The National Security Agency (NSA) CAE Program Office manages the National Centers of Academic Excellence in Cybersecurity program, with three designations. These are:

CAE in Cyber Defense Education (CAE-CDE), sponsored by the National Security Agency and Department of Homeland Security. These are Bachelors and Graduate programs that have met the stringent academic standards and institutional criteria established by NSA and DHS for designation. These programs contribute graduates to the cyber workforce in support of the nation’s industry and government employers.

CAE in Cyber Research (CAE-R), sponsored by the National Security Agency and Department of Homeland Security. These programs reflect the highest achievement and quality programs in cybersecurity research at educational institutions in the United States.

CAE in Cyber Operations (CAE-CO), sponsored by the National Security Agency. These are deeply technical interdisciplinary higher education programs grounded in computer science, computer engineering, and/or electrical engineering disciplines. Emphasis in these programs is on technologies and techniques related to specialized cybersecurity operations (e.g., collection, exploitation, and response), to enhance the national security posture of our Nation.

CAE National Resource Centers and CAE Regional Resource Centers were established in 2017 to provide an infrastructure among CAE-designated schools in different geographic regions. The Regional Resource Centers assist applicant schools with preparation for designation, and help the National Resource Centers provide mentoring, webinar support, information sharing and other tools, and peer review for application adjudication.

For more information, visit www.nsa.gov/resources/students-educators/centers-academic-excellence/ or contact CAE-CDE and CAE-R at askCAEIAE@nsa.gov or CAE-CO at askCAECyberOps@nsa.gov.