

# **Cybersecurity Workforce Solutions**

# WHY SHOULD WE CARE?

- Cybersecurity Jobs Report: 3.5 Million Openings In 2025
  - Over an eight year period tracked by Cybersecurity Ventures, the number of unfilled cybersecurity jobs grew by 350 percent, from one million positions in 2013 to 3.5 million in 2021.
  - For the first time in a decade, the cybersecurity skills gap is leveling off. Looking five years ahead, Cybersecurity Ventures predict the same number of openings in 2025.
  - The U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics projects “information security analyst will be the 10<sup>th</sup> fastest growing occupation over the next decade, with an employment growth rate for all occupations.

# **A TOOL IN LOUISIANA'S TOOLBOX**

- **Senate Bill 79 by Senator Mark Abraham**

# CYBERSECURITY TALENT INITIATIVE FUND

- Act 57 of the 2020 Regular Session (RS 17:3138.9) commissioned the Cybersecurity Education Management Council (CEMC) and the Cybersecurity Talent Initiative Fund.
- **Cybersecurity Talent Initiative Fund**  
*Creates “...special fund for the purpose of funding degree and certificate programs in cybersecurity fields offered by public postsecondary education institutions in order to meet the state's workforce needs.”*
- **Cyber Education Management Council**  
Designates the Regents-governed Cyber Education Management Council (CEMC)  
*“...for the purpose of advising and making recommendations to the board with respect to distributions from the fund.”*

# PROGRAM OVERVIEW

The program funds projects statewide across a range of student demographics, industry sectors, institutional infrastructure, and coursework and learning experiences.

Projects are evaluated for relevance, sustainability, impact, and industry support.

**\$2M**

Total cyber  
workforce  
development  
awards

**17**

Total proposals  
for cyber  
programs since  
inception

**\$1M+**

Total  
proposed  
industry and  
private match

**600+**

Students  
impacted and  
reached

# PROJECT SNAPSHOTS FROM YEAR ONE



## **Cyber Start: Accelerated Network Security Training (ANST)**

- Cohort of 10 female students
- Wrap-around services
- CompTIA A+, Network+, Security+ certifications
- A+: 100% passage (4 students)
- Network+: 100% passage (1 student)
- Security+: 8 students recently sat for exam
- *All 8 will graduate with CTC in Network Security*



## **Central Louisiana Cyber Security Work-Based Scholarship Program**

- 3 students (2M, 1F): 2 Black, 1 Two+ Races
- All students new to cybersecurity
- Mentor: completed training
- All scholarship funds disbursed
- Students: New to BS Computer Information Systems
- Engagement: NIST, Homeland Security
- All 3 completed cyber assessments

# PROJECT SNAPSHOTS FROM YEAR ONE



## LSUS Cybersecurity Certification Incentive Program

- Joint effort between LSUS Computer Science and Continuing Education
- LSUS Cyber Collaboratory-based
- Certifications: 7 students currently, 17 scheduled for exams in June 2022.
- Internships: 2 currently employed.
- Interest: 10% increase in cyber concentration enrollment.



## C-STEP: Cyber Security Talent Expansion Program

- Undergraduate Certificate (UC) in cybersecurity.
- Target certifications: CompTIA Network+ or Security+.
- Program: New courses and hands-on labs.
- Students: More than 50 enrolled across all classes and labs.
- Results: 70%+ passage rate on certifications.
- Interns: 4 at IT firm, 1 at security firm.

# FY 2022-23 APPLICATIONS SELECTED FOR FUNDING BY CEMC

- Louisiana Tech University (Cybersecurity Talent Expansion Program): **\$331,623**
- Louisiana State University and A&M College (FIREStarter 2L Developing Cyber Talent with Hands-on Experiences in Digital Forensics and Industrial Control Systems): **\$344,397**
- Southern University System (Cybersecurity Talent Initiative Program SUS-CyberTIP): **\$242,181**
- Bossier Parish Community College (Accelerated Cyber Technology Training ACTT): **\$81,799**
  - \$66,040 as proposed plus an additional \$15,759 to support Fletcher Technical Community College's adoption of the BPCC program



# Supplemental Information

[Act 57 of the 2020 Regular Session of the Louisiana Legislature  
https://legis.la.gov/legis/ViewDocument.aspx?d=1180282](https://legis.la.gov/legis/ViewDocument.aspx?d=1180282)

<https://www.cyberseek.org/heatmap.html>

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