

News



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Thomas Edison State University Offers a Bachelor's Degree and a Graduate Certificate in Cybersecurity

TESU addresses the critical national need for a highly skilled cybersecurity workforce

TRENTON, N.J. — Thomas Edison State University's School of Applied Science and Technology offers a Bachelor of Science in Cybersecurity degree and a Graduate Certificate in Cybersecurity – Critical Infrastructure to address the critical national need for a highly skilled cybersecurity workforce. The programs provide students with the knowledge and skills needed to protect critical cyber infrastructure and information assets.

“During the past several years, cybersecurity threats have grown considerably across the nation,” said Dr. Amjad Ali, associate dean, School of Applied Science and Technology. “Protecting the information networks that support our financial markets, critical infrastructure, military systems, and the intellectual property and private information of American citizens and businesses has become a national priority.”

The Bachelor of Science in Cybersecurity degree program was developed in direct response to a significant shortage in the number of U.S. workers adequately trained and qualified to protect the nation's critical information assets from cyberattacks. The program focuses on the development of the skills and technologies needed to meet the demands of modern cybersecurity practice. This innovative program use an interdisciplinary approach that draws on solid technical as well as relevant human, policy, legal, ethical and management aspects needed to protect critical information infrastructure. In addition, the program prepares students for well-known cybersecurity related industry certifications that are perfect for increasing career opportunities in the current rapidly growing cybersecurity job market.

TESU created an online graduate certificate in cybersecurity with a focus on utility environments that is designed to help close a growing cybersecurity skills gap and meet workplace shortages, specifically in utilities. The 15-credit Graduate Certificate in Cybersecurity – Critical Infrastructure was developed in collaboration with the Utilities Technologies Council (UTC), a global trade association representing utilities and critical infrastructure companies in the electric, gas and water industries. The program is designed to help utility employees advance as cybersecurity professionals and to prepare information technology (IT) professionals to transition into the utility industry as a cybersecurity professional.

“To provide electricity, water, gas and other essential services, utilities run a variety of specialized systems and networks. A compromise of these networks may cause kinetic, real-world impacts,” said Nadya Bartol, cybersecurity strategist and former vice president of Industry Affairs at UTC. “We are facing a serious shortage of cybersecurity practitioners that understand how to secure these networks. This program is built around the needs of working adults and will help us equip existing utility personnel as well as individuals with IT experience in other industries with the knowledge and skills needed to become cybersecurity professionals to begin mitigating this shortage.”

The university also offers an area of study in Cybersecurity – Critical Infrastructure offered under its online Master of Science in Information Technology degree program

“What makes this program unique is that it blends both information technology (IT) and operational technology (OT) and focuses specifically on critical infrastructure companies, including those focused on energy, water, gas and transportation,” said Dr. John O. Aje, dean of the School of Applied Science and Technology at Thomas Edison State University. “Our goal is to help the utility industry meet workplace shortages of cybersecurity experts and provide a convenient option for IT professionals interested in shifting into the cybersecurity space in utilities.”

To learn more about the University’s cybersecurity degree and certificate programs, please visit www.tesu.edu/ast.

ABOUT THOMAS EDISON STATE UNIVERSITY

Thomas Edison State University provides flexible, high-quality, collegiate learning opportunities for self-directed adults. One of New Jersey’s 11 senior public institutions of higher education, the University offers associate, bachelor’s, master’s and doctoral degrees in more than 100 areas of study. Students earn degrees through a wide variety of rigorous and high-quality academic methods that can be customized to meet their individual needs. Identified by *The New York Times* as “the college that paved the way for flexibility,” Thomas Edison State University is a national leader in the assessment of adult learning and a pioneer in the use of educational technologies. The University is home to The John S. Watson Institute for Public Policy. The New Jersey State Library is an affiliate of Thomas Edison State University. Further information about admission to the University may be obtained by calling (888) 442-8372, via email at info@tesu.edu or by visiting the University website at www.tesu.edu.

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