



## **Fact Sheet for Cybersecurity Education Diversity Initiative (CEDI)**

October 15, 2020

The Cybersecurity Education Diversity Initiative (CEDI) is a DoD initiative that assists Minority Serving Institutions (MSI) and Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCU)'s with no existing cybersecurity program, to obtain access to consultation and educational resources from designated National Centers of Academic Excellence in Cybersecurity (NCAE-C) institutions, thus expanding access to quality cybersecurity education and mentoring to students in all 50 states.

Students attending schools participating in the CEDI program will receive an opportunity for mentorship and internships through the Department of Defense's Office of Small Business Program (OSBP) and Mentor Protégé Program (MPP). Students will also receive hands-on experience through Maryland Innovation and Security Institute's cyber range, which provides cybersecurity technical assistance to companies participating in the CEDI project.

### Key Benefits:

- Through a hybrid approach, the CEDI program provides an avenue to rapidly close the nation's cybersecurity talent gap by giving every student interested in the field of cybersecurity an opportunity to enter the workforce equipped with the knowledge, skills and training necessary to fill critical cybersecurity jobs
- CEDI cybersecurity educational resources are developed by NCAE-C designated schools from qualified cybersecurity teachers
- Participating small businesses receive technical assistance from cybersecurity students and graduates who received contextual experience developed professionally in their local geographic area
- Students contribute to the nation's cyber defense across all industrial sectors by providing technical assistance to small businesses in the defense supply chain

### CEDI Program Details:

- Fordham University and Excelsior College are the academic leads for CEDI and will serve as expert consultants to institutions within CEDI program
- 48 NCAE-C designated institutions have pledged to provide faculty advisors, curriculum, range time, labs and other resources to CEDI



- Nine NCAE-C designated academic institutions have offered regionally-oriented programs for MSIs.
  - Bluegrass Community Technical College System
  - Metropolitan State University of Denver
  - New Jersey City University
  - North Carolina A&T
  - Polytechnic University of Puerto Rico
  - Tennessee Tech University
  - University of North Florida
  - University of North Texas
  - University of Tennessee at Chattanooga
  
- Eight MSI schools have received capacity building grants to begin developing their cybersecurity curriculum path resulting in a certificate, minor or major study degree:
  - Angelo State University
  - Baltimore City Community College
  - Coppin State University
  - Jarvis Christian College
  - Prairie View
  - Stillman College
  - Tougaloo College
  - University of District of Columbia

Eligibility:

- MSIs and HBCUs that do not currently offer a cybersecurity academic program and are not currently enrolled in the Centers of Academic Excellence in Cybersecurity Candidates Program are eligible to be enrolled in the CEDI and receive capacity building resources.

About the CEDI Project: The CEDI Project is a collaboration between National Security Agency's National Centers of Academic Excellence in Cybersecurity (NCAE-E) Program Management Office and the DoD's Office of Industrial Policy, Small Business Program's (OSBP) Mentor Protégé Program(MPP), to expand national access to cyber education.

For more information about applying to the CEDI program, contact the NCAE-C Program Management Office at [CAE\\_CEDI@nsa.gov](mailto:CAE_CEDI@nsa.gov).

For more information about the NSA's Centers of Academic Excellence:

<https://www.nsa.gov/resources/students-educators/centers-academic-excellence/>