

Connecting the Department of War with America's Cyber Academic Community

VICEROY MAVEN Interns Recognized at the Pentagon

The Pentagon welcomed 8 of the Department’s highest-performing VICEROY MAVEN interns for a visit on August 4. Hosted by VICEROY National Director Chester “CJ” Maciag, the annual engagement recognized their contributions to national security research and connected them with senior leaders shaping the cyber-spectrum workforce.

Representing academic partners nationwide, the interns supported missions spanning cybersecurity, artificial intelligence, software assurance, digital engineering, electromagnetic spectrum operations, and critical infrastructure protection. VICEROY now includes **50 institutions** and places approximately **200 interns** at **27 Department sites** each summer, with **61% entering government or Defense Industrial Base positions after graduation**.

Link: <https://www.cto.mil/news/viceroy-maven-interns/>

VICEROY MAVEN Interns at the Pentagon:



A Growing Legacy of Cyber-Impact

NATIONAL CYBERSECURITY WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

BUILDING THE NATION'S CYBER AI WORKFORCE

PROGRAM IMPACT: 2020 – 2026

Delivering scalable cybersecurity and AI workforce development through nationally aligned curriculum, industry certifications, and strong employer engagement.

Led by the University of West Florida, Purdue University Northwest, and the University of Louisville.



36 PARTICIPATING INSTITUTIONS
Working together. Growing together.



2020 → JUNE 2026
GROWING A NATIONAL WORKFORCE ECOSYSTEM
Unified. Scalable. Sustainable.



11,000+

TRAINEES EDUCATED
Preparing the next generation of CyberAI professionals

AS LOW AS

\$2,500
COST PER TRAINEE

PROGRAM IMPACT HIGHLIGHTS



37+

DCWF WORK ROLES ADDRESSED
Aligning education and training to the National Initiative for Cybersecurity Education DCWF framework.



48+

INDUSTRY CERTIFICATIONS OFFERED
Industry-recognized certifications embedded across academic and workforce programs.



146+

EDUCATION & TRAINING PATHWAYS
Stackable pathways from entry-level to advanced, including degrees, certificates, and microcredentials.



350+

EMPLOYERS ENGAGED
Strong industry partnerships driving curriculum, experimental learning, and job opportunities.



380+

COURSES AND MODULES SHARED
High-quality educational content shared via CLARK, across institutions to strengthen the cyber workforce.



19000+

BADGES & CREDENTIALS AWARDED
Digital badges and credentials recognized by industry and academic partners.



THE NATIONAL CYBERSECURITY WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM IS FUNDED BY THE DOW CIO CYBER ACADEMIC ENGAGEMENT OFFICE AND THE NSA NATIONAL CENTERS OF ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE IN CYBERSECURITY PROGRAM.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT CYBERSKILLS2WORK@UWF.EDU



From 2020 through June 2026, the National Cybersecurity Workforce Development Program grew into a nationwide ecosystem of **36 participating institutions** led by the University of West Florida, Purdue University Northwest, and the University of Louisville. The program has educated more than **11,000 trainees** at a reported cost as low as \$2,500 per trainee while engaging over **350 employers** to better align training with workforce needs.

The program addresses more than **37 Department Cyber Workforce Framework (DCWF) roles** through **146 education and training pathways** and over **48 industry certifications**. Participating institutions have also shared more than **380 courses and modules** and awarded over **19,000 badges and credentials**, expanding accessible pathways into cybersecurity and artificial intelligence careers.

UC2 Expands Its Impact at DEF CON

The University Consortium for Cybersecurity (UC2) recently brought its mission to **DEF CON 34**, one of the world's leading cyber events, **sending 2 teams to participate in the Red Team Village and Payment Village**. The teams showcased their skills alongside the broader cyber community while gaining valuable exposure to real-world challenges, emerging technologies, and innovative approaches.

Beyond **DEF CON**, the UC2 team recently briefed a Functional Capabilities Board on opportunities to translate project work into funded capabilities across the services and Joint Staff. Together, these engagements demonstrate UC2's continued progress in connecting academic cyber innovation with operational needs and creating pathways for promising work to deliver meaningful mission impact.

SMC Cyber Institute Students Showcase the Future of the DoW Cyber Workforce at AFCEA TechNet Augusta

5 Department of War Senior Military College (SMC) Cyber Institute students and cadets represented the next generation of the cyber workforce during a panel at **AFCEA TechNet Augusta**. Moderated by Dr. Sharon R. Hamilton, the panel highlighted the experiences of students participating in the SMC Cyber Institutes Cyber Leader Development Program (CLDP), which serves approximately **300 students annually** across Norwich University, Virginia Tech, The Citadel, Virginia Military Institute, the University of North Georgia, and Texas A&M.

Panelists shared how **DoW-funded internships, competitions, cyber ranges, exercises, and certifications** are helping bridge the gap between academic learning and operational cyber missions while aligning experiential opportunities with the Department Cyber Workforce Framework (DCWF). Beyond the panel, students engaged with senior leaders from DISA, AFCEA, and DoW CIO, providing valuable exposure to the broader defense cyber community and reinforcing their preparation to enter the DoW cyber workforce ready to contribute from day one.

SMC Cyber Institute Students at AFCEA TechNet Augusta:



Numbers You Should Know



54 students enrolled in the new Joint Professional Military Education class at The College of Information and Cyberspace at the National Defense University, including 2 international flag officers, multiple commanders, senior service and agency representatives, and a Ukrainian Special Forces student with recent operational experience.



VICEROY annual internship participation grew by **~57%** this summer, increasing from 159 scholars in 2025 to **~250 scholars in 2026.**

Upcoming Events to Know!

- **September 8-9:** APEX Conference in Reston, VA
- **September 14-16:** Air, Space & Cyber Conference in National Harbor, Maryland
- **September 24:** MCPA HammerCon in Laurel, Maryland

AI Corner

RING AI Overview

Regions Investing in the Next Generation AI (RING AI) provides high school students with more than 150 hours of AI-focused coursework spanning AI history, ethics, and machine learning. Courses progress from introductory concepts and foundational knowledge to technical applications and are aligned with Cyber AI Knowledge Units and the Department Cyber Workforce Framework (DCWF), helping prepare students with the AI and cybersecurity skills needed for the future workforce.

For more information, please visit: [RING Curriculum and Resources - CAE EPNC](#)

Version 5.2 of the DCWF Online Dashboard Tool Is Now Live

The DoW Workforce Innovation Directorate released version 5.2 of the DCWF Online Dashboard Tool, aimed at helping educators and students with curriculum development, aligning academic programs with workforce standards, and identifying new educational opportunities.

To learn more about the DCWF Online Dashboard Tool, visit

<https://www.cyberworkforce.mil/Department-Cyber-Workforce-Framework/Dashboard/>



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Cyber Academic Engagement Office (CAEO)