



Cisco Veteran Cyber Scholarship Program Frequently Asked Questions

What is Cisco Veteran Cyber Scholarship Program?

As part of Cisco's commitment to serving the veteran and military community, the global tech company is offering FREE cyber-related training, certification, and career resources to veterans seeking employment in the cybersecurity industry in Arizona. The Cisco Veteran Cyber Scholarship Program aims to address the growing need for cyber talent for today's digital workforce. Cisco is contributing its proprietary self-paced, online cyber-related training content at no cost to participants.

Please refer to Official Rules for details:

<https://custom.cvent.com/AF065572DBE74847B67B891094106946/files/e97acfd84dcc4f67a312112590d96fd1.pdf>

Why is cyber training important?

By 2022, there will be 1.8 million unfilled cyber security jobs worldwide* With that, there continues to be a significant skills gap, which poses a threat to our national security, our businesses, and our local community. Cisco is proud to be among the top tech companies committed to confronting this threat head on. Cisco thwarts over 20 BILLION cyber threats each day to protect our customers around the globe. Like many companies, we can't find enough qualified talent to keep pace with the growing demand, and we know veterans bring the kind of talent we seek to address this need. Veterans are uniquely prepared to take on this challenge, bringing to the workforce highly valued skills in leadership, a mission-driven approach, and the ability to work under pressure.

*Source: [8th Annual Global Information Security Workforce Study. \(ISC\)2, February 2017](#)

Who is eligible to participate?

The Cisco Veteran Cyber Scholarship program is open to eligible veterans, transitioning service members (within 180 days of EAS), members of the Reserves and National Guard, and military spouses who are interested in pursuing a cybersecurity career in Arizona. Veterans and service members will be required to verify military status upon registration.

Is there a cost associated with enrolling?

The scholarship is FREE to eligible participants and includes access to online training, mentoring, and career resources to assist with job placement. In addition, industry certification exam vouchers (where applicable) are available at no cost for those who successfully complete their training.

What are the different course offerings?

Cisco's cyber courses are available primarily as self-paced, online trainings to be completed generally within a 12-14 week time frame. Depending on the applicant's current skills, personal learning preference, and available time commitment, participants will be guided to the course that best suits them based on a skills assessment.

Please review this information on each of the course offerings:

Track	Course	Cyber Job Alignment	Skills Requirements
Cybersecurity Operations	Cisco Certified Network Associate (CCNA) Cyber Operations	Security Analyst, Network Auditor, Digital Forensic, Investigator, SOC Team Member	Basic Linux or Windows Admin, basic networking; Preferred 1-3 years military experience in IT
Secure Infrastructure	Cisco Certified Network Associate (CCNA) Security	Administrator, Technician, Engineer, Architect	Basic Linux or Windows Admin, basic networking; Preferred 1-3 years military experience in IT

Are there any requirements?

While no specific prerequisites are required to enroll in the Cisco Cyber Scholarship Program, it is highly recommended that participants have some foundational IT/networking knowledge (e.g. A+, Network+, Security+, CCENT, CCNA) in order to be successful with the training offerings. Case managers will provide consultation to assist with the selection of the best learning track for the individual learner.

A prequalifying skills assessment is required for enrollment into the Cisco courses to help determine the learner's aptitude. Participants who receive a score of 55% or higher would be eligible for acceptance into the CCNA Security course; those who receive a score of 75% or higher will be eligible for either the CCNA Security or CCNA Cyber Ops program. Those who fall below the minimum score threshold will be connected to other free online training resources available through Onward to Opportunity (O2O). See list of course offerings [here](#).

How long do each of the trainings take?

Trainings vary per offering. Typically, courses can be completed within 12-14 weeks upon enrollment. Participants will receive specific information on their selected course requirements prior to enrollment. It is up to the individual learner to come up with a suitable schedule to ensure they keep on track.

Can I enroll in more than one course?

Given there is limited availability of spots for the free offerings, we can only allow learners to enroll in one (1) Cisco cyber course at this time so we can extend the opportunity to as many eligible participants as possible.

Where is the Cisco Veteran Cyber Scholarship Program offered?

While the training is conducted online, the program is currently being offered to eligible participants in the following states: AZ, MD, NC and VA. Additional states are expected to be added through 2020. Candidates currently living in or transitioning to those states are encouraged to enroll. As the goal is to address the workforce needs of these specific states and due to limited availability, we request those outside of these target areas explore training opportunities offered through Onward to Opportunity. Learn more [here](#).

What is the enrollment process?

Candidates who meet the program requirements should visit <https://www.cvent.com/d/d6q396> to register interest by providing contact information. A case manager will contact candidates within 5-7 business days to further validate eligibility. Those who qualify will be provided a link to complete the application form and skills assessment. Based on assessment results, applicants will either be accepted into the Cisco Cyber Scholarship Program or provided information on other free training offerings available.

What kind of support will I receive during training?

During training, participants will gain access to academic advisors, mentors, and virtual communities to enhance their learning experiences. Additionally, some in-person networking activities may be available (attendance is optional).

How will I find a job once I receive the training?

Employment is a key success metric for the Cisco Cyber Scholarship Program, and we want to ensure veterans have direct access to meaningful employment opportunities. Career resources (including resume writing, interview techniques, and career exploration) will be made available to those who achieve a 30% course completion milestone.

Additionally, participants will be invited to join the [Talent Bridge for Veterans](#) job-matching engine, sponsored by Cisco, to build their professional profile and explore real-time job openings from hundreds of employers looking for qualified tech talent.

Where do I send any questions?

Please direct questions to cybervets@cisco.com