pipeline Development, Scholarship Support, and Demonstration and Recruitment. Each pillar is designed to align with the National Initiative for Cybersecurity Education (NICE) Strategic Plan and serves to uplift the underrepresented Native Hawaiian community. It complements the Department of Commerce's strategic goals of fostering inclusive capitalism and equitable economic growth, particularly beneficial to Native Hawaiians who face the state's highest poverty rate.

West Texas Cyber Workforce Development Consortium (WTCWDC)

Led by Texas Tech University

Impact Area: West Texas region

Website:

<https://www.depts.ttu.edu/renewableenergy/ResearchandOpportunities/ProfessionalDevelopment/cyber.php>

Texas Tech University (TTU) will train K-12s, undergraduates, graduates, and professionals on real-world cyber-physical security (CPS) applications for critical infrastructure facilities, which include power systems, renewable energy, water and wastewater, oil and gas, etc., in the West Texas region. The program will foster an interdisciplinary training alliance in the West Texas region with academic institutions and industries involved in cyber and physical networked systems. In the program, the participants will learn the engineering processes, designs, and operational procedures of physical systems.