

**Docket Item:**

Community College Approval: Southwestern Oregon Community College, Associate of Applied Science Degree in CIS Cybersecurity within 11.1003 – Computer and Information Systems Security/Auditing/Information Assurance.

**Summary:**

Southwestern Oregon Community College proposes a new Associate of Applied Science Degree in CIS Cybersecurity. Higher Education Coordinating Commission (HECC) staff completed a review of the proposed program. After analysis, HECC staff recommends approval of the degree as proposed.

**Staff Recommendation:**

The HECC recommends the adoption of the following resolution:  
RESOLVED, that the Higher Education Coordinating Commission approve the following degree: AAS in CIS Cybersecurity.



**Southwestern Oregon Community College seeks the Oregon Higher Education Coordinating Commission's approval to offer an instructional program leading to an Associate of Applied Science Degree in CIS Cybersecurity.**

**Program Summary**

The Cybersecurity profession combines knowledge and skills from disciplines such as computer science, information technology, criminal justice, psychology, and business, along with specialized topics unique to Cybersecurity. Earn a Cybersecurity Associate of Applied Science degree!

- Specialize in cybersecurity while learning about computing.
- Increase your understanding of robust cyber defense technology.
- Utilize computer technology to address information system needs with security in mind.
- Analyze common security vulnerabilities and apply appropriate security controls.

1. ***Describe the need for this program by providing clear evidence.***

STEM careers and STEAM fields are a growing path for students to pursue through education. Offering a degree in cyber security along with the other technology courses allows Southwestern to reach out to the STEAM student population which has been attending other institutions.

2. ***Does the community college utilize systemic methods for meaningful and ongoing involvement of the appropriate constituencies?***

The program is aligned with community needs initiated by the Computer Information Systems Advisory Board made of up community leaders.

3. ***Is the community college program aligned with appropriate education, workforce development, and economic development programs?***

The program course offerings line up to other community colleges who are members of the Oregon Council of Computer Chairs (OCCC)

4. ***Does the community college program lead to student achievement of academic and technical knowledge, skills, and related proficiencies?***

The program provides a necessary well-rounded coursework combining knowledge and skills from disciplines such as computer science, information technology, criminal justice, psychology, and business, along with specialized topics unique to cybersecurity.

**5. Does the community college identify and have the resources to develop, implement, and sustain the program?**

The college has a robust CIS department with an array of offerings to STEM courses and CIS specific courses. There will be no additional equipment needed and the college has the resources to provide testing. A current instructor will be teaching the program with no initial additional support required.

**Assurances**

Southwestern Oregon Community College has met or will meet the four institutional assurances required for program application.

1. *Access.* The college and program will affirmatively provide access, accommodations, flexibility, and additional/supplemental services for special populations and protected classes of students.
2. *Continuous Improvement.* The college has assessment, evaluation, feedback, and continuous improvement processes or systems in place. For the proposed program, there will be opportunities for input from and concerning the instructor(s), students, employers, and other partners/stakeholders. Program need and labor market information will be periodically re-evaluated and changes will be requested as needed.
3. *Adverse impact and detrimental duplication.* The college will follow all current laws, rules, and procedures and has made good faith efforts to avoid or resolve adverse *intersegmental* and *intra-segmental* impact and detrimental duplication problems with other relevant programs or institutions.
4. *Program records maintenance and congruence.* The college acknowledges that the records concerning the program title, curriculum, CIP code, credit hours, etc. maintained by the Office are the official records and it is the college's responsibility to keep their records aligned with those of the Office. The college will not make changes to the program without informing and/or receiving approval from the Office.