



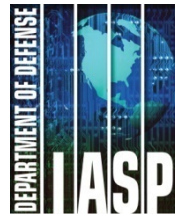
# Department of Defense Cyber Scholarship Program (CySP) 2020-2021

Building Tomorrow's Cyber Warriors Today

**Alice Smitley**  
*DoD CySP Program Director*



## What is the CySP?



The Cyber Scholarship Program (CySP) (formerly the DoD Information Assurance Scholarship Program) is designed to recruit the nation's top cyber talent to the DoD as well as retain our current cyber workforce to help secure our nation against the threats of information systems and networks.

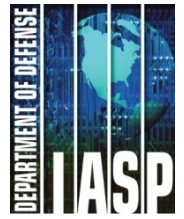
### **National Centers of Academic Excellence in Cybersecurity (CAE-C)**

National Centers of Academic Excellence in Cyber Defense Research  
National Centers of Academic Excellence in Cyber Defense Education  
National Centers of Academic Excellence in Cyber Operations

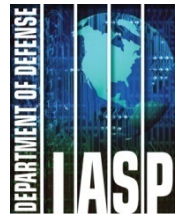
Hereinafter referred to as CAEs



# DoD CySP 2019-2020 Metrics



- 72 Applications from CAEs
  - 65 Basic - Recruitment Scholarship Proposals
  - 15 Annex I - Retention Scholarship Proposals
  - 36 Capacity Building Proposals
    - 42 projects
      - 14 Outreach to DoD
      - 30 Outreach to Academia
  - 410 Student Applications
    - 195 Highly recommended
    - 98 Recommended
    - 79 Not Recommended
    - 38 Returning
- Recruitment Students
  - 102 Offers Made
  - 96 Accepted
  - 36 Returning
- 67 Awarded Grants
  - 53 Basic
  - 19 Annex I
  - 30 Capacity Building
    - 38 Projects
      - 10 Outreach to DoD
      - 28 Outreach to Academia



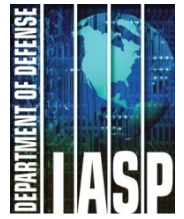
# Key Date for the 2020/2021 Cycle

- **29 Nov 2019** – DoD CySP Releases Next Solicitation
- **28 Feb 2020** – Submission Due Date
- **17 Apr 2020** – DoD will hold the Recruitment Student Football Draft
- **20 Apr 2020** – Recruitment Student Announcements Released
- **01 May 2020** – Date to Accept Scholarship Offer
- **15 May 2020** – Grant Announcements (Basic, Annex I, Annex II)
- **29 May 2020** – CAEs Return Any Required Grant Support Documents
- **01 Jul 2020** – All Grants Awarded

*Solicitation announcement will be made through the CAE Application Tool*  
**MAKE SURE YOUR INFORMATION IS CURRENT**



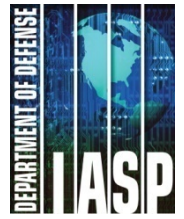
# Student Endorsement Statement



- Regardless of the endorsement a statement should be provide for all applicants
- Separate Word document – No required format/template
- Examples:
  - Jane Doe – Highly Recommended. Jane is currently a BS in Computer Science senior who maintains a GPA of 3.8. Jane interned with a local cyber company and provided instruction to K-12 students during our summer cyber camp. Jane has also receive her Secret security clearance. She makes an outstanding candidate for the DoD CySP.
  - John Doe – Recommended. John is currently a BS in Computer science junior who maintains a GPA of 3.8. John transferred from another CAE and has excelled in all his classes. He is the Vice-President of the campus cyber club. He is currently working on hands on cyber activities at a local senior center – teaching the residents about cyber attacks that could affect them. John is on track to complete several cyber certificates by the time he graduates. He would make an outstanding candidate for the DoD CySP.
  - Sally Doe – Not Recommended. While Sally has a 4.0 GPA her degree program is in History and does to contain a cyber element.
  - Jack Doe – Not Recommended. Jacks' GPA is below the required 3.2 minimum.



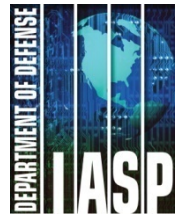
# Resumes



- Resumes should include:
  - Hours worked during internships and full/part-time work.  
Example: Worked 20 hours per week for 20 weeks
  - Applications and Tools that they are experienced with
  - If they hold or are processing for a clearance
  - If they have had, will have, or are currently processing for a DoD internship position
- Overall Resumes were weak.
  - A template will be provide - not required to be used but it is highly suggested that it be used.



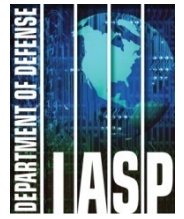
# Clearances



- Students should understand what is required to process for a clearance
- <https://nbib.opm.gov/e-qip-background-investigations/>
- <https://www.dcsa.mil/mc/pv/mbi/gicp/>
- <https://news.clearancejobs.com/2017/08/24/will-automatically-disqualify-getting-security-clearance/>
- Items to Consider For Clearance Processing:
  - Illegal Substance Usage / Underage Drinking
  - Foreign Contacts / Work / Study Abroad / Dual Citizenship
  - Financial Debt
  - Membership Organizations



# Transcripts / Degree Programs

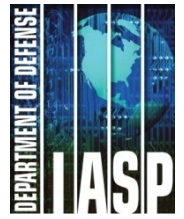


- Transcripts: An official transcript is the institution's certified statement of the student's academic record. Official paper transcripts are printed on security sensitive paper and contain the institutions seal as well as a signature of the institution's registrar. An official electronic transcript is a PDF secured by a digital signature, which is displayed at the top of the transcript; sometimes they will include a blue ribbon.
  - Paper application: Paper applications must include official transcripts. The institution's CySP point of contact or someone acting on his/her behalf may open transcripts. Applications arriving without official transcripts will be deemed incomplete.
  - Soft copy application: Soft-copy (electronic) applications may contain a copy of the official transcript.
- Degrees should be in a STEM Field or clearly identify a minor in Cybersecurity / Information Technology. The transcript should identify that minor. Students will have issues if they only have a few classes in cybersecurity. They won't get the pay.





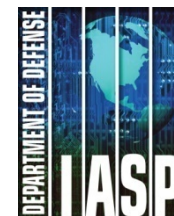
# Capacity Building



- Capacity Building grants should be viewed as seed money and not a revolving source of income. For the next cycle you will be required to identify how you plan to sustain funding - if needed.
- You must identify Outreach to DoD / Outreach to Academia
- Projects should be stand alone
- Proposals must have a title! A unique name!
- If you state a partner you must identify that partner.
- Remember we don't need the fluff stuff - we know you are a CAE, we know you are great, and we know that the US needs a gagillion cybersecurity professionals by 2025!!! But on the flip side - don't be so short that your proposal is not considered.
- Proposals should answer the following items:
  - ***Sound & Reasonable Methodology***
  - ***Benefit to the CAE***
  - ***Development Opportunities***
  - ***Benefit to the CAE Network and Cybersecurity Education***
  - ***Student Interaction***
  - ***Identified Partners***
  - ***DoD Partnerships***
  - ***Outreach to Minority Institutions***
  - ***Project Innovation***
  - ***Costs***



# Proposal Submission Issues



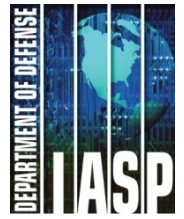
- Proposals submitted in hard copy (mailed) and electronically (emailed).
- Required documents list will be clearer

DOD CySP Submission Format					
Document Name	Single PDF File	Separate File	Electronic Copy	Paper Copy # Copies	
			File Name		
Proposal Cover Page and Summary – Form 1	X		University Name_DoD CySP Submission Combined	X-2	
SF424 – Form 2	X			X-2	
Executive Summary	X			X-2	
Attachment B - Certifications 2019	X			X-2	
A-133 Summary of Auditor's Results	X			X-2	
Recruitment / Basic Scholarship – <b>Technical Proposal</b>	X			X-2	
Recruitment / Basic Scholarship – Written Cost Proposal	X			X-2	
Retention / Annex I Scholarship – <b>Technical Proposal</b>	X			X-2	
Retention / Annex I Scholarship – Written Cost Proposal	X			X-2	
SF-424A – Budget Information	X			X-2	
CVs	X			X-2	
Capacity Building / Annex II – <b>Technical Proposal - Outreach to DoD</b>		X - PDF		University Name_DoD CySP Annex II DoD	X-2
Capacity Building / Annex II – <b>Written Cost Proposal - Outreach to DoD</b>					X-2
Capacity Building / Annex II – <b>Technical Proposal - Outreach to Academia</b>		X - PDF	University Name_DoD CySP Annex II Academia	X-2	
Capacity Building / Annex II – <b>Written Cost Proposal - Outreach to Academia</b>				X-2	
Capacity Building / Annex II - <b>Technical Proposal - Support to the DoD CySP</b>		X - PDF	University Name_DoD CySP Annex II Support DoD CySP	X-2	
Capacity Building / Annex II - <b>Written Cost Proposal - Support to the DoD CySP</b>				X-2	
Attachment E – Cost and Student Rank Form 2019-2020 (Excel Format)		X - Excel Format	University Name_Attachment E DoD CySP	X-2	
Written Student Endorsement Statement		X - PDF	University Name_DoD CySP Student Endorsement	X-1	
Recruitment / Basic Student Applications		X - PDF	LASTNAME_First Name_University	X-1	

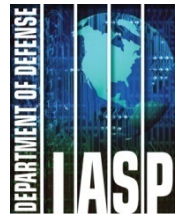
- New templates for various forms will be provided
- Proposals must utilize the provided documents/forms
  - Do not create your own forms
  - Proposals arriving without the required forms will not be considered



# Post Grant Activities



- Grants must be invoiced every 3 months or you will receive a ULO/TAR letter.
- Annual Tech and Financial reports must be submitted no later than 60 days after the end of the grant
- Failure to submit invoices, grant reports, or CAEs annual Reports (if required to submit that year) will result in a 5 point reduction for each missing item
- At least 50% of current grant needs to be invoiced by 30 April of the current year

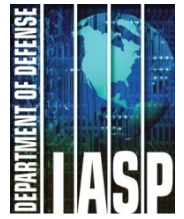


# Advertising the DoD CySP

- Students need to understand the commitment of accepting the scholarship:
  - They may need to move
  - Salary may be lower compared to private sector
  - Students need to understand that even if marijuana is legal in their state it is not for DoD employees.
  - Students should not compare themselves to other students. Just because Student A received a salary of \$XX,XXX doesn't mean Student B will receive the same salary. Each student is reviewed by the selecting Agency's HR and several factors are taken into consideration: Education level, certifications, and experience.
  - Students may not defer their start date because they want to start another education program.
- Press Releases:
  - May be released after the grant is awarded
  - Should not mention the agency the student was selected for
  - May send a copy to the DoD CySP Program Office for review



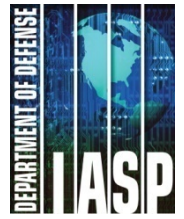
# DoD CySP Website / Graphic / Alias



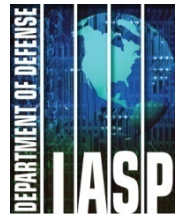
- New DoD CySP website to launch in December 2019
- Hosted on DoD Cyber Exchange – <https://public.cyber.mil>
- Will feature all forms used by both Students and CAEs.
  
- New DoD CySP Graphic will hopefully launch in December 2019 as well. All current DoD CySP CAEs will get a copy.
  
- New DoD CySP alias: [AskCySP@nsa.gov](mailto:AskCySP@nsa.gov)
  - [AskIASP@nsa.gov](mailto:AskIASP@nsa.gov) will still be in use, but turned off by the end of 2020.



# DoD CySP Recruitment Boot Camp



- New Event for 2020
- Solicitation will be released in December 2019
- Day and half event (Summer 2020) to bring all current and newly selected DoD CySP Scholars, CAE POC, and DoD agencies together to outline the next year.
- Agenda will include but not limited to: clearance processing preparation; resume writing, student/agency meeting, DoD CySP Principal's meeting; travel; and what to expect when you start your job!
- More information will be provided in the solicitation.

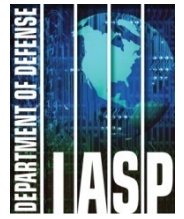


# Community College Participation

- Recruitment Students:
  - Student has a 4-year degree and wants a 2-year cyber degree
    - Community College nominates student
    - Community College eligible for Capacity Building
  - Student is currently working on 2-year degree and transferring to 4-year CAE
    - Community College works with 4-year degree to nominate student
    - 4-year CAE nominates the student to DoD CySP
    - Community College eligible for their own Capacity Building proposals
    - If selected funding is awarded to 4-Year CAE with support for 2-year CAE built in
- Retention Program:
  - Community College proposes a specific number of DoD civilian/Military students they could accept.
  - Community College does not need to identify students
  - Community College eligible for Capacity Building
  - Retention students apply through their parent organizations
  - DoD CySP Program Office will work with Community College if a student wishes to attend.



## Program Points of Contact



### DoD CySP:

Alice Smitley, Program Director

[AskCySP@nsa.gov](mailto:AskCySP@nsa.gov)

410-854-6206

Josh Odum, Program Support

[AskCySP@nsa.gov](mailto:AskCySP@nsa.gov)

410-854-6206





Questions?

