BROOKDALE COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Center for Cybersecurity Education Ribbon Cutting

Brookdale Community College is a public community college in Lincroft, New Jersey. Established in 1967, Brookdale offers a variety of associate degree programs, certificate programs, and non-credit classes in several areas of study. The college provides affordable, accessible education, aiming to prepare students for transfer to four-year institutions, career entry or advancement, and lifelong learning. Brookdale is known for its diverse student body, experienced faculty, and diverse student support services designed to promote student success. The campus features modern facilities, including libraries, computer labs, and specialized training centers, catering to the educational needs of Monmouth County residents and beyond.

Cybersecurity threats are a growing national concern, requiring more skilled cybersecurity workers with the hands-on skills needed to excel in the field. Cybersecurity professionals face rapidly evolving threats that imperil every sector of public life and the economy. This is further accelerated by the emergence of consumer artificial intelligence (AI), smart homes, wearable devices, and autonomous vehicles. The parallel trend of increased connectivity of industrial control systems (ICS) linked to critical infrastructure (power plants, water treatment facilities, etc.) creates new threats to national security and public safety.

Brookdale is among the more than 11,000 community colleges nationwide that serve a critical role in preparing the nation's workforce. Brookdale has taught networking courses since 2000 and introduced security into the program in 2003. A 2013 grant from the National Science Foundation enabled Brookdale to add courses in Computer Forensics, Network/Perimeter Security, and Ethical Hacking and develop an 18-credit certificate in cybersecurity. This certificate has also been integrated into the existing Networking program as a Cybersecurity track.

The center hosts a virtual lab environment for training and to support further course additions to the curriculum. The Brookdale Cyber Center is committed to addressing the shortage of skilled cybersecurity workers and to providing students with cutting-edge instruction and access to state-of-the-art hands-on experiences.

DESIGNATIONS

• CAE-Cyber Defense

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