



The CyberSecurity and Networking Degree program at **Mt. Hood Community College (MHCC)** was initiated in 2011 and was the first AAS degree in cybersecurity in Oregon. Using support for curriculum, training, and travel generously provided by CyberWatch and CyberWatch West, MHCC faculty created the Oregon Center for Cyber Security (OCC-SEC) and became a CAE-2Y college in 2014. Although founded on existing IT and Cisco Networking training, MHCC faculty chose to focus on training directed towards specific industry recognized certifications such as the A+, Linux+, Security+, CCNA and CCNA Security, Oracle certifications and more.

In 2018-2019, MHCC had the opportunity to dramatically enhance the entire cyber program with the addition of trainings specific for Cisco Cyber Operations, Certified Ethical Hacker, Red Hat CSA,

and Palo Alto Network firewall implementation. Adding a new degree pathway into Penetration Testing, as well as several certifications allows existing professionals in industry to hone their skills in a focused training path.

Using funding from an NSF grant, the CyberSecurity program created a collaborative effort with our Small Business Development Center (SBDC) and designed a small business advisory team using cyber student interns to deliver focused cybersecurity training, evaluation, and mentoring to local small and medium sized businesses. Between 2018 and 2019, over a dozen cyber students fulfilled their internship requirements by working directly to support members of the regional small business community.

Graduates from this program have gone on to excellent careers in local businesses, consulting firms, regional critical infrastructure, and military, and at least one-third of the graduates continue their education at some of the local four-year institutions.

DESIGNATIONS

- CAE – Cyber Defense 2-Year Education

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