



Information Technology Strategy Board

Friday, April 1, 2022

9:00 AM — 12:00 PM

[Via Microsoft Teams](#)

AGENDA

- Call to Order** *Secretary Jim Weaver, Board Chair*
- Opening Remarks** *Secretary Jim Weaver, Board Chair*
- Broadband and Federal Funding Equity** *Nate Denny, Deputy Secretary for Broadband and Digital Equity*
- Legislative Updates** *Leigh Jackson, Legislative Affairs Director*
- Committee Reports** *Committee Chairs*
- **Digital Transformation Committee** *Tracy Futhey*
 - *Progress Reports + Next Steps*
 - **Cybersecurity/Privacy Committee** *Jeff Tarte*
 - *Cyber Education Pathways – Keith Werner and Patrick Fleming (see attachment)*
 - *State of Cybersecurity in NC – Rob Main*
- Other Business** *Board Members*
- Adjournment** *Secretary Jim Weaver, Board Chair*

Cybersecurity Education Pathways Program

Executive Summary

The Cybersecurity Education Pathways Program, in partnership with the North Carolina Community College System, University of North Carolina System, and Department of Information Technology, will increase credentialed cybersecurity professionals to meet industry requirements. The Program will leverage the strengths of cybersecurity educational programs and public and private partnerships to remove barriers to meet the needs of North Carolina employers.

Background

Cybersecurity professionals are trained to protect information technology infrastructure and data systems from malicious activity. Due to the increase in cybersecurity attacks, the demand for employees with the knowledge, skill, and ability to perform cybersecurity work far outweighs supply. This demand gap presents a risk to information technology systems security, stability, and availability. This risk often manifests as a technology service disruption (ransomware - Colonial Pipeline), data breach (Personally Identifiable Information theft - Equifax), and systems degradation (denial of service attack – Google Oct. 2020) when malicious cybersecurity events occur. Public and private sector organizations are vulnerable to malicious cybersecurity events.

North Carolina understands the importance of defending information technology systems. In response to the need for skilled cybersecurity professionals, the North Carolina Information Technology Board initiated the Cybersecurity Education Pathways Program. This Program will focus on the education lifecycle to coordinate the educational services provided by the North Carolina Community College System and University of North Carolina System to meet employer's cybersecurity needs.

Mission Statement

To recruit, educate, and graduate certified cybersecurity professionals and retain their services in North Carolina by way of continuing education, internships, apprenticeships, and full-time employment with the State's public and private sector employers.

Strategy

Leverage North Carolina Community College System and University of North Carolina System education programs to create credentialed employees to meet industry demand.

Scope

Operationalize the Cybersecurity Education Pathways Program to deliver the functional and technical processes necessary to meet North Carolina employer needs.

Goal #1: Draft plan to cover gaps between existing cybersecurity programs and industry need

Goal #2: Identify Public and private sector partnerships

Goal #3: Develop communication plan

Goal #4: Establish state level program governance

Goal #5: Create metrics to prove outcomes

Goal #6: Transition to operations

