

# DoW CYBER SERVICE ACADEMY UPDATES

**Ms. Alice Smitley**

DoW Cyber Service Academy Program  
Manager

*Cyber Workforce Summit*

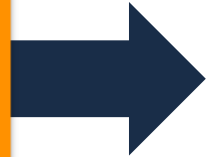
DoW CSA | March 2026





# Program Overview

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In 2000, the **DoW CSA** was authorized by title10, Chapter 112 of U.S.C., Section 2200 to **recruit** the nation’s emerging top cyber talent, **retain** DoW personnel who have skills necessary to meet DoW’s cyber needs and further strengthen capability requirements of cyber education programs and curricula.

Funded by the DoW Chief Information Officer (CIO) this program aims to secure our nation against threats of information systems and networks.

## DID YOU KNOW...

- OCT 2000** DoW CIO established the DoW Information Assurance Scholarship Program (IASP), authorized by the FY01 NDAA, Chapter 112 of U.S.C., Sec. 2200
- DEC 2017** FY18 NDAA Sec. 1641, DoD IASP becomes the DoD Cyber Scholarship Program (CySP)
- OCT 2022** FY23 NDAA Sec.1535 established the name DoD Cyber and Digital Service Academy
- OCT 2023** DoD Cyber and Digital Service Academy was renamed the DoW Cyber Service Academy (CSA) per FY24 Sec.1533
- JUN 2024** FY24 NDAA Sec.1531, the DoW CIO establishes the DoW Cyber Academic Engagement Office (CAEO)



# DoW CSA Program Objective

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*The DoW CSA aims to secure our nation against threats of information systems and networks through:*

## RECRUITMENT

Recruit the nation's top emerging cyber talent, aligning their roles and skillsets with the DoD Cyber Workforce Framework (DCWF) to build a mission-ready workforce for the DoW.

## DoW EMPLOYEE RETENTION

Retain skilled DoW personnel by providing targeted reskilling and upskilling, aligned with the DCWF, to meet our evolving cyber mission needs.



# 2025 Cohort - Recruitment Program Snapshot

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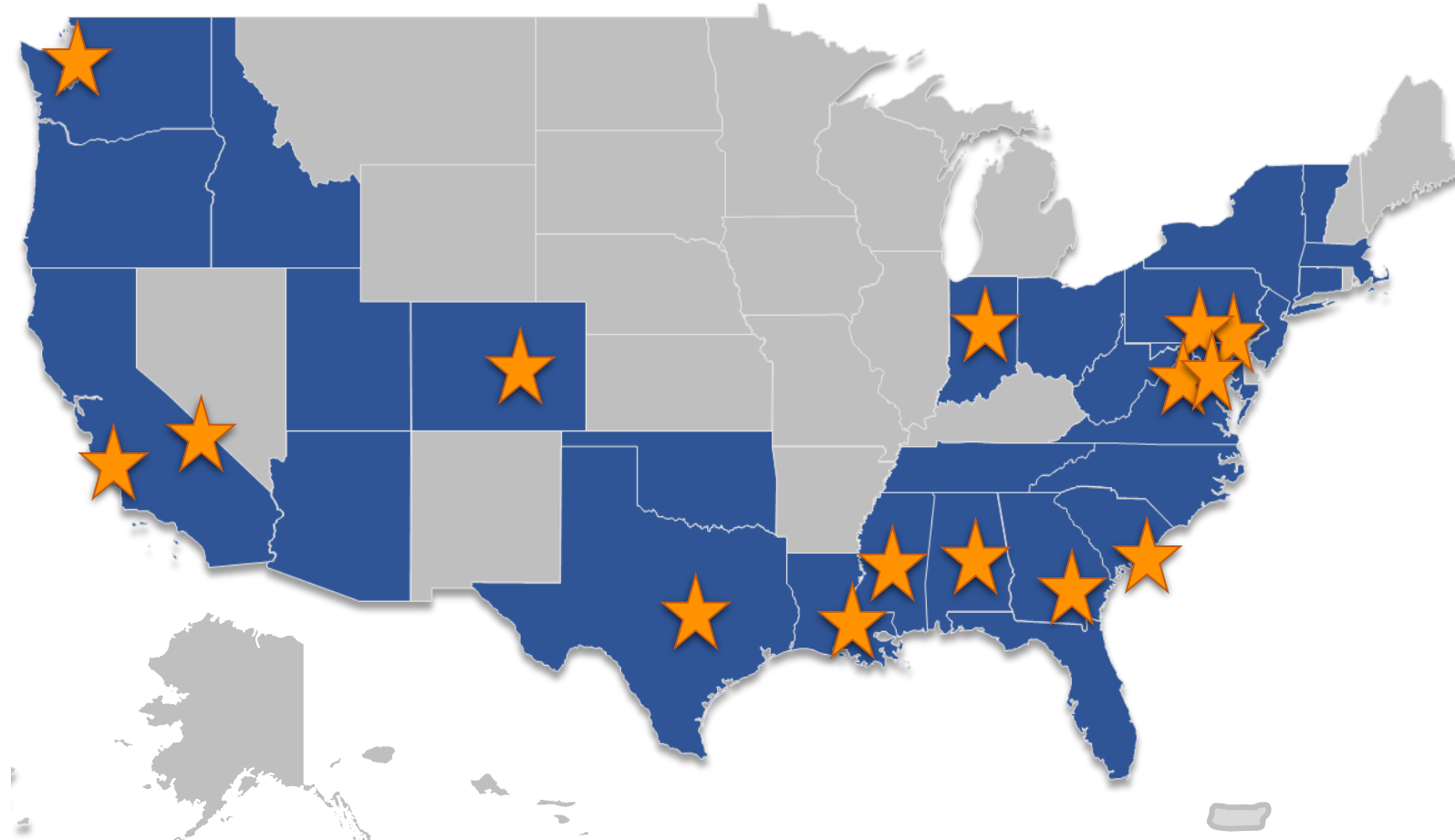


**75 New Scholars**  
**117 Returning**  
*from*  
**61 Colleges & Universities**  
*across*  
**30 States**



**15 Agencies**  
*in*  
**13 States**

 NCAE-C States  Agency Locations





# DoW CSA Talent Pool

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**DoW CSA aims to secure the nation's information systems and networks through the recruitment of the nation's top emerging cyber talent; and retention of skilled DoW personnel and strengthening cyber education programs and curricula.**

**DOW CSA ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT**



**Garrett Atkins**

M.S. – Cyber Intelligence & Security

*Having completed his service obligation at U.S. Army Combat Capabilities Development Command, Garrett notes, “This program offers much more than financial support—it provides...a way to secure your future while making a meaningful impact.”*



**Kathleen “Katie” Gallagher**

B.S. – Security & Risk Analysis; Master of International Affairs, International Cybersecurity Concentration

*Katie completed two 12-week summer internships with NAVSUP Business Systems Center gaining experience as an IT Business Analyst and IT Data Analyst.*



**Diego Tibaquirá**

M.S. – Computer Science with Graduate Certificate in Information Security and Privacy

*Diego is an eight-year U.S. Marine Corps veteran. His cybersecurity experience includes federal service, industry, and now a cyber faculty member at Miami Dade College.*



**Tychinna Corpening**

B.S. – Cybersecurity Governance, Risk Management, & Compliance (GRC)

*Motivated by a personal circumstance...Tychinna sought answers at her local community college, which led her to discover the DoW CSA program. She currently works at NIWC, Atlantic as an IT Specialist.*

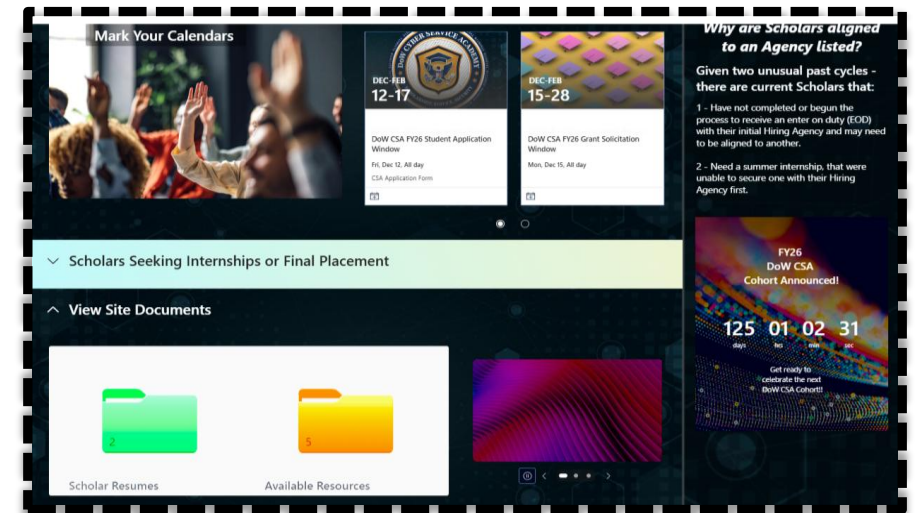


# Component Resources

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## PRIORITIZING TALENT

- The Program Office prioritized tracking scholar placement
- A Component-specific SharePoint site is a centralized resource for program updates and information
- Provides Component POCs real time snapshot of their selected scholars





# 2026 DoW CSA Bootcamp

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**PURPOSE:** Prepares new DoW CSA Scholars for service through a rapid, immersive boot camp that integrates them into the DoW mission by connecting them with their agencies and fellow students.

**DATES:** Sunday, July 19 – Wednesday, July 22, 2026

**LOCATION:** George Washington University

**ATTENDEES:**

- *DoW CIO Leadership*
- *DoW CSA Program Office*
- *Selected Scholars*
- *Faculty Program Contacts*
- *Selecting Components*

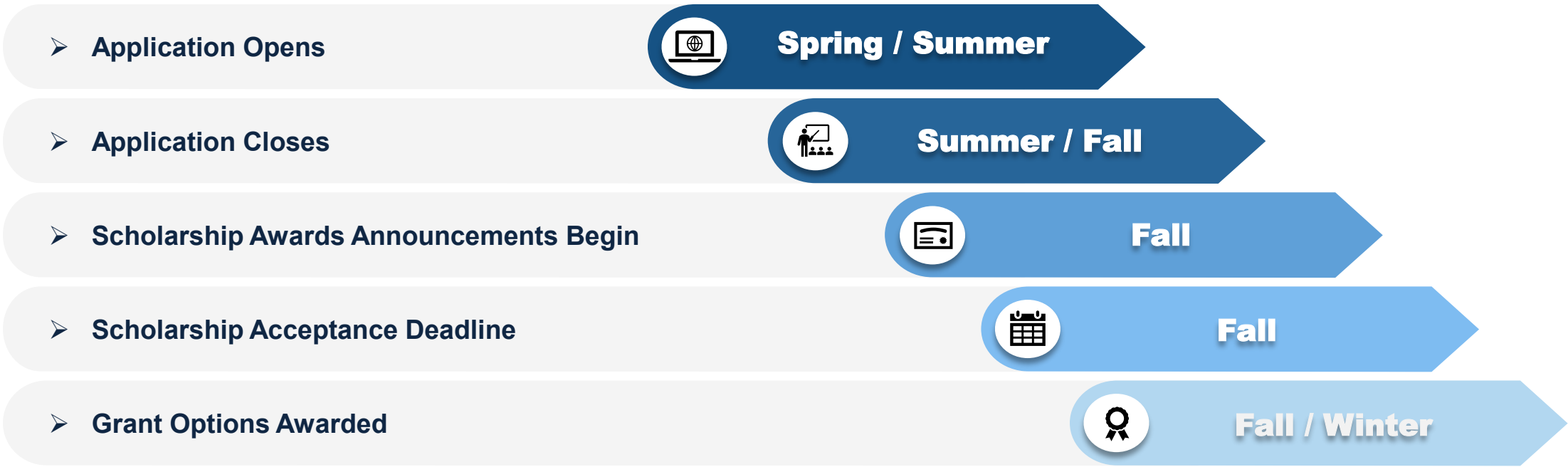


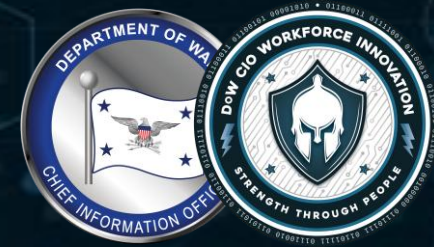


# Retention Process and Timeline

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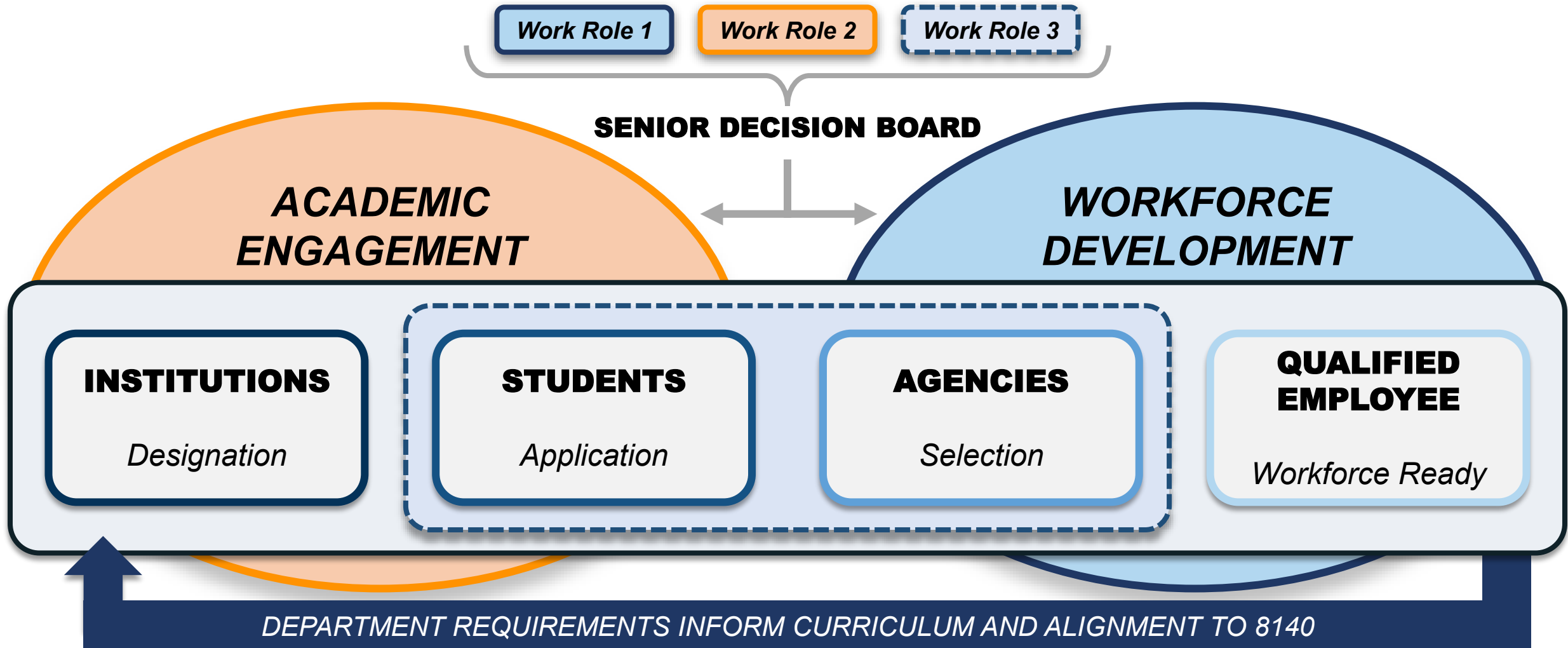
**DoW CSA Retention Program invests in current civilian and military personnel by providing professional development opportunities to retain top talent and enhance their cybersecurity skills.**





# Partnership to Prepare for the Future

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# Resources & Contact Information

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## PROGRAM RESOURCES

Latest DoW CSA documents  
and Information:

<https://www.cyberworkforce.mil>



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## CONTACT US

Questions? Contact the DoW  
CSA Program Office:

osd.mc-alex-dod-cio.mbx.dod-  
csa@mail.mil